

सत्यमेव जयते

Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
Government of India

Weekly Information Bulletin

13th November - 20th November 2026

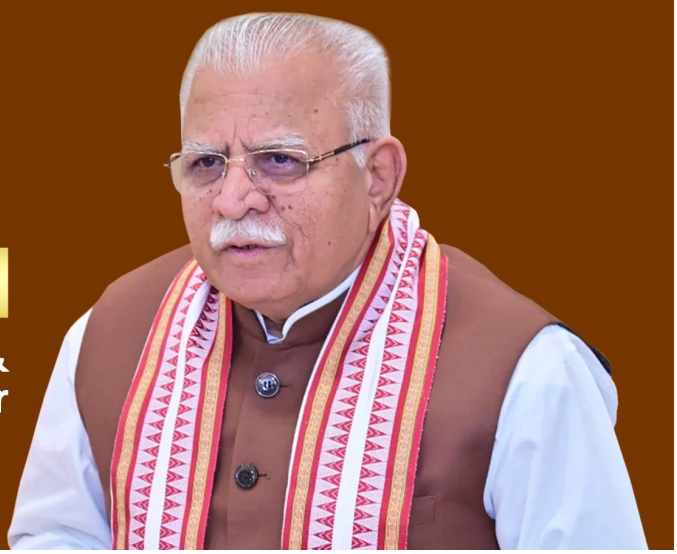
11th Edition

Read all Editions here:



Shri Manohar Lal

Hon'ble Union Minister of Housing & Urban Affairs and Power



Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
Government of India

सत्यमेव जयते

Highlights of the Week

1. **SVANidhi** Means Your **Own Capital**, Your **Own Enterprise** and the Confidence to Stand on Your Own Feet: Union Minister Manohar Lal
2. **NBCC Celebrates 67th Foundation Day** at Bharat Mandapam, Undertakes Special Welfare Initiatives for Shramjeevies
3. **NCRTC Introduces Namo Bharat Superfast Services**, Reducing Travel Time between Anand Vihar and Begumpul to 36 Minutes
4. **MoHUA Marks World Toilet Day**, Advancing Safe, Clean and Inclusive Sanitation Across Urban India
5. Delhi Metro Facilitates Post-Chhath Travel with Early Morning Services
6. **HUDCO** Releases **ESG Report FY 2025-26**, Advancing Sustainable and Resilient Cities

Weekly Information Bulletin
13th November - 20th November 2026

Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
Government of India
सत्यमेव जयते

20 Nov, 2026

SVANidhi Means Your Own Capital, Your Own Enterprise and the Confidence to Stand on Your Own Feet: Union Minister Manohar Lal





"SVANidhi means your own capital, your own enterprise and the confidence to stand on your own feet. The government is merely a facilitator," said Union Minister Shri Manohar Lal at the SVANidhi Samman Awards 2026, highlighting the scheme's commitment to trust, collaboration and self-reliance.

The Minister noted that under the visionary leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, PM SVANidhi has opened new avenues of opportunity for street vendors by extending financial assistance and, more importantly, placing trust in those traditionally excluded from formal banking.

Launched in 2020, the scheme has completed six successful years, disbursing nearly ₹20,000 crore through over 1.21 crore loans to around 81 lakh street vendors. With women accounting for nearly 46% of beneficiaries and around 70% belonging to marginalised sections of society, the scheme continues to contribute to inclusive urban development and the vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047.

Shri Manohar Lal extended his heartiest congratulations and best wishes to all the beneficiaries.





Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
Government of India
सत्यमेव जयते

15 Nov, 2026

NBCC Celebrates 67th Foundation Day at Bharat Mandapam, Undertakes Special Welfare Initiatives for Shramjeevies





NBCC (India) Limited celebrated its 67th Foundation Day on 15 November 2026 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, in the august presence of Shri Manohar Lal, Hon'ble Union Minister of Housing & Urban Affairs and Power; Smt. D. Thara, Secretary, Department of Capital Development, MoHUA; Dr. K. P. Mahadevaswamy, CMD, NBCC; and Shri R. Venkataramani, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India and Court Receiver for the Amrapali projects. Shri Tokhan Sahu, Hon'ble Minister of State for Housing & Urban Affairs, conveyed his greetings through a video message.

The celebration marked NBCC's 67-year journey of trust, excellence and contribution to nation-building. Senior officials of MoHUA and NBCC, employees, invited guests and their families attended the occasion. Meritorious students were felicitated for their academic achievements, reflecting the organisation's legacy and continued commitment to shaping India's infrastructure landscape.

Marking the occasion, NBCC undertook special welfare initiatives for shramjeevies working across its project sites. Bhandaras were organised at various locations across Delhi, Noida and Greater Noida, including WTC Nauroji Nagar, Netaji Nagar and Amrapali (Aspire), to share the joy of the Foundation Day celebrations with the workforce.
At the Sarojini Nagar Redevelopment Project, blankets were distributed and a health camp was organised. Similar welfare activities were conducted at the High Court project in Gudivada, Andhra Pradesh; NVS Bhadradri Kothagudem, Telangana; and project sites across Goa, Odisha and Gorakhpur.



Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
Government of India
सत्यमेव जयते

16 Nov, 2026

NCRTC Introduces Namo Bharat Superfast Services, Reducing Travel Time between Anand Vihar and Begumpul to 36 Minutes





To cater to the growing commuter demand on the Delhi-Meerut Namo Bharat corridor, NCRTC has introduced Namo Bharat Superfast services during morning and evening peak hours. These services will enable passengers to travel from Anand Vihar to Ghaziabad in just 8 minutes, Ghaziabad to Begumpul in 28 minutes and Anand Vihar to Begumpul in only 36 minutes, while covering the entire corridor in less than 50 minutes.

For faster connectivity, these superfast trains will stop at only five major stations along the corridor–Sarai Kale Khan, Anand Vihar, Ghaziabad, Begumpul and Modipuram.

In the morning, two superfast trains will operate in each direction from the terminal stations, departing from Sarai Kale Khan towards Modipuram and from Modipuram towards Sarai Kale Khan at 8:00 AM and 8:30 AM. Similarly, in the evening, two superfast trains in each direction will depart from both terminal stations at 6:00 PM and 6:30 PM.

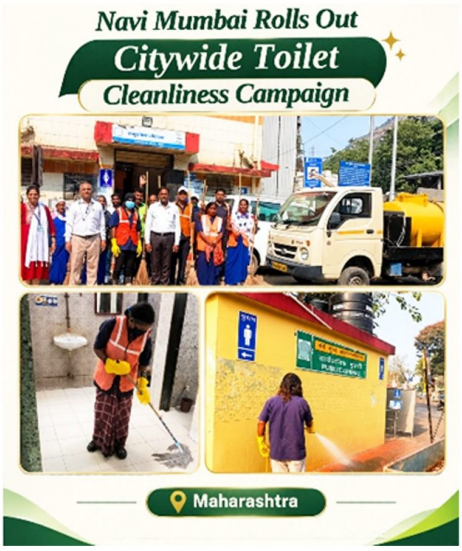


Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
Government of India
सत्यमेव जयते

19 Nov, 2026

MoHUA Marks World Toilet Day, Advancing Safe, Clean and Inclusive Sanitation Across Urban India







World Toilet Day is observed annually on 19 November to highlight the importance of safe sanitation, universal access to toilets and sustained efforts towards improving sanitation infrastructure and services. For Swachh Bharat Mission, the occasion provides an opportunity to reaffirm the collective commitment to ensuring that everyone has access to clean, safe, functional and inclusive toilet facilities.

The Department of Urban Development, MoHUA, called upon all States and Union Territories to prioritise Community Toilets (CTs) and Public Toilets (PTs) as key components of sanitation interventions and urban development initiatives, with focused attention on the 'FACES' parameters–Functionality, Accessibility, Cleanliness, Eco-friendliness and Safety. Various activities were encouraged across Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) on the occasion, including inauguration of new toilet facilities, refurbishment and upgradation of existing facilities, strengthening of operations and maintenance, public audits of toilet facilities, and cleanliness, awareness and citizen engagement initiatives.

Cities and towns across the country marked World Toilet Day through a range of citizen-centric initiatives, reinforcing their commitment to safe, clean and inclusive sanitation. In Telangana, Metpally inaugurated an Aspirational Public Toilet, underscoring its focus on improving public sanitation infrastructure and ensuring accessible facilities for all. Indore transformed public sanitation into a vibrant celebration of Jan Bhagidari through its Toilet Fest, featuring toilet cleanliness drives, Swachh Rangolis and Nukkad Nataks, highlighting the role of community participation in maintaining hygienic public spaces.

Navi Mumbai launched a city-wide cleanliness campaign to improve the upkeep of public and community toilets while promoting hygiene awareness among citizens. Meanwhile, the Ramgarh Cantonment Board undertook a special cleanliness and beautification drive at the Thana Chowk public toilet, alongside public outreach activities highlighting that maintaining clean public toilets is a shared civic responsibility.

Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation organised 'Sauchaalay Ka Samman' to promote toilet cleanliness, dignity and the importance of proper sanitation. As part of this unique initiative, the IEC team created floral garlands using the Waste-to-Art concept to decorate toilet blocks. Sanitation warriors were honoured by adorning toilet entrances with these garlands, symbolising appreciation for their dedicated service in maintaining cleanliness. The team also interacted with tourists and toilet users, spreading awareness about toilet hygiene, cleanliness and responsible sanitation practices. Visitors and tourists appreciated this thoughtful initiative by AMC.

Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
Government of India
सत्यमेव जयते

16 Nov, 2026

Delhi Metro Facilitates Post-Chhath Travel with Early Morning Services

The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) is operating early passenger services from 18 to 22 November 2026 to facilitate the movement of passengers returning to Delhi after Chhath Puja and arriving at the city's major railway stations.

Metro services on the Blue and Pink Lines from Anand Vihar Metro Station and on the Yellow Line from New Delhi Metro Station are available from 5:15 AM onwards. Additional train services are ensuring seamless connectivity to other lines, including the Red, Green and Violet Lines, at major interchange stations such as Rajiv Chowk and Kashmere Gate.

Earlier, to facilitate the movement of devotees on the occasion of Chhath Puja on 16 November, metro trains were operated from terminal stations from 4:30 AM onwards, instead of the usual 6:00 AM. Delhi Metro continues to undertake special measures on festive occasions to ensure convenient and smooth commuting for passengers.



Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
Government of India
सत्यमेव जयते

19 Nov, 2026

HUDCO Releases ESG Report FY 2025–26, Advancing Sustainable and Resilient Cities



Housing and Urban Development Corporation Limited (HUDCO) released its ESG Report for FY 2025-26, titled "Financing Sustainable Cities Today. Shaping a Resilient Tomorrow," on 17 November 2026. The report was unveiled by Shri Sanjay Kulshrestha, CMD, HUDCO, in the presence of Directors and senior officials.

Anchored in HUDCO's philosophy of 'Profitability with Social Justice', the report reflects a strategic shift from conventional disclosures of financing activities towards assessing the tangible outcomes and impact of its financing and initiatives across the three pillars of Environment, Social and Governance (ESG).

The report highlights HUDCO's commitment to environmentally sustainable development through greener, resource-efficient and climate-resilient urban infrastructure; social inclusion and equity through empowering people and strengthening communities; and sound governance through institutional accountability, robust ESG frameworks and ethical practices.

With a Green Asset Portfolio of ₹21,237.72 crore, constituting 13.21% of its total loan portfolio as on 31 March 2026, HUDCO continues to support sustainable urban development through financing renewable energy, affordable housing, sustainable water management, clean transportation and climate-resilient infrastructure.

Through responsible financing, strengthened ESG practices and a focus on measurable outcomes, HUDCO continues to advance its commitment to improving quality of life through better habitats and contributing to the vision of sustainable, resilient and inclusive cities

Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
Government of India

सत्यमेव जयते

Key News of the Week

The Times of India
(14 Nov, 2026)

Modi launches ₹15,600cr devpt projects in K'taka

'Decade Of Energy Push Helped India Face W Asia Crisis'

Bengaluru/Mysuru: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said measures taken over the past decade to strengthen India's energy security had helped it confidently face challenges from the West Asia conflict, as he launched development projects worth over Rs 15,600 crore across Karnataka.

At events in Bengaluru and Mysuru, Modi inaugurated or laid foundation stones for railway, energy, Metro and space projects. He inaugurated the 7.5-km elevated section of Namma Metro's Pink Line, renewable energy transmission projects and four redeveloped railway stations, and flagged off a Bengaluru-Madgaon Vande Bharat train. He also opened CoSMOS, India's first LED dome planetarium, in Mysuru.

Addressing a Bengaluru gathering, Modi said the armed conflict in and around Iran and the Gulf region had underscored energy security.

"This has also been a challenging period for India. However, the steps taken over the past decade to strengthen energy security have helped us face this crisis with confidence," he said.



PM Narendra Modi on Metro's Pink Line with Karnataka CM DK Shivakumar, governor Sudha Yadav and minister Krishna Byre Gowda in Bengaluru Friday

He cited higher domestic fuel production, crude storage, renewable energy, railway electrification and stronger public transport. "In 2014, Namma Metro had a network of just 17 km. Today, its total network has expanded to more than 100 km. We are continuously scoring centuries," he said.

On railways, Modi said: "Indian Railways is now leaving behind the outdated mindset of the colonial era. The country's railways are creating a new legacy and heritage."

At Prashanti Kutiram's Golden Jubilee celebrations, he said: "Yoga has become a gateway for people across the world to understand India."

He added: "Whichever country I go to, people discuss about Yoga with me over lunch and dinner."

At CoSMOS, Modi said: "Despite lacking modern equipment, our ancestors studied the cosmos and the movement of planets very closely." He cited Chandrayaan-3, Aditya-L1, satellite docking and astronaut Shubhanshu Shukla's International Space Station visit.

Karnataka chief minister D K Shivakumar urged Centre to expedite clearances for Mekedatu, withdraw Kasturirangan report recommendations and align CSR initiatives with Karnataka's guidelines to upgrade 1,000 govt schools. "We want CSR guidelines for primary education. We want students in every village to have access to the same quality of education available in towns and urban areas," he said. PTI

The Times of India
(15 Nov, 2026)

Fast Namo Bharat trains for peak hours

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: To facilitate the growing commuter demand on the Delhi–Meerut Namo Bharat corridor and save time of commuters during rush hours, National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) is set to launch Fast Namo Bharat train services during peak morning and evening hours starting Monday.

These new limited-stop services will cut commute times further and enable passengers to travel from Anand Vihar to Ghaziabad in just eight minutes, Ghaziabad to Begumpul in 28 minutes, and Anand Vihar to Begumpul in a 36 minutes, while covering the entire corridor in less than 50 minutes.

In the morning peak hours, two fast trains will depart from both terminal stations, Sarai Kale Khan towards Modipuram and from Modipuram towards Sarai Kale Khan, at 8 am and 8.30 am. Similarly, during the evening peak hours, two fast trains will leave from both terminal stations at 6 pm and 6:30 pm in each direction. These fast trains are additional services introduced by NCRTC to the existing regular Namo Bharat trains, which operate every 10 minutes.

"Regular Namo Bharat train services will continue to operate as usual alongside these fast trains. Commuters are advised to check station display boards and listen to platform announcements before boarding to confirm whether a train is a fast or regular service," said an official of NCRTC, which is implementing the Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RRTS project.

To ensure rapid transit, these fast trains will stop at only five major stations along the corridor: Sarai Kale Khan, Anand Vihar, Ghaziabad, Begumpul, and Modipuram. "NCRTC values the time of its daily commuters, and this enhanced peak-hour connectivity is designed to shave critical minutes off daily journeys, making it especially beneficial for students and office-goers who rely on punctual, high-speed transit to reach their workplaces and educational institutions on time," said the official.

About 1.1 lakh commuters travel every day on the corridor, with consistent growth in daily footfall. The corridor recently crossed the milestone of five crore commuter journeys, and over the past three months alone, the system recorded an average monthly ridership of more than 32 lakh.

The Indian Express
(15 Nov, 2026)

Delhi-Meerut Namo Bharat gets faster: 8 trains start tomorrow

Devansh Mittal
New Delhi, November 14

ANAND VIHAR to Ghaziabad in just eight minutes, and Anand Vihar to Begumpul in Meerut in 36 minutes. Commuters on the Delhi-Meerut Namo Bharat corridor will soon be able to make these journeys faster, with eight additional limited-stop trains set to start running during peak hours from Monday.

The National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) will introduce these services during morning and evening rush hours, with the fast trains stopping at only five stations — Sarai Kale Khan, Anand Vihar, Ghaziabad, Begumpul and Modipuram.

The entire 82-km corridor will be covered in less than 50 minutes, according to the NCRTC. Covering the entire stretch usually takes an hour.

During the morning rush hour, two fast trains will depart from each terminal, Sarai Kale Khan and Modipuram, at 8 am and 8.30 am, in opposite directions. In the evening, the additional services will operate at 6 pm and 6.30 pm from both terminals.

These services will operate in addition to the existing regular Namo Bharat trains, which will continue to run at 10-minute intervals. The regular services will stop at all operational stations along the corridor.



The entire 82-km corridor will be covered in less than 50 minutes, according to the NCRTC. FILE

The NCRTC said the additional services are aimed at reducing commute times for office-goers and students, while encouraging more people to opt for public transport amid rising air pollution and helping ease road congestion across the region.

Ridership jump

The move comes amid a steady rise in ridership on the corridor, with around 1.1 lakh commuters using the service every day.

Average daily ridership nearly doubled in a year, increasing from 47,745 in July 2025 to 94,936 in July 2026.

The increase in footfall coincided with the entire corridor becoming operational in February this year. The first 17-km stretch between Sahibabad and Duhai Depot was opened in October 2023, followed by extensions to Modinagar North in March 2024 and Meerut South in August 2024.

Ridership has continued to climb since the full corridor opened. Average daily footfall rose from 63,999 in February to 87,682 in March and 92,364 in April.

It crossed the 1-lakh mark in June, reaching 1.02 lakh, before climbing further to 1.13 lakh in August. The corridor also recorded its highest single-day footfall of 1,68,810 on August 28.

The Impressive Times
(14 Nov, 2026)

Swachh Survekshan 2025-26: Ahmedabad-Sanand, Indore-Depalpur Lead Swachh Shehar Jodi Rankings

Uday Singh
info@impressivetimes.com

NEW DELHI : President of India Droupadi Murmu honoured India's cleanest cities at the Swachh Survekshan 2025-26 Award Ceremony in New Delhi for the 10th edition of the world's largest urban sanitation survey - Swachh Survekshan held on 11th November 2026. The theme for SS 2025-26 is Swachhata Ki Nayi Pehel-Badhayein Haath, Karein Safai Saath. All SS 2025-26 award winners were felicitated in the presence of Manohar Lal, Union Minister for MoHUA & Power and Tokhan Sahu, Minister of State for MoHUA.



As part of the 10th edition of Swachh Survekshan, 4,751 Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) were assessed across 176 sub-indicators in 10 sections. Over 3,000 trained field assessors from across the country conducted on-ground surveys covering all ULBs, supported by real-time, GPS-enabled monitoring. The entire process, from evidence submission to verification, is digital, transparent, and rigorously quality-checked at all stages.

This year 60 national awards were announced under 7 categories:

Top 3 Swachh Shehar Jodi (SSJ)

Top 3 Clean Cities (this category excludes award-winning cities in Swachh Shehar Jodi)

Swachh Shehar Rank 1, 2, 3 in 5 population categories

Swachh River Front Town Rank 1, 2, 3

Swachh Coastal Town Rank 1, 2, 3

Clean Himalayan City Rank 1, 2, 3

State/UT First Swachh City

On 11th November 2026, MoHUA announced the top three performing city pairs under the 'Swachh Shehar Jodi' initiative, a flagship peer-learning programme under Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban (SBM-U) 2.0. Swachh Shehar Jodi was launched by the Union Minister, Manohar Lal on 27th September 2025 as the first-ever urban waste management mentorship initiative involving 70 high-performing mentor cities and around 191 mentee cities from 33 States/UTs, based on Swachh Survekshan 2024-25 rankings. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the mentor and mentee cities in a national event at Soniput in September 2025.

Of the 191 Jodis announced by the Ministry, only the best-performing Jodi of each mentor city was considered.

List of Swachh Shehar Jodis

The SSJ initiative promotes the principle of Each One - Teach One and is rooted in India's timeless Guru–Shishya tradition, where knowledge, experience, and best practices are passed on from one city to another to collectively advance the journey towards urban excellence and cleanliness.

Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
Government of India

सत्यमेव जयते

Key News of the Week

The Pioneer
(16 Nov, 2026)

PM SVANidhi Mahotsav goes plastic-free



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ Raipur

The PM SVANidhi Mahotsav organised in Raipur set an example in environmental conservation by ensuring zero use of single-use plastic at an event attended by around 2,500 street vendors and their family members, officials said on Sunday. Organised by the Urban Administration and Development Department and the State Urban Development Agency (SUDA) at Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Auditorium, the event demonstrated that large public gatherings can be conducted in an environment-friendly manner without relying on disposable plastic products. Chhattisgarh Deputy Chief Minister and Urban Administration Minister Arun Sao attended the programme, which aimed at recognising the entrepreneurial contribution of street vendors and promoting their economic and digital empowerment. Bamboo plates and wooden spoons were used for serving food at the event, while plastic cups, disposable glasses, bottles and water pouches were avoided. Drinking water was provided through alternative arrangements, with paper cups used for serving it. Reusable materials were also employed for venue decorations and information signage. Special arrangements were made for segregation of wet, dry and other waste at source, followed by its proper collection and disposal. The organisers made arrangements for food and refreshments for nearly 2,500 participants, besides setting up several food stalls and drinking water facilities, without using single-use plastic. The initiative focused on reducing waste generation, encouraging the use of biodegradable and compostable alternatives and promoting reuse and recycling.The Mahotsav thus provided a model for organising large-scale public events in an environmentally sustainable manner while celebrating the economic contribution of street vendors, officials said.

The Pioneer
(19 Nov, 2026)

Dwarka-Gurugram Metro link proposed under Phase V(B)

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi



People travelling from Yashobhoomi in Dwarka to Rajiv Chowk in Gurugram will get Metro connectivity under the proposed Phase V(B) expansion, which also includes seven corridors connecting outer and densely populated areas of the Capital, aimed at making daily travel easier for commuters. Top sources said the proposed Yashobhoomi Dwarka Sector 25-Rajiv Chowk (Gurugram) corridor is among eight routes submitted to the Government for approval under Phase V(B).

The other seven corridors have received the Delhi Government's approval and are awaiting the Centre's nod. They are - Dhansa Bus Stand (Najafgarh)-Nangloi, Central Secretariat-Kishangarh, Samaypur Badli-Narela DDA Sports Complex, Kirti Nagar-Palam, Jor Bagh-Mithapur, Mayur Vihar Phase III-Shastri Park and Keshav Puram-Rohini Sector 34. Together, they will have 65 stations.

For Phase V(A), the reply said work on the RK Ashram Marg-Indraprastha (Central Vista) corridor is in progress. The Aerocity-IGD Airport Terminal 1 and Tughlakabad-Kalindi Kunj corridors are in the tendering stage, with September 2029 set as the targeted deadline in stages.

On the ongoing Phase IV expansions, the remaining sections of the RK Ashram Marg-Janakpuri West corridor are targeted for completion by December 2027. Work on the Aerocity-Tughlakabad corridor is also in progress with the same completion target. The Lajpat Nagar-Saket G Block and Inderlok-Indraprastha corridors are under construction with a December 2030 completion target. The Rithala-Kundli corridor, which is at the tendering stage, is also scheduled for completion by December 2030.

The 11.9-km Dhansa Bus Stand (Najafgarh)-Nangloi corridor will provide Metro connectivity to the residents of Naresh Park Extension, Ranhola, Bakkarwala, Baprola, Dichaon Kalan and Najafgarh Extension.

The elevated corridor will have nine stations, with interchange facilities at Nangloi and Dhansa Bus Stand, according to a statement shared by the chief minister's office (CMO) earlier this year.

The 15.9-km Central Secretariat-Kishangarh corridor will connect commuters to New Moti Bagh, RK Puram sectors 1 and 7, Jawaharlal Nehru University and the Prime Ministers' Museum. It will have 10 stations, including nine underground, with interchange facilities at Central Secretariat, Moti Bagh, RK Puram and Kishangarh, it said.

The 12.9-km Samaypur Badli-Narela corridor will extend the existing Yellow Line, with eight elevated stations for commuters travelling towards Narela.

The Statesman
(16 Nov, 2026)

DDA to celebrate World Heritage Week from November 19-21 with walks, cultural performances and workshops

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
New Delhi, 15 November



The Delhi Development Authority (DDA) will organise a three-day celebration of World Heritage Week from November 19 to 21 at three prominent heritage sites in the national capital, featuring guided heritage walks, cultural performances and workshops on traditional art forms.

The celebrations, being organised in line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of 'Vikas Bhi, Virasat Bhi' and on the directions of Delhi Lieutenant Governor Taranjit Singh Sandhu, aim to promote awareness about the city's historical legacy and encourage greater public participation in heritage conservation.

The three-day programme will cover Deer Park in Hauz Khas on November 19, Mehrauli Archaeological Park on November 20 and Coronation Park on November 21, with activities designed to engage school students, university students and the general public.

The inaugural programme on November 19 will feature a heritage walk for school students at Deer Park, organised in association with the INTACH Delhi Chapter. Participants will explore historical structures, including Bagh-I-Alam ka Gumbad, Kali Gumti, Tohfe Wala Gumbad and Munda Gumbad, besides the Hauz Khas Tank and Fort.

The walk will familiarise students with the historical and architectural significance of these monuments, while also highlighting the importance of conserving and rejuvenating traditional water bodies.

On November 20, a guided heritage walk for the general public will be organised at Mehrauli Archaeological Park. The walk will cover prominent sites such as Jamali Kamali, Metcalfe Folly, Balban's Tomb, Metcalfe Boathouse and Quli Khan's Tomb, besides the Mehrauli Interpretation Centre.

The day's programme will conclude with a cultural evening featuring a performance by internationally renowned violinist Johar Ali Khan.

The final day, November 21, will focus on the relationship between heritage and creativity at Coronation Park. A heritage talk for students from Delhi University and Dr BR Ambedkar University will explore themes of heritage and sustainability, including iconography in Indian art and architectural heritage.

Students will also participate in hands-on block printing and calligraphy workshops, offering them an opportunity to experience traditional Indian art forms.

The latest initiative builds on DDA's efforts to involve citizens, particularly younger generations, in understanding and preserving Delhi's cultural and architectural legacy.

Earlier in April, the authority observed the International Day of Monuments and Sites at Mehrauli Archaeological Park through activities aimed at familiarising students and visitors with the capital's heritage.

Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
Government of India

सत्यमेव जयते

Key News of the Week

The Pioneer
(16 Nov, 2026)

Children take charge of Namo Bharat station on Children's Day



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi

Ticket counters, control rooms, and security desks at Meerut South Namo Bharat station had an unusual staff lineup on Sunday. Schoolchildren took over several station duties for a day, getting a first-hand look at how India's first regional rapid rail system operates and how different teams work together to keep passengers moving safely and comfortably.

The National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) organised the special experience to mark Children's Day. Under the guidance of NCRTC officials and station employees, the students stepped into the roles of station controllers, announcers and customer care associates, while also assisting commuters at ticket counters and the help desk.

For the young participants, the exercise offered a glimpse into the work passengers rarely see during their daily journeys.

They learnt about the responsibilities of station staff, security personnel, and maintenance teams, and how their coordination is essential to the station's smooth functioning.

The station control room proved particularly engaging. The children asked questions about passenger safety and wanted to understand how Namo Bharat and Meerut Metro trains operate on the same tracks. Officials explained how the control systems work and the coordination required to manage train operations.

The students also spent time with personnel of the Uttar Pradesh Special Security Force (UPSSF), learning about passenger screening procedures. They watched how baggage is checked through X-ray machines and visited the security control room to see the live surveillance systems used to monitor the station.

The visit also introduced them to the work of the maintenance teams. Station staff explained how regular upkeep helps keep the premises clean and comfortable for commuters.

The children were not confined to observing operations. They interacted with passengers, greeted commuters, enquired about their journeys and handed over tickets. Their presence brought an unusual cheer to the station, with commuters stopping to smile and engage with the young volunteers. Some also appreciated the NCRTC initiative for giving students a chance to experience how a public transport facility works.

The Millennium Post
(21 Nov, 2026)

Bengal bags two nat'l awards for PM SVANidhi implementation

PRADIP CHATTERJEE
Kolkata, November 20



Urban Development minister Agnimitra Paul received two national awards on behalf of the state at the Prime Minister's Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) Samman Awards in New Delhi, while announcing a series of initiatives to modernise street vending in West Bengal.

West Bengal secured first place in Digital Adoption, driven by Durgapur, and third in Loan Disbursement. The government aims to extend PM SVANidhi across the state, offering vendors collateral-free loans of Rs 15,000, Rs 25,000 and Rs 50,000 in successive stages, subject to timely repayment, along with other central welfare benefits. The scheme aims to make street vendors and small traders financially self-reliant.

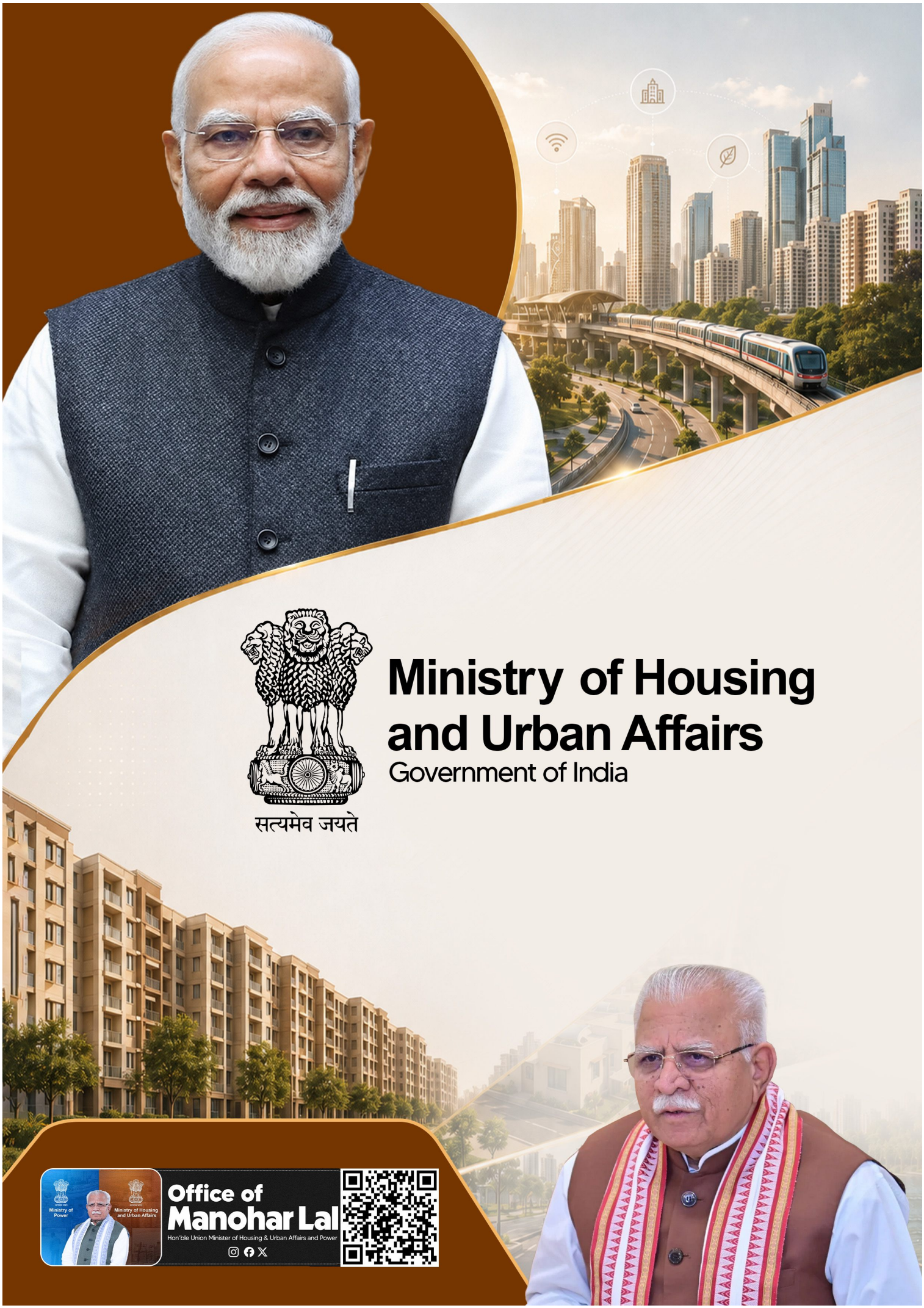
Outlining the state government's roadmap, Paul said it would introduce modern electric carts (e-carts) to help hawkers and micro-entrepreneurs improve their businesses and livelihoods. Inspired by Indore's clean street food model, the state also plans to develop organised, dedicated street food hubs, providing vendors with structured vending spaces.

Street food vendors will receive formal training from the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) on safe food handling, wearing gloves and head coverings, and proper waste segregation using multiple dustbins.

Paul said the government aims to raise the quality of roadside food to international standards, comparable to that served in renowned restaurants. "Big restaurants prepare incredibly good, innovative and high-quality food in every respect.

They receive Michelin stars. Why can't we bring Michelin-star-level quality to street food vendors as well?" she asked.

"We will bring attractive e-carts for those selling food. We will try to ensure that they can sell their products with dignity and pride," she said. Alleging that street vendors in Bengal had been deprived of Central government schemes for nearly 15 years, Paul said the government under Chief Minister Shubhendu Adhikari would extend PM SVANidhi to every municipality and municipal corporation in the state.


सत्यमेव जयते
Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
Government of India
Office of
Manohar Lal
Hon'ble Union Minister of Housing & Urban Affairs and Power
Ministry of Power
Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs