



मराठी

01 November 2023

Maharashtra State Specific News

Temple caves older than the Elephanta discovered in Ratnagiri



In News: Temple caves older than the Elephanta discovered in Ratnagiri

- A professor of ancient Indian history and his team of researchers have **discovered two rock-cut Shaivite temple caves in a forested area near Rajapur, Ratnagiri,**

Key Points:

- These rock-cut caves of the Shaiva sect are present around 8km from Rajapur town.
- A **similar cluster of such Shaivite caves were earlier discovered in the Cazule area of south Goa.**
- The monolithic-cut laterite cave temple was created sometime around **5th or 6th century CE**, and so are even older than the Elephanta caves.

About Elephanta Caves:

- The Elephanta Caves are a collection of rock-cut cave temples predominantly dedicated to the **Hindu god Shiva.**
- They are **located on Elephanta Island** (also known as the Island of Gharapuri), in the Arabian Sea off the coast of Mumbai, Maharashtra, India.
- The caves are thought to have been **carved out between the 5th and 8th centuries CE**
- The caves are **divided into two groups: the west group (Caves 1-5) and the east group (Caves 6-7).**
- The **west group** is the more important of the two groups, and contains the most impressive sculptures, including the **famous Trimurti sculpture of Shiva.**



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ADDAPEDIA

Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

PCMC wins award for The City with the Best Non-Motorized Transport System



In News: PCMC gets award from urban ministry

- The Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation (PCMC) has received the award for '**The City with the Best Non-Motorized Transport System**' at the **Urban Mobility India Conference 2023** hosted by the ministry of housing and urban affairs.

Key Points:

- The event was held in Delhi where the civic body was awarded for Non-Motorised (NMT)-friendly Pimple Saudagar Neighbourhood Project.

About Urban Mobility India Conference 2023:

- The Urban Mobility India Conference (UMI) is an annual event that brings together policymakers, practitioners, and experts from around the world to discuss and collaborate on the future of urban transportation in India.
- The 2023 UMI Conference was held in New Delhi from October 27-29, 2023.
- The theme of Urban Mobility India Conference 2023 was "**Integrated and Resilient Urban Transport.**"

MH govt plans to make the state drought free

In News: To make Maharashtra drought-free': Fadnavis seeks PM's help to expedite river-linking projects

- Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis sought Prime Minister Narendra Modi's help to expedite the ambitious river-linking water projects to make Maharashtra drought-free.

Key Points:

- During Modi's visit to Ahmednagar, Fadnavis raised the issue of drought in parts of Maharashtra.
- Almost 50 per cent Maharashtra is drought-prone.
- Elaborating on two mega projects that the state government has been working on, Fadnavis said, "One of the projects envisages diverting Konkan river water into Godavari basin. The water can help in overriding drought in Marathwada and North Maharashtra," he said.



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Thane bags 'Best Station for Cleanliness Shield'

In News: Thane bags 'Best Station for Cleanliness Shield'

- Thane, which is one of the most crowded railway stations on the Mumbai division of the Central Railway (CR), has bagged the 'Best Station for Cleanliness Shield'.

Key Points:

- The station that witnesses a footfall of nearly six lakh passengers daily was chosen for the 'Best Station for Cleanliness Shield' for 2022 **under the non-suburban grade 1 to 4 categories.**

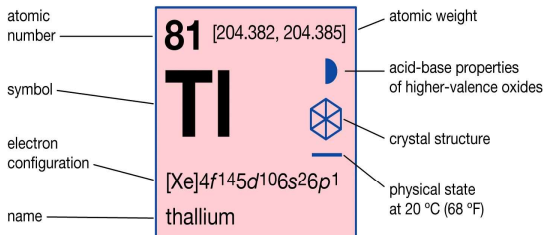
Central Railway (CR) will implement flexible working hours

Context:

- **Central Railway (CR) will implement flexible working hours for its staff in the Mumbai division.**
- This makes CR the first central government organization to start such an initiative.
- This will benefit employees to avoid peak hours for traveling by trains from their residences to CSMT

Thallium as a murder weapon

Thallium



	Other metals		Solid
	Hexagonal		Weakly basic

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Context

In Mahagaon village in **Gadchiroli district** of Maharashtra, two women allegedly killed five family members by lacing their food with poison in the form of thallium.

About thallium

- It is a chemical element with the atomic number 81, was discovered by **Sir William Crookes in 1861.**
- It is a soft, heavy, inelastic metal.
- Thallium is **tasteless and odourless** and has been used by murderers as a difficult-to-detect poison.
- **Appearance:** A soft, silvery-white metal that tarnishes easily.

Sources:

- It is found in **trace amounts in the earth's crust.**
- It is found in several ores. One of these is pyrites, which is used to produce sulfuric acid. Some thallium is obtained from pyrites, but it is mainly obtained as a by-product of copper, zinc and lead refining.



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Uses of Thallium

- Thallium's utilization is restricted due to its **toxic nature**.
- **Thallium sulfate**, once a rodent killer, is now banned for household use in many developed nations.
- It finds application in the **electronics industry for photoelectric cells**.
- Thallium oxide is used to create **high-refraction glass and low-melting glass**.
- It is also used in the manufacturing of low **temperature thermometers, and imitation jewels**.

Health Hazards:

- Thallium can damage the nervous system causing headaches, weakness, and irritability. Repeated exposures can cause tremors, hallucinations, coma and death.

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