

Adani Electricity offers residential rates to Navratri, Durga Puja pandals in Mumbai

Ahead of the festive season, Adani Electricity on Friday simplified the process for Navratri and Durga Puja organisers here to obtain temporary electricity connections for their pandals at a residential rate.

The initiative will ensure that pandals across the city have access to reliable power during the festivities.

With a commitment to safety and efficiency, the simplified process assures connection within 48 hours of application submission.

Organisers can apply online by visiting Adani Electricity's website and navigating to the 'New Connection' section for a temporary supply.

"Mumbai is preparing to celebrate Navratri and Durga Puja with great enthusiasm. We understand the importance of uninterrupted power during these celebrations. Last year, we successfully provided continuous electricity to over 647 Durga Puja/Navratri pandals across the city," an Adani Electricity spokesperson said.

"This year, we've strengthened our operations to ensure even faster connection releases and reliable supply," it added.

To further enhance safety and responsiveness, Adani Electricity has also deployed a quick response team with a well-defined restoration



plan to address any unforeseen issues during the festivities. The company also issued a safety advisory urging all pandals to use wiring services only from licensed electrical contractors, install mandatory Residual Current Circuit Breakers (RCCBs) to protect devotees and volunteers from electrical hazards.

Prioritising safety, reliability, and ease of access to power, Adani Electricity also issued dos and don'ts for Navratri and Durga Puja pandals.

Adani Electricity urged to use standard wires and switches for the connection and allow only an authorised person to enter the meter cabin. Further, Adani Electricity

called for proper access to the meter cabin and connection to switches, as well as to use three-pin plugs for extension.

"Connected load should not exceed sanctioned load. Use standard capacity wire, RCCB according to the sanctioned load. If using a generator for backup, the body of the generator and neutral should be properly earthed," the company said.

"A fire extinguisher with operating knowledge is to be placed near the meter cabin. The danger board needs to be fixed near the meter cabin. Proper earthing at the meter cabin," it added.

Adani Electricity also advised against using unauthorised extensions

or direct supply, making any joints in wiring, putting obstacles at the entry of the meter cabin, and exceeding the sanctioned load.

"Flood lights, pedestal fans, and insulated joints should not be accessible to the people. Avoid Hazardous materials in and near the meter cabin," the company said. Earlier this year, during the Ganpati festival, Adani Electricity

released approximately 950 temporary connections to Ganpati Pandals and installed over 2,571 floodlights at 167 Lord Ganesh idol immersion locations across 15 BMC wards, ensuring a safe and joyful experience for devotees.

Piyush Goyal meets top EU officials to speed up talks on free trade pact

Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Friday met EU Commissioner for Agriculture and Food, Christophe Hansen, and EU Commissioner for Trade and Economic Security Maros Sefcovic, along with other officials of the EU delegation here as part of the efforts to expedite conclusion of a comprehensive free trade agreement (FTA). Goyal said, "We remain committed to achieving a balanced and mutually beneficial FTA, opening new avenues for businesses and maximising opportunities for the shared growth of

India and the EU." "As the India-EU FTA negotiations continue, we reiterated our shared commitment towards its early conclusion. A balanced and mutually beneficial FTA will unlock new opportunities for people & businesses on both sides," Goyal said in a post on X, marking the 13th round of India-EU FTA negotiations. "Both India and the EU are set to benefit immensely from the Free Trade Agreement we are striving to achieve," he added. During the recent meetings, India has emphasised that meaningful progress in trade negotiations requires equal focus on non-tariff barriers (NTBs) alongside



tariff discussions. It also stated that regulatory frameworks must be inclusive, proportionate, and avoid restricting trade. The two sides have finalised 11 chapters, including customs, trade facilitation, digital trade,

and capital movements, but significant differences remain on rules of origin, market access, and tariffs on products like wine and dairy. The EU is India's largest trading partner, with bilateral goods trade reaching \$135 billion in 2023-24.

The 13th round of FTA talks will take place this week in New Delhi, followed by another round in Brussels.

Speaking at the Automotive Component Manufacturers Association of India (ACMA) event, Goyal expressed confidence in the proposed FTA being beneficial for the auto industry.

"I am confident that the auto industry will find arrangements we will come up with very attractive, exciting and holding good for each of your businesses to grow, collaborate with partners from Europe and other parts of the world, encourage innovation and research and develop in India," the minister said.

Meanwhile, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri also met the European Union Political and Security Committee (PSC) delegation, led by Chair Delphine Pronk, on Friday.

In a post on X, MEA Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said, "Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri met today with the EU Political and Security Committee (PSC) delegation, led by Chair Ms. Delphine Pronk, which paid its first-ever visit to Asia. Discussions focused on deepening security and defence cooperation under the India-EU Strategic Partnership and exchange of views on latest regional and international developments."

APEDA office in Patna to boost Bihar's agri exports: Piyush Goyal

The establishment of the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) office in Patna will open new doors for Bihar's farmers, producers and exporters, according to official statement on Friday.

Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said that the office will provide direct access to services such as registration, advisory support, market intelligence, certification assistance, export facilitation and infrastructure development, giving Bihar's agrarian economy a strong push towards global markets.

The new office was inaugurated at the Bihar Idea Festival in Patna on September 11, in the presence of Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Samrat Chaudhary and State Industries Minister Nitish Mishra.

Until now, exporters from Bihar had to rely on APEDA's regional office in Varanasi, but the Patna office will ensure faster responses and better coordination with state institutions.

Bihar's agriculture is rich with high-value produce such as Shahi Litchi, Jardalu Mango, Mithila Makhana and Magahi Pan, many of which carry Geographical Indication (GI) tags that enhance their international appeal.

Goyal said the new office is more than just an administrative move -- it is a mission to connect Bihar's farmers with the global economy.

Marking the occasion, a 7 metric tonne consignment of GI-tagged Mithila Makhana was flagged off to New Zealand, Canada and the USA.

The export was led by woman entrepreneur Neha Arya, founder of Nehashi from Darbhanga.

Officials said her success highlights both the growing global demand for Bihar's produce and the rising role of women-led businesses in the agri sector.

The government noted that Bihar has already made strong progress in exports. GI-tagged Mithila Makhana has been shipped to the UAE and USA in 2024-25, while Jardalu Mango, Shahi Litchi and even traditional sweets like Tilkut have found international buyers.

Inflation remains under RBI's tolerance level, to maintain price stability: Experts

The consumer price index-based (CPI) inflation, which stood under the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) tolerance level of 2-6 per cent in August amid an unfavourable geo-political situation, will maintain price stability, industry experts said on Friday. CPI inflation stood at 2.07 per cent for the month despite unfavourable geopolitical situations.

"Year-on-year CPI inflation for August stood within RBI's tolerance limit, despite international policy uncertainties," said Hemant Jain, President, PHDCCI. The year-on-year inflation rate, based on the All-India Consumer

Food Price Index (CPFI), stood at -0.69 per cent (provisional) in August 2025 compared with August 2024, supporting the prevailing low CPI inflation, Jain noted. He further highlighted that the softening in the prices in August 2025 for cereals and products, pulses and products, as well as moderation in clothing and footwear, housing, and fuel and light, in comparison to July 2025, have collectively helped keep inflation within the RBI tolerance level.

Madhavi Arora, Chief Economist, Emkay Global Financial Services, said the continued spate of inflation

undershoot against RBI's estimates would ensure FY26 inflation will likely undershoot RBI's estimates by at least 50 basis points.

Besides, the disinflationary bias may be increased further amid domestic GST rate cuts ahead.

"We assert the RBI's focus on 1-year ahead expected inflation appears increasingly misplaced in an evolving world -- particularly as the global landscape continues to shift toward a disinflationary bias in Asia," she added.

India's CPI rose in August 2025 from 1.6 per cent in July 2025, but the inflation backdrop remains benign.

"The uptick was largely food-driven, reflecting seasonal volatility, while inflation in housing, health, education, transport and fuel eased, pointing to softer core pressures," according to Mahendra Patil, Founder and Managing Partner, MP Financial Advisory Services LLP.

According to Arsh Mogre of PL Capital, the disinflationary momentum has been amplified by favourable supply-side conditions and good monsoon. With the GST reforms, even a 50-60 per cent pass-through could shave 20-30 bps off FY26 inflation from current pro-

jections. According to data released by the Ministry of Statistics, CPI-based inflation rate increased marginally to 2.07 per cent in August, despite food prices continuing to drop throughout the month, which lessened the burden on the average person. The headline inflation rate in August was slightly higher than the 1.61 per cent retail inflation rate in July of this year, which was the lowest level since June 2017.

The RBI can continue to use the soft money policy to promote growth, though, because the inflation rate is well below its target rate of 4 per cent.

Icelandic collaboration to further boost India's Blue Economy

India and Iceland are set to enhance collaboration in fisheries and aquaculture, emphasising sustainable practices, zero-waste models, technology transfer and cluster-based development, the government said on Friday.

An Indian delegation, led by Dr. Abhilash Likh, Secretary of the Department of Fisheries, completed a three-day official visit in Iceland's Reykjavik to strengthen bilateral cooperation through strategic partnerships, investment promotion, and innovation

exchange, an official statement said.

Likh met with senior representatives of the Iceland Ocean Cluster and discussed cooperative innovation in fish processing, value addition, traceability, and certification. BRIM and Hampað, leading Icelandic companies, provided insights into their advanced zero-waste models and cutting-edge processing technologies.

"Both sides explored investment opportunities for the Icelandic seafood processing industry in India, along with ways to

deepen business-to-business (B2B) linkages," the statement said.

The delegation also visited MATIS, Iceland's top food and biotech R&D institute, to discuss cooperation in biotechnology, food safety, and marine resource utilisation. The visit opened new avenues for collaboration in research and technology transfer to bolster India's fisheries value chain, the release added.

Emphasis was also laid on training and capacity building in deep-sea fishing technologies, alongside the adoption of advanced vessel monitoring and surveillance (VMS) systems, the ministry of Fisheries said. The two sides explored opportunities in deep-sea fishing technologies, vessel monitoring systems, trout farming, and tuna innovations for India's islands.

The government has adopted a cluster-based development model under the PMMSY, with 34 clusters notified so far. The cluster-based approach enhances competitiveness and efficiency by uniting geographically connected enterprises of all sizes -

micro, small, medium, and large-across the entire value chain, from production to exports.

The country's total fish production has grown by 104 per cent from 96 lakh tonnes in 2013-14 to 195 lakh tonnes in 2024-25, as inland fisheries expanded by 142 per cent for the same period from 61 lakh tonnes to 147.37 lakh tonnes, according to government data.

India stands as the second largest fish producing nation in the world, contributing around 8 per cent of global output.

favourable base effects combined with steady progress of the southwest monsoon, healthy kharif sowing, adequate reservoir levels and comfortable buffer stocks of foodgrains have contributed to this moderation."

CPI inflation, however, is likely to edge up above 4 per cent by Q4:2025-26 and beyond, as unfavourable base effects, and demand side factors from policy actions come into play. Barring any major negative shock to input prices, core inflation is likely to remain moderately above 4 per cent during the year, he explained.

Similarly, the health inflation rate was also lower at 4.40 per cent in August compared to 4.57 per cent in July.

Meanwhile, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has pegged India's CPI inflation at 3.1 per cent for 2025-26 as the steady progress of the monsoon and robust kharif sowing are expected to keep food prices in check. RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra recently said, "The inflation outlook for 2025-26 has become more benign than expected in June. Large

Check It Daily Horoscopes

Your day today

By Dr C.V.B. Subrahmanyam



Aries: New contacts at the professional front would bring lucrative opportunities. A very demanding approach can create tensions in your love life.



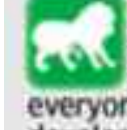
Taurus: A favourable time to start new projects and a happy day of wooing and courtship. Guard against being overly dominating when putting across your views at home.



Gemini: Cultivate a harmonious nature to kill your hatred because it is more powerful than love and deadly affects your body. Romantic influence is strong.



Cancer: The romantic life is becoming interesting. You are observing your love life, as it is blowing hot and cold. Act immediately as tomorrow may be very late.



Leo: You desperately need some activity to keep fit. Festive atmosphere all round keeps everyone in high spirits. On your part develop a harmonious relationship with all and win your opponents by love.



Virgo: Visit those who are less fortunate than yourself and help them with their personal problems. Loved ones will be hard to get along with. Group events will be far too expensive for you to organize.



Libra: Romantically a glittering bait awaits you to be trapped. Your affairs seem to go well on the surface. There are people in the background who don't wish you well in love. Stomach issues may rise.



Scorpio: Some of you will need to keep your temper under control, even under grave provocation. Your childish approach can thwart your romantic aspirations.



Sagittarius: You will have to do something different to make your lover enjoy your company. Your efforts at work get recognized, so cash in on this development.



Capricorn: Good earning will make you splurge on the romantic front. Speculative activities should be avoided. Those burdened with work will have to do something about the resulting fatigue.



Aquarius: Think wisely before loaning money to a friend as early return is not foreseen. Help and assistance will be forthcoming from close ones in getting a matrimonial alliance for the eligible.



Pisces: Monetary gains will keep you in a buoyant mood. This is the day when you can find everything topsy-turvy on the professional front. Those in private companies can face a salary cut.

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