

City	Temperature		Humidity		Sunset 1925 hrs	Moonrise 1407 hrs
	Max.	Min.	Morn	Eve		
Surat	32.2°C	26.1°C	60%	36%	Sunrise 0553 hrs	Moonset 0121 hrs
Ahmedabad	37.2°C	27.5°C	81%	35%		
Vadodra	34.2°C	26.8°C	67%	19%		
Rajkot	36.8°C	25.5°C	52%	24%		

**Forecast:** Light to moderate rain likely to occur at isolated places over the whole region, especially few places in south Gujarat.

# DNA CITY

**Financial scam:** Gujarati origin businessman gets bail in fraud cases  
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Surat, Wednesday, November 19, 2008

DAILY NEWS & ANALYSIS . CITY

## SMC starts dispatch of property tax notices to assessees

More than 30% notices have been dispatched to residential properties in all zones

**DNA Correspondent**

The Surat Municipal Corporation has started issuing residential property tax notices in all the zones. More than 30% notices have already been issued by the civic assessment department. Civic body is aiming to reduce the time period in dispatching notices and bills to save time in bill issue and collection of tax amount.

Unlike every year, property tax notices are being issued in all zones simultaneously this year. This year SMC will issue tax notices for the second time as well. Till now, billing cycle was different for each zone and civic body used to concentrate only on one zone at a time.



Sources in SMC said that as per BPMC law, civic body can issue bills any time once the tax notices are issued. SMC might follow the code and could issue bills within a

week of issuance of notices. People will be given 15-days time if any rectification is required. However, civic body aims very few objections from the citizens as ma-

majority of flaws have been removed during rectification process.

"Even if there are flaws after issuance of bill, it can be rectified and new bill can be issued to the tax payer. The whole rectification process and issuance of notice has been done with precaution. However, there can be some individual cases with flaws, which can be sorted out immediately," said Rohit Chaudhry, head of civic assessment department.

Chaudhry added that remaining notices will be issued soon so that they have enough time to collect tax amount. Simultaneous issue of bills at all zones will not affect the work and everything will be completed within specified time limit.

## SMC to deploy closed-body vehicles for waste transfer

Civic body changes system after complaints of waste spilling out of trucks

**DNA Correspondent**

In a move to improve upon the present solid waste transfer system, the Surat Municipal Corporation (SMC) has decided to use closed body vehicles for transferring the solid waste collected from different collection points to its disposal site. The decision was taken after frequent complaints of the waste being spilled out during transfer. At present, the waste is being transferred through trucks with the waste covered with tarpaulin sheets.

To comply with the decision, the SMC will procure closed body vehicles and containers with a shape of the railway wagons. The solid waste collected will be compressed before being shifted to the container. At present, waste is directly poured into the vehicles and trans-



ferred to the disposal site at Khajod. Both the container and vehicle

will be detachable and the vehicles will carry the containers.

"As only the containers will have to be changed, the number of vehicles required will also be less. These vehicles will have specially designed hooks. Before the vehicle returns with the empty container, another one will be kept ready to save time in the waste transfer. For the smooth transfer of the solid waste, special elevated platforms are being constructed at six points," an official of the solid waste department told DNA.

There were frequent complaints of the solid waste being spilled out on the roads during transfer and the poor condition of vehicles. According to the SMC sources, each container with a capacity of 15 ton will cost Rs-7 lakh and the vehicle around Rs-20-25 lakh.

## Vultures are back to life in the city

Feeding centre has been successful in increasing vulture population in the city

**Anju Chandrasekhar**

During the last decade the vulture population in India has seen a dramatic fall of almost 95%. However, the vulture feeding centre in the city has been successful in taking their number to more than 100 from 40 vultures a year back. In January last year, only 32 vultures were found at the feeding site, which has increased to 142.

Scarcity of food was one of the major problems faced by these species of birds. Goldy Gandhi, a nature club activist, says, "The vulture feeding centre regularly feeds the vultures, which has decreased their mortality rate. Apart from this, the declofenac medicine, which is given to the animals are also a cause for the death of these species. Moreover,

vulture eggs are used in black magic by some people, lessening their population."

"We also conduct awareness programs among the villagers to save the vulture eggs. We have asked the villagers to provide their dead cattle's to feeding centre, which can be used as food for the vultures," he adds.

However, after the success of feeding centre and increase in vulture population in the city, the nature club and the forest department plans to open vulture restaurants in different areas of the city.

"Seeing the success of this breeding centre we are looking for sites to feed them and develop more centres in the city. We have asked the Parsi community to provide us some places," Gandhi added.



**A boon**

The vulture feeding centre in the city has been successful in taking their number to more than 100 from 40 vultures a year back



Jains offer prayers before a marble replica of Shetrunjay Hills in Palitana at a Jain temple in Katargam on Tuesday - Hetal Shah/DNA

## Speak Up

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# India is a third world country: Hayden

**The ICC should intervene**



Hayden's statement was outrageous and uncalled for. This only reflects that Aussies are merely interested in creating new controversies. This unfair behaviour only leads me to believe that they are being partial against certain teams, which they should not be, being a superior body. The board should be laying down certain strict rules and regulations as a priority for certain issues like this as such situations are creating problems between the teams and the players.

—Maulik Desai, Student

**This should be resolved by cricketing boards**

Australians have been world champions. Therefore, it is only reasonable for them to get frustrated at the defeat. It is basic human tendency. Moreover, since the monkeygate scandal that took place in Australia, there have been cold vibes between both the teams. Nevertheless, it is very important to keep a check on such players who lack even basic manners. The media also should not hype such issues because that simply adds fuel to fire



—Sushil Patel, Student

**ICC should take strong steps against them**

Hayden's statement is offensive and he has definitely hurt the Indian sentiments. Australian players issue such outrageous statements so that they can outrage Indian players and get a negative reaction from them. This is not the first time they have acted snobbishly. BCCI should take a strong stand. No player, of whatever stature is allowed to speak in derogatory terms about any nation.



—Sagar Desai, Student

MS Dhoni & Co. touched the much protected ego of the Australians by crushing them in the Border-Gavaskar Trophy. As usual, opener Matthew Hayden played mind games by calling India 'a third world countries'. **Speak Up** asks Surtis whether this is just a way to defend their defeat or the allegations are true.

Graphic: Utpal

**The nation's pride is at stake**



The entire series was a success. It seems that the Aussies are not able to admit that they were really outplayed by Indians. If there were any infrastructural discrepancies why did it trouble only one team? It is simply that the Australian players are expressing the frustration of being thrashed by a far superior Indian side. Such audacious behaviour should not be tolerated. BCCI should certainly lodge a complaint with the International Cricket Council.

—Sandeep Nair, Assistant manager

**Aussies should accept defeat**



Australian players have always been uncouth when it comes to respecting other players. They find it hard to accept defeat which is the sign of bad sportsmanship. They ought to learn to be sporty. After all, it is not only about winning and losing. It is about playing with in the true spirit of the game. Cricket is called 'Gentlemen's game'. However, the aussies seem to be anything but that I do not think that there was any infrastructural problem during the match. Winning and losing a part of game and its high time, they learn to accept this. In fact, they can also learn to be a little courteous.

—Shahrukh Kapadia, Student

