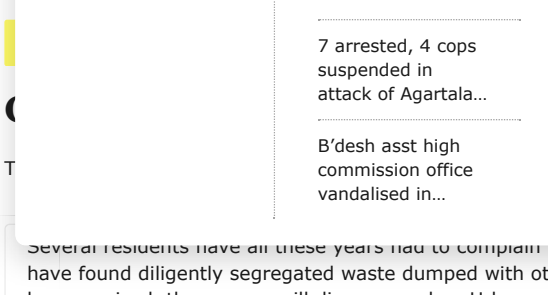
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have found diligently segregated waste dumped with other garbage in landfills. Come October, the corporation has promised, these woes will disappear when Urbaser-Sumeet takes over solid waste management ...Read More



The corporation will make source segregation compulsory. Bins of 1,100 litre capacity will be placed on roads for segregated...

CHENNAI: Several residents have all these years had to complain to get streets swept, sometimes paying money. Others have found diligently segregated waste dumped with other garbage in landfills. Come October, the corporation has promised, these woes will disappear when Urbaser-Sumeet takes over solid waste management in Alandur, Adayar, Valasaravakkam, Perungudi, Sholinganallur, Teynampet and Kodambakkam zones in October.

Chief minister Edapaddi K Palaniswami will inaugurate the project on Wednesday.

Poll
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No
Yes

Residents may be penalised for not handing over segregated waste, but penalties are yet to be finalised. There will be more accountability, mechanization and technology based monitoring, the corporation has said, following complaints on overflowing bins, fake bills, fudged accounts of manpower rolls and improper waste management.

Moreover, unlike Ramky Enterprises, the new contractor won't be paid based on the quantity of waste collected. The corporation has introduced 36 key performance indicators such as regular sweeping of streets, clearing garbage bins on time, 100% door-to-door collection and creating awareness on segregation that will be audited by a team headed by an independent engineer and corporation officials before the payment is cleared. A toll-free number will help residents post complaints to the call centre through the day.

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"We will set up a control room in Alandur that will have separate teams to attend to complaints for each zone and monitor route maps of battery-operated vehicles, trucks and compactor bins. Everything will be geotagged and monitored by a GPS system. We will know even if the worker stops for having tea," said Mahmood Sait, CEO of Urbeser-Sumeet.



All pushcarts will be replaced by battery-operated vehicles, streets will have colour-coded bins to dump dry, wet and hazardous waste. Roadside eateries, bakeries and commercial establishments have been advised to store waste in a separate bin to be collected by the contractor.

"We have already hired significant manpower for Adyar zone and will hire 11,000 people for the entire process. All our vehicles are BS-VI norm compatible ensuring they won't pollute. We will focus more on awareness to segregate waste by conducting road shows and various campaigns...," said Mehmood Sait.

Residents, however, have some concerns. "Similar promises were made when Ramky took over," said V Rama Rao of Nanganallur. Jayaram Venkatesan of Arappor Iyakkam said the major concern was lack of infrastructure for disposal of wet waste and setting up material recovery centres. "Even if segregated waste is collected 100%, wet waste will be 50% and 35% recyclable waste. To dispose this, the civic body hasn't created enough facilities proportionate to waste generated. So it will end up in dump yards. What will actually change?"

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Times of India's Maha Infra Town Hall to highlight Maharashtra's infrastructure growth and future vision

Oct 8, 2024, 14:02 IST

The Maha Infra Town Hall will bring together key policymakers, industry experts and relevant stakeholders will discuss the roadmap Mumbai and Maharashtra's future.



Maha Infra Town Hall

MMRDA, in collaboration with The Times of India Group, presents the Maha Infra Town Hall, set to take place in Mumbai on October 8, 2024. The event will shine the spotlight on Mumbai Metropolitan Region's rapid infrastructure growth, while focusing on the latest development projects and investment opportunities in the state. Maharashtra CM Eknath Shinde is the Chief Guest at the event and will be delivering the keynote address. The Town Hall will bring together key policymakers, industry experts and relevant stakeholders will discuss the roadmap Mumbai and Maharashtra's future.

In recent times, MMR has experienced significant infrastructure development, resulting in improved connectivity, increase in employment opportunities and a boost to economic growth. The government is committed to keep this momentum going with projects such as Atal Setu, Metro Network and Mumbai Coastal Road and upcoming ones including Vadahvan Port, Navi Mumbai International Airport (NMIA) and Navi Mumbai Airport Influence Notified Area (NAINA) in the pipeline.

Big Infra Push

India's longest sea bridge Atal Setu has provided a significant boost to Mumbai's infrastructure while also being environment-friendly. The bridge has enhanced connectivity between key areas thus facilitating trade and commerce, reduced travel time between Mumbai and Navi Mumbai and improved access to Pune, Goa and South India. It has also streamlined daily commute for residents of surrounding areas.

The three lines of Mumbai's Metro rail network have successfully managed to reduce the pressure on the city's local train system and decongest road traffic. Along with ease of commute, Metro has contributed to lower emissions and also created more jobs. While the first line connects Versova to Ghatkopar, the second line operates between Dahisar and D.N. Nagar. The third line is the newest addition to Mumbai's Metro network and was recently inaugurated by PM Narendra Modi. What's noteworthy here is that it is the city's first underground Metro line, also called the Aqua line. It runs between Bandra-Kurla Complex and Aarey.

The Mumbai Coastal Road that connects the southern tip of the city to the western suburbs has proven to be a game changer. The project has alleviated congestion on high-traffic routes and revolutionized the way Mumbaikars experience the city. The coastal route not only helps commuters save travel time but also helps keep fuel consumption in check.

Set near Dahanu in Palghar district, Vadahvan Port is poised to become one of the top 10 ports globally. Once operational, it will serve as a world-class maritime hub, boosting India's trade prospects. Beyond economic benefits, the construction and operation of the port will generate lakhs of jobs for both, skilled as well as unskilled workers.

Speaking of NMIA and NAINA, this ambitious project will ease the pressure on Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport. Besides, a world-class airport of global stature will only act as a catalyst for overall growth of the Mumbai and Navi Mumbai regions. Along with job creation, this new airport will boost Maharashtra's tourism sector, attract new investments, and improve connectivity, positioning the region as a significant economic hub and enhancing its international appeal.

Maharashtra's big infrastructure push will improve the quality of life for residents and make the state a more attractive destination for businesses, investors, and tourists.

Maha Infra Town Hall

The panel discussions at Maha Infra Town Hall will shine the spotlight on current and future infra projects while focusing on how they will drive socio-economic development in the state.

The panel on 'Economic Impact of Infrastructure Development' will explore how ongoing and upcoming projects will give an impetus to Maharashtra's economy. It will discuss the role of infrastructure in job creation, boosting local industries and opening up more investment opportunities across the state.

The session on 'Social Impact of Infrastructure Development' will examine how improved infrastructure enhances the quality of life for residents, promotes social equity, and fosters community development. Panelists will discuss how infra projects open up access to education, healthcare, and transportation, thus promoting inclusive development.

There is also a discussion dedicated to exploring the importance of sustainability in infra projects, to reinforce Maharashtra government's commitment of responsible development. Experts will share insights on adopting green practices and promote renewable energy integration to ensure that the state's infrastructure is built to last while minimizing damage to the environment.

Key speakers at Maha Infra Town Hall include Dr. Sanjay Mukherjee, Metropolitan Commissioner, MMRDA, Vikram Kumar of MMRDA, Ashish Kumar Chauhan of NSE, Dr. Nalin J Gupta, MD, J Kumar Infraprojects ltd, Santosh Rai, Operations Director & Chief Business Officer, HCC, director Mahesh Manjrekar and former Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation commissioner Iqbal Singh Chahal.

Maha Infra Town Hall will showcase the state's stellar infrastructure achievements and highlight their role in driving economic and social progress.

You can watch the event live on October 8, starting 4 pm on this link.

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THIS STORY IS FROM SEPTEMBER 29, 2020

Chennai: No proof, CBI drops case on Sekar Reddy

TNN / Sep 29, 2020, 08:32 IST

A special court for CBI cases in Chennai on Monday has closed all cases registered against industrialist J Sekar Reddy and five others for allegedly causing ₹247.13 crore loss to the government by illegally converting demonetised currencies, citing lack of evidence.



J Sekar Reddy and five others were booked for causing ₹247.13 crore loss to the government by illegally converting demonetis...

CHENNAI: A special court for CBI cases in Chennai on Monday has closed all cases registered against industrialist J Sekar Reddy and five others for allegedly causing ₹247.13 crore loss to the government by illegally converting demonetised currencies, citing lack of evidence.

Additional sessions judge S Jawahar has permitted the CBI to close the FIRs based on the final report filed by the agency. "On conclusion of investigation, CBI has filed chargesheet under section 173(2) of the CrPC recommending closure of the case for lack of sufficient evidence along with the statement of witnesses recorded during investigation," the court said.

Evidence, witness statements fall short in Reddy case

The court perused all the relevant records including the FIR, statement recorded under Section 161of the CrPC, and documents collected by the investigating officer, the judge said.

"Nothing incriminating surfaced to show that the accused in conspiracy with unknown bank officials and public servants cheated the government," the court said.

The court said, "The evidence on record is not adequate to launch prosecutable case against the accused persons beyond reasonable doubt to establish that they fraudulently converted the unauthorised cash held by them in old currency notes into new high denomination notes ."

On the basis of the statement of 170 witnesses and 879 documents collected during the investigation, there is no sufficient evidence to launch prosecution against the accused for the offences of criminal conspiracy, cheating, or criminal misconduct, the court added.

"As per the oral and documentary evidence, the allegations in the FIR the accused persons have caused wrongful loss to the government to the tune of approximately ₹247 crore and obtaining corresponding wrongful gain to themselves, is not substantiated with prosecutable evidence. Hence the final report has been filed for recommending closure of the case," the judge added, pointing to the CBI's report. M Premkumar, K Srinivasulu, K Rethinam, S Ramachandran, and Parasmal Lodha are the other accused in the case.

Speaking to **TOI**, advocate S Elambharathi and Abdul Saleem, counsel for the accused, said the special court has also ordered return of all documents, material and vehicles seized during the investigation to the respective owners.

The court has also ordered return of all documents, material and vehicles seized during the investigation

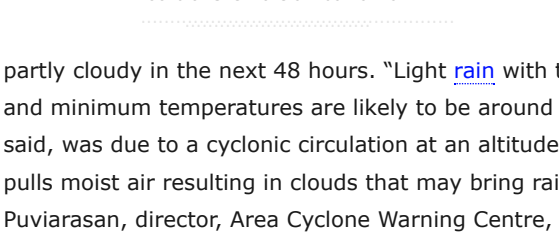
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THIS STORY IS FROM SEPTEMBER 29, 2020

Chennai: More rain with thunderstorms for 2 days, NE monsoon likely by mid-Oct

TNN / Sep 29, 2020, 06:39 IST

Ahead of the northeast monsoon, which accounts for more than 60% of Chennai's annual rainfall, residents can rejoice in some early showers, weathermen have said.



Ahead of the northeast monsoon, which accounts for more than 60% of Chennai's annual rainfall

CHENNAI: Ahead of the northeast monsoon, which accounts for more than 60% of Chennai's annual rainfall, residents can rejoice in some early showers, weathermen have said.

India Meteorological Department on Monday said the southwest monsoon had begun withdrawing from parts of west Rajasthan and Punjab, a delay of nearly 11 days from the normal September 17. Withdrawal is set to finish in two weeks.

The regional meteorological centre (RMC), Chennai, said the sky condition is likely to be partly cloudy in the next 48 hours. "Light rain with thunderstorms is likely in some areas. Maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to be around 35 degrees C and 27 degrees C." This, RMC officials said, was due to a cyclonic circulation at an altitude of 7km closer to the city. The cyclonic circulation pulls moist air resulting in clouds that may bring rain. "There are chances of rain on Tuesday," said N Puviarasan, director, Area Cyclone Warning Centre, RMC.

On Monday evening, several areas including Mylapore, Mandaveli, and Guindy experienced rain accompanied by thunder. While T Nagar recorded around 40mm, neighbouring Nungambakkam was relatively dry.

Puviarasan said withdrawal of the southwest monsoon could be completed by mid-October when the northeast monsoon could commence.

The normal date of onset is October 20 with a deviation of one week on either side. Of its 1,383mm annual rainfall, Chennai gets 867mm between October and December. In the July-September season, Chennai subdivision recorded 386.4mm against a normal of 427.5mm, a deficit of 10%.

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