

BMC Plants 36k Trees In And Around Andheri

Agencies
Mumbai, January 5

In order to increase the green area of Andheri (East) area, to balance the environment and also to provide clean air to the citizens of the concerned area, the 'K East' department of the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) has planted more than 36 thousand trees in the last year. Trees have been planted in the Miyawaki

style. Over the past several years, the number of development works in the city has been increasing rapidly. Also, the number of trees is also decreasing due to increasing urbanisation. Against this background, various measures and activities are being implemented by the park department of the municipality to increase the number of trees. Tree plantation is being done in various parks in 24 divisions of

the municipality. As part of the campaign 'Majhi Mati, Majha Desh', Amrit Waticas have also been constructed at a total of 9 places by the municipality. Also, the 'K East' division of the municipality has also taken the initiative in tree planting and has planted a total of 36 thousand 210 trees in the year 2022-23. It also includes Miyawaki trees and Miyawaki trees have been planted in Kanakia and Veravali areas of Andheri. A total

of 36 thousand trees have been planted by Miyawaki method. The 'K East' division has planted a total of 38 thousand 775 trees during the period 2019 to 2023. 600 trees were planted in Andheri in the year 2019-20 by the 'K East' division of the Municipal Corporation, while 510 trees were planted in 2020-21. During the period 2021-22, 1455 and 36,210 in 2022-2023, a total of 38,775 trees were planted.

MHADA May Conduct Lottery Of 600 Houses For Mumbaikars

Agencies
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There is a good news for the people waiting for the lottery for MHADA houses in Mumbai. Information has been received that MHADA Mumbai Board will announce a lottery for 600 houses in the new year. The remaining 600 houses from the lottery conducted by the Mumbai Board in the month of August last year will be included in this new lottery. The Mumbai Board



has also started checking whether some more houses can be included in this new lottery which is scheduled to be launched in April. Meanwhile, in

the month of August, MHADA had conducted a lottery for 4,082 houses in Mumbai. For this, 1 lakh 22 thousand applicants had applied for the house. This included 1,947 houses for the Mumbai Mandal Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban) section. 27,477 applications have been received for houses under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana in Pahari Goregaon. Also, according to the income group, 28,862 applications were received for 843 houses in the lowest income group.

Air Quality Improves In City

Agencies
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The air quality in Mumbai, which has deteriorated for the last two months, has now improved somewhat. October, November often recorded bad to very bad weather in some areas. In this background, the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) started taking concrete steps to control this situation. Meanwhile, Mumbai's air quality seems to have improved at the start of the new year. The civic body is constantly trying to reduce the pollution in Mumbai. Meanwhile, additional manpower along



with equipment has been deployed in Mumbai city to control the dust. Roads and footpaths are being washed with water by the municipality and foggers and anti-smog machines are also being used. As a result, the air quality in Mumbai is improving by reducing the amount of dust. Earlier, 500 to 600 km of roads were washed every day. Now it has been increased

to one thousand kilometres every day. Meanwhile, the municipality has hired additional water tankers to complete this work. Violation of the guidelines announced by the municipality on October 25, 2023 is taking action against the builders. According to these guidelines, all the measures like placing green cloth on all sides of the construction project site,

continuous sprinkling of water, complete covering of vehicles carrying construction materials and ban on open burning of garbage are being strictly implemented. Municipal Commissioner Dr. Iqbal Singh Chahal is issuing necessary orders in this regard from time to time. Meanwhile, notices have been issued to 2,995 constructions that are not following these guidelines so far. Also, show cause notices have been issued to 603 constructions and 868 constructions have been stopped. A fine of 2 lakh 10 thousand 800 rupees has been collected from 104 construction sites without tarpaulins.

35 Bridges In Borivali & Dahisar To Undergo Repair Works

Agencies
Mumbai, January 5

The Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) has decided to undertake minor and major repair works on bridges across the city.

As per the recommendations of a consultancy firm, the civic body has approved a proposal for the repair of 35 bridges in Borivali and Dahisar.

Moreover, the civic authorities have already appointed a contractor for repair works in eastern and western

suburbs (Andheri to Malad), at a cost of INR 100 crore. Last year the BMC had appointed SGS Consultancy Services to survey

recommendations, the civic body will repair 15 bridges, including four foot-over bridges (FOB), in Mumbai.



bridges in the city. Following SGS'

below the estimated cost, which is INR 6.63 crores to win the contract for repair works in Dahisar. In Borivali area, 20 bridges, including a skywalk, will be repaired by Yogesh Construction, which won the INR 13 crore contract. The repairs will include changing bearings, filling cracks with concrete, repairing gaps, and strengthening the girders, dividers and walls, an official said.

Mumbai Monorail Incurs Huge Losses; To Merge Operations With Metro

Agencies
Mumbai, January 5

The Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA) has merged the monorail project implementation unit with the Maha Mumbai Metro Operation Corporation Ltd (MMMOCL) to revive the struggling Mumbai Monorail. The merger aims to improve operations, cut costs and save expenses. This move is expected to save over INR 40-60 crores annually and reduce duplication of manpower.

At present, the capital expenditure of the monorail



is INR 291 crore while the revenue expenditure is INR 529 crore, which includes major expenses like manpower, civil, administration, security and maintenance. MMRDA has also ordered 10 new rakes to improve services. The

monorail is incurring losses, with an estimated loss of INR 529 crore in 2023-24. The merger, aimed at better operation of the monorail, reducing losses, cutting costs and saving duplicating expenses, was put forward at the MMRDA meeting

in Nagpur last month. MMRDA Commissioner Sanjay Mukherjee confirmed the merger. There is also a possibility of change in the authority's top management. A meeting is expected to be held this week on its overall specifics. The official added that the merger was also important, given that for the first time in 10 years, new monorail rakes would start coming in. The increase in loss is being attributed to the procurement of new rakes and the cost of building a traveler connecting Mahalaxmi and Jacob's Circle. The earnings from ticketing are estimated to be a paltry INR 13.6 crore.

JN.1 Variant Outbreak: Maharashtra Reports 110 Cases; Pune & Thane Tops

Agencies
Mumbai, January 5

Maharashtra has seen a significant spike in the cases of JN.1, the new variant of Omicron, with the count reaching 110 after the latest round of genome sequencing reports. The majority of these cases are from Pune (91), followed by Thane (5) and Beed (3); whereas, Sambhaji Nagar, Kolhapur, Akola, Sindhudurg, Satara, Nanded, Solapur, and Nagpur have reported 1 case each. So far,

Mumbai has not recorded any JN.1 cases thus far. Owing to this, on the recommendation of the COVID task force, the state health department is expected to issue a guideline, urging recently returned travellers to adopt precautionary measures and refrain from going out to mitigate the potential spread as undiagnosed carriers. These recent travellers to maintain distance, particularly from vulnerable groups, especially those aged 60 and above with co-morbidities.

On Thursday, January 4, the state

reported 171 fresh cases, taking the count of active cases to 914 with about 4% in hospitals. Besides, Maharashtra reported two COVID-19 deaths. According to the state's public health department, the deaths were reported from Solapur and Kolhapur.

It is pertinent to note that since January 1, 2023, in Maharashtra, 139 COVID deaths have been recorded with 71.22% of these deaths occurred in individuals above 60 years of age, 84% had comorbidities, 16% had no morbidity.

National News

'No matter how hard conspirators try...': Arvind Kejriwal's birthday wish for Sisodia

Arvind Kejriwal on Friday extended birthday wishes to Manish Sisodia, denouncing the charges by the BJP that led to Sisodia's imprisonment for 11 months, in the liquor policy case.

New Delhi. In a birthday post to Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Manish Sisodia, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Friday asserted the "affection and trust" between them is very strong. Making a reference to the BJP, Kejriwal also said the friendship between him and Sisodia never broken "no matter how hard the conspirators try". The AAP supremo also shared an old picture of him with Sisodia, wherein the two could be seen walking a street. "This friendship is very old. Our affection and trust is very strong. This passion of working for the public is also very old. No matter how hard the conspirators try... this trust, this affection and this friendship will never be broken. (sic), Kejriwal wrote on X. "BJP has kept Manish in jail for the last 11 months by filing false cases. But Manish is standing firm in front of their oppression, has neither bowed down to



their dictatorship till now nor will ever bow down in future. In this era of dictatorship, Manish's courage inspires us all. Happy birthday Manish," the Delhi Chief Minister tweeted. Sisodia was arrested by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on February 26 last year, for his alleged role in corruption in the formulation and implementation of the Delhi Excise Policy 2020-21. The AAP leader has been in custody

since then. The ED arrested Sisodia in a money laundering case stemming from the CBI FIR on March 9 after questioning him in Tihar jail. Sisodia, who held the excise portfolio, resigned from the Delhi cabinet on February 28.

The Delhi government had implemented the excise policy on November 17, 2021 but scrapped it at the end of September 2022 amid allegations of corruption. According to the investigating agencies, the profit margins of wholesalers were arbitrarily increased from 5 per cent to 12 per cent under the new policy. The agencies have alleged that the new policy resulted in cartelisation and those ineligible for liquor licences were favoured for monetary benefits. However, the Delhi government and Sisodia have denied any wrongdoing and said the new policy would have led to an increase in revenue.

North India shivers as cold wave tightens grip, fog reduces visibility in Delhi



New Delhi. Dense fog continued to cover Delhi-NCR on Friday as minimum temperatures witnessed a dip in the region. The national capital experienced severe cold day conditions on Thursday, with temperatures falling by 6 degree Celsius, according to the Safdarjung weather station.

Due to foggy conditions, 22 trains to Delhi from various parts of the country were delayed today, according to the Indian Railways. In other parts of north India such as Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh, Uttar Pradesh, and East Rajasthan, dense to very dense fog conditions are likely to persist for several hours during the night and morning till January 6. Isolated pockets may experience these conditions on January 7, followed by dense fog in scattered areas for the next two days. On Thursday, cold day to severe cold day conditions occurred in many places over Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, West Rajasthan, and West Madhya Pradesh, and in isolated pockets over East Rajasthan and East Madhya Pradesh. In the national capital, the mercury touched a maximum of 12.5 degrees Celsius -- 6.8 degrees below normal -- at the Safdarjung observatory on Thursday.

The minimum and maximum temperatures are likely to rise by 2-4 degrees from Sunday onwards under the influence of warm and moist southwesterly winds, the weather office said. Parts of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, southern Haryana and southern Uttar Pradesh are expected to get light to very light rainfall early next week. According to the weather department's forecast for this week, a gradual increase in minimum temperatures by 2-3 degree Celsius is likely over East India in the first half of the week. There is a high probability of cold wave conditions occurring in isolated pockets across Punjab, Haryana, and North Rajasthan, with a moderate likelihood in Uttar Pradesh, other parts of Rajasthan, and North Madhya Pradesh, primarily during the initial half of the week.

Rana Couple Skips Court, Faces Arrest Threat in Hanuman Chalisa Case

Agencies
Mumbai, January 5

An special court in Mumbai expressed displeasure Thursday after independent MP Navneet Rana and MLA Ravi Rana failed to appear for framing of charges in the Hanuman Chalisa case. The court warned the couple

that arrest warrants could be issued if they miss the next hearing on January 11th. The Ranas were expected to be charged on Thursday after their plea for acquittal was recently dismissed. However, their lawyers requested a two-week adjournment to challenge the dismissal in the high court.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given to the Public at large that Late Shri. Narayan Dhondu Chavan was the Absolute Owner in respect of Residential Property i.e. Flat No. 803, 8th floor, admeasuring 780 Sq.ft Built up Area, Marigold Chs Ltd., Dr. Almeida Road, Namdeowadi, Thane(West) bearing Registration No. TNN-201381/2010, dated 29/01/2010 duly registered with the office of the Joint Sub Registrar Thane, bearing Society Registration No. TNA/(TNA)/HSG/(TC)/24730/2013, dated 10-01-2013 holding 10 shares of Rs.50/- each bearing distinctive Numbers from 321 To 330 under Share Certificate No. 33 issued by the society, constructed on land bearing Final Plot No. 334 (pt), admeasuring about 1850 Sq.mtrs. situated at Namdeowadi, Opp Nitin casting Co, Dr. Almeida Road, Panchpakadi, taluka and District Thane and within the limits of the Municipal Corporation of Thane, Registration district and Sub-District Thane. Shri. Narayan Dhondu Chavan died on 20-06-2015. 1) Mrs. Vijaya Narayan Chavan (Widow) alongwith 2) Mr. Gaurav Narayan Chavan (Son) 3) Mr. Amit Narayan Chavan (Son) are the only legal heirs of Late Shri. Narayan Dhondu Chavan. The abovementioned Legal Heirs are selling the abovementioned residential property to any prospective buyers. Any person's having any right, title, interest, claim, demand, charge, lease, mortgage, tenancy, licence, lien or any other right of whatsoever nature in the abovementioned property are hereby required to notify the same to the undersigned within 14 days from the date hereof, failing which, such right, claim and demands shall be waived and no further claim shall be entertained. Sd/- Adv. Shiv prasad R. Shetty 403, 4th Floor, Daksh Apartment, Near Vikram Book Depot, Kharkar Ali, Thane(W)-400601 MAH/5568/2010 954547941/8928832657/Spr.shetty17@gmail.com Date: 05 January 2024

Trinamool MP seeks action against IndiGo over flight delays because of crew

TMC leader Saket Gokhale wrote to DGCA director-general Vikram Dev Dutt and sought action against budget carrier IndiGo over constant flight delays owing to the non-availability of crew members on time.

New Delhi. Trinamool Congress (TMC) MP Saket Gokhale has written to the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), seeking action against budget carrier IndiGo over constant flight delays due to the non-availability of crew on time. Gokhale wrote to DGCA director-general Vikram Dev Dutt and sought to be apprised within seven days about the action taken against the airline.



A statement from IndiGo is awaited. Meanwhile, IndiGo on Thursday announced the removal of fuel surcharges on all its domestic and international flights, citing a decline in Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) prices. The decision, effective immediately, came after the airline

introduced the fuel charge in October last year in response to a series of consecutive ATF price hikes. "IndiGo is pleased to announce the removal of fuel charge applicable on its domestic and international routes, effective

January 04, 2024. The fuel charge was introduced in October 2023 following a surge in Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) prices," IndiGo said in a statement.

"With the recent reduction in ATF prices, IndiGo is withdrawing the charge," the airline added.

IndiGo, the country's leading airline in terms of market share, had initially said the fuel charges would range from Rs 300 to Rs 1,000, based on the distance travelled. Given that ATF can constitute nearly 40 per cent of an airline's costs, this move is expected to offer significant relief to travellers on low-cost airlines.