

### Vantara Under Watch

The Supreme Court of India's decision to order a probe into the functioning of Vantara, the vast zoological facility in Jamnagar linked to the Reliance group, is both timely and necessary. For months, allegations have swirled regarding irregularities in the acquisition of exotic animals, lack of transparency in imports, and the possible fuelling of the illegal wildlife trade. By forming a Special Investigation Team (SIT) under the leadership of former Supreme Court judge Justice J Chelameswar, the Court has reaffirmed that no institution, however powerful, is above scrutiny.

The questions surrounding Vantara go beyond the fate of a few species. They touch upon India's international obligations under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), the ethics of sourcing animals from questionable suppliers, and the broader principles of conservation. If even a fraction of the allegations prove true, the sanctuary risks becoming a symbol of exploitation disguised as rehabilitation.

Equally troubling is the pattern of media suppression within India. Reports critical of Vantara have too often been withdrawn under pressure, even as international outlets continue their investigative work. This contrast not only highlights the challenges of press freedom in corporate-linked matters but also reveals how public debate is being stifled in a democracy that claims transparency as a virtue.

The SIT's task is not just to verify compliance with laws and conventions but to restore public confidence in the system. The probe must be rigorous, independent, and insulated from influence. It is essential that its findings be made public and followed by concrete reforms in wildlife governance.

India cannot afford to let corporate ambition overshadow its duty towards nature and biodiversity. Conservation cannot be reduced to a spectacle of exotic animals; it must be rooted in legality, ethics, and ecological responsibility. The Supreme Court has taken the first step. It is now upon the SIT, the government, and civil society to ensure that truth prevails and accountability is enforced.

In thanking the Supreme Court for this intervention, we also remind ourselves that vigilance in matters of wildlife and environment must never waver. The protection of nature is not a privilege to be outsourced — it is a collective duty.

### Neeru Bajwa Prepares for 'Tehran'

**Mumbai:** Actress Neeru Bajwa opened up about her preparation for her role in the upcoming film Tehran. She revealed that instead of extensive rehearsals or method acting, she opted for a natural and intuitive approach.

"I didn't follow any fixed preparation process," Bajwa said. "I simply watched spy films to understand how such characters move, their body language, and how they carry themselves."



Bajwa believes that this observational approach helped her adapt naturally on set and bring authenticity to her character.

She also praised the collaborative atmosphere during the shoot and highlighted co-star John Abraham's support. "John was extremely humble and positive. He always ensured that everyone on set felt comfortable. That environment helped all of us deliver our best performances," she added.

Thanks to her natural approach, keen observation, and the team's support, Bajwa feels that her portrayal in Tehran emerged in an incredibly authentic and believable manner.

### First Look of 'Ek Deewane Ki Deewaniyat' Released



**Mumbai:** The moment fans have been waiting for is finally here! The first poster of 'Ek Deewane Ki Deewaniyat', starring Harshvardhan Rane and Sonam Bajwa, has been unveiled. The film is slated for release this Diwali, on 21st October 2025. Harshvardhan Rane's popularity continues to soar. After the massive success of Sanam Teri Kasam earlier this year, fans are eagerly anticipating his next big project. Securing a Diwali release underscores the excitement surrounding this musical romantic drama.

Produced by Anshul Garg under his banner Desi Music Factory, with Raghav Sharma as co-producer, the film promises a tale filled with music, passion, and heartfelt romance. The story has been penned by Mushtaq Shaikh, while Milap Milan Zaveri co-wrote and directed the film. Notably, this marks Anshul Garg's debut in feature film production.

Director Milap Milan Zaveri shared, "This is a vibrant love story. The chemistry between Harshvardhan and Sonam is electrifying, and I can't wait for audiences to experience it this Diwali."

## Refinery Gift for Rajasthan on Diwali, Minister Hardeep Singh Puri Gives Strong Indications

Rajasthan is set to receive a major industrial boost this Diwali as the long-awaited refinery project in Pachpadra, Barmer district, is likely to be inaugurated. Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Hardeep Singh Puri, has hinted that the formal commencement of operations could take place around the festive season.

On Sunday, during the inauguration of the refinery's state-of-the-art control room in Balotra's Pachpadra area, Minister Puri assured that both the central and state govern-

ments are fully committed to completing this ambitious project within the stipulated timeline. He emphasized that the refinery, being developed as a joint venture between Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) and the Government of Rajasthan under the name HPCL Rajasthan Refinery Limited (HRRL), will have an annual production capacity of 9 million metric tonnes (MMTPA), including 2.4 MMTPA of petrochemical products.

Chief Minister's Optimism

on Timely Completion

Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma, who accompanied the Union Minister, expressed confidence that the state is moving steadily towards announcing the date for the refinery's formal commissioning. He noted that significant progress has been made since his last inspection visit in January. Sharma underlined that the joint efforts of the Central Government, the State Government, and HPCL would ensure the project's completion either by year-end or even earlier.

During the event, both leaders jointly inaugurated the advanced control room and later conducted an on-ground inspection of the refinery site by bus. They interacted with senior officials and reviewed the detailed progress of ongoing works.

Gateway to Employment and Industrial Growth

Highlighting the far-reaching benefits of the project, Chief Minister Sharma said that the refinery will not only transform the economy of western Rajasthan but will also serve as a growth catalyst for the

entire state. He added that the project will open a massive gateway for employment and industrial opportunities, particularly benefiting the youth and local communities.

Emphasizing the environmental commitments of the project, Sharma assured that plantation drives and green initiatives in the refinery zone will receive special attention to balance development with sustainability. He further hinted at imminent good news for the people of Rajasthan, suggesting that the refinery's launch would mark the begin-



ning of a new era of economic and industrial prosperity for the state.

### RSPCB Shuts MIS 1.0, Launches Online MIS 2.0



**Udaipur:** The Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board (RSPCB) has decided to discontinue the acceptance of new applications through its earlier Management Information System (MIS) 1.0.

All applications already received on MIS 1.0 will be resolved through a green channel, ensuring their disposal without delay.

From now on, industrial units will have to submit their applications exclusively through MIS 2.0 in an online process.

**MIS 2.0 launched for ease of business**

In order to promote Ease of Doing Business in the state, Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma inaugurated MIS 2.0

on June 5, 2025, coinciding with World Environment Day. The new system allows all applications to be filed online without any human intervention. Facilities such as inspection notices, error notifications, and time-bound deadlines are now available on both the MIS 2.0 web portal and the mobile application.

#### Features of MIS 2.0

To simplify administrative

procedures, an auto-renewal system has been integrated into MIS 2.0. Additionally, a dedicated Citizen Portal has been launched, where the general public can access relevant information about RSPCB and also register complaints online.

Call to industries

The Pollution Control Board has urged all industrialists to submit their applications through MIS 2.0 and its auto-renewal system to benefit from a transparent and time-efficient process.

### Vedanta Zinc City Half Marathon Returns to Udaipur in 30 Days



**Udaipur:** Hindustan Zinc Limited, the world's largest integrated zinc producer, has announced

the return of the much-awaited Vedanta Zinc City Half Marathon, scheduled for 21st September 2025 in Udaipur. Following the resounding success of its debut last year, the second edition promises to be bigger, inclusive, and more impactful. With just 30 days left, preparations are in full swing for what is positioned as India's Most Beautiful Marathon, offering participants an unforgettable experience along Fateh Sagar Lake, the Aravali Hills, and the cultural heart of Udaipur. The event will also feature the Race with Champions, a special run for specially-abled children, celebrating resilience and courage. Supporting #RunForZeroHunger by Nandghar, the marathon extends beyond fitness, creating a platform for community spirit and social change.

Pre-event activities involving corporates, NGOs, and running groups are being organized to build momentum and foster partnerships. Arun Misra, CEO of Hindustan Zinc, highlighted that the marathon reflects the company's commitment to healthier communities and inclusivity, while also showcasing Udaipur's heritage and natural beauty.

### Hindustan Zinc Expands CSR Projects in Bhilwara, Boosting Education and Infrastructure

**Bhilwara:** Hindustan Zinc Limited has further strengthened its commitment to community development with the inauguration of new CSR initiatives in Kalyanpura village, Shahpura.



The projects, worth over ₹1 crore, focus on enhancing education, infrastructure, and connectivity for rural families.

On the occasion, Shahpura MLA Dr. Lalaram Bairwa lauded the initiative, stating that Hindustan Zinc's work "directly benefits children and families by improving education and connectivity," setting an example of how industry and community can progress together. The interventions, implemented under the company's flagship program Samadhan, include new classrooms, sanitation facilities, and connectivity improvements designed to foster self-reliant communities.

Ram Murari, IBU CEO of Rampura Agucha Mine Cluster, emphasized the company's focus on sustainable development, quality education, healthcare, sanitation, and livelihoods as key pillars of long-term impact.

Earlier this week, Asind MLA Jabbar Singh Sankhla inaugurated CSR projects worth over ₹7 crore across nearby villages, including new school facilities, roads, bridges, and community halls.

The inauguration ceremony in Kalyanpura was attended by public representatives, social leaders, Hindustan Zinc officials, and local villagers, reinforcing the company's vision of inclusive growth and its role as a partner in building sustainable rural communities.

### Grand Jewellery Fashion Show by Sojatia Jewellers Dazzles Udaipur

**Udaipur:** Sojatia Jewellers, one of the city's most prestigious jewellery houses, hosted a spectacular Jewellery Fashion Show at Radisson Blu's banquet hall on Sunday. The glittering evening saw top models from Mumbai, Delhi, and Jaipur walking the ramp, adorned with exclusive creations from Sojatia Jewellers.

The show unfolded in three thematic rounds—Rajputi Jewellery, showcasing traditional aad, armlets, necklaces, and mathapatti; Western Jewellery, highlighting lightweight jadau and open polki; and the Bridal Jewellery Grand Finale, featuring majestic bridal sets and jadaupolki masterpieces. The Sojatia family graced the ramp as showstoppers across all rounds.

Elite Miss India Angel Sen and Miss Rising Star Payal Khandeval added glamour, while show director Gagan Kumar



brought his creative finesse to ensure success. Dr. Mahendra Sojatia remarked that this was Udaipur's first jewellery fashion show of such scale, designed to help customers understand jewellery suited for various occasions. Expressing gratitude, he credited the love and trust of Udaipur's people for

making the event a grand success.

### Reliance Jio Remains India's Most Affordable Telecom Option: Report

**New Delhi:** Reliance Jio continues to offer the most cost-

effective plans for mobile users in India, according to a BNP Paribas analysis comparing major telecom operators. While Airtel, Vodafone Idea (Vi), and Jio have aligned prices for popular recharge plans, Jio provides higher data benefits at the same price points, making it ideal for data-heavy customers.

For instance, the Rs 299, 28-day plan offers 1.5 GB per day with Jio, compared to Airtel and Vi charging Rs 349 for the same. Similarly, the Rs 349 plan delivers 2 GB/day, priced lower than competitors. The report noted that Jio users save around Rs 50 per month versus Airtel and Vi.

Jio's multiple offerings—from the Rs 209 plan on MyJio app to the Rs 799, 84-day plan—cater to both voice and data users, reinforcing its position as the cheapest and most value-for-money telecom operator in India. Recharges are widely accessible via digital platforms, including PhonePe, Google Pay, Paytm, and Jio's official website.

### Canara HSBC Life Launches 'EZ Pension Plan' with Policybazaar

**Jaipur:** Canara HSBC Life Insurance, in collaboration with Policybazaar.com, has launched the EZ Pension Plan, an individual linked pension plan designed to empower retirement planning. With India's ageing population projected to nearly

### Hindustan Zinc Approves India's First Tailings Reprocessing Plant

**Udaipur:** Hindustan Zinc Limited, a Vedanta Group company and the world's largest integrated zinc producer, has approved the establishment of India's first zinc tailings reprocessing plant at Rampura Agucha, Bhilwara, Rajasthan. Tailings, the by-products of mineral extraction, often contain residual metals. The state-of-the-art plant, with a capacity of 10 million tonnes per annum (Mtpa) and an investment of ₹3,823 crores, will reprocess these tailings to recover zinc, silver and other valuable minerals. Completion is targeted within 28 months, positioning the project as a milestone in sustainable resource management.

CEO Arun Misra highlighted that the project, developed with global experts, would allow responsible reprocessing of historical waste while supporting Hindustan Zinc's "2x growth" vision. The initiative also aligns with global sustainability standards and contributes to the circular economy by turning industrial by-products into resources.



Headquartered in Udaipur, the company is already advancing expansion plans worth nearly ₹12,000 crores to meet India's rising zinc demand. Recognized globally for its ESG practices, Hindustan Zinc has been ranked the world's most sustainable metals and mining company for two consecutive years and recently joined the International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM), reinforcing its leadership in responsible mining.

### HDFC Bank Invests in BharatGPT Creator CoRover

**Udaipur:** HDFC Bank has invested in CoRover, the creator of BharatGPT, India's sovereign enterprise-grade Large Language Model. Trusted by 25,000+ enterprises and 1 billion users, CoRover develops conversational AI agents, including VideoBots, VoiceBots, and Telephony AI solutions powered by BharatGPT.

Arup Rakshit, Group Head Treasury, HDFC Bank, emphasized BharatGPT's ability to address India's vernacular diversity. CoRover CEO Ankush Sabharwal noted the support will help scale secure and inclusive AI. With initiatives like IndiaAI Mission and its global accelerator, CoRover is advancing AI accessibility, including BharatGPT Mini, which works on low-end devices and offline environments.

double by 2050, the plan offers a disciplined and flexible approach to building a secure post-retirement corpus.

The EZ Pension Plan provides features such as zero allocation charges, flexibility to choose retirement age and premium payment terms, and unlimited free fund switches.

By combining growth potential with adaptability, it addresses rising healthcare costs, longer lifespans, and the need for structured retirement solutions.

Rishi Mathur, CDO & CMO of Canara HSBC Life Insurance, said the plan empowers individuals to achieve long-term financial independence, while Vivek Jain, CBO of Policybazaar, emphasized its role in reshaping traditional retirement planning. Available on Policybazaar.com, the product provides a smart, market-linked solution to help Indians secure financial freedom in their golden years.

### "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam"



**Udaipur:** Tree Plantation Drive "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" was organized at Pacific Institute of Hotel Management, Pacific University, to promote environmental awareness. University President Prof. Hemant Kothari graced the

event as chief guest, along with Director Mr. Vinod Kumar Singh Bhadoria, Deputy Principal Mr. Jacob John, faculty, and students. Saplings were planted with enthusiasm, reinforcing the pledge of green responsibility.

Prof. Kothari stressed the link between sustainable tourism and environmental conservation, while Mr. Bhadoria urged yearly sapling plantations to combat deforestation. The program concluded with a vote of thanks by Mr. Jacob John, coordinated by Mr. Saurabh Saxena.