



# THE TIMES OF A BETTER INDIA

## THESE RAILWAY STATIONS ARE TAKING OFF

### State-Of-The-Art Infra & Airport-Like Facilities For Commuters Are Making These Envable Firsts In India



HABIBGANJ | MP



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Travellers, lounges, neat segregation of arrival and departure... it's easy to mistake Bhopal's Kamalapati (erstwhile Habibganj) railway station for an airport.

India's first 'privatised' railway station — built on PPP mode — cost Rs 450 crore (Rs 100 crore for the new station and Rs 350 crore for shopping malls, hotels and office complexes) and was completed without suspending operations on this section of the busy Delhi-Chennai trunk route.

The result: with separate routes for arriving and departing passengers, there's no chaos, no shoving and jostling.

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What should be the next transformation area of Indian Railways

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SIR MV TERMINAL | BENGALURU



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Inaugurated by PM Modi on June 20, the Sir Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya Terminal in east Bengaluru is Bengaluru's first airport-like train station, with centralised air-conditioning, state-of-the-art waiting halls, including one for women with digital real-time passenger info system, food courts and shops. It sports a façade on the lines of Kempegowda International Airport.

At present, 16 pairs of trains are operational from the Rs 314-crore terminal spanning 5,930sqm but it can accommodate 50 trains a day and a footfall of about 50,000.

In Bengaluru, this is the third railway coaching terminal (where trains originate/terminate their trips) after KSR Bengaluru City and Yeshwantpur stations. While KSR, which is part of the Mysuru line, has been operational since 1882, Yeshwantpur was built in 1892.

The third terminal at Byappanahalli was sanctioned in 2015-16 and is expected to help SWR operate more long-distance trains from Bengaluru. It is the first greenfield project in India where Indian railways constructed a world-class terminal. South Western Railway officials said there was no major demand for

trains from Bengaluru till late 1990s as most were limited to southern states. Post the IT boom in 2000s, there has been huge demand for more trains especially to the north but tracks/stations in Bengaluru reached almost a saturation point. This has resulted in the need for more terminals to run additional trains.

The waiting room has USB, laptop charging facilities and TVs. Platforms are connected with a 7.5m wide foot-over bridge and two subways adorned with paintings of Bengaluru landmarks. Water and energy management measures are in place, including a 4-lakh-litre water recycling plant.



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India's first luxury hotel and convention centre to come up on the public-private partnership model is built atop the concourse of the Gandhinagar railway station, minutes from the Mahatma Mandir Convention and Exhibition Centre that hosts the Vibrant Gujarat Summit among other national and international events.

Operated by the Leela Group, the Rs 780 crore, 318-room hotel rises to 65m (11 floors), its three towers arranged in a triquetra. It is a column-free building, constructed in the economical space frame of 99 metres over a railway platform. Gandhinagar railway station has seven busy tracks.

The Gujarat government has a 74% stake in The Leela, Gandhinagar, while Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation has 26%. A special-purpose vehicle — Gandhinagar Railway and Urban Development Corporation (GARUD) — owns the hotel.

Since operations began on

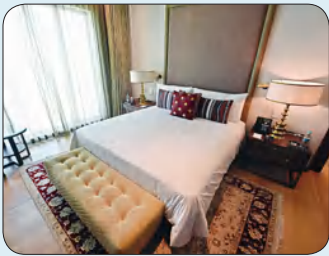
July 17 2021, the concourse-hotel has been catering to a mix of corporate guests at any given time, mainly from companies with units in Kadi, Kalol, Mehsana, and Dehgam and the surrounding Gujarat Industrial Development Corporation estates.

GANDHINAGAR | GUJARAT

The hotel project was conceptualised in 2016, with the GIFT (Gujarat International Finance Tec) City in focus as a fintech hub. "The government has built a

hotel on the PPP model with the operator's specifications. It is like bringing two schools together. We learn from government processes, and they learn the subtleties of our industry from us," said Anand.

In January 2017, Modi had laid the foundation stone of the project. "I have always wanted railway stations to be of top quality, not only facilitating travel but also boosting commerce and hospitality," Modi had said ahead of the hotel's inauguration. "One such effort has been made in Gandhinagar."



## No sign of visa, students headed to Canada in a fix

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Mumbai: In a rude shock to tens of thousands of freshmen keen on flying out for an education to Canada, their visas are still to come. Universities that begin their academic year in early September have asked candidates to either be on campus by then or defer their admissions.

These are students headed to top Canadian institutions such as McGill University, University of Toronto, University of British Columbia; they have paid a full year's fee of Rs 40-50 lakh, partial charges for housing and even met other requirements to apply under the Student Direct Stream, a fast-track route promising visas in less than 2 weeks. International counsellors peg the number of such students at 35,000-50,000.

The Student Direct Stream comes at a price: apart from paying the full year's tuition, students must deposit an additional sum of Cad \$10,000, take the IELTS and undergo medical examination.

"Since the last few years, this has been the most preferred route recommended by universities and the Canadian international visa section (IRCC). This year has been a calamity. The Canadian government and universities are not giving any answers on why visas have not been processed. There is so much anguish among parents and students are anxious," said international education counsellor Pratibha Jain.

Students have booked flight tickets, registered themselves for their first

FLIGHT TICKETS BOOKED, FULL YEAR'S FEE PAID

- Students have been asked to be present by early September or defer their admission
- They have booked flights, paid full year's fee (₹40-50 lakh) & partial charges for housing
- 35k-50k awaiting visas, say international counsellors
- Request for online courses turned down by most univs

and second-semester courses and requested universities to offer online courses. But most universities have turned down their request or have not responded at all.

"Canadian universities should allow students to join online this Fall 2022, so that they can progress to on-campus classes whenever they reach campus. This way the education will not be jeopardised. All Canadian universities offered this solution in 2020 and 2021. Hence, there is precedence and the technical infrastructure in place. Choices of subjects in January semester 2 are dependent on completing prerequisites in Fall Semester 1," added Jain.

Parents TOI spoke to said they have formed university-wise groups and had written to their respective institutions as also to the Canadian Bureau for International Education requesting that visas be expedited and online classes be offered.

"While universities are asking us to defer admissions, I feel this is not a solution as several courses are not offered in January and there will be a cascading delay on their graduation," said a Mumbai-based parent.

## PM Modi thanks several world leaders for I-Day wishes

New Delhi: PM Narendra Modi on Tuesday thanked several world leaders, including Israeli President Isaac Herzog, for their wishes on India's Independence Day and lauded its bilateral partnerships with their countries. Replying to the Comoros president's greetings on India's 76th Independence Day which was celebrated on Monday, Modi said, "Thank you President Azali Assoumani for your warm Independence Day wishes. India will continue to partner with Comoros on its development journey."

Israeli President Herzog tweeted in Hindi to wish India on Independence Day and said he was glad to celebrate 'IndiaAt75' with the Ambassador of India to Israel.

"For 75 years, India has inspired the world with its creativity, democracy and diversity - and this is an idea shared by our two countries," he said. Responding to his tweet, Modi said, "Thank you so much for the Independence Day wishes @Isaac\_Herzog. The friendship between India and Israel is very strong. I am sure that our ties will gain more strength in the years to come."

"Thank you PM @yairlapid for the Independence Day wishes. I fully agree with you on the deep bonds between India and Israel. I am sure this friendship will grow exponentially in the years to come," Modi tweeted responding to Israeli PM Yair Lapid's wishes. Former Israeli President Benjamin Netanyahu also wished India on Independence Day with a tweet in Hindi and a video message highlighting the close ties between Israel and India.

## Hold camps for booster doses at stns, religious sites: Centre to states

New Delhi: With just 17 per cent of eligible people receiving the precaution dose of COVID-19 vaccines till August 15, Union Health Minister Manoj Kumar Prasad appealed to states on Tuesday to organise vaccination camps at public places such as railway stations, airports and religious sites to boost the coverage.

Mandaviya, who interacted with the health ministers of states and Union territories virtually, advised them to widely publicise the availability of heterologous precaution dose of Corbevax vaccine. He also urged them to organise vaccination camps at public places such as bus stands, railway stations, airports, schools/colleges, pilgrimage routes and religious sites to increase the uptake of precaution dose among the eligible beneficiaries. The precaution dose coverage among the 64,89,99,721 eligible population was eight per cent till July 14.

On July 15, the government launched a 75-day special drive to administer pre-

caution doses to all aged 18 years and above at government vaccination centres free of cost.

Only 17 per cent -- 12,36,03,060 -- of the nearly 74.5 crore eligible individuals have been administered precaution dose of COVID-19 vaccines till August 15.

The COVID Vaccination Amrit Mahotsava, aimed at boosting the uptake of precaution doses among the eligible population, is being held as part of the government's Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav to celebrate the 75th anniversary of India's Independence.

States and Union territories were also advised to ensure that all vaccine doses are utilised on the basis of FEFO (first expiry, first out) principle to avoid expiry of the vaccines.

"Vaccines are precious national resource and states need to ensure that not even a single dose expires, through meticulous planning and regular review," Mandaviya stressed.

## India logs 8.8k+ fresh infections; active cases decline to over 1.1L

New Delhi: India's COVID-19 case tally increased by 8,813 in a day to reach 4,42,77,194, while active infections have declined to 1,11,252, according to the Union Health Ministry data on Tuesday.

The death toll has climbed to 5,27,098 with 29 more fatalities, including one death recorded by Kerala, the data updated at 8 am stated.

Active cases declined by 6,256 in a day and now comprise 0.25 per cent of the total infections, while the national COVID-19 recovery rate was at 98.56 per cent, the health min-

istry said. The number of people who have recuperated from the disease surged to 4,36,38,844, while the case fatality rate was recorded at 1.19 per cent. The daily positivity rate was 4.15 per cent while the weekly positivity rate was recorded at 4.79 per cent, according to the health ministry.

It said that 208.31 crore doses of Covid vaccine have been administered in the country so far. India crossed the grim milestone of two crore on May 4 last year, three crore on June 23 and four crore on January 25 this year.

## SC: Court must examine whether dying declaration true & reliable

New Delhi: A dying declaration can be the sole basis for recording a conviction and a court is required to examine whether it is true and reliable, the Supreme Court Tuesday said.

The top court also said that a court should also examine whether the dying declaration has been given when the deceased was physically and mentally fit to make the declaration and was not under any tutoring or duress.

In case there are multiple dying declarations and there are inconsistencies between

them, the dying declaration recorded by the higher officer like a Magistrate can be relied upon, it said.

The apex court, however, said this is with the condition that there is no circumstance giving rise to any suspicion about its truthfulness.

A bench of Justices B R Gavai and P S Narasimha made the observations while acquitting a man convicted under Section 304-B (dowry death) of the IPC.

"Court is required to examine as to whether the dying declaration is true and reliable, as to whether it has

been recorded by a person at a time when the deceased was fit physically and mentally to make the declaration; as to whether it has been made under any tutoring/duress/prompting.

"The dying declaration can be the sole basis for recording conviction and if it is found reliable and trustworthy, no corroboration is required. In case there are multiple dying declarations and there are inconsistencies between them, the dying declaration recorded by the higher officer like a Magistrate can be relied upon," the bench said.

**ICICI Home Finance**

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Branch Office: ICICI Home Finance Company Limited, 4th floor, 410, Milestone Vibrant, Opp. Apple Hospital, Udhna Darwaja, Surat-395002  
[See proviso to rule 8(6)]  
**Notice for sale of immovable assets**  
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.  
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the **Symbolic Possession** Stage of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of ICICI Home Finance Company Ltd., will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is", as per the brief particulars given hereunder;

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s) / Co Borrowers/ Guarantors / Legal Heirs. Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Reserve Price Earnest Money Deposit	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of Auction
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)
1.	Janmajay Das (Borrower) Titlata Das (Co-Borrower) Loan Account No. LHSUR00001313059	Flat No. B/107 Somnath Residency, 1st Floor, Society of Garden Velly Society, B/S Anmol Residency, Moje, Jolwa, Tal. Palsana, Dist- Surat, Gujarat	Rs. 7,17,587/- 05th August 2022	Rs. 5,63,000/- Rs. 56,300/-	14th Sept, 2022 11:00 AM 03:00 PM	20th Sept, 2022 02:00 PM 03:00 PM

The online auction will be conducted on website ([URL Link - / https://www.BestAuctionDeal.com](https://www.BestAuctionDeal.com)) of our auction agency GlobeTech. The Mortgagors/ notice are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest till **19th Sept, 2022 before 5.00 PM** else these secured assets will be sold as per above schedule.  
The Prospective Bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) RTGS/ Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at ICICI Home Finance Company Limited, **ICICI Home Finance Company Limited, 4th floor, 410, Milestone Vibrant, Opp. Apple Hospital, Udhna Darwaja, Surat-395002** on or before **19th Sept, 2022 before 04:00 PM**. Kindly note, in case prospective bidder(s) are unable to submit their offer as per above mentioned then they should sign copy of tender documents may be submitted at ICICI Home Finance Company Limited, **ICICI Home Finance Company Limited, 4th floor, 410, Milestone Vibrant, Opp. Apple Hospital, Udhna Darwaja, Surat- 395002** on or before **19th Sept, 2022 before 05:00 PM**. Earnest Money Deposit Demand Draft (DD) should be from a Nationalized/Scheduled Bank in favor of **"ICICI Home Finance Company Ltd. - Auction"** payable at **Surat**  
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The Authorized Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any further reasons.  
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Date : August 17, 2022  
Place : Surat  
Authorised Officer  
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