


OM NAMO VENKATESAYA



11-12-2025

Total pilgrims: 64,367

Tonsures: 25,193

Hundi kanukalu: 4.71 CR

Waiting Compartments: 31

Approx. Darsan Time for Sarvadarshanam (with out SSD Tokens). 12 H

TO BOOK YOUR ADS CALL

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GACHIBOWLI:
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Ph: 9849026916/23002992

BANJARA HILLS:
Road No. 10,
Ph: 9848910502/23550896



Congress sweeps 1st phase of gram panchayat polls in Telangana

Hyderabad (TSIT) : The ruling Congress on Friday swept the first phase of Gram Panchayat elections in Telangana, winning more than half of 4,236 Sarpanch posts. Candidates backed by Congress bagged 2,319 Sarpanch posts, including those elected unopposed. Though the elections were fought on a non-party basis, the results show that Congress-backed candidates swept the polls in the majority of Gram Panchayats.

Main opposition Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) was in second position, bagging 1,159 Sarpanch posts. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) was distant third with 188 posts. Others and independents were elected in 534 Gram Panchayats. While 396 Sarpanches were elected unanimously, the polling was held for 3,834 Sarpanch posts in 31 districts on Thursday.

Barring Siddipet and Kumaram Bheem districts, the Congress secured a majority in all the districts. The ruling party secured a



clear majority in Nalgonda, Khammam, Medak, Yadadri Bhuvanagiri, Warangal, Adilabad, Suryapet, Karimnagar, Kamareddy, Jangaon, Nagakurnool, Narayanpet, Nizamabad, Nirmal, Peddalli, and Mancherial, Rajanna Sircilla, Vikarabad, Mulugu, Jayashankar Bhupalapally, and Jagtial districts.

BRS-backed candidates bagged the majority in Siddipet and Kumaram Bheem. The BRS gave a tough fight to Congress in districts like Mahabubabad,

189 mandals. The counting of votes was taken up from 2 p.m. and continued past midnight. In Gram Panchayats where the margin of victory was one or two votes, recounting was taken up. The poll notification was issued for 4,326 Sarpanch posts and 37,440 Ward Member posts. No nomination was filed for 5 Sarpanch posts and 169 Ward Member posts.

Sarpanches for 396 Gram Panchayats and 9,633 Ward Members were elected unanimously. Courts had granted a stay for elections to one Gram Panchayat and 10 Ward Members. A total of 56,19,430 electorate, comprising 27,41,070 males and 28,78,159 females, were eligible to cast their votes in the first phase. According to the SEC, 45,15,141 voters exercised their franchise. Over one lakh polling staff were on duty. In 3,461 Gram Panchayats, direct web-casting had been arranged to ensure real-time monitoring of the polling process. More than 50,000 police personnel were deployed to ensure peaceful polling.

Rahul calls for debate, formulation of national plan to combat air pollution

NEW DELHI, DEC 12 : Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Friday urged the government to formulate a comprehensive, city-specific strategy to tackle air pollution, calling it a “non-ideological” issue that needs discussion to formulate a “united” national action plan.

Calling for full cooperation between the Treasury and Opposition benches over the issue, Gandhi, while speaking in the Lok Sabha, pressed for a structured Parliamentary discussion followed by a long-term national plan.

Spelling out his suggestion, he added, “it would be good if we have a detailed discussion, and then the Prime Minister puts in place a plan for each city - a methodical, systematic plan on how within the next five or ten years... maybe, we cannot resolve the problem, but



how we are going to impact the problem and make life for our people easier.”

In a message on X, the LoP said, “Air pollution has become a national catastrophe that demands a comprehensive and immediate national action plan. This is not a political issue but a bipartisan responsibility, for which we are ready to work with the PM to combat it, solve it and protect the future of our people.”

Cognizant breaks ground for new IT campus in Visakhapatnam

VISAKHAPATNAM (TSIT): Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Tuesday laid the foundation stone for Cognizant’s new state-of-the-art campus at Kapuluppada IT Hills, giving a major push to Visakhapatnam’s rapidly expanding technology landscape. The upcoming facility, planned to accommodate 8,000 employees, will be developed in three phases with a total investment of Rs.1,583 crore. Cognizant aims to complete the first phase by 2026, while full campus completion is scheduled for 2033. Until then, the company will operate from a rented office

space in the city. The new centre will focus on advanced domains such as AI, Machine Learning, Digital Engineering, and Cloud Solutions, further strengthening Visakhapatnam’s reputation as an emerging hub for next-generation technologies. Alongside Cognizant, foundation stones were also laid for eight other IT companies, including Tech Tammina, Satva Developers, Imaginnovate Tech Solutions India, Fluentgrid Ltd., Motherson Technologies, Quarks Technosoft, ACN Healthcare RCM Services, and Nanrel Technologies.



Silver surges past Rs 2 lakh/kg, gold prices jump nearly 2 pc



NEW DELHI: Silver touched the Rs 2 lakh mark to hit an all-time high of Rs 2,013.88 per kilogram on the Multi-Commodity Exchange (MCX) during the intraday trade on Friday. The price of the future contract expiring on March 5, 2026, rose over Rs 2,400 during the day before settling at Rs 2,00462, up Rs 1,520 against the previous session’s closing of Rs 1,98,942.

The precious metal witnessed a sharp rally in the retail market as well, surging from Rs 8,000 to Rs 1,95,180 per kg. According to the Indian Bullion Jewellers Association (IBJA), silver closed at Rs 1,86,988 per kg on Thursday. Silver extended its golden run in 2025 after delivering more than 20 per cent return in 2024. Prices posted their highest yearly gain of more than 100 per cent since 1979.

Akhilesh Yadav hails CM Revanth for declaring Sadar a state festival



HYDERABAD (TSIT): Samajwadi Party president and former Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav has lauded Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy for the historic decision to officially recognise Sadar, a festival celebrated with pride by the Yadav community, as a State festival. Akhilesh Yadav said the move has deeply touched Yadavs not only in Telangana but across the country. He stated that the community will always remember Revanth Reddy for giving due respect and prominence to their long-standing cultural tradition. According to him, this decision

has placed the Chief Minister “forever in the hearts of the Yadav community.” Expressing his gratitude, the former UP Chief Minister thanked Revanth Reddy for extending strong political recognition and dignity to Yadavs in Telangana. He noted that such inclusive steps by governments play a vital role in strengthening social harmony, community pride, and cultural identity. Yadav added that the recognition of Sadar as a State festival marks a significant milestone for the community and sets an example of respecting diverse cultural traditions in a democratic society.

Cabinet approves bill to hike FDI in insurance sector to 100 pc

NEW DELHI: The Union Cabinet on Friday approved a bill to raise foreign direct investment in the insurance sector to 100 per cent, according to sources. The bill may be introduced in the ongoing Winter session of Parliament, which is slated to conclude on December 19. According to a Lok Sabha bulletin, the Insurance Laws (Amendment) Bill 2025, which seeks to deepen penetration, accelerate growth and development of the insurance sector and enhance ease of doing business, is part of the 13 legislations listed for the upcoming session of Parliament.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, in this year’s Budget speech, proposed to raise the foreign investment limit to 100 per cent from the existing 74 per cent in the insurance sector as part of new-generation financial sector reforms. So far, the insurance sector has attracted Rs 82,000 crore through foreign direct investment



(FDI). The finance ministry has proposed amending various provisions of the Insurance Act, 1938, including raising FDI in the insurance sector to 100 per cent, reducing paid-up capital, and introducing a composite licence.

As part of a comprehensive legislative exercise, the Life Insurance Corporation Act 1956 and the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority Act 1999 will be amended, alongside the Insurance Act 1938.

The amendments to the LIC Act propose empowering its board to

take operational decisions, such as branch expansion and recruitment.

The proposed amendment primarily focuses on promoting policyholders’ interests, enhancing their financial security, and facilitating the entry of additional players into the insurance market, thereby driving economic growth and employment generation.

Such changes will help enhance the efficiency of the insurance industry, enable ease of doing business, and enhance insurance penetration to achieve the goal of ‘Insurance for All by 2047’.

The Insurance Act of 1938 serves as the principal Act to provide the legislative framework for insurance in India. It provides the framework for the functioning of insurance businesses and regulates the relationships among insurers, their policyholders, shareholders, and the regulator, Irdai.

io more Maoists surrender in Sukma; Chhattisgarh moves closer to Naxal-free future

Raipur/Sukma, Dec 12 : Sukma in Chhattisgarh has witnessed a significant success in the fight against Naxal insurgency, with ten Maoists from the Darbha division surrendering before security forces.

The surrendered cadres carried a combined bounty of Rs 33 lakh, including Medium Bhima, who alone had an Rs 8 lakh reward on his head. The group, which included six women, handed over weapons such as an AK-47, two SLRs, and a BGL (barrel grenade launcher), signalling their decision to embrace the rehabilitation



tion policy offered by the central and state governments. The surrender program was attended by Bastar Inspector General P Sundarraaj, CRPF (Central Reserve Police Force) DIG (Deputy Inspector General) Anand Singh Rajpurohit, Sukma SP Kiran Chavan, and Collector Devesh Dhruv.

Officials reiterated that the rehabilitation policy guarantees dignity, liveli-

hood, and reintegration into society for those who abandon violence.

Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai, in a statement on his X handle, hailed the development as part of a historic transformation in Bastar under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the guidance of Union Home Minister Amit Shah. He emphasised that the “Poona Margem – Rehabilitation to Rejuvenation” initiative is helping Maoist cadres return to the mainstream, offering them a secure and dignified life with their families.

IndiGo flight count rises over 2,000 as DGCA tightens oversight

NEW DELHI (TSIT): Demonstrating the sign of operational normalisation and stability since the last four days after the government stepped into the crisis management, IndiGo said that it is set to operate over 2,000 flights on Friday, as per its revised scaled-down schedule. The airline has been continuously increasing its number of flights. It operated over 1,700 flights on December 8, over 1,800 on December 9, over 1,900 and 1,950 on December 10 and 11, respectively.



President Draupadi Murmu interacted with members of the Maram tribe, Manipur’s only PVTG, at Senapati.

SHIVAKUMAR SAYS DINNER WITH PARTY FRIENDS NOT AN OFFICIAL MEET

Belagavi : Dismissing any dinner meet with MLAs, Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar said that he can't say no to dinner invitations from his party men.

Speaking to reporters at Circuit House, he said, “Friends from the region affectionately call me for lunch or dinner, how can I say no? It is not any dinner meet, but I have to go when I am invited.”

Asked about his purported dinner meet with MLAs on the outskirts of Belagavi, he said, “A boy from my constituency is working here, he said he will send ‘mudde and upsaaru’ for lunch. Can I say no? Day after, Asif Sait and Feroze Sait have invited me.” “Doddannavar is a former president of Belagavi district Congress and he is a friend too. He has been inviting me home



for dinner for a long time. Can I forget my Congress family? Hence, I and a few others had gone there for dinner. It was not a dinner meet.”

Permission for cricket matches

Asked about permitting cricket matches to be conducted at Chinnaswamy stadium, he said, “We have taken necessary steps to protect the reputation of Bengaluru. We have given permission on the condition that adequate preventive measures would be taken.” “Home Minister Parameshwar has been given the responsibility of ensuring adequate preventive measures during matches. KSCA President Venkatesh Prasad and his team will have a discussion with the police department,” he added.

Parliament to accommodate more lawmakers after Census and delimitation that will follow



New Delhi, Dec 12 : In a significant decision, the government on Friday (December 12) approved a two-phase, fully digital Census 2027 with an allocation of Rs 11,718 crore. According to officials, the digital design will speed operations and improve data quality.

The decadal count was postponed from 2021 largely because of the COVID-19 pandemic and its aftermath, with authorities arguing that immediate post-pandemic enumeration in many countries produced quality and coverage problems.

Additionally, it was also pointed out that logistical and human-resource disruptions warranted a delay.

The Census is India's foundational demographic exercise, involving extensive planning, resource allocation, and the legal process of delimitation that shapes electoral rolls.

Incidentally, India's last full census in 2011 recorded a population of 1.21 billion, documented trends in urbanisation, literacy gains, and a slowly improving sex ratio. Such data help in guiding a decade of policy and planning. These decadal snapshots are the primary source for socio-economic indicators used by ministries, states, and researchers to design welfare schemes and infrastructure investments.

The population count helps the constitutional process of delimitation, redrawing constituency boundaries to ensure, roughly, equal representation. It supplies the demographic frame that forms the base for electoral rolls and for sample groups selected for surveys.

However, the delayed process and the decision to include caste data have raised political and technical concerns; while in southern states, there are worries over population-based seat redistribution. The delimitation exercise that follows the decennial Census reallocates seats among states based on updated population figures.

The freeze on the total number of Lok Sabha seats is due to be revisited after 2026, which opens the door to redistribution and potential increases in total seats if Parliament so decides.The southern states have publicly expressed concern that fresh census figures could trigger delimitation that reduces their relative representation, given slower population growth in parts of the South compared to those in the north.

The Centre has assured that such concerns will be discussed at the appropriate time.

Meanwhile, the inclusion of caste enumeration has also added political sensitivity, with debates over how the data might be used in reservation and electoral calculations. Considering that the increase in population through this period would result in a larger number of lawmakers, the government had to design a Parliament building to comfortably accommodate them.

Thus, planning ahead, the government built the new building where the Lok Sabha can seat up to 888 members and the Rajya Sabha, up to 384. The exact number of future representatives would be known only after appropriate legal and political steps, following the conclusion of the 2027 Census and a delimitation process. The increased capacity removes a physical constraint that previously limited how many members could be accommodated in each house at one time.

The new complex was planned not only as a modern workplace but also to future-proof India's legislature for a larger membership and more complex committee work.

Reports quoting experts emphasised that the old circular chamber was cramped for a growing democracy and lacked space for expanded membership, modern technology and committee rooms. Thus, the practical rationale was for a larger, triangular complex that can host more simultaneous legislative activity.

The new Parliament building thus removed a practical bottleneck, being ready to accommodate a larger legislature, but actual seat increase requires political consensus and legal action after the Census and delimitation. Until those steps are taken, the building's greater capacity remains a contingency rather than a guarantee. In practice, Parliament would need to pass enabling legislation or a constitutional amendment to change the total number of seats; the Delimitation Commission then redraws boundaries and allocates seats among states using the new population data.

Suryoday Small Finance Bank Limited			
<div> <div> </div> <div> Suryoday Small Finance Bank Limited <small>Regd. & Corp. office: 1101, Sharda Terraces, Plot 65, Sector - 11, CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai - 400614. CIN: L65923MH2008PLC261472.</small> </div> </div>			
POSSESSION NOTICE Whereas The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the M/s. Suryoday Small Finance Bank Ltd., under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (ACT No.54 OF 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice to below mentioned Borrowers / Guarantors. After completion of 60 days from date of receipt of the said Notice, The Borrowers / Guarantors/ having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers / Guarantors/ and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on them under section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 6 & 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on the date mentioned herewith:			
Name of Borrower/Co-Borrower/Guarantor	Date of Demand Notice	Total Outstanding Amount in Rs.	Date of Possession
227000003375, 1) MR. MANJUNATH B S/O BASAPPA 2) MRS. SHWETHA W/O MANJUNATHA	20.08.2025	Rs. 6,17,590.00/- as on 23.06.2025	08.12.2025(Symbolic)
Description Of Secured Asset(S) /Immovable Property (ies): ALL THE PIECE AND PARCEL OF RCC HOUSE PROPERTY NO. 1832/1, E-KATHA NO. 1508030050020022 SITUATED AT LAKKARASAPALLY VILLAGE, KOLLEGALA TO CHAMARAJANAGAR DISTRICT, WITHIN THE LIMITS OF SIDDADHANAPURA GRAM PANCHAYATH DURATION, THE BOUNDARIES AS FOLLOWS: EAST BY: ROAD, WEST BY: THE CHANEL, NORTH BY: THE SITE NO. 22 BELONGS TO GURUBASAVAHARI, SOUTH BY: THE CONSTRUCTED AT SITE NO. 20 BELONGS TO MAHADEVAPPA S/O LATE CHANNAPPA.			
Name of Borrower/Co-Borrower/Guarantor	Date of Demand Notice	Total Outstanding Amount in Rs.	Date of Possession
237000000667, 1). MR. H. S. SATHISHA S/O SOME Gowda, 2). MRS. MANJULA W/O SOME Gowda	23.07.2025	Rs. 6,23,963.00/- as on 24.06.2025	08.12.2025(Symbolic)
Description Of Secured Asset(S) /Immovable Property (ies): ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCELS OF PROPERTY BEARING E-KATHA No. 15220030010902025, PROPERTY BEARING NO.230, PID NO. 15160070401020025, MEASURING EAST TO WEST 27.1272' AND NORTH TO SOUTH 9.0159 METERS TOTAL SITE MESUREMENT IS 255.58' AND THE SAID PROPERTY SITUATED AT HALABELAGOLA VILLAGE, CHANNARAYAPATANA TALUK AND HASSAN DISTRICT, BOUNDED AS FOLLOWS: EAST: GOVT ROAD, WEST: GRAMA PANCHAYAT ROAD, NORTH- MANJEGOWDA CHIKKEGOWDA SITE AND EREGOWDA BOMMEGOWDA HOUSE, SOUTH- GOVT ROAD			
Name of Borrower/Co-Borrower/Guarantor	Date of Demand Notice	Total Outstanding Amount in Rs.	Date of Possession
238000001411, 1). MRS. JYOTHI W/O BHADRAPPA 2) MR. BHADRAPPA S/O LATE THAMMAIAH	23.07.2025	Rs. 4,44,931/- as on 24.06.2025	08.12.2025(Symbolic)
Description Of Secured Asset(S) /Immovable Property (ies): ALL THAT PART AND PIECES OF THD PROPERTY E. SWOTHU KATHA 9 AND 11A, PROPERTY BEARING NO.51 PID NO. 15160070400400049 MEASURING EAST TO WEST 6.096 METERS AND NORTH TO SOUTH 13.71600000000001 METERS TOTAL SITE MEASUREMENT 83.61' TOTAL BUILDING THE SAID PROPERTY SITUATED AT SOUTH BACHANAHALLI VILLAGE, DODDA KADANURU GRAMPANCHAYATHI, HOLENARASIPURA TALUK, HASSAN DISTRICT AND BOUNDED AS FOLLOWS: EAST BY HOUSE OF PUTTASWAMY, WEST BY : HOUSE OF SANMANNA, NORTH BY: HOUSE OF RAJESHAKEARAH, SOUTH BY ROAD			
Name of Borrower/Co-Borrower/Guarantor	Date of Demand Notice	Total Outstanding Amount in Rs.	Date of Possession
237000017949, 1) MR. MAHALINGA G S/O GOVIND RAJU 2) MRS. BHAGYAMMA W/O SIVAMAY CHARI	14.07.2025	Rs. 5,82,796.5/- as on 24.06.2025	08.12.2025(Symbolic)
Description Of Secured Asset(S) /Immovable Property (ies): ALL THE PIECE AND PARCEL OF PROPERTY BEARING PRESENT KANESHMARTAKATHA NO. 56/4 AND PID NO. 1529040120030260, MEASURING EAST TO WEST 3.505200000000003 METERS AND NORTH TO SOUTH 12.192 METERS, TOTAL MEASUREMENT 42.74 S.Q. METERS, SITUATED AT ADCHALLU VILLAGE, HALAHALLI GRAMA PANCHAYATH, KAYLANGCHA HOBLI, RAMANAGARA TALUK AND RAMANAGARA DISTRICT AND BOUNDED AS FOLLOWS: EAST: HOUSE OF SAVITHRAMMA, WEST: HOUSE OF THAYANIMA, NORTH: ROAD, SOUTH: HOUSE OF THIMMAIAH			
Name of Borrower/Co-Borrower/Guarantor	Date of Demand Notice	Total Outstanding Amount in Rs.	Date of Possession
2390000000804, 1) MR. SRINIKANTA NAYAKA S/O LATE CHIKKA MADANAYAKA 2) MRS. CHIKKAMMA W/O SRINIKANTA NAYAKA	20.08.2025	Rs. 3,45,245.04/- as on 22.07.2025	08.12.2025(Symbolic)
Description Of Secured Asset(S) /Immovable Property (ies): ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCELS OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY BEARING KATHA No-1401, PANCHAYATH UNIQUE NO. 1522005002700L2991, SITUATED AT KALALE VILLAGE, WITHIN THE LIMITS OF KALALE GRAMA PANCHAYATH, KASABA HOBLI, NANJANGUD TALUK, MYSURU DISTRICT, MEASURING EAST-WEST 1.62 METERS & NORTH-SOUTH 6.4009 METERS, TOTAL MEASUREMENT 46.77 SQ. METER, BOUNDED AS FOLLOWS: EAST BY: HOUSE OF KAMALAMMA, WEST BY: ROAD, NORTH BY: SITE OF JAYASHREE, SOUTH BY: HOUSE OF DEVANMA			
Name of Borrower/Co-Borrower/Guarantor	Date of Demand Notice	Total Outstanding Amount in Rs.	Date of Possession
237000018993, 1) MR. AKASH S S/O SAKAVAJAH 2) MR. AKSHAY S S/O SAKAVAJAH 3) MRS. RAJAMMA W/O SAKAVAJAH	20.08.2025	Rs. 57,317.51/- as on 22.07.2025	08.12.2025(Symbolic)
Description Of Secured Asset(S) /Immovable Property (ies): ALL THE PIECE AND PARCEL OF RCC HOUSE PROPERTY BEARING KATHA No-1401, PANCHAYATH UNIQUE NO. 1522005002700L2991, SITUATED AT KALALE VILLAGE, WITHIN THE LIMITS OF KALALE GRAMA PANCHAYATH, KASABA HOBLI, NANJANGUD TALUK, MYSURU DISTRICT, MEASURING EAST-WEST 1.62 METERS & NORTH-SOUTH 6.4009 METERS, TOTAL MEASUREMENT 46.77 SQ. METER, BOUNDED AS FOLLOWS: EAST BY: THE CONSERVANCY ROAD AND HOUSE OF JEVARAJ, WEST BY: THE HOUSE OF CHIKKASAKARAH, NORTH BY: THE ROAD, SOUTH BY: SITE OF JAYASHREE, SOUTH BY: HOUSE OF DEVANMA			
Name of Borrower/Co-Borrower/Guarantor	Date of Demand Notice	Total Outstanding Amount in Rs.	Date of Possession
2590000064417, 1) MR. DILIP N S/O NAGARAJU 2) MR. NAGARAJU W/O KONDAIAH 3) MRS. JAYAMMA W/O NAGARAJU	20.08.2025	Rs. 6,39,735.50/- as on 22.07.2025	09.12.2025(Symbolic)
Description Of Secured Asset(S) /Immovable Property (ies): ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCELS OF PROPERTY KATHA/ E-SWOTHU 11B, PROPERTY BEARING NO. 10/A, PID NO. 15210040660050014 MEASURING EAST TO WEST 6.096 MTR & NORTH TO SOUTH 12.82 MTR, TOTAL MEASUREMENT 51.10 SQ. MTR, THE SAID PROPERTY SITUATED UMMADACHALLI VILLAGE, UMMADACHALLI GRAMA PANCHAYATH, MANDYA TALUK, MANDYA DISTRICT KARNATAKA BOUNDED AS FOLLOWS: EAST BY: ROAD, WEST BY: HOUSE OF SIDDAIAH, NORTH BY: HOUSE OF DAVARAJU, SOUTH BY: GALLI			
Name of Borrower/Co-Borrower/Guarantor	Date of Demand Notice	Total Outstanding Amount in Rs.	Date of Possession
2390000003249, 1) MRS. CHINNAMMA W/O SOMAJAH 2) MR. SOMAJAH S/O LATE BASAVAJAH	20.08.2025	Rs. 3,47,465.00/- as on 22.07.2025	10.12.2025(Symbolic)
Description Of Secured Asset(S) /Immovable Property (ies): ALL THE PART AND PIECES OF VACANT SITE AND RESIDENTIAL HOUSE BEARING OLD PROPERTY No. -1421/432 NEW PROPERTY NO-15220010106620153 MEASURING EAST TO WEST - 8.882 MTR, NORTH TO SOUTH - 4.2672 MTR, TOTAL EXTENT - 35.76 SQ. MTR, BUILDING MEASURING - 26.57 SQ. MTR, SITUATED AT KATTENMANGUNAHALLI VILLAGE H.D.KOTE TALUK, MYSORE DISTRICT 571114, BOUNDED AS FOLLOWS: EAST BY: HOUSE OF BASAVARAJU, WEST BY: HOUSE OF MAHADEVIA, NORTH BY: ROAD, SOUTH BY: HOUSE OF BASAVARAJU			
Name of Borrower/Co-Borrower/Guarantor	Date of Demand Notice	Total Outstanding Amount in Rs.	Date of Possession
2490000128240, 1) MRS. NANDINI W/O MANJU G 2) MR. N SHANKARA S/O MANJU	20.08.2025	Rs. 5,93,479.58/- as on 23.06.2025	10.12.2025(Symbolic)
Description Of Secured Asset(S) /Immovable Property (ies): ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCELS OF RESIDENTIAL HOUSE BEARING OLD PROPERTY No-48/89 NEW PROPERTY NO-15220010106620153 MEASURING EAST TO WEST-7.62' MTR, NORTH TO SOUTH-12.192 MTR TOTAL EXTENT-92.90 SQ. MTR SITUATED AT JAKKANHALLI VILLAGE KASABA HOBLI H.D.KOTE TALUK MYSORE DISTRICT. BOUNDED AS FOLLOWS: EAST: HOUSE OF PARAMESHA, WEST BY: HOUSE OF MAHADEVANNA, NORTH BY: HOUSE OF MALLIKARJUNA, SOUTH BY: ROAD			
Name of Borrower/Co-Borrower/Guarantor	Date of Demand Notice	Total Outstanding Amount in Rs.	Date of Possession
2270000040009, 1) MR. PRASANNA H S S/O SURESHA 2) MR. RANI W/O SURESHA 3) MR. SURESHA S/O JAWAREGOWDA	20.08.2025	Rs. 4,86,846.80/- as on 24.06.2025	10.12.2025(Symbolic)
Description Of Secured Asset(S) /Immovable Property (ies): ALL THE PART AND PIECES OF PROPERTY BEARING NO. 535, NAMONE 9, KATHA PID, NO. 152200300109020285, MEASURING EAST TO WEST- 15.24 METERS AND NORTH TO SOUTH- 9.144 METERS, THE SAID PROPERTY SITUATED AT HALLIVURU VILLAGE, CHUNCHANNKATTE HOBLI, KRISHNARAJANAGARA TALUK AND MYSORE DISTRICT. BOUNDED AS FOLLOWS: EAST: ROAD, WEST: OWN PROPERTY, NORTH: PROPERTY OF SHANNABARMADA, SOUTH: PROPERTY OF RATHNAMMA			
Name of Borrower/Co-Borrower/Guarantor	Date of Demand Notice	Total Outstanding Amount in Rs.	Date of Possession
227000004295, 1) MR. UMESH N S/O NAGEGOWDA 2) MR. NAGE GOWDA S/O CHIKKA HONNE GOWDA 3) MRS. DIVYA W/O UMESH	20.08.2025	Rs. 7,51,958.00/- as on 24.06.2025	10.12.2025(Symbolic)
Description Of Secured Asset(S) /Immovable Property (ies): ALL THE PART AND PIECES OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY RESIDENTIAL HOUSE AND VACANT SITE BEARING OLD PROPERTY NO-305 NEW PROPERTY NO-152200103400100121 MEASURING EAST TO WEST-19.44 MTR, NORTH TO SOUTH-18.288 MTR, TOTAL EXTENT-167.23 SQ. MTR, SITUATED AT BAHADUR VILLAGE, SARAGUTI TALUK, MYSORE DISTRICT, BOUNDED AS FOLLOWS: EAST: ROAD AND LANDS OF NAGEGOWDA, WEST: LANDS OF NAGEGOWDA, NORTH: LANDS OF NAGEGOWDA, SOUTH: HOUSE OF BYRGOWDA			
Name of Borrower/Co-Borrower/Guarantor	Date of Demand Notice	Total Outstanding Amount in Rs.	Date of Possession
239000004729, 1) MR. SHREEKANTHA N S/O NARAYANA GOWDA 2) MR. NARAYANA GOWDA G S/O LATE GOVINDGOWDA 3) MRS. SUNDARAMMA W/O NARAYANA	20.08.2025	Rs. 9,13,770.95/- as on 22.07.2025	10.12.2025(Symbolic)
Description Of Secured Asset(S) /Immovable Property (ies): ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCELS OF RESIDENTIAL HOUSE BEARING OLD PROPERTY NO. 194/194 NEW PROPERTY NO.1522002021085000L3, MEASURING EAST TO WEST 12.192 MTR & NORTH TO SOUTH 11.582 MTR, TOTAL EXTENT-141.21 SQ. MTR, THE SAID PROPERTY IS SITUATED AT MALLGOWDANAPPELLU VILLAGE, BILKERE HOBLI HUNSUR TALUK, MYSORE DISTRICT KARNATAKA, BOUNDED AS FOLLOWS: EAST BY: GALLI, WEST BY: REMAINING SURELY NO, NORTH BY: LAND OF PAPANNA AFTER GALLI, SOUTH BY: ROAD			
The Borrowers / Guarantors/ in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the M/s Suryoday Small Finance Bank Ltd, for an above mentioned charged amount and further interest there on.			
Date : Karnataka, Date : 13.12.2025			

Suryoday <small>A BRAND OF SFB</small>		Suryoday Small Finance Bank Limited <small>Regd. & Corp. office: 1101, Sharda Terraces, Plot 65, Sector - 11, CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai - 400614. CIN: L65923MH2008PLC261472.</small>	
Under Section 13 (2) of The Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 Whereas the undersigned is the Authorized officer of the M/s. Suryoday Small Finance Bank Ltd. ("SFB") under Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued Demand Notices under Section 13(2) of the said Act, calling upon the following Borrower(s), Co-Borrower(s), Guarantor(s) to discharge in full their liability to the Company by making payment of entire outstanding including up to date interest, cost and charges within 60 days from the date of respective Notices issued and the publication of the Notice as given below as and way of alternate service upon you. As security for rep payment of the loan, the following Secured Asset (s) have been mortgaged to SFB by the said Borrower(s), Co-Borrower(s), Guarantor(s) respectively.			
Name of Borrower / Co-Borrower/ Guarantor	Date of Demand Notice	Total Outstanding Amount in Rs.	01.12.2025
249000164279, 1. Mr. A Srikantanayaka S/O Ankanayaka, 2.Mr. Ankanayaka S/O Bellanayaka, 3. Mr. Mangalamma S/O Kullunayaka	Date of NPA	Rs. 7,24,450.58/- as on 13.11.2025	08.11.2025
Description Of Secured Asset(S) /Immovable Property (ies) : All The Piece And Parcel Of Immovable Property, Mangalore Tied House Property No- 526 E-Katha No-150800104100100822 Situated At Thammadhalli Village Chamarajanagara Tq & District, Within The Limits Of Nanjandevanapura Grama Panchayathi Duration Measurement Ew- 9.144 Meters And Nw- 12.182 Meters And Total Plot Area Measurement 111.48 Sq. Meters And Total Building Area Measurement 111.48 Sq. Meters, East By : The Basement Of Ramachandranaka, West By : The Property Of Kalanaka, North By: The Property Of Madhusethy, South By : The Road.			
239000002591, 1. Mr. Anil Kumar V S/O Venkataswamy, 2. Mr. Venkataswamy S/O Chikkegowda, 3. Mrs. Vasantha S/O Venkataswamy, 4. Mr. Sunil S/O Venkataswamy	Date of Demand Notice	Rs. 8,16,593/- as on 13.11.2025	01.12.2025
Description Of Secured Asset(S) /Immovable Property (ies) : All That Piece And Parcel Of Immovable Property, Bearing Present Kaneshumari Katha No. 404/2 And Pid No. 15290400200300144, Measuring East To West 6.85 Meters And North To South 20.00 Meters, Total Measuring 137.19 Sq. Meters, Situated At Lakkojannahalli Village, Bannikoppa Grama Panchayathi, Kyalnaholi Hobli, Ramnagara Taluk And Ramnagara District-502159, And Bounded As Under: East: House Of Gowramma, North: Land Of Ramachandraiah, West: Property Of Girigowda, South : Govt. Road.			
249000164675, 1. MRS. ANITHA W/O DINESH, 2. MR. M L DINESH S/O LAKSHMINIAH	Date of Demand Notice	Rs. 3,14,024.63/- as on 13.11.2025	01.12.2025
Description Of Secured Asset(S) /Immovable Property (ies) : All That Piece And Parcel Of Immovable Property Bearing Katha No-152, Panchayath Unique No. 1525000002080126, Situated At Mathigatta Village, Within The Limits Of Hursagattagala Grama Panchayath, Nonavinkere Hobli, Tipplur Taluk, Tumkur District-572224, Measuring: East: 5.18 Meters And North: 6.40 Meters, Total Measurement: 33.15 Sq.Meter, Thereon Building Measurement 33.15 Sq.Meters, And Bounded As Under : East : Road, North : Galli, West : Galli, South: Galli.			
2590000059831, 1. MRS. ANUSUYA W/O RAMESHA, 2. MR. RAMESHA S/O LAKKGOWDA	Date of Demand Notice	Rs. 2,84,789.68/- as on 13.11.2025	01.12.2025
Description Of Secured Asset(S) /Immovable Property (ies) : All That Piece And Parcel Of Residential House Bearing Old Property No- 12/12/24 New Property No-15220030011590019, Measuring East To West- 4.9768 Mtr, North To South- 9.7598 Mtr, Total Extent= 47.57 Sq. Mtr, Situated At Harambalikoppalu Village K.R.Nagara Mysore District, And Bounded As Under : East: House Of Jnanewoda, North: Remaining House Of Ramasha, West : Galli & House Of Jawaregowda, South : Road.			
249000165047, 1. MR. ARAVINDA M S/O MURGESH M, 2. MR. MURGESH S/O MUTIAIAH, 3. MRS. C JAGADESHIVARI W/O MURGESH M	Date of Demand Notice	Rs. 8,50,637.75/- as on 13.11.2025	01.12.2025
Description Of Secured Asset(S) /Immovable Property (ies) : All That Piece And Parcel Of Property E- Swothu Katha 11b, Property Bearing No. 404/2 And Pid No. 15210020100020767, Measuring East To West 20.1168 Meters And North To South 8.2396 Meters Total Measuring 165.55 Sq.Meters The Said Property Situated At Madenahalli Village, Madnethi Taluk, Madhya District, And Bounded As Under : East : Road , North : Property Of Savithramma W/O Lingappa, West: Garbi Site, South : Site Of Kamalamma.			
237000001581, 1. MR. ARJUN KUMAR B S/O BELLA SHETTY 2. MR. BELLA SHETTY S/O LATE RANGA SHETTY, 3. MRS. RATHNAMMA W/O BELLA SHETTY	Date of Demand Notice	Rs. 3,81,804/- as on 13.11.2025	01.12.2025
Description Of Secured Asset(S) /Immovable Property (ies) : All That Piece And Parcel Of Immovable Property Bearing Katha No-54, Panchayath Unique No. 152200500216100054, Situated At Baguru Village, Within The Limits Of Kudupura Grama Panchayathi, Doddakowale Hobli, Nanjangut Taluk, Mysuru District, Measuring: East-West: 12.192 Meters, & North-South: 4.572 Meters, Total Measurement: 55.74 Sq.Meter, And Bounded As Under: East: House Of Siddaraju, North: House Of Javarashetty, West: House Of Chikkarangashetty , South: Road.			
227000002895, 1. Mr. Ashok Kumar M S/O Muddumadiah, 2. Mrs. Mangalamma W/O Muddumadiah	Date of Demand Notice	Rs. 3,50,123/- as on 13.11.2025	01.12.2025
Description Of Secured Asset(S) /Immovable Property (ies) : All That Piece And Parcel Of The Rcc House Property No- 751, E-Katha No- 150800104100101038 Situated At Thammadhalli Village, Chamarajanagara Tq & District, Within The Limits Nanjandevanapura Grama Panchayathi, And Bounded As Under : East: The Community Hall, North: The House Of Venkataiah And Siddaiah, West: The House Of Devamma, South : The Road.			
227000004543, 1. Mr. Avinash R S/O Rajappa, 2.MR. RAJAPPA S/O RAMAPPA, 3. MR. SAROJAMMA S/O SHIVAJAPPA	Date of Demand Notice	Rs. 6,63,598/- as on 13.11.2025	01.12.2025
Description Of Secured Asset(S) /Immovable Property (ies) : All The Piece And Parcel Of Site No. 47, Door No. 47, Measuring: E-W - 7.6 Fs And N-S - 26 Fs 197.6 Sq Fs, Situated At Kondajji Road, Shivar Badavane, Davangere, And Bounded As Follows East By : Road, West By : Vacant Property, North By: Site Of 46, South By: Site No.48.			
2590000083882, 1.MR. GAJENDRA S/O CHOUDAPPA HP, 2. MRS. ANITHA LAKSHMI W/O GAJENDRA	Date of Demand Notice	Rs. 3,08,420.33/- as on 13.11.2025	01.12.2025
Description Of Secured Asset(S) /Immovable Property (ies) : All The Piece And Parcel Of Site Carved in Sy. No. 149/2, 150/1b3 150/2b6 And 151/1, Site No 86/1 Situated At A.K. Colony, Hale Kunduwada, Davangere, Within The Limits Of Davangere Municipality, Davanagere Taluk, Davanagere District-577566, Measuring: E-W - 14 Fs And N-S - 40 Fs, And Bounded As Follows East By : Site No 86/2, West By : Site No 85, North By : Site No 101, South By : Road.			
259000089708, 1.MRS. GOWRAMMA W/O NINGARAJU, 2. MR. NINGARAJ S/O BIKKALIAIH	Date of Demand Notice	Rs. 5,09,802.45/- as on 13.11.2025	01.12.2025
Description Of Secured Asset(S) /Immovable Property (ies) : All That Piece And Parcel Of The Residential House Bearing Old Property No- 316 New Property No- 152200600201100278 Measuring East To West- 10.36 Mtr North To South= 5.79 Mtr, Total Extent= 59.93 Sq. Mtr, Situated At Sulokute Village Periyappatna Taluk Mysore District, Bannur Hobli, Shivur Badavane, Davangere, And Bounded As Follows East By : Road, West By : Suresha, West : Road, South : House Of Ningaraju.			
2390000054250, 1. MRS. GOWRAMMA W/O MADESHU, 2. MR. MADESHU S/O MAHADEVIAIH	Date of Demand Notice	Rs. 3,02,749.61/- as on 13.11.2025	01.12.2025
Description Of Secured Asset(S) /Immovable Property (ies) : All That Piece And Parcel Of Immovable Property, Bearing Katha No-152, Panchayath Unique No. 152200104100101038, Situated At Madduru Village, Yalunduru Taluk, Chamarajanagara District Karnataka 571441, Total Measuring : 69.12 Sq. Meters, Within The Limits Of Madduru Grama Panchayathi Duration And Bounded As Under : East: The House Of Sannamandah, North : The Road West : The Road, South : The Own Site.			
22700000489, 1. MRS. KEMPAMMA D/O MOORI CHIKKANADLA, 2. MRS. GIRISH S/O SHIVAIAH.	Date of Demand Notice	Rs. 4,52,541/- as on 13.11.2025	01.12.2025
Description Of Secured Asset(S) /Immovable Property (ies) : All The Piece And Parcel Of Immovable Property, Bearing Katha No-813/2, Panchayath Unique No. 152200104100101038, Situated At Halleru Village, Within The Limits Of Halleru Grama Panchayathi, Hullahalli Hobli, Nanjangut Taluk, Mysuru District, Measuring: East-West: 6.448 Meters, & North - South : 6.408 Meters, Total Measurement 60.48 Sq. Meter, And Bounded As Follows: East: House Of Shivahanna, North: House Of Mandavahalli, West By: House Of Chenniah, North By: House Of Maripallath, South By: Road.			
2270000050202, 1.Mrs. Manjula W/O Lakshman Nayaka, 2. Mr. Lakshman Nayaka S/O Boranayaka.	Date of NPA	Rs. 2,71,392/- as on 13.11.2025	01.12.2025
Description Of Secured Asset(S) /Immovable Property (ies) : All That Piece And Parcel Of Immovable Property, Bearing Katha No-152, Panchayath Unique No. 152200104100101038, Situated At Halleru Village, Within The Limits Of Halleru Grama Panchayathi, Hullahalli Hobli, Nanjangut Taluk, Mysuru District, Measuring: East-West: 6.448 Meters, & North - South : 6.408 Meters, Total Measurement 60.48 Sq. Meter, And Bounded As Follows: East : Property Of Chandranayaka, West : Galli & Property Of Yashagowda, South : Galli And Property Of Thammannayaka, North : Road.			

EDITORIAL

In Rajasthan, Hindutva Governance Turns to Caste as a Shield Against Elite Dominance

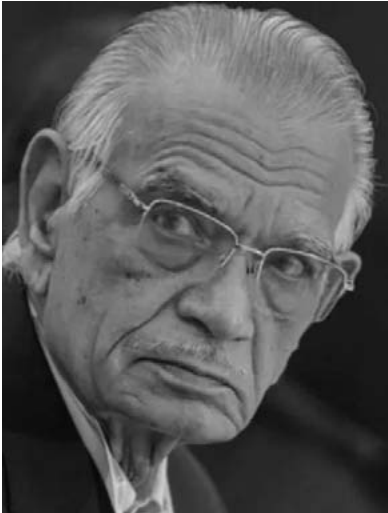
In early December 2025, the education minister of Rajasthan, Madan Dilawar, ignited a controversy when he sought to mark December 6 – the day the Babri Masjid was demolished in 1992 – as “Shaurya Diwas” in state-run schools. For a moment, it seemed the recasting of the event as “Heroism Day” might become official. Then the order was abruptly rescinded, but not before the uproar laid bare a familiar pattern: using a public figure from a non-elite caste background – the education minister belongs to the Khatik community, designated a Scheduled Caste in Rajasthan – to issue communal statements. This statement is not unusual but part of a tactic to redirect public attention away from more uncomfortable questions: who truly controls power in Rajasthan, who shapes institutions and who benefits economically from the rise of Hindutva? On December 6, 2025, Tararam Gautam, a Dalit author, also controversially claimed on a podcast that “Rajput identity originated from giving daughters to Mughal rulers”. The statement is not only historically false but deeply derogatory to women and the Rajputs. What links Dilawar’s Babri remark and Gautam’s narrative is its political functions. Both leaders’ remarks operate as proxy interventions, designed to inflame sentiment among marginalised groups. Meanwhile, the dominant power structure never comes under scrutiny. Rajasthan today offers one of the clearest examples of how Hindutva governs, and it is not only through communal polarisation but through caste-calibrated narrative management. In this narrative, Muslims are the most visible enemy. Rajputs are increasingly transformed into internal villains. And Dalit and Other Backward Class (OBC) voices are deployed as messengers of controversy. Meanwhile, those entrenched within institutions that control or signify social, political and economic power – in which members of elite castes and their networks dominate – rule silently, above the turbulence.

From history wars to power distribution

Much of the public discourse on Rajasthan remains stuck in historical quarrels: Rajput versus Mughal, temple versus mosque, medieval loyalty versus betrayal. These disputes generate heat, but they also perform a strategic function. They redirect the public gaze away from present-day power distribution. Look, instead, at contemporary institutions. In Rajasthan’s university system, the Brahmins occupy a striking share of vice-chancellorships – 11 out of 32 state-run universities, despite being a small fraction of the population (State Higher Education Department data, 2024). In the Chief Minister’s Office, over one-third of deputed officers are Brahmins (CMO staffing list, 2024). Among district police chiefs, the officers belonging to the elite castes dominate again. Interestingly, the Rajputs belong among the twice borns, or Savarna, in the traditional Hindu caste hierarchy, and are popularly regarded as possessing “warrior” traits. However, there is only one Rajput and not a single Muslim district superintendent of police in the state. These are not random statistics. They determine whose knowledge becomes syllabus, whose culture receives state patronage, whose religious boards receive funding and whose grievances move through the administrative pipeline quickly. The aggressive promotion of Parshuram institutions, Vipra boards and Sanskritic festivals – alongside selective cow protection enforcement and dietary policing – shows that Rajasthan’s Hindutva governance is not only communal.

Shivraj Patil: The 'Always Dapper' Home Minister, Brought Down By 26/11

The November 30, 2008 meeting of the Congress Working Committee looked like Caesar's Senate baying for blood. An embattled Sonia Gandhi, wearing several hats back then, such as the United Progressive Alliance's (UPA) chairperson, Congress President, National Advisory Council chairperson and head of the Congress Party in Parliament, had set the tone of the deliberation in the wake of the dastardly 26/11 terror attacks in Mumbai. In her opening remarks at the Congress Working Committee (CWC), she stressed that condolences or resolutions would not do. "It is time for action and some hard decisions," she said in a voice that reflected both anxiety and strain. Rahul Gandhi was more concerned about the response to the terror attack and kept talking about how the UPA government would tackle Pakistan. The good doctor survived because there was nobody to take up his job. Dr Manmohan Singh offered to quit office soon after Sonia Gandhi called for hard decisions and action. On the other hand, Defence Minister AK Antony, his colleague in the External Affairs Ministry, Pranab Mukherjee, were criticised to the extent that both offered to step down. Finally, Dr Karan Singh rose to deliver the punch. Sitting next to Rahul Gandhi, he looked directly at Union Home Minister Shivraj Patil and said, "Mr. Shivraj Patil, you have to go to save the party. There is no other way." The 'Transponders' Jibe Patil hurriedly wrote a resignation letter and carefully made two copies to hand them over to the Prime Minister and Sonia Gandhi. Manmohan Singh refused to take it in front of some 40-odd people. Prior to Karan Singh's blunt demand, Patil was heard saying that he had been considering putting tracking



transponders on boats operating in the Arabian Sea. At that point, a Cabinet Minister was said to have whispered under his breath, "Look at him! He is at sea and he is talking about transponders." Earlier in the day, Patil had reportedly received a feeler asking him to remove heads of the Intelligence Bureau, the Research & Analysis Wing (RAW) and a few paramilitary forces in order to showcase his 'decisiveness' and fix responsibility for the 26/11 terror attack. Patil, however, told the emissary that instead of acting against 'patriotic' officers, he would prefer to get sacked. Patil was somewhat confident that Sonia Gandhi, who had brought him to the North Bloc despite his defeat in the 2004 Lok Sabha election, would not ask him to quit. Buzz in the Congress circles then was that Dr Karan Singh's blunt call, "Mr. Shivraj Patil, you have to go to save the party. There is no other way", was scripted and had blessings of the high command. Interestingly, Patil, while leaving the fateful Congress Working Committee (CWC) on November 30, 2008, had

assured everyone that he would not be quitting the Congress. The declaration made many wonder whether he was actually thinking about it.

A Sonia Favourite

In Congress circles, Patil's association with Sonia is often traced to early 1981, when a group of 50 MPs, led by a then-young Patil, had called on Indira Gandhi, asking for Rajiv Gandhi to don the political hat. That was the time Maneka Gandhi was trying to get a political role after Sanjay Gandhi's death. Patil remained a Sonia favourite throughout UPA years. He was made the Union Home Minister despite losing his Lok Sabha seat and almost made it to the Rashtrapati Bhawan when the Congress's Left allies forced Sonia to look at another 'Patil' - Pratibha - for the President's post.

A 'Well-Dressed' Coterie

Much later in life, Shivraj Patil would often wonder why there used to be so much focus on his clothes. Since childhood, he had believed in dressing impeccably and appropriately for all occasions. So, following the Mumbai attack, he merely followed that habit. He went and attended a lengthy party meeting in a cream-coloured bandhgala. By the time he would reach home and pick a fresh one - this time, black - horrible news of serial blasts splashed across television screens. A tired and worried Patil returned home and changed into a spotless white suit to accompany Sonia Gandhi to a city hospital. Patil's aide used to insist there was nothing wrong or unusual about it. "It is just a habit. Some like to colour their hair. Some keep combing, some fiddle with their chin. If he did not change clothes, would the gravity of the situation have lessened?" asked a close associate.

Editorial

Pakistan's Push For An India-Less 'SAARC' Is Pure Delusion

Many of Pakistan's well-meaning, liberal-minded and smart analysts act like the helpless husband of an intolerable shrew. They must manage the difficult situation at home and keep the pretences in the world by staying in denial. Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Ishaq Dar, recently expressed his frustration with institutions like SAARC. His vision for "open and inclusive regionalism" where "our own national development needs and regional priorities cannot - and should not - be held hostage to anyone's rigidity" could be deemed perfectly reasonable. So would his insistence that South Asia "could no longer afford to remain trapped in zero-sum mindsets, political fragmentation and dysfunctional regional architecture".

Except they are not. Except nobody is getting fooled anymore.

Pakistan is performing to the gallery, as usual, by building a misleading narrative. Almost every charge Islamabad levels at New Delhi for obstructing South Asian regionalism traces back to Pakistan's own delinquent strategic behaviour. Pakistan's provocation for a bloc excluding India is less about solving regional problems and more about avoiding accountability for its own role in systematic dysfunction across South Asia. This pot-calling-kettle-black attitude has been Pakistan's policy for both domestic and international audiences for decades. Look Inward, Perhaps In official statements and diplomatic commentary, Islamabad routinely blames India for the stagnation of SAARC, which has not held a summit since 2014. But this overlooks Pakistan's own patterns of diplomatic churlishness. Decisions in SAARC require unanimity, and Pakistan has repeatedly refrained from ratifying key protocols that would significantly deepen regional cooperation, like the Motor Vehicles Agreement and the Regional Railways Agreement. When these agreements were poised to be finalised in 2014, Pakistan withdrew its consent for political reasons. Pakistan's refusal to ratify these initiatives has greatly impeded SAARC's functional utility, but it continues to act like a sullen teenager, unable to accept responsibility for anything. When Pakistan blocks such agreements, it blames India for their collapse, turning accountability



ty on its head. South Asia's intra-regional trade languishes at around 5% of total trade, well below ASEAN's 25%. Pakistan accuses India of stalling regional trade, yet Pakistan repeatedly refuses reciprocity. India extended Most Favoured Nation (MFN) status to Pakistan in 1996, a key enabling condition under the World Trade Organization (WTO) framework for equitable tariffs, which should have set the stage for reciprocal market access. Pakistan has never reciprocated that status. India's offer continues to stand, but Islamabad has refused to extend MFN, citing unresolved political disputes instead. So, Islamabad's holding India responsible as a barrier to deeper economic integration is nothing but a charade.

Can Pak Match The Numbers?

Pakistan routinely argues that India's dominance has stifled regional cooperation. And yet, India's financial commitment to one of SAARC's most important institutions - the South Asian University (SAU) - dwarfs Pakistan's contribution. India has funded nearly 90% of SAU's total budget, while Pakistan's share since 2010 amounts to just about 2.7%, despite being assigned a 13% funding quota. If Pakistan truly believed in SAARC's potential, it could at least contribute proportionately to shared institutions. Instead, Islamabad's underfunding of SAU indicates a consistent pattern of performative engagement rather than substantive investment. Blaming India for bilateral tensions ignores Pakistan's own role in per-

petuating mistrust. Pakistan's charges against India often frame New Delhi as unwilling to disengage political disputes from regional cooperation. But Islamabad itself has repeatedly linked broader engagement to unresolved territorial conflicts, particularly over Kashmir. It's comical to see Pakistan reiterating its commitment to the "freedom of Kashmir" while PoK remains tethered to political and economic instability. Islamabad has been crushing the demands for parity from the people of PoK with an iron fist. Yet, historically, Pakistan has been holding most diplomatic engagement with India on progress hostage to what it sees as the "Kashmir problem". This has created a stalemate that feeds institutional paralysis in larger forums. In contrast, India has been consistently approaching Pakistan, despite the latter's endless attempts at creating regional instability, to find a common minimum ground for cooperation. This pragmatic approach highlights a key divergence: India attempts functional cooperation while Pakistan prioritises grievance narratives. Despite multiple efforts of three Prime Ministers - Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Manmohan Singh, Narendra Modi - who decided to make personal overtures to normalise relations with Pakistan, India has not received reciprocal goodwill.

Nobody Is Onboard

Pakistan's alternative bloc proposal will likely deepen fragmentation, not foster cooperation.

Even if Pakistan's rhetorical targeting of India resonates domestically, the proposal for a South Asian bloc excluding India is unlikely to succeed. Yes, Pakistan enjoys China's patronage, but even the latter does not believe in excluding India from regional equations. Building regional cooperation without South Asia's largest economy and the world's fifth largest - India accounts for roughly 70% of SAARC's GDP - is strategically impractical. Smaller South Asian states, whose trade and infrastructure linkages pivot around India, have little incentive to join a grouping that alienates New Delhi. Pakistan's unabashed criticism of India's role in regional cooperation serves domestic political narratives but obscures a much harsher reality: Pakistan's own record on regional cooperation is rather poor. If Pakistan truly wants regional cooperation to flourish, it must first acknowledge and address its own contributions to the problem rather than cast blame outward. While multilateral groupings, without earmarked hardcore security and defence investments, achieve precious little in real terms, they signal bonhomie. India should not worry too much about any grouping that ostensibly excludes it. It's merely like being disinvited from a wedding without an open bar. However, Pakistan may want to shed its "Naach na Jaane, Aangan Tedha" (or, a "poor worker blames his tools") mentality for its own good. And the "hapless husband", the Pakistani intellectual, must stop being the willing instrument of deception.

Leadership Tussles Plague Nepal’s Major Parties Ahead of March Elections

Kathmandu: Nepal's two major parties – the Nepali Congress (NC) and the Communist Party of Nepal (Unified Marxist-Leninist), or CPN-UML – are locked in fierce intra-party leadership tussles ahead of the March 5 national elections. The CPN-UML, led by K.P. Sharma Oli, will be holding its general convention in Kathmandu from December 13 to 15 to elect new leadership, while the NC is scheduled to hold its convention in mid-January. Even before the GenZ movement, Oli had amended the party statute to pave the way for a third consecutive term as chair, ignoring objections from senior leaders. His intolerance for dissent has been evident since he seized party power in 2015. He scrapped the membership of former president Bidya Devi Bhandari after she challenged his leadership, and sidelined former prime minister Madhav Kumar Nepal, who led the party for 15 years, forcing him to defect in 2020. Similarly, senior leader Bhim Rawal was pushed out after contesting the 2021 leadership election against Oli. As a result, the party's internal democratic culture has severely eroded. Following the Gen-Z protests, pressure mounted on Oli to step down. In several internal meetings, top leaders argued that his continued chairmanship would tarnish the party's image and lead to poor electoral performance. In contrast, Oli sought to further consolidate his power. It is believed that he announced the general convention to silence questions regarding leadership change. He argued that the mandate lies with the convention delegates rather than with social media platforms – a direct reference to the criticism flooding digital channels. While Oli temporarily averted a crisis by calling the convention, the road ahead is rocky. Vice-chairman Ishwar Pokharel has announced his candidacy for party president. This move throws cold water on Oli's plan to be re-elected by consensus. While Oli claims he is open to compe-



tion, his preference for consensus carries the subtext that senior leaders must fall in line. However, opponents argue that Oli's stronghold over the selection of convention representatives makes his victory likely. Pokharel is reportedly backed by former president Bhandari. Although currently outside the party, Bhandari represents a rival faction. If Oli is defeated, her return to the CPN-UML is considered almost certain. As the contest heats up, Oli's camp has reverted to playing the “nationalist card.” They characterise the September 8-9 protests as an attack on the government and the CPN-UML by external forces. Leaders draw parallels to the “colour revolutions” seen in many countries after the Cold War, arguing that only Oli can safeguard Nepal's sovereignty. However, this strategy may be losing its potency. Oli's popularity has dipped significantly compared to his previous terms in 2015 and 2021. This is largely due to the killing of 19 young people during the September 8 protests, which damaged his reputation both within the party and among the public.

More conventions

Meanwhile, the Nepali Congress has decided to convene from January 11 to 13 in Kathmandu. As per party statutes, president Sher Bahadur Deuba cannot

contest again. Having been severely beaten by protesters alongside his spouse, Arzu Rana Deuba, during the unrest, Deuba has shown little interest in retaining control. He has already assigned vice-president Purna Bahadur Khadka as acting president. The race in the 'grand old party' is now a contest between second and third-rung leaders. Incumbent general secretary Gagan Kumar Thapa, highly popular among the rank and file, has announced his bid for the presidency. However, a cohort of seven senior leaders, including Bimalendra Nidhi, Purna Bahadur Khadka, Prakash Man Singh, and Krishna Prasad Sitaula, are bent on stopping Thapa. Additionally, senior leader Shekhar Koirala, who lost to Deuba in 2021, is also in the fray. The dynamic in the NC mirrors the national mood. Senior leaders are becoming increasingly unpopular following the Gen-Z movement, while Thapa, who rose to prominence as a student leader in 2006, enjoys broad support. Unlike the UML, leadership change in the NC is imminent. The only question is who will take the helm. Complicating matters, some senior NC leaders are pushing to postpone the convention until after the general election. They fear that an intense internal contest could create factions and sabotage their electoral prospects.

Indian Railways: A Decade of Purposeful Transformation

Indian Railways, one of the world's largest public transport systems, has entered a period of visible and measurable transformation over the last decade. The scale remains unmatched 13,000 trains moving 2.5 crore passengers every day, supported by more than 10 lakh employees, but today the change is defined not by size but by direction. In 2023-24, the Railways recorded revenue of ₹2.56 lakh crore, with freight operations adding another ₹1.64 lakh crore. Equally significant is the steady improvement in safety, train accidents and related fatalities have reduced by almost half in less than ten years. For a system long criticised for stagnation, these are not minor achievements.

Infrastructure push
For decades after independence, India's railway infrastructure expanded at a sluggish pace. That trajectory shifted decisively in the past ten years. During this period, 31,180 km of new track was



added, while 40,000 km of routes were electrified, covering nearly 99 percent of the network. The redevelopment of 1,326 stations is underway, and the Kashmir rail link, long considered an engineering challenge, is close to completion. These numbers signal not incremental improvement but structural renewal. The railway system, once seen as outdated, is being reshaped into a faster, cleaner, and more efficient

national asset.

Rise of Vande Bharat
Perhaps the most public symbol of this change is the Vande Bharat Express. Introduced in 2019, built with indigenous technology, and capable of 180 kmph, it has quickly gained acceptance among travellers. With 54 trains already operating and more planned, Vande Bharat represents a new standard in speed, comfort, and service.

Its impact extends beyond mobility. Routes served by these trains have seen a notable rise in tourism and business activity, showing how modern transport can revive regional economies.

Safety Innovations and Technology
Modernisation has also focused on safety. Kavach, the indigenous anti-collision system, is being deployed across the network. Its ability to detect

signal violations, operate effectively in fog, and issue emergency alerts when two trains are on the same track marks a significant leap forward. In a country where millions depend on rail travel daily, such technological interventions are critical.

South India's key role
South India with its talent pool, industrial strength, and stable governance is poised to play a pivotal role in the Viksit Bharat 2047 vision. Enhanced railway connectivity, including the rapid expansion of Vande Bharat services, is already contributing to regional growth.

Privatisation unsafe
Amid this progress, occasional suggestions emerge about private ownership of railway operations. Recent disruptions in the private aviation sector, especially the strain caused by a near-monopoly carrier, serve as reminders of the risks of placing essential public services entirely in private hands.

Hyderabad, Outdoor Scene Set for Saturday at Mindspace SOCIAL

Hyderabad, December 2025: Mindspace SOCIAL is turning this Saturday into a full vibe with SOCIAL Day Out, an all-evening outdoor gig at the iconic Rock Garden, back after a long break and returning with louder energy, bigger sound, and a fresh festival feel. From 4 PM to 12:30 AM, the space opens up like a mini boutique music playground built for sunshine, groove, and that easygoing Hyderabad mood. Hyderabad has always loved its clean electronic grooves and relaxed music culture, especially on weekends where a slow start turns into a full scene. This edition brings that vibe back with Fake Tattoos on the lineup, setting the tone for a relaxed, day-to-night session. Holding down the rest of the groove is a solid crew of artists the city knows and rates: Neil Richter, Scintillate, Promode, TNT, 3Spear, Propaganda, Serket, and Kartoos. Together, they're lining up everything from smooth daytime energy to full-power evening sets. No overthinking, no tension. Just music, mood,



and straight-up Hyderabad scene. Lite lo, enjoy yaaron. Expect a setup that feels like a pocket festival inside Mindspace SOCIAL. Think upgraded sound, vibrant production lights, colourful touches to lift the outdoor mood. The Rock Garden's open-air layout brings that

familiar SOCIAL-in-the-hood energy back into play, creating an easy spot for sunset sets, smooth transitions, and long hangs as the beats get heavier through the night. Rhythm-inspired cocktails keep the flow steady, matching the pace of the music and the scene.

Warner Bros. Discovery wraps up 2025 with brand new shows, episodes and year end specials for the holiday season

Mumbai, December 12, 2025: Warner Bros. Discovery is closing out the year with a burst of new stories on Cartoon Network and POGO. As the festive mood settles in and kids and families gear up for Christmas time, the kids' channels are rolling out new shows along with fresh episodes of fan favourites on Discovery Kids that add cheer, colour and plenty of laughs to the holiday season.

Om Nom Stories Debuts on Cartoon Network
Adding to the Christmas cheer, Cartoon Network is set to kick off fun-tainment season for all fans with the launch of its new show, Om Nom Stories, premiering on December 15. The series follows Om Nom, the curious green blob figured monster who jumps into a new adventure every day. From super-heroes to astronauts to café owners, each episode places him in a new role and turns simple moments into fast,



funny and imaginative stories. With Nibble Nom, Om Nelle and Spider joining the chaos, the show brings light, quick entertainment perfect for the festive mood. The show will air Monday to Friday at 10:30 AM and on weekends from 8:30 AM onward.

A Season of Supercharged Fun on POGO
POGO brings even more year-end excitement with the launch of a new comedy show - Omi No. 1. Starting December 15, airing Monday to Friday at 11:30 AM and 7:00 PM, Omi No. 1 will be

available for POGO viewers in Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and Kannada. The show will follow the escapades and adventures of Omi, an over-pampered but big-hearted grandson of Milk King Kedarnath. His regular day often spirals into wild situations, including first days at school, unexpected jobs, chases, competitions and even jungle and desert adventures. His mistakes usually snowball into chaos, yet he somehow ends up saving the day in his own quirky and fun way. It's packed with energy, humour and moments that fit perfect-

ly with the cheerful Christmas season.

Discovery Kids Brings Festive Fun with Tittoo
Discovery Kids adds to the holiday cheer with its year-end stunt, Tittoo: Shararat ka Grand Countdown, starting from December 25 to December 31, everyday 9:30 AM onwards. With the funniest pranks, storylines, rapid turns, and lighthearted escapades, Tittoo is setting up a joyous holiday finale.

Christmas Week Extravaganza Continues with Cartoon Network and POGO
Adding to the festive enthusiasm, the Cartoon Network is rolling out brand-new episodes of Teen Titans Go! from December 25 to January 2 at 11:30 AM, adding the sparkle of comedy, energy, and boundless adventure. POGO, on the other hand, is presenting a line-up of special telefeatures and crossovers.

Care for your skin this winter with California Almonds

Winter comes with cozy nights and festive cheer, yet it also brings a familiar challenge for many: dry, dull, and sensitive skin. The cold air pulls moisture from our skin, leaving it susceptible to flakiness and irritation. Topical skincare can help, but lasting nourishment starts from within. Nutritionist Ritika Samaddar explains that the most effective approach to winter skincare lies in fueling your body with the right foods. She explains that winter dryness is not only a skincare concern but also a nutritional one. She highlights the importance of incorporating foods rich in protein, healthy fats, vitamin E, and omega-3, such as fatty fish and California Almonds. Including almonds in your daily diet can nourish the skin from within, helping it stay soft, hydrated, and healthy, even in harsh weather conditions. Almonds are a powerhouse of essential nutrients that support



skin health in multiple ways. They are one of the richest natural sources of vitamin E, an important antioxidant that protects the skin from damage. Vitamin E also strengthens the skin's natural barrier, helping it retain moisture and stay smooth during harsh winter months. Apart from this, Vitamin E also contains anti-aging properties that help your skin maintain elasticity. Another reason California Almonds are a winter essential is their high content of healthy monounsat-

urated fats. These healthy fats act as internal moisturisers, improving skin elasticity and preventing excessive dryness. They help the skin appear plump and smooth while reducing the visibility of fine lines that tend to stand out in colder weather. Almonds are also rich in protein, riboflavin, and zinc, all of which contribute to the maintenance of overall skin. These nutrients together help restore glow, reduce dullness, and support a stronger skin barrier.

Research also suggests that consuming almonds regularly may help improve facial skin tone and reduce the appearance of wrinkles. Ritika also points to the link between gut health and skin health. Studies have shown that almonds support gut well-being, which can reduce inflammation and break-outs. This is especially helpful during winter, when digestive issues are more common. She recommends adding California Almonds to daily meals and consuming them in the morning to enhance nutrient absorption. This winter, glowing skin doesn't need to come from expensive treatments or complicated routines. Sometimes the most powerful beauty solutions are rooted in simple, everyday nutrition. With their exceptional nutrient profile, California Almonds offer a natural, effective, and delicious way to care for your skin all season long.

Croma Opens First Store in Nizamabad, Telangana at Vinayak Nagar

Nizamabad, December 12, 2025: Croma, India's trusted omni-channel electronics retailer from the Tata Group, has announced the opening of its first-ever store in Nizamabad, Telangana. Located in Vinayak Nagar, the launch marks a significant milestone in Croma's continued expansion, taking its presence to 37 stores in the state. The new store, situated at Ganesh Colony, Vinayak Nagar, Hyderabad Road, Nizamabad - 503230, spans 8,070 sq. ft. and is designed as a full-fledged experience centre. Customers can explore the latest technology across categories, enjoy live product demos, and receive expert guidance to make informed decisions—all within an immersive and seamless shopping environment. Exclusive Launch Offers: Celebrate the launch with exciting deals on select smartphones, LED 32 inch and 40 inch TV, Laptops, Refrigerators and Front



Load Washing Machines:

- Dec 12 - Dec 26: 5% off up to ₹12,00
- Dec 27 - Jan 11: 4% off up to ₹800

"We are delighted to bring Croma to Nizamabad for the first time. With this store, our aim is to offer customers in the region access to cutting-edge technology. Our knowledgeable in-store experts, combined with our omni-channel capabilities, will make technology shop-

ping more convenient and satisfying for the local community." Said a spokesperson of Infiniti Retail Ltd. The store will be open daily from 11:00 AM to 9:00 PM. For more information on products, services, and ongoing offers, please visit the new Croma store in Nizamabad- Vinayak Nagar or log on to www.croma.com. Offers valid on select brands, categories, and models only. Terms and conditions apply.

New Think Tank Bharat Ki Soch launched to shape contemporary policy discourse with learnings from ancient Indian knowledge systems

New Delhi, 12 December 2025: Bharat Ki Soch, a Think Tank on ancient Indian wisdom for contemporary challenges has been launched. It aims to enrich India's growth narrative by drawing on the country's deep civilisational knowledge systems and intellectual heritage. By researching, reinterpreting and contextualising ancient Indian wisdom for modern needs, Bharat Ki Soch seeks to offer fresh perspectives for nation-building anchored in India's own cultural and philosophical foundations. With a vision to reimagine Bharat's civilizational wisdom for a resilient and progressive nation, the Think Tank made its inception with an inaugural conference titled Navigating Growth and Development in Global Uncertain Times, held at the Constitution Club of India. The conference reflected on how India can sustain its developmental momentum, blending institutional strength, innovation and the timeless wisdom of its civilisation to chart a steady course toward Viksit Bharat. It brought together thought leaders and scholars to examine how India's civilisational knowledge systems can inform responses to global economic, geopolitical and developmental uncertainty. The dialogue featured eminent speakers including Mr. Dinesh



Trivedi, former Union Minister for Railways, Mr. M. J. Akbar, former Union Minister of State for External Affairs, Government of India, Mr. Raghendra Singh, former Culture Secretary, Government of India, Mr. Atanu Chakraborty, Chairman, HDFC Bank, Mr. Ram Madhav, President, India Foundation, Dr. T. C. A. Raghavan, former High Commissioner to Singapore & Pakistan and Former Director General of the Indian Council of World Affairs and Mr. Anil Rajput, Chairman, Advisory Council, Bharat Ki Soch and Mr. R. K. Pachhanda, Director, Bharat Ki Soch. Across

wide-ranging discussions, the speakers underscored a shared belief that India's next chapter of growth cannot rely solely on contemporary frameworks but must draw confidently from the intellectual wealth embedded in its civilisational inheritance. Bharat Ki Soch seeks to build precisely this bridge, engaging scholars, policy makers, technologists and practitioners to reinterpret ancient Indian knowledge for India's evolving developmental needs. Through a mix of deep research, interdisciplinary collaboration, and public dialogue, Bharat Ki Soch will cover a range of subjects from governance, economy

and agriculture to sustainability, health & wellness, and national security and will be informed by time-tested Indian frameworks in our ancient scriptures. In his welcome address, Mr. Anil Rajput, Chairman, Advisory Council, Bharat Ki Soch, described the moment as the beginning of a new intellectual journey for the country. "Today marks not just an event, it is the beginning of a journey to rediscover India's timeless knowledge and reimagine our growth story with confidence, clarity and cultural rootedness," he said. Reflecting on the global environment, he highlighted significant challenges like growing debt distress, climate crises, demographic decline, food insecurity and consequences of rapid technological transformation like job displacement and data insecurity to the growing concentration of technological power. "We are living through a period of deep global transition, one that is reshaping vulnerabilities as much as it is opening up opportunities," he said, attributing India's unique position as the world's fastest growing major economy to the stabilising force of India's civilisational wisdom. Delivering the keynote address, Mr. Atanu Chakraborty situated the moment within a wider civilisational conversation.

Suryakumar Yadav: IPL Beast To India's Worry, What Is Going On?

Suryakumar Yadav walked in for the post-match duties after India's 51-run loss in the 2nd T20I vs South Africa with a smile on his face - but behind that calm exterior sits a storm he can't ignore. India folded for 162 while chasing 214 in New Chandigarh, only their fourth T20I defeat in more than a year. But the bigger story wasn't the loss. It was their captain. After the match, he admitted: "We can't rely on Abhishek all the time... I should have taken that responsibility and batted deeper." It was honest. It was mature. But it didn't stop the question every fan is now asking. Is the Captain hiding? The moment India sent Axar Patel at No. 3 ahead of Suryakumar in a pressure chase, social media exploded. Experts like Dale Steyn and Robin Uthappa openly called the move an attempt to shield a struggling captain. Responsibility in words is one thing. Responsibility with the bat is another. And right now, SKY's bat is



unusually quiet. The International Slide Nobody Saw Coming. After bossing IPL 2025, SKY's international numbers have crashed hard. T20I stats in 2025: - 201 runs in 17 innings - Average: 14.35 - Strike rate: 126.41 - Zero fifties - Three ducks In the South Africa series, he managed just a five in the second T20I. Former India batter Robin Uthappa summed it up

bluntly: "This one loss won't hurt... but if the form continues until the World Cup, that's a serious worry." Two Halves of 2025: IPL Monster vs India's Missing Man It's wild how different SKY looked just a few months ago. IPL 2025 for Mumbai Indians: - 717 runs in 16 innings - Average: 65.18 - Strike rate: 167.9 - Five fifties He

destroyed bowling attacks for fun, played his 360-degree circus shots with confidence, and carried MI all season. And then... came the slump in India colours. Is Captaincy the Culprit? Here's the telling number: - As a pure batter: Avg 43.40 - As T20I captain: Avg 25.03 The strike rate stays high, the intent is there - but the runs simply aren't. SKY insists captaincy isn't

affecting him. There's also: - The hernia surgery - Recent injury breaks - Bowlers preparing better plans - Slower pitches exposing his high-risk strokes - His reliance on flat decks where his unorthodox shots shine It all adds up to one truth: SKY is out of runs, and India can feel it. The Paradox India Can't Ignore For all his struggles with the bat, SKY's leadership numbers are outstanding: - 80% win record as captain - 35 matches, three series wins - Asia Cup 2025 title He's ticking the leadership boxes. But the runs? They've gone missing at the worst possible time. India Need the Old SKY Back - soonest The 2026 T20 World Cup isn't far. India don't just need a smart captain - they need their best T20 batter firing again. The guy who changed the geometry of the sport. Right now, Suryakumar Yadav looks more human than he ever has. But India will need the superhero version - soon.

India vs Pakistan U19 Asia Cup Clash To See Epic Battle As Sameer Minhas Slams 177 On Day Vaibhav

Arch-rivals India and Pakistan are set to face each other on Sunday (December 14) in an Under-19 Asia Cup 2025 match in Dubai. It will be a Group A game between the sides. The much-anticipated contest has got more eyeballs even before its start for the way both teams began their respective campaigns in the tournament. While India outplayed the United Arab Emirates by 234 runs in Dubai, Pakistan routed Malaysia by a margin of 297. Apart from the convincing wins, it was the performances of their openers that stole the show. India's U-19 batter Vaibhav Suryavanshi smashed 171 off 95 balls with the help of nine fours and 14 sixes, while his Pakistani counterpart Sameer Minhas smashed 177 not out off 148 balls, an innings laced with 11 fours and eight sixes. Apart from Suryavanshi's spectacular knock, Aaron George (69) and Vihaan Malhotra (69) contributed with crucial half-centuries. Vedant Trivedi (38),



Abhigyan Kundu (32), and Kanishk Chouhan (28) provided the finishing touches to India U-19 posting a massive 433 for 6, the highest score in the tournament's history. It's also India's highest total in U-19 ODIs and the third-highest ever score in men's U-19 one-day cricket. Suryavanshi's knock had a strike rate of 180. He brought up his half-century in 30 balls, before getting his century in just 56 deliveries and reaching his 150 in 84 balls. Just some kilometres away from it, the Pakistan U-19

team was also wreaking havoc. Centuries from Ahmed Hussain and debutant Sameer Minhas powered the side to 345 for 3 before the bowlers bundled Malaysia out for just 48 in 19.4 overs. Minhas was the star of the show with an unbeaten 177 off 148 balls, striking 11 fours and eight sixes to claim the Player of the Match honour. He shared a mammoth 293-run stand with Hussain, who made 132 off 114 deliveries, and ensured Pakistan's dominance from the outset.

"Main Bihar Se Hoon": Vaibhav Suryavanshi's Epic Response On Sledging By UAE Players During Stellar 171

Vaibhav Suryavanshi was on a record-breaking spree on Wednesday as he slammed a 95-ball 171 in an India vs UAE U-19 Asia Cup match in Dubai. The young southpaw's 171 propelled the Indian team to a mammoth first-innings total of 433/6 in 50 overs. The highlight of the innings was Suryavanshi's boundary-hitting. The young batter from Bihar smashed the UAE bowlers for nine fours and 14 sixes - a world record in U-19 cricket. While he was batting, Suryavanshi faced sledging too. The incident happened in the 32nd over when left-arm spinner Uddish Suri was bowling to Suryavanshi, who was batting in the 90s. Saleh Amin, who was stand-



ing behind the stumps, tried to break Suryavanshi's confidence. However, the 14-year-old batting sensation wasn't having any of it and decided to give it back to the UAE wicketkeeper. "Come on boys. 90's curse. 90's curse," Amin was heard saying on the stump mic. Suryavanshi gave an agitated reply, say-

ing, "Tere saath selfie loon?" Later, Suryavanshi was asked about the incident. He replied: "Main Bihar se hoon. Peeth peeche jo bhi baatein hoti hain, usse mujhko farak nahi padta." (I am from Bihar. What is said behind my back does not bother me.) Talking about the match, after being invit-

ed to bat by UAE captain Yayin Rai, India U-19 suffered an early hiccup when skipper Ayush Mhatre departed for four runs in the third over. This brought Suryavanshi and Aaron George together, and what followed was an innings of outright aggression. Suryavanshi, who has been in scintillating form, played with caution before shifting gears into destructive mode. He raced to his half-century in just 30 deliveries. The remarkable display of power-hitting saw Suryavanshi etch his name into the tournament's record books, breaking the record for the most sixes hit by a batter in a single innings of the U-19 Asia Cup.

"Tere Saath Selfie Loon?": Vaibhav Suryavanshi's Reply Shuts Down UAE Star's Sledging

India's batting prodigy Vaibhav Suryavanshi had a hilarious exchange with UAE wicketkeeper Saleh Amin during their U19 Asia Cup group fixture in Dubai on Friday. The incident happened in the 32nd over when left-arm spinner Uddish Suri was bowling to Suryavanshi, who was batting in the 90s. Amin, who was standing behind the stumps, tried to break Suryavanshi's confidence. However, the 14-year-old batting sensation wasn't having any of it and decided to give it back to the UAE wicketkeeper. "Come on boys. 90's curse. 90's curse," Amin was heard saying on the stump mic. Suryavanshi gave an agitated reply, saying, "Tere



saath selfie loon?" The Rajasthan Royals (RR) opener continued his rich vein of form by smashing another century. He hit a sensational 171 off just 95 deliveries with the help of nine fours and a record-breaking 14 sixes. Suryavanshi, who has been in scintillating form,

played with caution before shifting gears into destructive mode. He raced to his half-century in just 30 deliveries. The highlight of the innings was Suryavanshi's boundary hitting. The young batter from Bihar smashed the UAE bowlers for nine fours and 14 sixes. This

remarkable display of power-hitting saw Suryavanshi etch his name into the tournament's record books, breaking the record for the most sixes hit by a batter in a single innings of the U19 Asia Cup, previously held by Afghanistan's Darwish Rasooli (10 sixes in 2017). His century came off in just 56 balls. Suryavanshi was relentless, going on to complete 150 runs in just 84 balls before finally being run out on 171 off 95 deliveries, with a strike rate of 180. Suryavanshi's 171 is now officially the second-highest score by an Indian in a Youth ODI, falling just short of Ambati Rayudu's 177 not out against England U19 in 2002.

Vonn, 41, becomes oldest downhill World Cup winner



American Lindsey Vonn became the oldest skiing downhill World Cup winner at St Moritz on Friday. The 41-year-old retired from the sport in February 2019 due to knee problems but made her competitive return in December 2024. Vonn has won one gold and two bronze at the Winter Olympics and is on track to represent the USA at the 2026 Games in February. She crossed the line in one minute and 29.63 seconds - nearly a second quicker than second-placed Magdalena Egger - to wrap up her 83rd World Cup win and first since

2018. "I knew I was skiing fast but you never know until the first race," Vonn told TNT Sports. "I think I was a little faster than I expected. It's a very exciting time." Vonn has four overall World Cup titles in the bank from a glittering career that has spanned across 20 years. Friday's event marked the beginning of the downhill World Cup campaign, with a further eight races set to take place before the World Cup Finals at Kvitfjell in Norway on 21 March. Vonn returns to the St Moritz slope for the next World Cup on Saturday.

Vinesh Phogat Makes LA Olympics Declaration With Big Retirement U-Turn

Wrestler Vinesh Phogat, whose medal dream at the 2024 Paris Olympics came to a stunning end after she was found overweight on the day of her final bout, has announced that she is reversing her retirement decision. She had announced her retirement on August 8, 2024. On Friday, Vinesh Phogat confirmed her return after an 18-month hiatus to chase her Olympic dream, stating that she has come out of retirement from professional wrestling. Last year, Phogat announced her retirement from wrestling after being disqualified in the 50 kg freestyle final at the Paris Olympics. She had advanced to the gold medal bout by defeating Cuba's Yusneylis Guzman Lopez 5-0 in the semi-finals. She was set to



compete against the United States' Sarah Ann Hildebrandt for the gold medal but was disqualified for breaching the weight

limit. In an X post on Friday, Phogat wrote: "People kept asking if Paris was the end. For a long time, I didn't have the answer. I needed to step

away from the mat, from the pressure, from the expectations, even from my own ambitions. For the first time in years, I allowed myself to breathe. I took time to understand the weight of my journey - the highs, the heartbreaks, the sacrifices, the versions of me the world never saw. And somewhere in that reflection, I found the truth: I still love this sport. I still want to compete. In that silence, I found something I'd forgotten: 'the fire never left'. It was only buried under exhaustion and noise. The discipline, the routine, the fight... it's in my system. No matter how far I walked away, a part of me stayed on the mat. So here I am, stepping back toward LA28 with a heart that's unafraid and a spirit that refuses to bow."

Ravindra Jadeja's Wife Rivaba's Shock 'Intoxication Claim' Involving India Players

Gujarat Minister Rivaba Jadeja, wife of Indian cricket team superstar Ravindra Jadeja, has stirred significant controversy while attempting to highlight her husband's exceptional discipline. Speaking at an event in Gujarat's Dwarka, she talked about the cricket team's "vices" while offering an intriguing perspective on the moral choices faced by high-profile athletes. "My husband, the cricketer Ravindra Jadeja, has to travel to many countries like London, Dubai, and Australia to play cricket," Rivaba Jadeja said at the event. "Despite this, to this day, he has never touched or engaged in any kind of addic-



tion or vice, because he understands his responsibilities. The rest of the team all indulge in vices, but there is no restriction on them." The minister's remarks focused on the challenges inherent in a life spent touring the globe as elite cricketers. "My

husband has been away from home for 12 years; he can do whatever he wants, but he understands his moral duty - what he needs to do," she said. Her comment that "the rest of the team all indulge in vices" has sparked a debate, with many

saying the broad generalisation casts Jadeja's teammates in an unfavourable light within the Indian and global cricket fraternities. Rivaba Jadeja's comments are seen to suggest that Jadeja's personal restraint set him apart in the high-pressure environment of professional cricket. Ravindra Jadeja Turns a New Chapter The statement comes at a time of significant transition for Ravindra Jadeja's career. Though he remains an integral part of India's Test and ODI squads, Jadeja is no longer an active player in T20 Internationals, and his domestic franchise tenure has just seen a monumental shift.

Keshav Maharaj Named Pretoria Capitals Capitals For SA20 Season 4



South Africa's left-arm spinner Keshav Maharaj has been named captain of Pretoria Capitals for the upcoming SA20 Season Four, the franchise announced on Friday. Maharaj, who led Durban's Super Giants in the previous edition of the competition, will take over from Rilee Rossouw at the Capitals. "One of South Africa's most experienced and respected leaders, Maharaj brings a wealth of international pedigree across formats, along with a proven track record of guiding teams with composure, clarity, and intent. Having captained South Africa in white-ball cricket and

served as a senior figure within the national setup for several years, Maharaj's leadership experience, tactical understanding, and consistency make him an invaluable addition in this role. His presence strengthens the balance and direction of the Pretoria Capitals squad as the team heads into the new season," the franchise said in a release. Pretoria Capitals will enter the upcoming SA20 season with a new-look coaching staff as well - former India captain Sourav Ganguly will take charge as head coach and will be assisted by former South Africa captain Shaun Pollock.

Fun-filled, edge-of-the-seat comedy Entertainer Gurram Paapireddy is set to thoroughly entertain audiences: Producers Jayakanth (Bobby) and Amar Bura

Gurram Paapireddy, starring Naresh Agastya and Faria Abdullah, is being produced by Venu Saggi, Amar Bura, and Jayakanth (Bobby), presented by Dr. Sandhya Goli. Director Murali Manohar brings a dark comedy concept that audiences have not seen on screen before. With all work completed, the film is gearing up for a grand worldwide theatrical release on the 19th of this month. In an interview today, producers Jayakanth (Bobby) and Amar Bura shared the highlights of the movie. Producer Jayakanth (Bobby) said, "Director Murali Manohar is our friend. When he narrated the story of Gurram Paapireddy, we found it extremely interesting. We felt that an offbeat story like this would be perfect for our first production and decided to go ahead. Generally, new producers tend to begin with a love story or youth-focused content, but we wanted to avoid routine projects. That's why we chose to produce a film in the dark comedy genre." "When Tharun Bhascker heard the story, he expressed interest in playing the lead. However, due to his prior commitments, things kept getting delayed. Another young hero also liked the subject, but his onboarding was taking time as well. Chaitanya Jonnalagadda agreed to play an important role in the film. We thought Naresh Agastya would be perfect for the lead role and narrated the script to him. He showed



interest, and after interacting with him, our director felt Naresh was indeed the right fit. Naresh has already worked in films with unique concepts like Mathu Vadalara, and he performed exceptionally as the titular character in Gurram Paapireddy. Faria Abdullah has great comedic timing. In Jathi Ratnalu, her character Chitti was traditional, but in our film, the role of Saudhamini is completely different. She not only acted but also wrote, sang, and choreographed a song, which is now going viral. Brahmanandam and Yogi Babu have also played significant roles. While dubbing, Brahmanandam mentioned that it felt like he had played a major role - he hasn't taken up such a lengthy

character in recent times. His character appears from beginning to end. We waited for two months to bring Yogi Babu on board. The comedy between Raj Kumar Kasireddy and Vamsidhar Kosigi has worked out hilariously, and this film will bring both of them notable recognition. We wanted to cast artistes who truly fit their characters, which increased the budget beyond our initial plan. At that point, our friends Venu and Dr. Sandhya from the US joined the production. We are being careful in terms of business, finalizing deals only when we get the price we are confident about. We believe strongly in the film's content and are sure of its success. Producer Amar Bura said, "Our film revolves

around how a group of not-so-smart people confront a clever one. It offers fun and comedy that will surely entertain audiences. People don't come to theatres for messages; they come to be entertained, and that is what our film aims to do. We have complete confidence in our content. Just like how characters in MAD and MAD 2 made us laugh the moment they appeared, audiences will find our artistes funny right from the start. Mathu Vadalara earned Naresh Agastya a strong theatrical name, and we believe Gurram Paapireddy will elevate him even further." Filmmaking is a challenge every day. Our budget increased due to the story's scope and the impact of strike-related delays. During the strike here, we even shot in Mysore. Film business isn't easy - though everyone liked our content, the lack of a star hero posed challenges on the business side. Still, we trusted the film and decided to release Gurram Paapireddy in 140 screens. Instead of going for a huge release initially and risking low turnout, we chose to increase screens based on response. We've also ensured ticket prices remain affordable. We hope our film receives strong audience support. We are releasing it alongside Avatar. Just as Avatar has its audience, we believe our film also has its own audience base. As producers, we have all come together as a strong team and hope to continue making films together.

Mega Power Star Ram Charan's Peddi New Schedule Begins Tomorrow In Hyderabad, Talkie Part To Be Wrapped Up By January End, Theatrical Release On March 27, 2026

Mega Power Star Ram Charan is coming up with a rural action entertainer, Peddi, directed by Buchi Babu Sana. The film has already created a strong buzz, with its first-look posters, First Shot Glimpse and first single Chikiri Chikiri winning widespread acclaim. In particular, the song—showcasing Ram Charan's trademark mega grace and electrifying screen presence—has taken social media by storm, emerging as a global sensation. Peddi is being produced by Venkata Satish Kilaru under the banner of Vriddhi Cinemas and is proudly presented by Mythri Movie Makers in association with Sukumar Writings. Boasting a lavish budget and grand-scale production, the film promises a high-octane cinematic experience. Bollywood sensation Janhvi Kapoor joins Ram Charan as the leading lady. Meanwhile, the Peddi team has commenced a new shooting schedule from tomorrow in Hyderabad. This schedule will feature several pivotal sequences, some of which will be canned in Delhi. Filming



will continue until the end of January, by which time the entire talkie part of the movie is expected to be wrapped up. As planned, all aspects of production are progressing smoothly, with post-production work moving ahead at a good pace. Kannada superstar Shiva Rajkumar essaying a crucial role adds further gravitas to the film, while Jagapathi Babu and Divyendu Sharma appear in significant supporting roles.

On the technical front, Peddi boasts a powerhouse crew: Oscar-winning maestro AR Rahman scoring the music, acclaimed cinematographer R Rathnavelu crafting the visuals, National Award-winning editor Navin Nooli shaping the narrative flow, and Avinash Kolla enriching the film's world with his meticulous production design. Peddi is all set for a grand pan-India theatrical release on March 27, 2026.

Dhurandhar' box office collection day 8 : The Ranveer Singh, Akshaye Khanna, R Madhavan starrer is on a roll, crosses Rs 220 crore after completing week 1



WILL & JADA HIT BACK AT \$3M THREAT COMPLAINT

Will Smith and Jada Pinkett Smith are fuming over a \$3 million lawsuit filed against Pinkett Smith, with a source close to the couple calling the complaint "a lot of crap" and dismissing the plaintiff as "an opportunistic person out to exploit them."

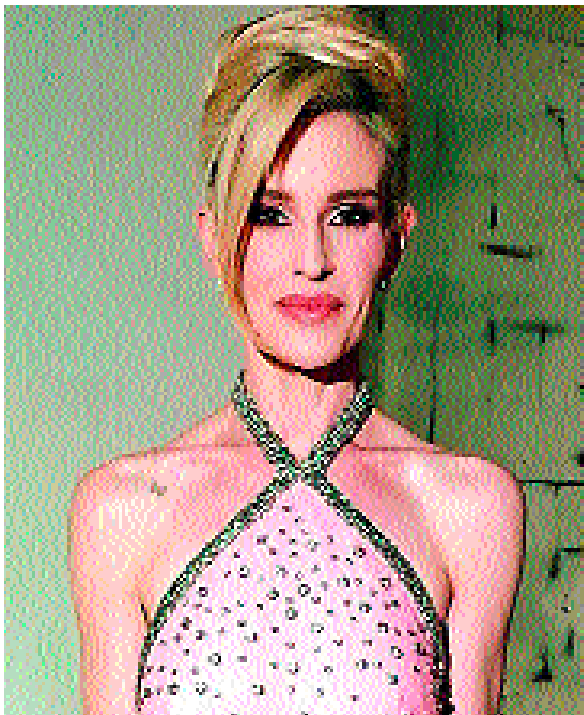
The suit was filed by Bilaal Salaam — also known as Brother Bilaal — who alleges that the actress confronted him in a Calabasas mall lobby in September 2021 and warned him that if he continued sharing her "personal business," he would "end up miss-

ing or catch a bullet." Salaam claims she pressed him to sign a nondisclosure agreement, followed him to his car and continued issuing verbal threats.

According to the complaint, Salaam later received further intimidation from the couple's circle and became the target of a "retaliatory campaign," especially after a "viral" interview he gave. Insiders say the Smiths view the entire case as a transparent cash grab: "They see it as a money ploy to get what they can out of them. Naturally, both of them dislike people around them talking out of school."

Cardi B flaunts new body mods

Cardi B is back with another bold look. The rapper recently revealed a dermal implant on her lower back and a new piercing on her neck. Sharing the update on Instagram, Cardi captioned her photos "Girls night." She wore a black leather halter top with lace-up pants, a neon green wig, and layered silver jewelry. Close-up shots highlighted her tattooed back and the freshly done piercings. Piercer Robbie (@nyc.piercing) from New York,



Kelly Osbourne fires back at body shamers

Kelly Osbourne has delivered a powerful message to critics commenting on her weight, revealing the deeply personal reason behind her recent physical changes.

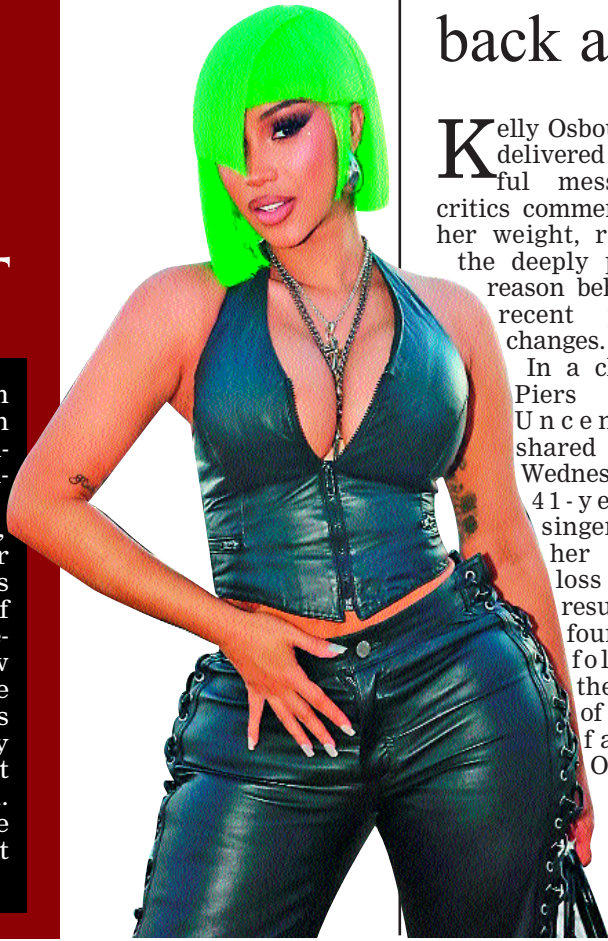
In a clip from Piers Morgan Uncensored shared on Wednesday, the 41-year-old singer said her weight loss is the result of profound grief following the death of her father, Ozzy Osbourne.

"To the people who keep thinking they're being funny and writing comments like, 'Are you ill?' or 'Get off Ozempic,' or 'You don't look right' — my dad just died, and I'm doing the best that I can," Kelly said. "The only thing I have to live for right now is my family. I choose to share the happy side of my life, not the miserable side."

She ended her message bluntly: "So to all those people, f-k off."

Kelly also recently addressed speculation about her weight loss in an other interview, rejecting claims that she uses Ozempic.

Ozzy Osbourne, the legendary rock icon, died in July at age 76 after suffering cardiac arrest.



VIN DIESEL PUNCHES INTO FIRST WRITING GIG

Vin Diesel is swapping gear shifts for giant punches. As the wait for the next Fast & Furious continues, the actor has landed his first feature-writing credit in decades — scripting Mattel Studios' upcoming Rock 'Em Sock 'Em Robots adaptation. Diesel is already attached to star and produce via his banner, One Race Films.

In a statement shared through Mattel, Diesel

said the project lets him revisit a childhood favourite while reimagining it for today's audiences. "I am excited to expand the Mattel universe by bringing this classic toy from my childhood to a modern audience... by telling a story that examines the role of competition in a world often measured by strength and dominance, and dares to reveal the power of compassion at its core," he said.

