

THE BEACON

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Ministry of Railways iterates travel guidelines

Akshara DM

In the wake of what is being considered the second wave of Covid-19 infections in India, the Ministry of Railways took to Twitter on Monday, March 15, to remind passengers of the health advisory guidelines they should follow while travelling by train.

The ministry in a tweet requested passengers to go through the health advisory guidelines issued by states before the commencement of their journey.

The health advisory guidelines are issued keeping in mind the safety and security of railway passengers.

Each state has issued its own set of specific guidelines.

Passengers travelling to any particular state are requested to read and adhere to the health advisory guidelines issued by that particular state.

Some of the states have made RT-PCR tests mandatory within 72-96 hours of the passengers' arrival to the state.

This initiative is taken by the states to avoid confusion and hardships the passengers might encounter during their inter-state commute.

India has over the past week seen a resurgence in new Covid-19 infections after numbers peaked last September.

Adani-Welspun announces new oil find

Vandana Nampoothiri

Adani Welspun Exploration Limited (AWEL), a joint-venture company between the Adani Group and the Welspun Group, announced on Monday, March 15, that it had discovered two reservoirs of gas in the Tapti-Daman sector of the Mumbai offshore block with a capacity of 33 lakh barrels of gas per day.

The presence of the gas was confirmed while drilling vertically in the New Exploration Policy (NELP - VII) block in the sector. Object-I, where a clean sandstone reservoir, containing 17 lakhs barrels of gas per day, and object- II, another sandstone reservoir



Representational Images

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containing 16 lakhs barrels of gas per day, it said in a statement.

AWEL Managing Director Sandeep Garg said in the statement, "In addition to

being value accretive for the company, this discovery could be a significant

breakthrough for our nation given India's focus to nearly triple the share of natural gas in its energy mix by the end of this decade."

He went on to add: "The proximity of these two prospective blocks will enable AWEL to synergise and optimize development of both the blocks."

Early indications pointed to the occurrence of gas-bearing reservoirs within the sandstone reservoirs of the Mahuva and Daman formations, AWEL said in the statement.

AWEL holds positions in the Mumbai Offshore and Gulf of Kutch areas in the Western Offshore basin in the Arabian Sea, where it is either exploring for fuel or already operating stations.

Neerathon gets new record

Pavithra Prabhu

BENGALURU: The latest edition of Neerathon — the annual marathon conducted by the Wildlife Awareness and Conservation Club of St Joseph's College (Autonomous) — on Sunday, March 14, broke its record of 45 minutes that was set over its four-year journey.

The event witnessed participants from all age groups, with the youngest being five-year-old Jannissha.

The event was flagged off



Representational Image

Facebook/WACC

by Karnataka's Minister of Tourism, Ecology and Environment CP Yogeeshwara, who was the chief guest on the occasion.

"We originally thought of

having it online but we thought that there is no point in it. For the past three years, we have been doing it consistently and we somehow wanted to make sure it is offline. We pulled it off with a lot of difficulties," said Anivitha Bhavaraju, Neerathon convenor of the Wildlife Awareness and Conservation Club.

Neerathon, a marathon conducted by the WACC, is an annual event operating under the motto "Run for the cause of water".

FB unveils tool to boost Covid-19 vaccination

Sudarshani

Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg announced on Monday, March 15 that the social-media giant was launching a new tool to help people find the nearest places where they can get vaccinated, and know when that can take place.

The tool will also send a link to the user once the vaccination appointment is made, he said in a statement published on Facebook.

He said this was part of a

"global campaign" to boost Covid-19 vaccination.

The campaign will also include pushes from photo-sharing app Instagram and instant-messaging app WhatsApp, both of which are owned by Facebook.

Zuckerberg said Facebook's Covid Information Centre was being brought to Instagram as well. He added that Facebook was also looking to partner with governments across the world to use WhatsApp chatbots to spread vaccine awareness.

Beyoncé breaks Grammy record with most wins

Nishitha Rachel

Singer Beyoncé on Sunday, March 14, became the most-awarded woman in Grammy history, overtaking bluegrass singer Alison Krauss, when she won in four categories at the 63rd Grammy Awards.

She snagged the awards for Best Music Video, Best Rap Performance, Best Rap Song, and the Best R&B Performance.

The singer has now equalled producer Quincy Jones' total of 28 Grammys.

Georg Solti has more: 31.

Beyoncé was part of another historic moment when Megan Thee Stallion became the first female artist to win an award for the Best Rap Song category, on which Beyoncé delivers a guest verse.

Taylor Swift also made history at the award show by becoming the first-ever female artist to win Album of the Year three times.

She had won in 2010 and 2016 as well.

Only three artistes have ever won the award three times: Frank Sinatra, Paul Simon, and Stevie Wonder.

Grammy Award — Biggest Winners

• **Record of the Year:** Billie Eilish (Everything I Wanted)

• **Album of the Year:** Taylor Swift (Folklore)

• **Song of the Year:** Dernst Emile II, H.E.R, Tiara Thomas (I Can't Breathe)

• **Best New Artist:** Megan Thee Stallion

• **Best Pop Solo Performance:** Harry Styles (Watermelon Sugar)

• **Best Rap Song:** Beyoncé (Savage)

• **Best Rap Album:** Nas (King's Disease)

• **Best Music Video:** Beyoncé, Blue Ivy, WizKid (Brown Skin Girl)

• **Best Rock Performance:** Fiona Apple

(Shameika)

• **Best Rock Song:** Brittany Howard (Stay High)

• **Best Rock Album:** The Strokes (The New Abnormal)

• **Best R&B Performance:** Beyoncé (Black Parade)

• **Best R&B Song:** Robert Glasper, Mashell Ndegeocello, Gabriella Willson (Better Than I Imagined)

• **Best R&B Album:** John Legend (Bigger Love)

• **Best Alternative Music Album:** Fiona Apple (Fetch the Bolt Cutters)



Compiled by Alwin Benjamin Soji