## Maharashtra FDA suspends EatClub outlet licence over food safety, hygiene violations

NEW DELHI

The Maharashtra Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on Wednesday suspended the food licence of an EatClub Brands outlet in Mumbai with immediate effect after an inspection uncovered multiple food safety, hygiene and operational violations. The action, effective September 2, was taken under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, and the rules and regulations framed under it. The EatClub outlet involved in the action is located at Royal Palms, Aarey Milk Colony, Goregaon East. The suspension applies specifically to this establishment and does not cover the company's other outlets. EatClub operates several food brands, including Box8 and Mojo Pizza. According to an official press note issued by the FDA, inspectors found inadequate storage arrangements for food products.

## Countries must build their own AI capacity: Jensen Huang

CHAPEL HILL

Every country must develop domestic artificial intelligence capacity and decide which parts of the rapidly expanding technology chain it wants to build, Nvidia chief executive Jensen Huang has said, warning governments against outsourcing all their intelligence to others.

Huang, speaking during a fireside chat with US Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick, described AI infrastructure as essential to national economies, comparing it with water, roads, electricity and the internet.

"Every single country needs to build infrastructure so that you could support your own local economy," Huang said.

"It becomes the capacity, the intellectual capacity, the digital intellectual capacity for you to support your researchers and students and society and industries and startups," he added. Huang presented AI as a "five-layer cake", with energy forming its foundation.

# Mumbai to Strengthen Climate Action for MCW 2027

**Department of Environment and Climate Change to serve as nodal government partner, facilitating coordination with key state and civic agencies**

MUMBAI

Ahead of the second edition of Mumbai Climate Week (MCW) in February 2027, the Department of Environment and Climate Change, Government of Maharashtra, and Project Mumbai have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to strengthen institutional coordination and support greater government participation in the city's climate action dialogue.

Mumbai Climate Week will be held from February 23-26 at Jio Convention Centre, Mumbai, India.

Under the MoU, the Department of Environment and Climate Change, Government of Maharashtra, will serve as the nodal partner agency of the Government of Maharashtra for MCW 2027. As a knowledge partner, the Department will support Project Mumbai in hosting the second edition of the climate platform and facilitate coordination with relevant government departments and agencies. The Department will facilitate time-bound coordination and meetings between MCW 2027 theme leads and relevant Ministries, Commissioners and Secretaries of the Government of Maharashtra, including the Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA) and the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC).

A key focus of the partnership will be to build a stronger connection between the conversations and thematic work emerging from MCW 2027—particularly around urban resilience, food systems, energy transition, biodiversity, and circularity—and the government institutions working on the ground. MCW will also explore climate and its intersections with literature, food, sports, cinema and healthcare.

Commenting on the partnership, Smt. Pankaja Munde, Minister of Environment & Climate Change, Maharashtra, said, "The Environment and Climate Change Department, Government of Maharashtra, is delighted to partner with Project Mumbai for Mumbai Climate Week (MCW) 2027. MCW 2027 will serve as a significant platform bringing together governments, businesses, civil society, experts and citizens to advance meaningful climate action and strengthen the resilience of Maharashtra and India. Building on the momentum of the previous edition, the partnership aims to further strengthen climate leadership and make MCW 2027 an even more impactful platform for climate collaboration and sustainable urban development. The Department looks forward to working with Project Mumbai and all stakeholders towards advancing meaningful climate action, strengthening climate resilience and fostering a sustainable future."

Emphasising the significance of the partnership in advancing actionable climate solutions, Shishir Joshi, CEO and Founder, Project Mumbai & Chief Convenor of Mumbai Climate Week, said, "Project Mumbai is honoured to have the Department of Environment and Climate Change, Government of Maharashtra, as our knowledge partner. Together, we can ensure that the conversations at MCW 2027 translate into ideas, partnerships and solutions that have a lasting impact."

As climate change increasingly intersects with the way Mumbai plans its infrastructure, mobility, water, waste management, energy and urban resilience, MCW 2027 will provide a platform for government, business, civil society, academia and the wider climate ecosystem to come together around these challenges.

The MoU further strengthens the institutional framework supporting MCW 2027 and reflects a shared commitment to creating greater alignment between Mumbai's climate-action ecosystem and the Government of Maharashtra.

## Singareni rules out privatisation of underground coal mines

HYDERABAD

The Singareni Collieries Company Limited ( SCCL) has clarified that the reports claiming that Singareni's underground coal mines are being privatised are completely false. In a statement on Wednesday, the SCCL said there is currently no proposal under consideration by the company to privatise Singareni's underground mines.

As a responsible public sector undertaking with extensive experience in the mining sector, Singareni is currently producing coal through 21 underground mines and 17 opencast mines. The company stated that it has been continuously contributing to the country's energy security and industrial development by supplying coal to Telangana as well as Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and other states.

The management stated that although Singareni's underground mines are operating at a financial loss, they are being continued while making every effort to minimise losses, keeping in view employment generation and job security in the Telangana region.

Instead of closing or privatising the underground mines, the company is taking necessary measures to increase their production capacity and reduce operating costs, with the objective of making as many mines as possible financially viable, the statement said.

# AI WILL NOT WIPE OUT JOBS, SAYS NVIDIA CEO

CHAPEL HILL

Nvidia chief executive Jensen Huang has rejected fears that artificial intelligence will eliminate employment, arguing that the technology will automate tasks while allowing people and companies to pursue far greater ambitions.

"The idea that somehow all the jobs are going to be eliminated, removed, that's just nonsense," Huang said during a fireside chat with US Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick. Huang said jobs were defined by their purpose, context and meaning, even though some of the skills used to perform them would change.

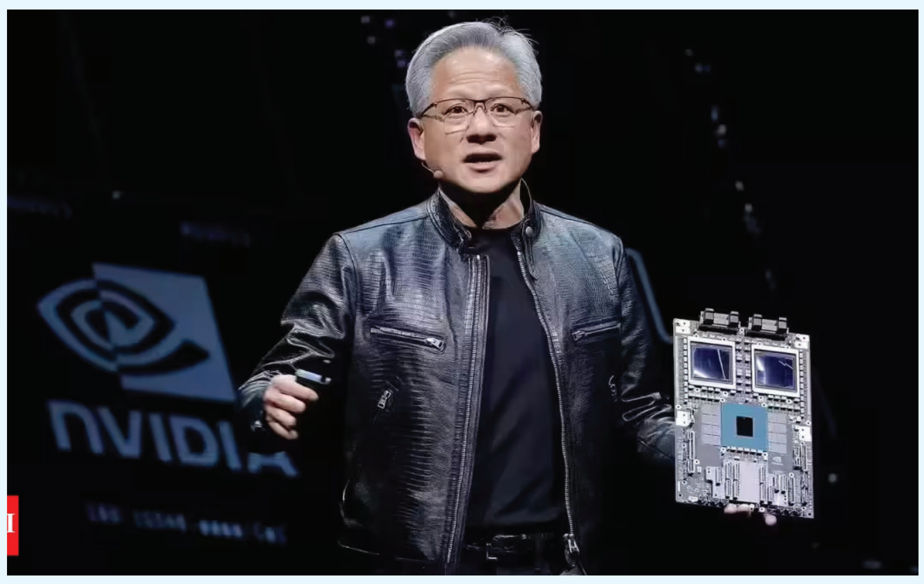
"Those skills are gonna be automated by AI. The tasks are gonna be automated, but our jobs purpose remain," he said. "And so I think what's gonna happen was that we're all just gonna be supercharged."

Huang said Nvidia already uses AI throughout its operations, combining readily available products with systems developed internally.

"You should use AI off-the-shelf wherever you can, but don't forget, you have to invest in building your own intelligence, every country, every company," he said. "You can't outsource all of your intelligence to somebody else."

Huang predicted that the world could achieve what is commonly called artificial general intelligence within the next few years. He argued that elements of it had effectively arrived already, but cautioned that such a breakthrough would not automatically solve every company's problems.

"It's not as if all of a sudden in two years time, I say, okay, let me connect it to this AI service and I just sit back and all of a sudden my company becomes more and more productive overnight," he said. "That's just not gonna happen at all." Companies would still need to provide AI systems with purpose, context, relevant information and access to the tools required for productive work, Huang said.



He described AI as a "five-layer cake" comprising energy, chips, infrastructure, models, and data and applications. Countries did not need to dominate every layer, he said, but should determine where to invest and encourage AI adoption across education, healthcare, manufacturing and science.

"Every single country needs to build infrastructure so that you could support your own local economy," Huang said. "It becomes the capacity, the intellectual capacity, the digital intellectual capacity for you to support your researchers and students and society and industries and startups."

The Nvidia chief said the United States was expected to invest close to $1 trillion in AI infrastructure this year, generating economic growth and hundreds of thousands of jobs across semiconductor fabrication, computer production and AI data centres.

Huang urged governments to balance discussions about AI safety with its potential contribution to prosperity. The greatest risk for a country, he said, was failing to adopt the technology.

"The worst outcome is that you don't take advantage of it. that you are left behind. That is the single worst outcome," he said.

He also called for regulation to address demonstrated risks rather than speculative threats.

"Don't regulate hypothetical, theoretical harm. Regulate actual and pragmatic harm," Huang said.

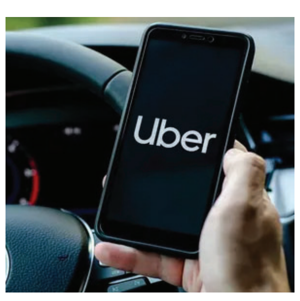
Lutnick said countries would need to invest in data centres and domestic AI infrastructure to ensure their citizens and economies benefited from the technology.

"They've got to harness the AI for themselves," Lutnick said. "Because what you've said is that education has been democratized."

Nvidia was founded in 1993 by Huang, Chris Malachowsky and Curtis Priem. Its graphics processing units, initially closely associated with computer gaming, have become central to the data centres used to train and operate advanced artificial intelligence systems.

## Uber to cut nearly 10 pc of workforce to focus on core business

NEW DELHI




Uber Technologies reportedly plans to cut roughly 3,300 roles or about 10 per cent of its global workforce, as Chief Executive Officer Dara Khosrowshahi moves to cut management layers and redirect spending toward its ride-hailing, delivery and robotaxi businesses.

Khosrowshahi announced the changes in an email, saying rapid growth in recent years had created "more layers, more coordination, more fragmented ownership" and structures that no longer served the company at its current scale, according to a report from Bloomberg News.

The reductions will slash the number of managers by nearly 20 per cent, but also affect non-managerial roles. Some managers will be moved into individual contributor positions, the report said.

The cuts are intended to speed up decision-making, reduce duplication and free up capital to reinvest in drivers, couriers and merchants.

The reduction in employees will generate savings for reinvestment "in growth, innovation, and the capabilities that will matter most over the coming years," the companywide email reportedly said.

"Everyone whose role has been affected has already been notified, except in countries where we will follow the required local process," the email said. CEO said that employees started feeling that too much time is spent on "aligning" rather than "building, shipping, or serving customers."

The number of management layers were reduced "by broadening manager scopes," particularly in "micro-teams" of only 1-2 reports.

Uber "reduced the number of employees who sit over 7 layers from the CEO by 20 per cent and the number of micro-teams by nearly 50 per cent," the statement said.

The company is also restructuring "where roles and teams should be based, with the goal of concentrating teams in a smaller number of key hubs."

The firm also asked majority of remote employees to move to an office, adding that only 1 per cent of employees will be remote in near future.

"We'll also continue to reinforce compliance with our hybrid work policy, which requires three days a week in the office," the email said.

## RBI's dollar-rupee swap facility draws $136.38 billion foreign currency inflows, FCNR(B) deposits lead surge

NEW DELHI

India's banking system has attracted $136.38 billion in foreign currency inflows through the Reserve Bank of India's special dollar-rupee swap facility, with FCNR(B) deposits accounting for the bulk of the mobilisation, according to provisional RBI data released on Wednesday.

Foreign currency non-resident (FCNR(B)) deposits contributed $127.23 billion to the total inflows by August 31. Overseas foreign currency borrowings (OFCBs) accounted for another $5.26 billion, while external commercial borrowings (ECBs) brought in $3.89 billion. The RBI said the figures remain provisional and are subject to final reporting, accounting and reconciliation.

The strong mobilisation highlights the exceptionally high response to the facility introduced by the central bank on June 8 with the objective of attracting foreign currency into the Indian banking system and strengthening the country's external buffers.

The pace of inflows accelerated sharply in August. As of August 21, banks had mobilised $65.4 billion through FCNR(B) deposits, while combined inflows through FCNR(B) deposits, ECBs and OFCBs stood at around $73 billion. The subsequent surge pushed total mobilisation to $136.38 billion by the end of August.

Given the strong response, the RBI decided to advance the closure of the FCNR(B) deposit mobilisation window to August 31 from the earlier September 30 deadline. However, the swap facility for eligible FCNR(B) deposits already mobilised will continue to be available with the RBI until September 11.

The schemes for ECBs and OFCBs will remain open until December 31, 2026, providing banks and eligible borrowers additional time to access the facility through these routes. The sharp increase in longer-tenure FCNR(B) deposits indicates that banks have been keen to tap overseas dollar funding, particularly as the RBI's swap facility helped reduce the cost and risks associated with managing foreign currency exposure.

The large-scale mobilisation has also had a significant impact on liquidity conditions in the domestic banking system. Banking-system liquidity rose to ₹6.65 lakh crore on August 31, the highest level since May 2022. At the same time, the weighted average call rate declined to 4.98%, moving well below the prevailing repo rate.

The latest mobilisation has also dwarfed the response to the RBI's earlier FCNR(B) swap scheme introduced in 2013. During that exercise, banks had raised around $26 billion through FCNR(B) deposits.

## REC Limited Awarded First Prize by the Ministry of Power for Outstanding Implementation of Official Language Policy

NEW DELHI

At the meeting of the Hindi Salahkar Samiti of the Ministry of Power, Government of India, REC Limited was awarded the First Prize for its outstanding implementation of the Official Language Policy for the year 2025-26.

The award was presented to REC by Shri Manohar Lal Ji, Honorable Union Minister of Power and Housing and Urban Affairs. Shri Shripad Yesso Naik, Minister of State for Power and New and Renewable Energy, Shri Dinesh Sharma, former Deputy Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh and current Rajya Sabha MP, Shri Suresh Kumar Kashyap, Lok Sabha MP, and Shri Pankaj Agrawal, Secretary, Ministry of Power, were also present on the occasion. Shri Jitendra Shrivastava, IAS, CMD of REC, received the award.

It is a matter of immense pride that REC has earned this distinction among all Central Public Sector Enterprises, subordinate offices, and organizations under the Ministry in the power sector.

This achievement is a testament to REC's sustained commitment to promoting, propagating, and effectively implementing Hindi as the official language, as well as to the collective efforts of its officers and employees. This prestigious honor recognizes REC's exemplary work in ensuring effective compliance with the provisions of the Official Language Policy, fostering a work culture that encourages the use of Hindi, and successfully implementing innovative initiatives at the national level.

This award is a matter of pride and inspiration for the entire REC family. This award not only establishes the organization's excellent work culture at the national level but also underscores REC's leading role in official language implementation.