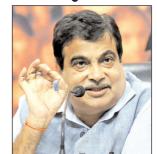
Bengaluru-Chennai express highway to become operational by this year-end, says Nitin Gadkari

CHENNAI: The Bengaluru-Chennai express highway will be launched by this year-end or January 2024 and it will prove crucial in reducing the travel time between the two metros to just two hours, Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari said on Thursday.

Also, with the massive infrastructure being built across the country, Chennai will soon be connected with Delhi through the access-controlled highway project, he said.

"I reviewed the progress of National Highways projects in today. Bengaluru-Chennai express highway will start by this yearend or January 2024. So, you can launch luxury buses and sleeper coaches in this sector," the minister said, addressing the 75th anniversary celebrations of Ashok Leyland here.

Gadkari, who earlier launched the Ashok Leyland's



IeV series, India's first electric commercial vehicles in its category, said there's a great requirement for electric buses in the country. "We are making good roads. We are connecting Delhi to Chennai via Surat, Nasik, Ahmednagar, Kurnool, Chennai (and beyond to), Kanyakumari, Thiruvananthapuram, Kochi (and also to) Bengaluru and Hyderabad, through the access-controlled highways

His ministry is in the process of building an electric cable highway between the national capital and Jaipur, he and other players to produce vehicles that could use bio fuels or alternative energy, such as e-vehicles, in a big way and help the Centre achieve the goal of a five-trillion-dollar economy.

"I am working on diversification of agriculture to energy and power sector since 2004. Ten days ago, I launched a 100 percent bio-ethanol vehicle. In Bengaluru I had launched Ashok Leyland's vehicle which can run on methanol-blended fuel. My dream is to ensure the production of methanol trucks in India," Gadkari said.

The Indian Oil Corporation is producing bio-ethanolbased fuel for automobiles and ethanol aviation fuel too. "Soon, the farmers of Tamil Nadu could help produce ethanol fuel from food grains,' the minister said.

Later, speaking to reporters, he said he was satisfied over the pace of NH projects and

our commitment.

During Prime

Modi's visit here in June, the

President (Biden) and the

prime minister shared their

determination to deliver on

shared priorities at the sum-

mit," she said in response to a

question. Jean-Pierre said the

President is "very much look-

ing forward to continuing

that work with the Prime

Minister and other leaders

later this week as we head out

The G20 member countries

represent around 85 percent

of the global GDP, over 75 per

cent of the global trade, and

about two-thirds of the world

The grouping comprises

Argentina, Australia, Brazil,

Canada, China, France,

Germany, India, Indonesia,

Italy, Japan, the Republic of

Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi

Arabia, South Africa, Turkey,

the UK, the US and the

European Union (EII)

population.

tests with the help of police, the officials said.

The food safety officers will inspect the cooking

facilities and lifting of raw food items at different

hotels. The raw food material will be used for

cooking after the lab reports come within 24

No food item will be provided and cooked at the

kitchens without conducting a lab test, he added.

The food safety officers will also keep a watch

on the food served at banquets and other events

of the summit. Normally, reports of food samples

take 15-20 days to come, but the samples of the

food material to be served to the G20 guests will

be expedited and made available in a few hours,

Meetings have been held with the city police

regarding the sampling of food items since all the

hotels where the heads of states will stay are

under a heavy security cover. The police person-

nel have also been trained in lifting samples of

The sampling and testing of food and bever-

ages, including snacks and tea, to be served at

banquets, high tea, breakfast, lunch and dinner

cooked food, the officials said.

will similarly be ensured.

hours, the officer said.

the officer said.

Port-Maduravoyal Elevated Expressway project would begin soon.

The IeV series launched by the minister are India's first electric commercial vehicles in its category and aims to provide efficient and eco-friendly solutions for last-minute transportation needs.

The leV, produced by Ashok Leyland's EV arm Switch Mobility, presents an attractive value proposition for MSMEs, cottage industries, and e-commerce in the country with low total cost of ownership coupled with a commitment to high uptime. This is India's first fuel cell bus. Also, Ashok Leyland unveiled a new 9m hydrogen fuel cell bus, the country's first hydrogen internal combustion engine truck, on the occasion.

"As we celebrate this milestone (of 75 years)...we renew our pledge to further shape the future of the CV (commercial vehicle) industry," Ashok

Hinduja said, adding, "We have set our sights on pioneering sustainable transportation solutions and aim to support India's economic development for years to come.'

Chief Executive Officer of Switch Mobility Mahesh Babu said the launch of the Switch IeV series electric vehicles is a defining moment for the EV arm, having established a strong reputation in the e-bus market. At the event, Nitin Gadkari said hydrogen as an alternative fuel was the future. "The import of fossil fuel is a big problem for the country in terms of economy and pollution. So, it is imperative to explore and utilise bio fuels for sustenance, and reduce the logistics cost to single digit in about three to four years, from about 16 per cent at present," he said.

Further, this would make India competitive and a global player in exports, Gadkari

35 CBI officers receive police medals from Union minister Jitendra Singh

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Tarun Gauba, the CBI officer who initially probed a corruption case against the agency's former special director Rakesh Asthana, and the officer who supervised cases of post-poll violence in West Bengal were among the 35 serving and retired CBI officers who received police medals from Union minister Jitendra Singh on Thursday.

The Union minister of state for personnel, public grievances and pensions gave away the medals at an investiture ceremony at the Central Bureau of Investigation's headquarters here on the occasion of"International Day of Police Cooperation"

Former assistant subinspector Satyanarayana (now retired) received the pres-

Prez Murmu to inaugurate conference of national

human rights institutions on Sept 20

distinguished service.

DIGs Tarun Gauba, who probed the case against Asthana in which the former special director was given a clean chit by a special court, Akhilesh Kumar Singh, who supervised the postpoll violence cases in West Bengal, were conferred police medals for meritorious service. Both officers have been repatriated to their parent cadres.

Other officers awarded the police medal for meritorious service include Senior Superintendent of Police Manish Viresh Surti, superintendents of police Prasanna Kumar Panigrahi, Prahlad Kishore Jha and Binay Kumar and additional superintendents of police Barun Kumar Sarkar, Richhpal Singh, Rama Raman Tripathi, Devraj Vakkada, Ravinder Kush and Arvind Kumar Upadhyay, the CBI said in

Deputy superintendents of police Mukesh Verma, Rajender Singh Gosain, Harjeet Singh Sachan, Sanjay Kumar Gautam, Vikash Kumar Pathak and Alok Kumar Shahi, inspectors Amit Kumar and Rakesh Ranjan and Dharminder Singh were also given the medals for meritorious service.

Other recipients of the coveted medals included head constables Bhaiva Ranjav Kumar Singh. Manbeer Singh Patwal, Kuntal Chattopadhyay, Chander Pal, Loganathan Rengasamy, Jagannath Harbhan Singh, Mahesh Madhavrao Gajarlwar, constables R Jaisankar Kaushliya Devi, Additional Legal Advisor Subramanyam Devendran

and office superintend-

ents Aruna Mohan and

Modi scheduled to hold talks with Biden today

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Joe Biden are set to hold bilateral talks on Friday evening with a focus on further solidifying the India-US comprehensive global and strategic partner-The two leaders are expect-

ed to review ongoing bilateral energy, trade, high-technology, defence and how the two countries can contribute in dealing with some of the pressing challenges facing the

Modi is also likely to hold separate bilateral meetings on Friday with Bangladesh Minister Prime Sheikh Hasina and Prime Minister of Mauritius Pravind Jugnauth.

The US President is visiting New Delhi to attend the G20 summit that is being held on September 9 and 10. It will be his first visit to India as the US President.

The last US President to visit India was Donald Trump in February 2020.

Biden is scheduled to arrive in New Delhi on Friday evening and he will leave for Vietnam on Sunday afternoon at the end of the G20 summit. The focus of the talks between PM Modi and President Biden is likely to be on reviewing the ongoing bilateral cooperation in various key areas including clean.

NEW DELHI: The food safety department of

the Delhi government has deployed its officers to

ensure that G20 dignitaries and delegates are

served hygienically-cooked food during their stay

at the city hotels, officials said on Thursday. A

senior officer of the department said 18 food

safety officers have been collecting samples of

raw food items being used at 19 five-star hotels

in New Delhi and the Aerocity area, where the

foreign guests will stay. "We do routine checking

and sampling but in view of the G20 summit, we

have deputed 18 food safety officers and are con-

ducting laboratory tests on the samples being

collected from the hotels since Monday," the offi-

The two-day summit will begin from

September 9 and heads of states have already

started arriving for it. Twenty-three five-star

hotels have been designated for the stay of the

The food safety officers are also ensuring

kitchen and staff hygiene, including cleaning of

utensils. The cooked food before serving will also

be closely monitored and sampled for quality

guests from different countries.



energy, defence and hightechnology, said a source.

The two sides may also deliberate on having a more liberal visa regime.

Prime Minister Modi and President Biden had touched upon possible cooperation in developing next generation small modular reactor techmode in their talks in Washington in June and it is expected that the issue may figure at the meeting on Friday.

Ahead of Biden's visit, White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said the US commends Modi's leadership of the G20.

commend Prime Minister Modi for his leadership of the G20 this year and we are committed to helping ensure that India has a successful G20 host as they host (the summit) this year," she said.

Delhi govt deploys officers to ensure

hygienically-cooked food served to G20 dignitaries

CJI meets Singapore counterpart, witnesses signing of MoU between SCs of two nations

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: India and Singapore Thursday signed a memorandum of understanding on judicial cooperation in the island city-state.

Chief Justice of India (CJI) DY Chandrachud and his Singapore counterpart Sundaresh Menon witnessed the signing of the MoU between the supreme courts of two the nations.

The CJI is on an official visit to Singapore, an apex court official said.

The two chief justices witnessed the signing of the MoU between the "Supreme Court of India and the Supreme Court of Singapore in the field of judicial cooperation," the official said.

Earlier, Justice Menon had visited India and even sat on the Supreme Court of India bench on February 3. Justice Menon, who has

been serving as the fourth chief justice of Singapore since 2012, had attended a function to mark the 73rd anniversary of the establishment of the Supreme Court. Justice Menon was the

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: President Droupadi Murmu will inaugurate on September 20 the biennial conference of national human rights institutions (NHRIs) of Asia Pacific which will be hosted here, officials said on Thursday.

It is being organised at Vigyan Bhawan by the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) in collaboration with the Asia Pacific Forum (APF) from September 20-21.

The APF will also hold its 28th Annual General (AGM) September 20 to discuss the issues of common interest to member countries. In the conference, more than 1,300 delegates from India and abroad are likely to participate, the NHRC said in a

The conference will be attended by heads, members and senior officials of the NHRIs of 23 countries and five observer countries along with representatives from the Union and state governments. state human rights commis-

involved in the protection and promotion of human rights in the country, members of civil society and NGOs, human right defenders, lawyers, jurists, academicians, diplomats, representatives of UN agencies, and academic institutions, among others.

Earlier, in 2002 and 2014, such an AGM of Asia Pacific Forum and conference was held in India.

On September 21, the biennial conference will mark the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights (UNDHR). It will also celebrate 30 years of national human rights institutions and the Paris Principles, with a sub-theme on the environment and climate change, the statement

During the conference, three plenary sessions on the themes 'Setting the Scene 30 Years of Promoting and Protecting Human Rights across Asia and the Pacific'; 'Advancing the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and its Promise of Freedom, Equality, and role of NHRIs in responding to and mitigating the human rights impacts of climate change-national, regional, and international actions', will be held. The biennial conference

also aims to provide an opportunity for sharing good practices to support communities to respond to human rights impacted by climate change.

A separate session on 'Business and Human Rights' will also be held in partnership with UNDP, which will be attended by the representatives of business and industry, workers organisations and associations, various ministries, departments, statutory organisations, UN agencies, human rights defenders, NGOs, etc. In this session. issues related with the human rights of workers in various businesses and professions will be discussed, the officials said.

The Asia Pacific Forum was founded in 1996 with the support of five NHRIs. including the NHRC, India, to promote the establishin the Asia Pacific region and to support them in their work to promote and protect human rights as effectively as possible. From five founding members, the APF membership has expanded to 26 NHRIs, the statement said.

The APF is one of the four regional NHRI networks, including Africa, NANHRI Americas, RINDHCA; and Europe, ENNHRI, part of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI).

The NHRC, India, has been a valued partner of the APF as an independent and autonomous A' status NHRI, fully compliant with the Paris Principles. The year also marks 30 years of the existence of NHRC.

The NHRC, during its journey of 30 years, disposed of more than 22 lakh cases and payment of more tions on its recommendainstitutions and agencies to

than Rs 1 billion to the victims of human rights violations indicates the respect given by various government the decisions of the Commission, the statement

Amid battle for credit, civic agencies deck Delhi up for G20 Summit

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

in Delhi have put their best foot forward to beautify the national capital for the G20 Summit even as a battle for credit has caused some controversy in the lead-up to the mega event.

From fountains to statues, floral decorations to flags -- the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC), public works department (PWD) and the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) undertook a slew of initiatives to decorate the national capital.

The public works department redesigned road stretches to European standards.

These redesigned road stretches include an area of the Ring Road from the airport to Central Delhi, Aurobindo Marg, Vikas Marg, Lodhi Road and Rajghat that will not only extend a warm welcome to the G20 guests but also remain as enduring infrastructure landmarks in Delhi, PWD Minister Atishi said earlier.

"In total, 10 new roads have been laid across key areas for

no Bhairon Maro, Purana Quila Road, Ulan Batar Marg, Mathura Road, Mehrauli Badarpur Road, JB Tito Marg, IP flyover to the Hanuman Setu area on Ring Road, Mall Road to the Kingsway Camp area, Netaji Subash Chandra Marg, and IP flyover to the Bhairon Marg area on Ring Road," Atishi had

Besides road development, extensive beautification work has been carried out by the Delhi government. These include the installation of 31 statues and 90 fountains on public works department roads, the planting of 1.65 lakh plants and the installation of decorative lighting, among others, she had said.

Installations include a Konark wheel at Delhi Gate, a dancing idol at the v-point near Gulab Vatika on Ring Road and eight six-feet-high Apsara sculptures on the Hanuman Mandir Junction, according to

The public works department

the G20 (Summit), encom- has also beautified 23 flyovers, landing of Chandrayaan-3 on on public walls. Road, Chirag Delhi, IIT, Panchsheel and Moti Bagh,

> Even as a war of words raged over the allocation of funds, Lt Governor VK Saxena told PTI in an interview last week that the expenditure incurred was not much. The artefact and the fountains were gifted by companies under their Corporate Social Responsibility.

> The MCD has put up 450 banners bearing images of the Red Fort, Humayun's Tomb, Lotus Temple and other iconic heritage sites of Delhi to welcome the heads of state and other delegates.

> These large banners, also bearing the G20 logo, the theme "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" -- "One Earth. One Family. One Future" -- and a welcome message, have been put up largely on unipoles that usually carry advertisements.

As part of the MCD's beautification drive, murals depicting the cultural heritage of India, as well as the successful soft

The NDMC has begun work on the preparation and installation of 20 flower boards prominently displaying the G20 logo and slogan at strategic locations. Thousands of trees in high-traffic areas to be frequented by the guests will be decorated with flowers for the

The NDMC has beautified its roads, footpaths, roundabouts, markets, flyovers and public areas with over a lakh potted plants.

Even private agencies have put up hoardings for the mega

Burjeel Holdings, one of the largest health care service providers in the MENA region, has put up hoardings featuring UAE astronaut Sultan al Nevadi.

These hoardings serve as a reminder of the spirit of international cooperation that continues to drive advancements in scientific endeavours, it said in a statement

DU extends last date to file nominations for students' union elections to September 14

NEW DELHI: The Delhi University has extended the last date to file nomination papers for the students' union elections by two days, it said in a cir-

The last date to file nomination papers has extendedbeen September 14 from the earlier deadline September 12, it said.

The last date to withdraw nominations and the publication of the final list candidates September 15.

The Delhi University Students' Union will go to the polls on September 22. after a gap of four years. The elections were last held in 2019. The students' union elec-

tions could not be held in 2020 and 2021 due to COVID-19 while possible disruptions to the academic calendar prevented their conduct in 2022.

India, ASEAN agree to deepen comprehensive strategic partnership with concrete actions

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAKARTA: India and 10nation ASEAN on Thursday agreed to deepen their comprehensive strategic partnership with concrete actions through practical implementation of the 'Plan of Action' to implement the ASEAN-India partnership for peace, progress and shared prosperity. In a joint statement on maritime cooperation, it was agreed to support India's connectivity initiatives in the region to ensure seamless connectivity in the Indo-Pacific, besides boosting cooperation

in a range of areas including blue economy, space and food security among others.

The two sides agreed to deepen their comprehensive strategic partnership with concrete actions through practical implementation of the 'Plan of Action' to implement the ASEAN-India partnership for peace, progress and shared prosperity, said the

They reaffirmed the importance of maintaining and promoting peace, stability, maritime safety and security, freedom of navigation and overflight in the region, and other lawful uses of the seas and unimpeded lawful maritime commerce and to promote peaceful resolutions of disputes, in accordance with universally recognised principles of international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), the state-

"We support the full and effective implementation of Declaration of the Conduct of the Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) and look forward to an early conclusion of an effective and substantive Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC) in accordance with international law, including the 1982 UNC-LOS," it said.

The reference is significant in the backdrop of China's increasing military assertiveness in the South China Sea and its ongoing maritime territorial dispute with the Philippines.

The two sides agreed to further strengthen ASEAN-India cooperation on maritime safety and security, promote

 ${\it cooperation} \quad {\it in} \quad {\it a} \quad {\it Blue}$

Economy and develop new and renewable energy including marine-based renewable

energy, among others. Association Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is considered one of the most influential groupings in the region, and India and several other countries including the US, China, Japan and Australia are its dialogue

partners. ASEAN-India dialogue relations started with the establishment of a sectoral partnership in 1992. This graduated to a full dialogue partnership in December 1995 and a summit-level partnership in 2002. The ties were elevated to a

strategic partnership in 2012. The 10 member countries of ASEAN are Indonesia. Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Brunei, Vietnam, Laos, Myanmar and Cambodia.

The ties between India and ASEAN have been on a significant upswing in the last few years with the focus being on boosting cooperation in the areas of trade and investment as well as securitv and defence.

COURT OF ADDITIONAL PRINCIPAL JUDGE (FAMILY COURT), JAMMU DATE OF INSTT: 12.07.2022 Present: Pardeep Kumar Sandh Joginder Paul age 63 years S/o Late Sh. Saran Dass R/o Kacha Talab Bahu Fort Jammu.Petitione

. Smt Sheela Kumari W/o Sh. Shakti Kumar R/o Kacha Talab, Bahu Fort, Jamm 2. General Public n the matter of:

for appointment of the petitioner as legal guardian of minors (Supriya Kumari, Dhanika Kumari, Master Krishna Kumar and Master Yug Kumar alias Lakhan).

NOTICE TO PUBLIC AT LARGE itioner has presented the petition under section 7 of th suardians and Wards Ac. 1890 for appointment of the petitioner as legal guardia of the minors, Supriya Kumari, Dhanika Kumari (female children) Master Krishna

Cumar and Master Yug Kumar alias Lakhan (male children). Through the medium of this proclamation, the public at large is hereby bringed that if any, body having any objection with regard to the petition of the etitioner, he/she/they may appear in this court on 15.09,2023 either in person o nrough Advocate and file objections, if any, failing which the matter shall be heard and decided under law. In case of holiday on the above said date, the matter sha

be taken up on the next working day. Given under my hand and seal of this court today on 23rd of August, 2023

Addl. Principal Judge (Family Court), Jammu