



NAVRATRI SPLENDOUR IN MULUND



"This year, the Shinde faction in Mulund enthusiastically celebrates the Public Navratri festival. The Durgai Vishwa Sanstha has established a splendid temple, adorning MG Road in Mulund West with the divine idol of Maa Durga. Significantly, this year marks the organization's inaugural celebration."

■ Home Times Network

Navratri, a festival celebrated with unparalleled zeal across the nation, has been marked by grand celebrations in the public pandals of Mulund. Towering idols of Maa Durga have been elegantly placed in various pandals, where they receive devotion and admiration from fervent devotees throughout the festivities. These celebrations encompass not only traditional rituals but also lively Garba dances and a variety of programs thoughtfully organized by the respective Mandals, attracting enthusiastic participation from the public. Mulund is ablaze with enthusiasm as devotees congregate to honour Navratri. Several pandals have prominently featured exquisite idols of Maa Durga.

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NAVJEEVAN SANGH CELEBRATES THE 12TH DURGA FESTIVAL WITH GAIETY!

■ Home Times Network

Like Navratri, the Bengali festival, Durga Puja is also celebrated with pomp and grandeur in Mulund. After the relaxation of restrictions across the country due to the Corona epidemic, all the festivals are celebrated with joy and devotion. Likewise, the Durga festival is also celebrated with great fanfare by Navjivan Sangh at Nalanda Ground in Mulund West.

The eye-catching decoration is similar to the royal palaces of India. Devotees are drawn to a 50-foot-tall temple with imposing arches. Special artisans and artists are invited from Kolkata every year by this Sangh to create the artwork of the idol.

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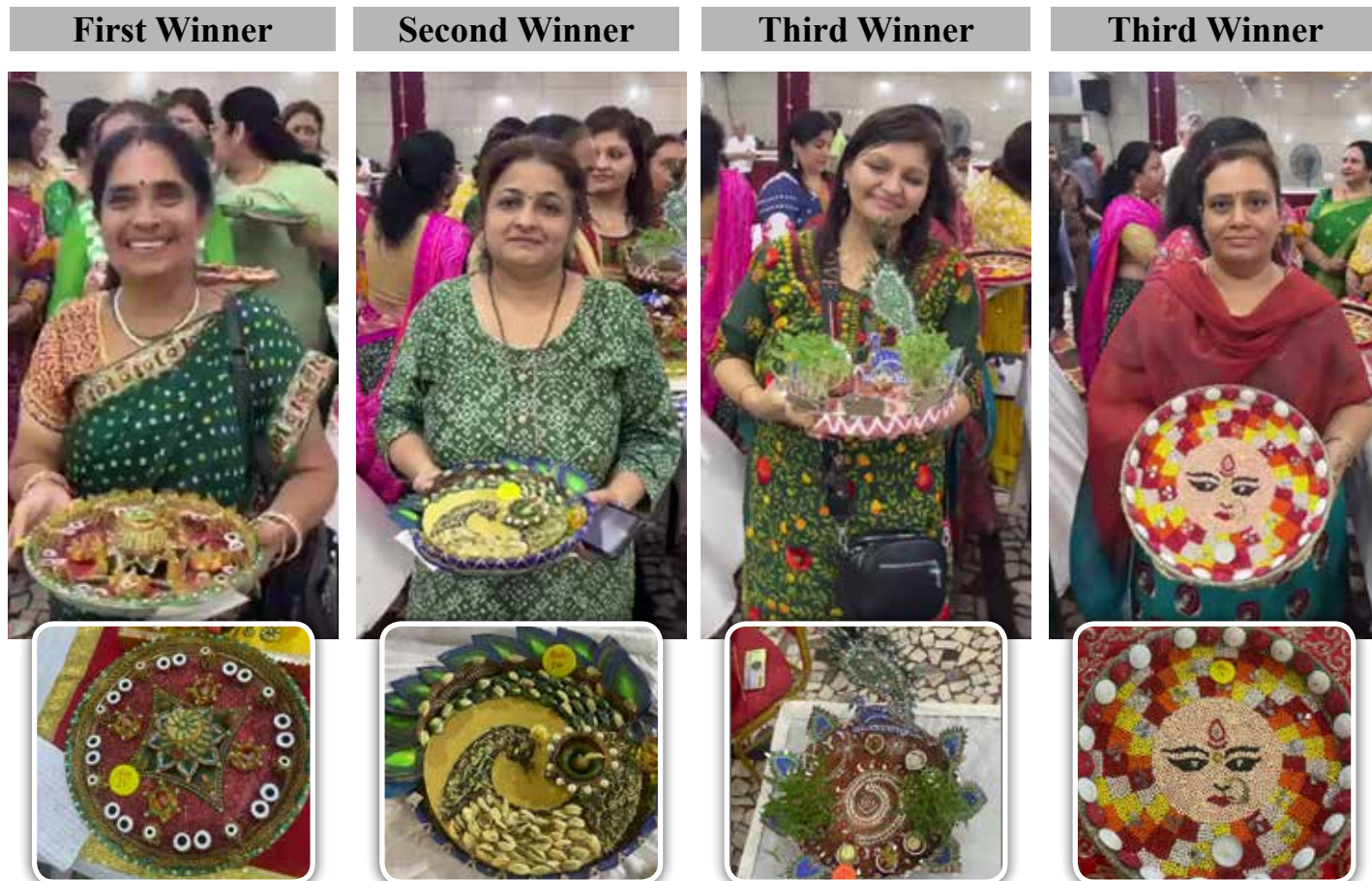


Shri KLM's Grand Navaratri Celebration

■ Home Times Network

The Shri Kutchi Lohana Mahajan Mulund exuberantly celebrated the Sharadiya Navratri festival. In addition to the customary Aarti thali decoration, a plethora of other events were meticulously organized to commemorate this auspicious occasion. The ten-day-long Sharadiya Navratri festival, widely revered and celebrated across the country, unfolded at the Shri Kutchi Lohana Mahajanwadi Mulund. Alongside the rituals of Aarti and thali decoration, a medley of programs, including Garba and Dandiya dances, graced the festivities. Each day, accolades were bestowed upon the victors, and a considerable number of devotees immersed themselves in the revelry.

Concurrently, as public pandals in Mulund orchestrated an array of special Garba programs, the Shri Kutchi Lohana Mahajanwadi in Mulund West hosted nightly Garba and Dandiya events throughout Navratri, spanning from 8 pm to 11 pm. The events witnessed an enthusiastic throng swaying to the rhythmic melodies. On October 20th, an exceptional Aarti thali decoration competition unfolded, drawing around 200 fervent participants. Some crafted exquisite replicas of Maa Durga using flowers, while others showcased their artistry using dried fruits. Remarkably, a few participants even crafted replicas of Chandrayaan 3 and Shaurya Mandal, leaving onlookers spellbound. The thoughtful provision of refreshments ensured the comfort of all the attending



devotees.

The panel of judges presiding over the Aarti thali decoration contest included Roshni Kothari, Nisha Ben Rawal, and Minal Davda. All participants were duly honoured with certificates of participation, and 15 exceptional entries received coveted special prizes. On Ashtami, a solemn Hom Havan ceremony will grace the hours from 4 pm to 6 pm, followed by the veneration of 151 young girls, who will be bestowed with tokens of appreciation. Special tokens of gratitude will

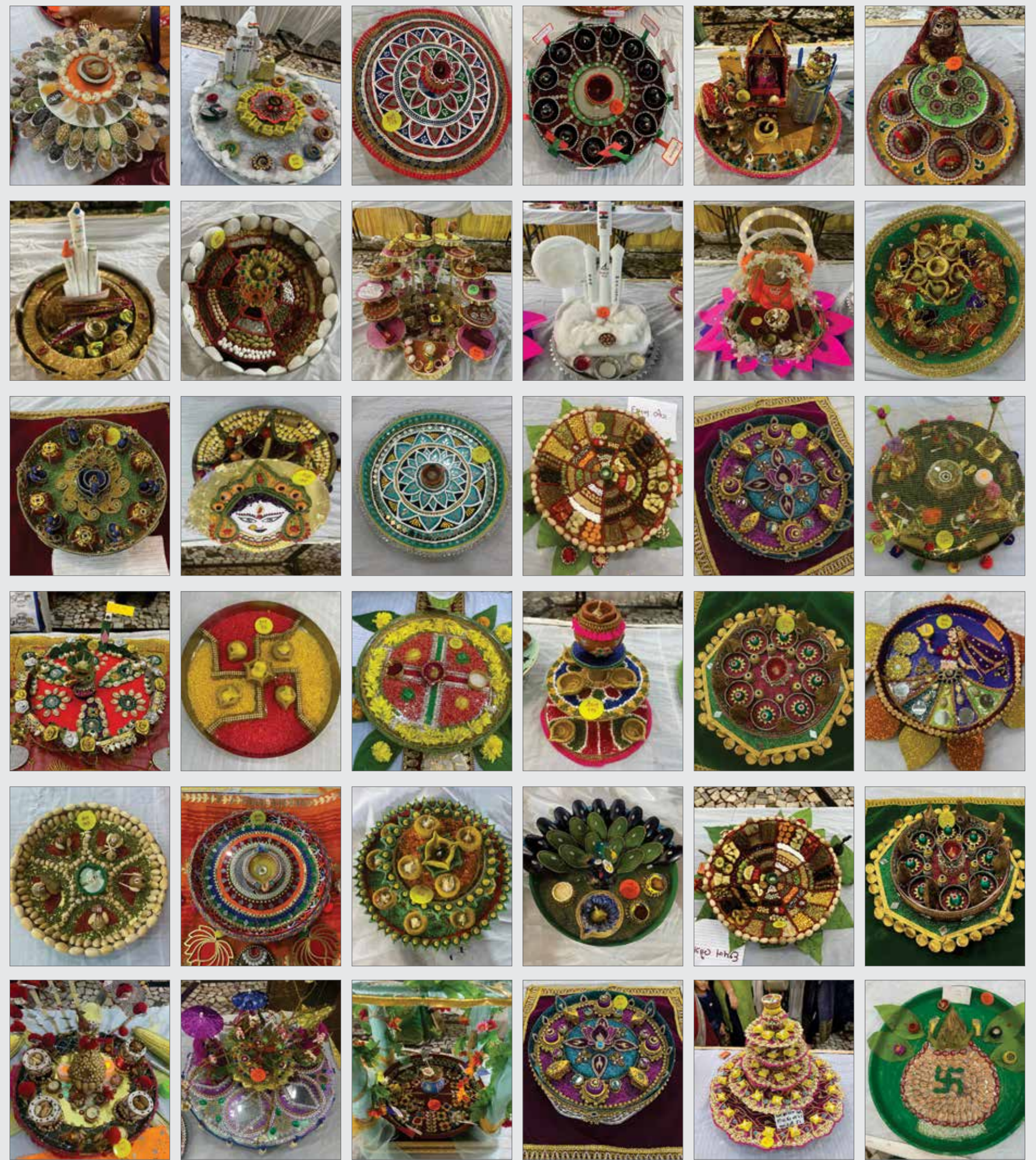


also be extended to devotees participating in the Navami day Garba festivities. The event continues to draw a substantial

number of participants bedecked in traditional attire, contributing to the cultural opulence of this vibrant celebration.

Shri KLM's Grand Navaratri Celebration

AARTI THALI DECORATION PHOTOS



EDITORIAL

Dussehra: Triumph of Good over Evil

The nine-day festival of Navratri concludes with Dussehra or Vijayadashami. It is another cultural festival of great significance. This festival is celebrated to commemorate the victory of Lord Ram when he returned after his 14-year exile and the milestone victory over the evil demon king Ravana of Lanka. In North India and Mumbai, the Dussehra festival is celebrated along with Ramlila, a dramatized version of the Ramayan that terminates with the killing of the effigy of Ravana on Dussehra day. The significance of Dussehra is the golden message of victory over evil.

Apart from Dussehra, the festival is celebrated in other states of India with different names and traditions, like Durga Puja in West Bengal, Garba and Dandiya in Gujarat, or Chamundi in Karnataka. In a nutshell, these festivals worship diverse goddesses, but essentially, the essence of these festivals is the triumph of good over evil.

Interestingly, like Hindu's Dussehra, the Muslim brethren's festival of Muharram, commemorating the victory of the supreme sacrifice of Imam Hussein and his followers in Karbala is no less than the victory of the pious over the tyrants because Imam Hussein not only defeated Yazeed (the tyrant monarch); he defeated every tyrant, despot, and diabolical propaganda against humanity. The martyrs willingly slain their heads but did not bow to the inhumane laws of a tyrant ruler like Yazeed.

Ramayan and Karbala happened hundreds of years ago; even today, the situation is not different. A look around, and we can see an empire of evil, fraud, crime, and abuse of humanity, brotherhood, and loyalty! In the mad rush of becoming 'the rich and the famous' people have brutally murdered humanity and are shamefully betraying their friends, near and dear ones, and shockingly even killing their brothers to reach the top. Today, deception, crime, and treachery have become the epitome of life.

The graph of evil is increasing every day, and corrupt and malicious people are having a ball. The revered, just, and upright people are languishing behind bars on false charges, and the wicked and sinful people are ruling the roost. If the situation continues, then the country will be ruined. There will be unemployment, suffering, and misery as the rich and the corrupt will take the cake and the cream, leaving peanuts for the common man.

In this Kalyug, no Ram will come forward to save Sita, nor will a Krishna come forward to protect Draupadi. Neither Gandhi nor Nehru will be reborn to save India from the trenches of corruption. Amidst such a distressing situation, there is a desperate need for every youth to become a Ram and every woman to become a Durga and stand up against the corrupt and re-write a new India—an India that was once Sone Ki Chidya.

Hemanshu Kothari



Polluted Smog Chokes Mumbai: A Looming Health Crisis for Mumbaikars

■ Home Times Network

The health of Mumbai's residents is under severe threat, primarily stemming from large-scale construction projects, extensive roadworks, and the pervasive pollution caused by vehicular emissions. This peril has been amplified by the widespread pollution plaguing the city. Recently, on a fateful Friday, a dense shroud of polluted smog enshrouded Mumbai, rendering the city barely recognizable for a period of three to four hours during the morning.

Pollution levels have surged at multiple locations across Mumbai, including the suburb of Mulund, where it peaked at 150 on the scale. The atmosphere became laden with dust and smoke from the early hours, leading to the proliferation of fog throughout the city, drastically diminishing visibility to a mere 300 to 500 meters. The situation persisted throughout the day, leaving the citizens dubbing it as 'fog.' Bhandup recorded a pollution level of 157, while the city of Mumbai itself marked 111 on the scale. Notably, the highest levels of pollution were observed in the city's suburbs, particularly in areas like Mulund and Bhandup, which are currently witnessing extensive construction activities.

The rampant construction activities in these regions have necessitated the movement of copious amounts of sand, cement, and gravel, leading to the generation of substantial dust and emissions from demolition.

Moreover, the heightened road traffic has contributed to a surge in smog-inducing pollutants. Alarming, there's growing consensus that the suburbs of Mumbai may have now eclipsed even Delhi in terms of pollution levels.

Post the monsoon season, the land becomes laden with fine sand, facilitating the mixing of pollution, soil, and construction dust in the atmosphere. The absence of strong winds at this time exacerbates the issue, enveloping Mumbai in a hazy veil created by airborne dust particles and significantly reducing visibility.

Sunil Kamble, the Head of the Mumbai Regional Meteorological Department, provides insight into the situation, stating, "After the rainy season, the land becomes sandy. So, pollution, soil, construction dust mixes in the air. As there is no wind at this time, Mumbai looks smoky due to the dust particles floating in the air, and visibility is reduced."

Sources of Pollution:

Emissions from elevated structures

Pollution from industrial activities, including dust emissions

Vehicular air pollution

Accumulated garbage and dumping grounds

NAVRATRI SPLENDOUR IN MULUND



Bal Gopal Mitra Mandal in Vaishali Nagar Mulund is celebrating its 35th year of Navratri festivities, albeit in a simpler manner this year, with cultural activities held during the evening to mark the occasion.



Ekveera Mitra Mandal in Mulund East has upheld the tradition of celebrating the public Navratri festival for 41 years, with a strong emphasis on eco-friendly decorations. In addition to hosting educational programs for children, the Mandal engages in various social work and medical camps and organizes a grand Maha Bhandara on Ashtami.



Mithagar Road Public **Navratri Utsav Mandal** in Mulund East is marking its 58th year of celebration with a 6-foot idol of Maa Durga.



The Shiv Sena {Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray group's} branch number 104 on Mulund MG Road has been consecrating the Goddess during Navratri since 1990, attracting a substantial number of devotees who come to seek her blessings.



Sainath Navratri Utsav Mandal, situated in the Indiranagar area of Mulund West, is celebrating its 45th year of hosting the festival. This Mandal is renowned as the 'goddess of prayer' in Mulund and presents a 6-foot idol of Maa Durga this year.



Shri Sai Mitra Mandal of Mulund East is celebrating its 30th year of organizing the Navratri festival, featuring an attractive 9-foot idol of Maa Durga. The Mandal is also well-known as 'Mulund Chi Rajmata.'

NAVRATRI SPLENDOUR IN MULUND



Mulund East **MHADA Colony Public Navratri Utsav Mandal** is commemorating its 29th year by observing Navratri with great discipline and adherence to administrative regulations, featuring a 6-foot idol of the goddess. The Mandal hosts a range of cultural programs and social activities throughout the nine days of Navratri.

Jai Navdurga Renuka Mitra Mandal, located on Mulund West Gaushala Road, has been celebrating Navratri with fervour for 21 years. The Mandal is distinctively managed by the Kinnar community, overseeing a magnificent 17-foot idol of the goddess. Renuka Rathore serves as the president, and Akash Shingana as the vice president. The pandal features numerous depictions of the Goddess and hosts special ceremonies, including Havan puja and Bhandara, during the festival.



Leading the way is the **Adarsh Tarun Mitra Mandal** of Mulund, which has installed an impressive 7.5-foot idol this year. The Mandal has been dynamically conducting public Dandiya and Garba events while ensuring that the rituals honouring Maa Durga are carried out with reverence.



The **Santoshi Mata Mandir** in Mulund West has added to the grandeur of Navratri festivities by illuminating their temple in all its glory. Devotees flock in large numbers to witness the divine presence of Maa Durga.

NAVRATRI SPLENDOUR IN MULUND



Durga Shakti Mitra Mandal has been observing the public Navratri festival for nearly two decades. This year, they've installed a 7-foot idol of Maa Durga, with Mandal members diligently performing worship ceremonies in honour of Mata Rani.



Santoshi Mata Cultural Kala Mitra Mandal has erected a 10-foot idol of the Mother Goddess on Mulund West LBS Road, diligently performing regular rituals in her honour. Mother Goddess is also known as LBS chi Mauli.



Azad Mitra Mandal, located on Mulund West Gaushala Road, is continuing its tradition of celebrating the public Navratri festival, featuring a 5.5-foot idol of Maa Durga as the centrepiece this year.



Mulund East Navratri Mitra Mandal has been celebrating the public Navratri festival for the past 44 years, offering daily Garba and Dandiya events.



Uttam Bhavi Sanstha, situated on Mulund West Gaushala Road, has been celebrating the public Navratri festival for 14 years. Their pandal, affectionately known as 'Mulund Chi Tulja Bhavani,' showcases a stunning 7.5-foot statue of Maa Durga this year.



In a delightful surprise, the **Achanak Mitra Mandal** in Mulund West has unveiled a towering 14-foot statue of Maa Durga on Dumping Road, becoming an irresistible attraction for passersby.



Like every year, Prerna Rasa Garba, the biggest Dandiya Raas Garba in the suburb, is organised at Kalidas Maidan in Mulund West. The rich and famous Garba lovers across north-east Mumbai are participating and enjoining. In addition, the presence of Netas and top celebrities is adding glitter and glitz to the show.



NAVJEEVAN SANGH CELEBRATES...

(CONTD. FROM PG.1)

A gigantic 12-foot idol of Maa Durga has been enshrined this year after the pandemic. An 8-foot idol of Lord Ganesha Kartikeya, Saraswati, and Goddess Lakshmi is also installed.

The worship of Maa Durga is performed at the stipulated time by Navjeevan Sangh, and a special bhog is served to every devotee visiting the Pandal. This year, stalls of special Bengali sweets and Bengali panipuri are also attracting devotees. On Saptami and Ashtami, i.e., on Saturday and Sunday, Puja, Pujajli, Bhog Mandaena, and Sandhya Aarti have been organised.

Apart from religious devotion, the Sangha has also paid attention to serving mankind. A special eye check-up and full body check-up camp are organised for the needy.

WE ARE HIRING

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May this dussehra brings lots of light and happiness in your life

Happy Dussehra



CHARANSINGH SAPRA

Ex-MLC, AICC Spokeperson
Working President -
Mumbai Congress



Navneet Singh Tuteja

Ex. General Secretary Youth Congress
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Dist. Beawar (Rajasthan)



Mumbai on Red Alert as Dengue and Malaria Return

■ Home Times Network

Mumbaikars Beware!! The deadly dengue and malaria are back in Mumbai with a vengeance! According to the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC), between September 1 and September 25, Mumbai recorded a total of 1,031 dengue cases, marking a significant increase from 353 cases in June, 685 in July, and 999 in August.

In Mulund, the BMC T-Ward informed Mulund that it has registered a whopping 52 cases of dengue and 27 cases of malaria within the past 18 days, ringing an alarm for the concern of the T-Ward administration. The T-ward administration is thus working around the clock. On one hand, while the BMC is spraying fumigants and pesticides from time to time, on the other hand, the citizens are urged to be careful and vigilant about these growing diseases.

Mosquito-borne diseases are giving sleepless nights to Mumbaikars. According to the BMC Health Department, the monsoon season in Mumbai is now over, but even after the monsoon, dengue and malaria cases are increasing, making life miserable for the citizens. Malaria, dengue, leptospirosis, and swine flu cases have almost doubled in a week in Mumbai. According to the BMC data, from October 1 to October 8, Mumbai registered 211 cases of malaria, while 250 cases of dengue were reported. In Mulund T ward, 52 cases of dengue and 27 cases of malaria have been registered in 18 days.

BMC is working to control the increase in dengue cases

Dr. Daksha Shah, executive health officer at BMC, said, "I agree that the rate at which the number of affected people is increasing is also alarming. As the city continues to reel under the dengue onslaught, the BMC insecticide department has been detecting over 900 breeding spots of Aedes mosquitoes per day for the last two months. The Aedes aegypti mosquitoes are responsible for spreading dengue, chikungunya, and zika."

She said, "BMC has now sought the help of citizens, as most of these breeding spots are indoors and in surrounding areas in housing societies. We have an app in Mumbai against dengue where we are requesting citizens to get enrolled. They should search for breeding spots and inform us. Citizen participation is the most important link to controlling the dengue menace, as most of the breeding happens around houses and workplaces."

Dr Shah informed "The Municipal Health Department has increased the reporting units, due to which timely investigations are being conducted and more cases are being detected."

Creating awareness among the citizens about dengue

Apart from the action against mosquitoes, the BMC is also holding a dengue awareness drive in Mumbai. There are two teams. The awareness team is conducting door-to-door drives to inform people about mosquito breeding. The other team's work is to find and destroy larvae."

Remedies to prevent dengue

Do not allow water to collect around the house or inside the house.

If there is water in the cooler, keep it with kerosene oil; this reduces the chances of mosquito breeding.

Do not leave water tanks open; keep them well covered.

These days, wear clothes with full sleeves and cover the legs as much as possible.

METRO-4 TO BE LAUNCHED IN 2026 ON MULUND TO GHODBUNDER ROUTE

■ Home Times Network

Mulundkars who are desperately waiting to travel via Metro train may have to wait a few more years to achieve their dream. The Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority, i.e., MMRDA, has announced that Metro-4 will be launched by the year 2026. The metro will be divided into two phases. The first phase would work between Ghodbunder and Mulund and would be launched in 2026. The MMRDA informed us that the reason behind the delay is

the contractor's slow work, and the MMRDA is taking stringent action against the contractor.


Informing about the progress of Metro-4 and its plans, a senior MMRDA officer said, "The Mumbai Metro Line 4 (Wadala-Kasaravadavali) is 32.32 km long and has 32 stations from Wadala to Kasaravadavali. In the first phase, we are planning to make the Metro-4 corridor operational by 2025. However, there are many technical aspects to consider before opening it to the public. Hence, Metro-4 service will be available for the

public until 2026–27 to travel on this route."

The official added, "The construction of the metro line on Ghodbunder Road from Mulund to Thane is in progress. Seven stations are to be constructed between Mulund Fire Station and Majiwada Junction. In these seven stations, Mulund Fire Brigade, Mulund Naka, Tin Hat Naka, RTO Thane, Mahanagar Palika Road, Cadbury Junction, and Majiwada station. This Metro service will reduce travel time for residents in Mulund and Thane."

The MMRDA confirmed that what looks easy on paper is not going to be a smooth ride in practice. The negligence of the contractor awarded the work has made things complicated. The metro work on the LBS route and other places has been carried out at a snail's pace for the past several months. Hence, MMRDA fired the contractor and decided to complete the pending works through sub-contractors on behalf of MMRDA.

Commuters may have to wait until 2026 to travel on this route of the Metro.



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"SU-JOK"

MENOPAUSAL-INSOMNIA

NATURAL WAYS TO TREAT AND PREVENT WITHOUT MEDICINE AND WITHOUT ANY SIDE-EFFECT - V



DR. MONISHA RAWAT

This problem is serious. It can have long term consequences on mental and physical health.

During the menopause phase women witness so many changes in their body with different symptoms and one of them is insomnia. Insomnia is a condition when we have trouble sleeping at night. It becomes difficult to fall asleep as well as stay asleep. Fortunately, this symptom of insomnia can be treated naturally!

Menopause and Insomnia

During the pre-menopause stage which is basically the beginning of menopause, the ovaries start producing less amounts of key female reproductive hormones, oestrogen and progesterone. This results in various changes in the physical and emotional levels in the body with several symptoms including insomnia. The hot flashes and night sweats also


disturb sleep. Over a period of time, insomnia can affect the overall health.

Treatment & Prevention


At our 'Monisha's Mantra', we have helped many women to overcome their menopausal insomnia in the following manner; without Medicine and without any Side-effect

- Be physically active during the day
- Anxiety and mood swings which are common symptoms of menopause can disturb the sleep cycle. So regularly practise yoga-pranayama and smile meditation
- Avoid late night heavy dinners because it can lead to hyper acidity, which in turn affects sleep.
- Avoid alcohol, caffeine and carbonated beverages at night which can disturb the sleep cycle
- Follow a disciplined sleep pattern





Pic 1



Pic 2

SUJOK THERAPY

Before going to sleep, massage the corresponding brain area on thumb with Sujok ring for a minute (As shown in Pic 1)

Apply plaster of poppy seeds (Khuskhus) on the stimulated brain point after massage (As shown in Pic 2)

International Sujok Association (ISA)
Certified Course Schedule
(1) **ONLINE (International)** - Meridian Sujok Ki (Level- II) - 01st to 10/11/2023 (2) **ONLINE** - Sujok - Basic (Level- I) - 29th November to 08/12/2023 (3) **RESIDENTIAL**, Meridian Sujok Ki (Level- II) - 2 Dec to 4/12/2023 (4) **OFFLINE** - Sujok - Basic (Level- I) - 9th Dec to 11/12/2023 (5) **Online** - Meridian Sujok Ki (Level-II) 18 Dec to 28/12/2023

Dr. Monisha Rawat - Founder of 'Monisha's Mantra', Mumbai and Global We Care Foundation -
M.Sc., M.D. (Alternative Medicine), Life Coach, Master in Sujok, Consulting Nutritionist, Corporate Trainer, Holistic Counselor, Sujok Diabetes Specialist, International Lecturer for Sujok & Smile Taiji. ISA Authorized Lecturer for SUJOK Level - I, II, III & IV Award Winner as a BEST PERFORMING TEACHER by International Sujok Association (ISA) - SIC 2019 • National Excellence Health Award - 2019 During COVID-19 • Award winner of International Women Excellence Empowerment Award (WEE) - 2020 as a RISING STAR • Award winner of India Best Therapist Award for the Year 2021 by MKSS • Award Winner of ET CHANGE MAKER-2022 for Health & Wellness powered by Economic Times-Ascent & Navbharat Times
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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 (21st - 27th October 2023)

 <p>Mesh / Aries (A, L, E) Prediction: The situations will improve and you will feel satisfied. Advice: (i) Think high to achieve high. (ii) Use things purple in colour. (iii) Pay attention to your needs.</p>	 <p>Kark / Cancer (Da, Ha) Prediction: Some journey is there for you this week you will travel with purpose. Advice: (i) Visit some holy place or temple. (ii) Use things red in colour. (iii) Pay attention to your power.</p>	 <p>Tula / Libra (Ra, Ta) Prediction: You will change your way and will find new things and success easily. Advice: (i) Don't eat outside food this week. (ii) Use things brown in colour. (iii) Pay attention to your strength.</p>	 <p>Makar / Capricorn (Kha, Ja) Prediction: You will feel yourself powerful in many matters and people will support you. Advice: (i) Donate your old clothes to needy people. (ii) Use things pink in colour. (iii) Pay attention to your target.</p>
 <p>Vrishabh / Taurus (Ba, Va, U) Prediction: Money fluctuations are there and you will not get when you want money. Advice: (i) Think twice before you decide something. (ii) Use things orange in colour. (iii) Pay attention to your satisfaction.</p>	 <p>Sinha / Leo (Ma, Tt) Prediction: You will get power to control people and your own emotions and energy. Advice: (i) Don't talk much with new people. (ii) Use things blue in colour. (iii) Pay attention to your feelings.</p>	 <p>Vrushchik / Scorpio (Na, Ya) Prediction: You will come to know about some secrets and you will be able to take decisions. Advice: (i) Donate grains to some needy persons. (ii) Use things grey in colour. (iii) Pay attention to your anger.</p>	 <p>Kumbh / Aquarius (Ga, Sa, Sha, Sh) Prediction: You will get confused many a time. Success is there but with some extra pressure. Advice: (i) Think twice before you do something new. (ii) Use things red in colour. (iii) Pay attention to your love and care.</p>
 <p>Mithun / Gemini (Ka, Gha) Prediction: Your speech will become your power and someone will praise you. Advice: (i) Go and meet some elderly relatives. (ii) Use things grey in colour. (iii) Pay attention to your rest.</p>	 <p>Kanya / Virgo (Pa, Tha, Nn) Prediction: You will stay confused this week because things will change very fast. Advice: (i) Obey the people whom you respect. (ii) Use things purple in colour. (iii) Pay attention to your emotions.</p>	 <p>Dhanu / Sagittarius (Bha, Dha, Fa) Prediction: There is some money improvement this week and your outlook will help you. Advice: (i) Control your emotions when they are negative. (ii) Use things yellow in colour. (iii) Pay attention to your work.</p>	 <p>Meen / Pisces (Da, Cha, Tha, Za) Prediction: You will find some better way to get peace of mind and satisfaction. Advice: (i) Avoid arguments and try to understand the opinions of the people. (ii) Use things dark blue in colour. (iii) Pay attention to your faith.</p>

TOLL PLAZA ENHANCES SERVICES AMID LINGERING TOLL HIKE CONCERNS

■ Home Times Network

In the wake of recent protests and acts of vandalism stemming from a toll rate increase, the Anandnagar toll plaza, situated along the Eastern Express Highway, has witnessed noteworthy improvements. Following the regrettable torching of toll booths during these protests, the toll company has taken steps to provide a range of essential services in the vicinity. Moreover, there is a commitment to construct a flyover, with the aim of relieving residents of Hariom Nagar from the burden of toll charges.

Not too long ago, the Maharashtra Navnirman Sena organized a demonstration against the toll rate hike at the Anandnagar toll gate. Tensions escalated when an attempt was made to set one of the toll booths on fire, prompting swift action from both the toll administration and government



authorities. Minister Dada Bhuse was dispatched by the administration to inspect the toll plaza and address the situation. Subsequently, the toll administration and the government pledged to enhance facilities at this location. The promised improvements encompass the installation of CCTV cameras at the toll booths, the painting of yellow lines at a distance of 300 meters, the completion of restroom facilities in the vicinity, water supply, and medical services.



Additionally, there are plans to construct a direct flyover in Mulund Hariom Nagar to free residents from toll charges.

Following Minister Dada Bhuse's visit, the toll administration promptly began implementing these essential services. Satyawar Dalvi, the Vice President of MNS in Mulund, along with his team, inspected the toll plaza to ensure that the promised enhancements were being carried out. This inspection

covered the installation of yellow stripes, the CCTV system, water supply, and the provision of mobile public toilets. MNS has taken the initiative to install its own CCTV cameras at the toll plaza for independent monitoring of the toll company's operations.

As of now, there is no definitive decision regarding whether the toll rate increase will be reversed. Consequently, there remains a sense of anticipation as to when, or if, this toll rate hike will be rescinded.

Embrace the Benefits of Prepaid Electricity

■ Home Times Network

In a transformative move, the state is gearing up to introduce prepaid smart meters for its electricity consumers, giving them the power to control their electricity expenses according to their preferences. The rollout of these cutting-edge meters will be executed progressively over the coming months.

This initiative will bring about a significant transformation for the 2.41 crore consumers served by Mahavitrans. Traditional meters will soon be replaced by state-of-the-art prepaid smart meters, offering customers a payment model akin to mobile phone usage. With these meters in place, consumers can take charge of their electricity expenditure, monitor their usage, and check balances directly from their mobile devices.

Here's what to expect:

Seamless Usage Management: The smart meter system ensures a streamlined user experience. When a customer's prepaid balance is depleted, the power supply will be temporarily interrupted. However, the process of making new payments becomes hassle-free, as customers will have real-time visibility into their electricity consumption on their mobile devices.

Online Payment Convenience: The system empowers consumers to make online payments from the comfort of their homes. In case a customer's balance runs low, a timely notification will be sent to their mobile device. Rest assured, even if your balance dries up during the night, your electricity supply will remain

uninterrupted between 6:00 PM and 10:00 AM.

Extended Payment Window: To ensure continued electricity supply, customers will have until 10:00 AM the following day to replenish their prepaid balance. The smart meter incorporates a feature to account for any electricity usage that occurs after the balance is exhausted.

Moreover, Mahavitrans is making it more accessible for consumers to transition to these prepaid smart meters. New meters will be provided free of charge, with the costs covered through subsidies from the central government and Mahavitrans.

Prepare to embrace a more efficient and flexible way of managing your electricity consumption with prepaid smart meters.

Baby Crocodile Discovered at Bhandup Water Treatment Plant

■ Home Times Network

On a Wednesday morning, an unexpected visitor made its presence known at the Bhandup Complex Water Treatment Plant. This unanticipated guest was none other than a baby crocodile, measuring approximately one and a half feet in length. The discovery of this reptilian intruder sent the plant's employees into a state of frenzy.

The plant is situated in an area known for its proximity to Vihar and Tulsi Lakes, both of which are known to house crocodile populations. These prehistoric creatures are not uncommon sights in the vicinity of these lakes. However, on that particular Wednesday, an unusual occurrence took place as this young crocodile ventured into the water treatment plant.

It was an observant employee who stumbled upon the baby crocodile in the pipe section of the plant. Swiftly, the discovery was reported to the higher-ups, who decided

to enlist the help of experts well-versed in handling such situations. Hasmukh Walanju



and Aman Khan from the Aman Sanstha, recognized as proficient animal handlers, were summoned to the scene.

The rescue operation was not without its challenges, but after an hour and a half of dedicated effort, the animal experts successfully secured the baby crocodile.

Once in their care, the crocodile received necessary medical attention. Ultimately, the little reptile was released back into its natural habitat.

The incident had the potential for a more tragic outcome. The location where the baby crocodile was found had a significant amount of water, making it imperative to first drain the area before safely retrieving the crocodile. Had this crucial step been delayed, the machinery in the vicinity could have posed a deadly threat to the young crocodile. Fortunately, timely intervention prevented such a catastrophe.

The appearance of the crocodile cub within the water treatment plant stunned everyone. Speculation surrounds the crocodile's entry into the plant, with some surmising that it may have ventured from the nearby Tulsi or Vihar Lake, further adding to the intrigue of this unusual episode.

ASSAULTED STRAY DOG DIES DURING TREATMENT

The owner and servant roam freely, as the crime is a bail-able! Animal lovers protest and demand to make the law non-bail-able and the punishment more stringent

■ Home Times Network

Last week, HOME TIMES published in its story 'Hotel owner and his servant booked for cruelty against a dog' how a cruel hotel owner and his servant brutally assaulted a stray dog and made it disabled. This week, the pity dog died during the treatment! The death of the dog has generated anger among animal lovers, and they are demanding to make the law strict. CCTV footage of this attack is becoming increasingly viral on social media.

Last week, HOME TIMES reported that the police had booked Ocean Chinese Hotel owner Neeraj Nepali and Shankar Agarkar, his servant, under Section 34, 428 of the IPC and the Animal Cruelty Act. However, soon after the arrest, the two accused got bail, as the crime was a bailable offense.



The release of the accused has made animal lovers more furious at the meek law against animals. An animal lover violent over the ruthless attack on the dog and the subsequent bail of the accused said, "It is regrettable that the accused is roaming free when the innocent and mute animal is dead." He asked, "In the case of humans, when a person assaulted by the accused

dies in the hospital during the treatment, the law immediately changes and the accused is booked in a more serious murder case. If the law can punish a human for murder, then why not charge an accused of brutality against an animal (if the animal is killed) in a murder case? Is an animal, not a living creature?

HOME TIMES supports animal lovers and demands that, in the case of the death of an animal by the hand of a human being, it be made stringent. Section 34, 428 of the IPC and the Animal Cruelty Act need alteration, and the accused of killing an animal should be punished severely. Besides, the death of an animal should also be considered a case of murder! The bail-able clause should be removed, and the charge must be made non-bail-able.

A heartwarming reunion unfolded, just because of a simple T-shirt

■ Home Times Network

In the Khindipada area, during the Ganesh Visarjan celebration, a distressing incident occurred when a mother and her twelve-year-old son got separated from the Bhandup immersion site. This situation was further complicated by the fact that the young boy couldn't communicate verbally, making it nearly impossible for him to identify himself to others. For a gruelling fifteen days, the boy remained apart from his mother, until a serendipitous encounter with a T-shirt altered the course of their lives.

Adding to this tale, a twelve-year-old boy from Khindipada went missing on the day of Anant Chaturdashi. Somehow, he managed to travel to Bhandup using various means. His frantic mother searched

tirelessly in Bhandup and the neighbouring Mulund areas, desperately seeking her lost child, but her efforts yielded no results. Her desperation eventually led her to file a missing person report with the Bhandup police station, and still, the days passed without any trace of the boy.

Then, on the 16th of October, Kaushik Patil, the grandson of Late Dina Bama Patil, received an unexpected call on his mobile phone from Bhiwandi. The caller informed him that a twelve-year-old boy, wearing a T-shirt with Kaushik Patil's name printed on it, was found sitting near a temple in Bhiwandi, appearing to be lost. They advised Kaushik to inquire within his area about the missing child. Upon investigation, Kaushik Patil confirmed that a boy from his

area had indeed gone missing. Through a video call, he identified the child and, with the assistance of activists, journeyed to Bhiwandi to retrieve the lost boy.

The boy was then brought back to Bhandup, where he experienced a joyous reunion with his overwhelmed mother. This heartwarming reunion occurred because the boy had been found alone in a Bhiwandi temple, and a compassionate individual there sensed that something was wrong. Although the boy couldn't communicate verbally, the "Kaushik Patil" name on his clothing became a crucial clue. This information ultimately led to a successful search for the boy's family, resulting in a heartwarming reunion that brought tears of joy to the mother's eyes.

Rail Neer bottles Disappear from Railway Shelves

■ Home Times Network

Water is life, and during the intense October heat, water is the first choice of every human being. But surprisingly, when there is a substantial demand for water, the Rail Neer packaged drinking water has suddenly gone out of stock in the entire suburban rail network on the Main and Harbour lines of Western Railways (WR) and Central Railways (CR),

including Mulund railway station. As a result, thirsty commuters traveling by rail have to bear the brunt. It may be noted that this is the sixth time Rail Neer bottles went off the rack at the railway station in a short span of one and a half years.

The supply of Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Limited, i.e., IRCTC, 'Rail Neer Bottle' sold

at railway stations has been affected yet again this year. Commuters are facing many problems as the October heat is scorching and people are feeling thirsty.

Rahul Himalian, Group General Manager (West Zone), IRCTC, informed us, "We regret the curtailment of supply of packaged drinking water from Rail Neer due to the maintenance work at Ambernath

water plant." He added, "Every month, the production of Rail Neer water bottles are reduced for two days due to the primary maintenance at the water plant. In addition, twice a year, the plant undertakes 15-day stringent maintenance; hence, there is less production of Neer Water bottles. But the production will boost, and water bottles will be available on October 22, 2023."

BMC DUMPER COLLIDES WITH HANDICAP TRICYCLE

■ Home Times Network

A reckless BMC clean-up driver on the Goregaon-Mulund Link Road (GMLR) collided with a handicapped driver driving a tricycle from behind. After the accident, the ruthless driver fled from the

spot. Navghar police are hunting the absconding driver.

According to Navghar Police, on Saturday, October 14, Anand Nagar resident Steven Lisby, a differently abled youth, was riding his tricycle. He was on his way to

Bhandup when suddenly he was banged viciously by the BMC clean-up driver on the Goregaon-Mulund Link Road (GMLR) near the cement yard. The collision was so violent that Steven lost the balance of his tricycle and fell on one side of the

road.

After the incident, the Clean-Up driver fled from the scene, leaving the poor handicapped Steven to die. Steven cried for help, but nobody noticed him. Eventually, a man walking on the highway took pity on

Steven and rushed him to a nearby hospital. He also informed Steven's family.

The Navghar police station has registered a reckless driving case against an unidentified person and is hunting the absconding BMC clean-up driver.

IMD WARNS OF **CYCLONE TEJ** IN THE ARABIAN SEA ON THE WEEKEND

■ **Home Times Network** said, "A low-pressure area has formed in the southeast of the Arabian Sea, which may turn into a strong cyclone in the next two to three days. Its intensity is not yet estimated, but it is believed that it may intensify gradually." "Currently, it is being monitored. A low-pressure area is also developing in the Bay of Bengal, parallel to the Arabian Sea," he added. The cyclonic storm, to be named Cyclone Tej, may lead to significant weather changes in Maharashtra. If the conditions in the Arabian Sea change into a cyclone, the wind can blow at a speed of 60 kilometres per hour. Mumbai, Goa, Pune, and surrounding areas may experience rain with strong winds. Meanwhile, Mumbai recorded a maximum temperature of 36.4 degrees Celsius on Wednesday, which is the highest mercury level so far in October this year. However, strong winds and rains are expected in Mumbai due to this strong storm, which might be a huge relief to Mumbaikars struggling with the October heat.

KHICHDI SCAM: ED RAIDS MULTIPLE PLACES IN MULUND

■ **Home Times Network** The Enforcement Directorate (ED) conducted searches at seven locations – the premises of Deputy Commissioner of the BMC, Sangeeta Hasnale, Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Suraj Chavan, and five private contractors – on Wednesday in connection with the ₹6.7 crores Covid-19 'khichdi scam'. In Mulund also the ED raided many places.

The Khichdi scam is about the illegal bagging of a contract by the accused for preparing khichdi for migrant laborers during the pandemic. The Bharatiya Janata Party leaders had accused Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray of defrauding crores of rupees in khichdi that was provided to the citizens during the Corona period. A demand was also made for an impartial investigation by other agencies. In this sensitive connection, a total of 7 locations across Mumbai including Mulund were raided by the ED and others on Wednesday. These include Sneha Caterers and Decorations and Golden Star Hall and Banquet located in Mulund West.

Apart from this, the raids also extensively covered the premises of contractors and sub-contractors like Vaishnavi Kitchen/Sahyadri Refreshment in Parel, FNJ Enterprises operating the Persian Darbar Hotel in Goregaon, and firefighters. Enterprises in Govandi, and Western India Logistics in Chembur are also included.

ED launched its money-laundering probe based on a September first tip report by Mumbai Police's Economic Offenses Wing (EOW), which alleged irregularities of Rs 6.37 crore in the case.

Conman Swindle Bhandup Man with **Fake Gold Ornaments**

■ **Home Times Network** In an amazing con game, two brothers duped a Bhandup resident by narrating a sob tale wherein they said that due to a lack of money for their sister's marriage, they wished to sell the antique family gold ornaments at discounted rates. Initially, the brothers showed pure gold ornaments, but at the time of delivery, they changed the gold ornaments gave fake gold ornaments, and escaped. Navghar police have filed a case under IPC Section 420, and the police are hunting the con man.

According to reports, Ganesh Pednekar, a Bhandup resident, met Raju, a native of Bhopal, on Saturday, October 7, near the Marolbusdepot. Raju introduced himself as a contractor working at Vikhroli and was looking out for a customer who could buy some gold ornaments that he was forced to sell for his sister's marriage. Taking pity on Raju, Pednekar expressed his desire to buy the gold ornaments. Raju immediately showed the ornaments to him, but Pednekar agreed to buy the gold ornaments only after confirming the authenticity of the ornaments from a goldsmith. Raju agreed.

A few days later, Raju called Pednekar and asked if he was willing to buy the gold ornaments and ready to meet the goldsmith. Pednekar nodded, and the two met a jeweller. The jeweller took a close look at the gold ornaments and verified that they were genuine gold. Assured about the gold ornaments being pure gold, Pednekar had a clandestine meeting with Raju and his brother at the Vihar Hotel in Mulund (East), where Raju and his brother handed the gold ornaments to Pednekar, and Pednekar paid them Rs 5.50,000/-.

After obtaining the gold ornaments, a delighted Pednekar showed the ornaments to his trusted family goldsmith, who disclosed that the gold ornaments were fake and worth a penny! A disappointed, Pednekar then reported the matter to the Navghar police. The Navghar police station has registered a case under Section 420 of the IPC against Raju and his brother and the police hunting the fraudsters.

Courier Scam Costs Mulundkar 2 lakh rupees

■ Home Times Network

The Mumbai cyber cell has been repeatedly appealing to Mumbaikars to stay vigilant against the foxy cyber sharks and never click a link sent through an unidentified phone number. However, it is tragic despite awareness; Mumbaikars fall prey to tricksters and pay a heavy price. This week, a

Mulund resident became the target of a cyber-cheat who, in the name of a courier company, conned him and siphoned off almost Rs 2 lakh from his account!

According to Mulund Police, Mulund West resident Mahesh (name changed) wanted to send a courier to Kalyan; hence, he was searching Google for an

appropriate courier company. A few hours later, he received a call from an unidentified number directing him to check his WhatsApp number and asking him to click the link sent to his phone for the delivery of his courier. The caller also told Mahesh to pay a minimal fee of just Rs 2 as a pickup charge. Unaware of the hidden

fraud, Mahesh clicked the link and submitted the requisite information. However, no sooner did he disclosed his vital information he was stunned to witness Rs 1,97,888/- siphoned off from his bank account.

Mahesh reported the fraud to Mulund Police Station. The Mulund Police is currently investigating the matter further.

REJECTED WEDDING PROPOSAL ENDS IN TRAGEDY

■ Home Times Network

Rejecting a marriage proposal proved dangerous for a 21-year-old girl in Bhandup as her jilted lover turned furious and stabbed her neck. The girl displayed exceptional courage. She dumped her lover in the auto rickshaw; got herself treated at a hospital, and later reported a complaint

at the Bhandup police station. The police have arrested the dejected lover!

According to reports, a 21-year-old girl named Meghna (name changed) and Chetan, a resident of Tembhipada in Bhandup, met a few years ago. Their relationship blossomed into love, and they came close to each other.

However, a few days ago, they quarrelled over a trivial row. In a rage, Meghna parted her way and maintained a distance from Chetan. Hence, to settle the differences, Chetan asked Meghna to meet him at a café in Andheri on October 14. The two met and sorted out their problems.

While returning, Chetan

proposed to Meghna for marriage in the auto-rickshaw. However, Meghna rejected the proposal. Aggravated by Meghna's refusal, Chetan turned violent. He removed a sharp knife and attacked her neck. A profusely bleeding Meghna left the auto-rickshaw in anger. She displayed extraordinary

strength. She not only got herself treated at a hospital but also reported the matter to the Bhandup police station.

Bhandup Police have registered a case against Chetan and arrested him. At present, the accused Chetan is in police custody, and the case is being further investigated.

Mulund police bust the Bol Bachchan gang and its mastermind

■ Home Times Network

Mulund Police busted a gang of three Bol Bachchan thugs who created a sensation in Mulund by cheating several senior citizens and looting their valuables and cash. Two of the accused were caught by the Mulund Police, but the mastermind, who was at large, was nabbed thanks to the secret informers. On October 17, the police managed to nab Dinesh Manchekar, a history-sheeter and the chief of the gang.

According to reports, on September 11, Shashi Nair, a senior citizen of Mulund

MG Road, was on his way to a tailor's shop to stitch his wife's dress. Suddenly he was surrounded by a few unknown people who claimed to be Nair's school days friend. They began talking to him and cunningly removed his gold chain weighing two Tolas worth Rs 60,000 from Nair's neck. They pretended to keep it safely in the bag but cleverly took it away without the knowledge of Nair.

Later, Nair reported the matter to Mulund police, and the police swung into action and arrested two accused, Akash Rajendra Lohera and Sudesh Tanaji Mahade. During

interrogation, the police learned about the mastermind, Dinesh Manchekar. Investigation revealed that Manchekar was a history sheeter and kept changing his place of residence to con the police. The police skilfully used the undercover informants and laid traps to arrest Dinesh Manchekar from Nevli Naka, Kalyan Thane.

According to the information received from the sources, several cases have been registered against Dinesh Manchekar at many places in Mumbai and surrounding areas.

Bookie held in betting racket on a World Cup cricket match

■ Home Times Network

A case of betting on World Cup matches at a telecom shop in Mulund has been exposed. The Mulund Police have taken action against the bookie.

On Tuesday, October 17, the Mulund Police received a confidential tip-off that betting on cricket matches was going on in a telecom shop in Mulund. Acting on the tip-off, Mulund

Police formed a team and raided the telecom shop at 3:00 p.m. They caught red-handed people betting and seized material used for betting.

Mayur Jhadwa was

arrested and booked under the Prevention of Gambling Act. He was later released on bail. This is the first incident of cricket betting action in Mulund this year.



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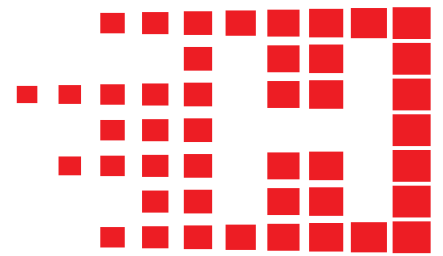
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