

Farmers are destiny makers of MP: CM Yadav

- Special focus on employment-based agriculture industries development
- All round efforts are being made for prosperity of farmers

Bhopal: Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav has hailed the state's farmers as the architects of Madhya Pradesh's prosperity, marking a historic transformation in the agricultural landscape. Declaring 2026 as "Kisan Kalyan Varsh" (Farmer Welfare Year), the Chief Minister emphasized a shift toward employment-based agricultural industries to turn traditional farming into a profitable, high-tech enterprise.

The new food basket of India

Madhya Pradesh has officially emerged as the "New Food Basket of India," securing top national rankings in several categories. The state currently ranks first in the production of oranges, garlic, ginger, coriander, and gram. It also holds the second spot in food grains, pulses, and "Shri Ann" (millets), having won the prestigious Krishi Karman Award seven consecutive times.

Irrigation and energy revolution

The state has witnessed a massive leap in resources, with irrigated land expanding from a mere 7 lakh hectares two decades ago to 65 lakh hectares today. The government aims to hit the 100 lakh hectare mark by 2029 through mega-



projects like the Ken-Betwa and Parvati-Kalisindh-Chambal river linking initiatives.

On the energy front, the "Urjadata" scheme is empowering farmers by providing permanent electricity connections for just Rs 5. In the next three years, a massive rollout of solar pumps aims to transition farmers from consumers to energy entrepreneurs, freeing them from the burden of electricity bills.

Strategic support and value addition

- Under the Krishak Kalyan Mission, the government is ensuring:
 - Zero-percent interest on crop loans.
 - Bonus payments on wheat and paddy procurement.
 - Price support (Bhavantar Yojana) for soybean and mustard farmers.
 - Rs 27,746 crore in newly approved projects following the historic first "Agriculture Cabinet" in Barwani.

Focus on research and "Shri Ann"

To bolster scientific farming, the government approved Rs 48 crore for six new Van Vigyan Kendras. Additionally, under the Rani Durgavati Shri Ann Protsahan Yojana, the state is aggressively promoting millet cultivation, procuring over 15,000 metric tonnes of Kodo-Kutki at premium rates.

"When our Annadatas are empowered, only then will Madhya Pradesh reach the pinnacle of prosperity," Dr. Yadav remarked, reiterating the state's resolve to build a self-reliant and modern agricultural economy.

MP agriculture, food products and crafts received 27 prestigious GI Tag

Dream of 'Vocal for Local' realised

Bhopal: Madhya Pradesh has firmly established itself as a global hub for authentic heritage, with its tally of Geographical Indication (GI) Tags reaching a remarkable 27. This milestone marks a significant leap toward Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of 'Vocal for Local,' transforming traditional grassroots crafts and agricultural gems into internationally recognized brands. **The 2025 surge: Celebrating rare artistry:** The year 2025 was a landmark for the state's artisans. The spotlight shone brightly on the Bharewa Metal Craft of Betul, particularly from the craft village of Tigaria. This ancient tradition gained national acclaim when President Droupadi Murmu honored artist Baldev Waghmare with the National Handicrafts Award. Joining the elite list in 2025 were the intricate Khajuraho Stone Craft, Chhatrapur's traditional furniture, and Gwalior's dual triumph in stone craft and delicate Paper Mache art.

proceeds are equally decorated. From the protein-rich Kadaknath Chicken of Jabua to the aromatic Chinnor Rice of Balaghat and the "Golden Grain" Sharbati Wheat, Madhya Pradesh's flavors are now legally protected. Other iconic inclusions feature: *Ratlam's Sev and Morena's Gajak*, *Rewa's Sundarja Mango and Jaora's Garlic*, *Bundelkhand's Kathiya Wheat*.

Preserving authenticity: Administered by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, a GI Tag serves as a 10-year seal of authenticity, ensuring that only products genuinely originating from these specific regions can use the prestigious name. Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav congratulated the artisans and farmers, noting that these tags do more than protect names—they empower rural economies and preserve the "soul of India" for future generations. With several more applications in the pipeline, the state's journey of cultural branding has only just begun.

From farm to plate: A culinary legacy: The state's agricultural

Healthy state is foundation of prosperous state: CM Yadav

- Unified strategy set to deliver top-tier health services statewide
- Targeted investment to overhaul MP's healthcare framework

Bhopal: Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav has underscored a powerful directive for the state's future: "A healthy state is the foundation of a prosperous state." With a massive budget allocation of Rs 23,747 crore for the 2026-27 financial year, the government is launching an aggressive expansion of healthcare infrastructure, ensuring that high-quality medical services reach every citizen—from bustling urban centers to the most remote tribal outposts. **Revolutionizing rural and primary care:** At the heart of this health revolution is a Rs 4,600 crore injection into the National Health Mission. This funding is specifically designed to fortify maternal and child health, immunization, and primary care. Significant investments include:

- Rs 1,934 crore for Primary Health Centres (PHCs).

- Rs 750 crore for the Mukhyamantri Shramik Seva Prasuti Sahayata Yojana.
- Rs 550 crore in incentives for ASHA workers, the backbone of grassroots healthcare.
- 228 Birth Waiting Rooms have been established to drastically reduce maternal mortality in high-risk remote areas.

A surge in medical education and infrastructure: Madhya Pradesh is rapidly becoming a hub for medical excellence. In just two years, five new government medical colleges have opened, boosting MBBS seats to 2,850 and PG seats to 1,468. The expansion continues with medical colleges approved in Dhar, Betul, Panna, and Katni under the PPP model. Furthermore, Rs 3,056 crore is dedicated to medical colleges and their affiliated hospitals, while Rs 148 crore will fund state-of-the-

art super-specialty hospitals. **Leading the nation in Ayushman Bharat:** Madhya Pradesh has secured the top spot nationally in the implementation of the Ayushman Vay Vandana Yojana, with over 15.48 lakh cards issued to seniors over 70. Overall, the state has issued a staggering 4.46 crore Ayushman cards, providing a safety net across a network of 1,838 empanelled hospitals. **Boosting human resources:** To support this massive physical infrastructure, the government is currently recruiting 3,850 doctors and 1,256 nursing officers. Embracing traditional wisdom alongside modern science, eight new Ayurveda colleges-cum-hospitals are also being established.

By blending cutting-edge technology with inclusive welfare, Dr. Yadav's administration is building a self-reliant and empowered Madhya Pradesh where "accessible and affordable" healthcare is a reality, not just a slogan.

Bhopal Police unveils new traffic plan for today's Dhulendi procession



Bhopal: Bhopal's Old City is set for a vibrant transformation this Dhulendi as the traditional Holi procession makes its way from Dayanand Chowk to Janakpuri. To ensure a smooth celebration and minimize public inconvenience, Bhopal Police has implemented a comprehensive traffic management plan effective from 8:00 AM today. Over nine major routes will be

closed to regular traffic, while ten alternative paths have been designated for commuters.

Procession route and closures

The grand procession will wind through the heart of the city, starting at Dayanand Chowk and passing through Jumerati Gate, Ghoda Nakkas, Ganesh Chowk, Itwara, and Lakherapura be-

fore culminating at Janakpuri. During this period, all vehicle entries will be restricted at critical points, including:

- ✓ Moti Masjid to Budhwara
- ✓ Nadra Bus Stand to Ghoda Nakkas
- ✓ Bharat Talkies to Itwara
- ✓ Bhopal Talkies to Nadra Bus Stand

Recommended alternative routes

- Commuters are advised to utilize the following detours to avoid congestion:
- ✓ VIP Road: For cross-city transit.
 - ✓ Sindhi Colony Route: Via Alpana Tiraha and Agarwal Dharamshala.
 - ✓ Talaiya Path: Via Lily Talkies, Imambara, and Peergate.
 - ✓ Kamla Park: For connecting toward Retghat and Moti Masjid.

Emergency assistance

Traffic authorities have released three dedicated helpline numbers for real-time assistance or to report congestion: 0755-2677340, 2443850, and WhatsApp at 7587602055. Residents are encouraged to plan their travel in advance to enjoy a safe and colorful Dhulendi.

CM Yadav expresses grief on tragic sewer deaths in Indore

Rs 30 lakh compensation announced for each deceased

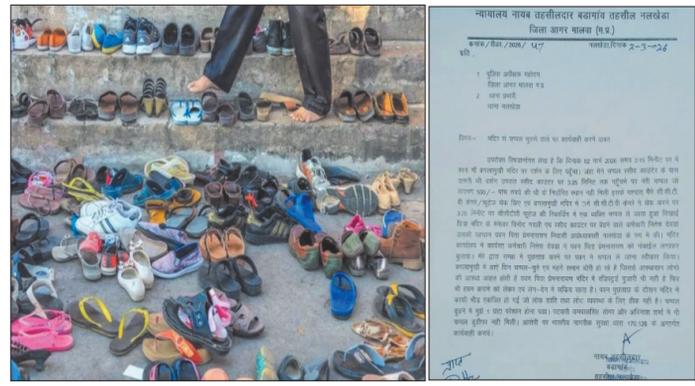
Indore: A somber atmosphere has gripped Indore, India's cleanest city, following the tragic death of two municipal workers during a sewer cleaning operation near Choithram Mandi. The victims, identified as Karan and Ajay, succumbed to toxic gas inhalation while attempting to retrieve a fallen suction pipe fragment. The tragedy escalated when Ajay heroically entered the manhole to rescue a struggling Karan, only for both to be overcome by lethal fumes.

Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav expressed profound grief over the incident and directed authorities to provide Rs 30 lakh in financial assistance to each bereaved family,

aligning with a 2023 Supreme Court mandate regarding sewer-related fatalities. While a local resident and another worker were rescued from the pit, the incident has sparked intense public outrage over safety protocols.

Questions are now mounting against municipal officials regarding the apparent lack of mandatory safety gear and gas detection equipment at the site. As the SDRF and local police conduct a thorough investigation, the community is demanding strict accountability and criminal negligence charges against those responsible for sending workers into such hazardous conditions unprotected.

Bureaucrat sparks social media storm over slippers stolen in Baglamukhi Temple



Agar/Malwa: An unusual case of footwear theft has gone viral in Madhya Pradesh's Agar Malwa district after a local official took the

matter straight to the police. Naib Tehsildar Arun Chandravanshi, stationed in Badgaon, was visiting the world-renowned Baglamukhi Mata Temple on Monday when his slippers vanished from near the receipt counter. While temple thefts are common, the officer's refusal to let the matter slide has turned a minor grievance into a legal spectacle.

Refusing to walk away from the incident, the officer personally scrutinized the temple's CCTV footage to identify the culprit. The high-definition cameras captured a man fleeing with the footwear; surprisingly, when

confronted by temple management, the individual reportedly confessed to the act. Dissatisfied with a mere admission of guilt, the Naib Tehsildar drafted a formal letter to the District Superintendent of Police and the local station head.

The official communication, which has since flooded social media platforms, demands a First Information Report (FIR) under sections 126 and 170 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita. While some netizens find the administrative rigor humorous, the officer maintains that strict action is necessary to deter frequent petty thefts at the pilgrimage site. As the police evaluate the bizarre complaint, the "Case of the Missing Slippers" continues to trend as a curious example of bureaucratic persistence.



Bhopal's Kinnar Community spreads message of unity through vibrant Holi rites

Bhopal: The spirit of Holi took on a rhythmic and soulful hue in Bhopal as the Kinnar community led a joyous celebration characterized by tradition, dance, and social harmony. Under the guidance of Guru Suraiyya Nayak, members of the community traversed the city's markets, performing traditional dances to the beat of the dholak and singing folk melodies. In keeping with long-standing customs, local

shopkeepers welcomed the groups, offering "Phag" as a token of celebration and respect. Beyond the vibrant gugal and festive music, the celebration carried a profound message of inclusivity and peace. Guru Suraiyya Nayak emphasized that Holi is a bridge to span social divides, urging citizens to set aside mutual differences and embrace brotherhood. "This festival brings every section of society

onto a single platform," noted community member Devi Rani, while calling on the youth to maintain peace and harmony. By distributing sweets and embracing onlookers, the community transformed the "Festival of Colors" into a powerful demonstration of emotional unity, reminding the capital that the true essence of the season lies in mutual respect and the collective joy of all its citizens.

Wife's murder accused commits suicide in Hospital toilet in Raisen

Raisen: A chilling case of domestic violence and tragedy has culminated in the suicide of a 60-year-old man at the Raisen District Hospital. The deceased, Jamuna Prasad, was a fugitive wanted for the brutal murder of his wife, whom he had allegedly set on fire following a long-standing dispute over ancestral property. The conflict centered on land inherited by his wife in Murail Kala, which Prasad reportedly pressured her to sell or transfer to his name against her will.

After the fatal attack on his wife, Prasad fled and previously attempted to end his life on a railway track in Vidisha before being apprehended by Railway Police. He was subsequently handed over to the Raisen Police and admitted to the orthopedic ward of the district hospital for treatment.

On Tuesday morning, while under medical supervision, Prasad entered the hospital bathroom and used a makeshift noose to hang himself.

The incident has raised serious questions regarding police negligence and the lack of surveillance on a high-profile murder suspect. While Civil Surgeon Dr. Yashpal Singh Balyan confirmed that the patient vanished during a routine bathroom visit, local authorities are now investigating how a double-suicide-risk inmate was left unmonitored. This tragic end closes a violent chapter of greed and domestic abuse that has left the local community in shock.

Middle East conflict grounds Indore-Sharjah flights indefinitely

Indore: International air travel from Madhya Pradesh has been severely disrupted as Air India Express announced the indefinite suspension of its Indore-Sharjah service. This decision follows a dramatic escalation in Middle East hostilities involving Israel, the United States, and Iran. The regional conflict has forced the closure of multiple airspaces due to the heightened risk of ballistic missile activity, bringing aviation across the Gulf to a virtual standstill.



hundreds of passengers, including prominent local representatives and builders, stranded in Dubai and Sharjah. Trapped amidst missile alerts and airport closures, many have made ur-

gent appeals to the Indian government for special repatriation flights.

To mitigate the crisis, Air India Express has initiated a full refund process, accessible through its official website. While major carriers like Emirates have begun limited operations for priority passengers, the situation remains volatile with ongoing drone and missile threats.

Travelers are advised to monitor official channels for updates, as regular flight schedules will only resume once the regional security environment stabilizes and international air corridors are declared safe for civilian passage.