


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

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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,

Mahabubnagar, Wanaparthi, Bhadrachari Kothagudem, Sangareddy, Rangareddy, and Hanamkonda.

According to the State Election Commission, 84.28 per cent polling was recorded. Polling began at 7 a.m. and ended at 1 p.m. for 3,834 Sarpanch posts and 27,628 Ward Member posts. A total of 12,960 candidates were in the fray for Sarpanch posts, while 65,455 candidates competed for the Ward Member posts. More than 56 lakh voters were eligible to cast their votes at 37,562 polling centres spread across

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, Fluently 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 2,004.62, 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.

10 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



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.

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Open e-Tender Notice Nos. C/E-29/ Elec/M/SC/33/PA/OT/2025-26 Dt.11.12.2025

For and on behalf of President of India, the undersigned invites e-tender for the given below work up to 15.00 hours on 02.01.2026

e-Tender No.: -etenderNo. C/E-29/Elec/M/SC/33/PA/OT/2025-26 etender No.E-M-SC-33-OT-2025-26

Name of work: Secunderabad Division Electrical Maintenance Department : (i) Provision of Divyangyan facilities in stations under Sr.DEN/North/SC jurisdiction. (ii) Provision of Divyangyan facilities in stations under Sr.DEN/North-West/SC jurisdiction. (iii) Provision of Divyangyan facilities in stations under Sr.DEN/South/SC jurisdiction and (iv) Provision of Divyangyan facilities in stations under Sr.DEN/west/SC jurisdiction (v) Provision of left over divyangyan facilities (Accessible route with tactile guidance, Tactile flooring for platform zoning, Contrasting Colour Scheme for structural elements & Platform edge Strips) to meet short term targets under Sr.DEN/North/SC jurisdiction (vi) Provision of Divyangyan facilities to meet short term targets in Sr.DEN/North-West/SC section (vii) Provision of Divyangyan facilities to meet short term targets in stations under Sr.DEN/South/SC section (viii) Provision of Divyangyan amenities (water taps, Divyangyan toilets, Accessible route with tactile guidance, Platform Zoning, Contrasting colour scheme for structural elements & Platform edge strips) to meet short term targets in Sr.DEN/West/SC section (ix) Provision of Divyangyan amenities to meet short term targets in Sr.DEN/Co-ord/SC section (x) Provision of Divyangyan amenities to meet short term targets in SNF-SC-KZJ (xi) KZJ-BZA Section: Upgradation of COPs with SS gutter, New sheeting & Provision of additional PF shelters in stations under ADEN/S/KZJ sub division (xii) KZJ-BZA Section: Proposed construction of additional COPs in stations under ADEN/MDR sub division - Electrical arrangements. Tender Value: (₹) 2,86,28,720.00 EMD : (₹) 2,53,200.00 CTF: (₹) 0.00Completion period : 6 Months

1. Tender conditions/other particulars are available in the Tender documents on IREPS website at "www.ireps.gov.in" which can be downloaded, can be participated and can view any modifications if any. Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer, (Maintenance) Secunderabad

E-Tender Notice No.44-2025 Dt: 11.12.2025

Senior Divisional Engineer/Coordination/Guntakal acting for and on behalf of the President of India invites E-Tenders for the following works Closing date & Time:08.01.2026 at 15:00 hrs

1.Tender No.: Engg-GTL-1992 Description of work : Gooty-Improvements to Yard examination facilities and open shed for models at ATC of freight depot/GY. Advertised Value in (₹) 2,50,74,102.54 Earnest Money Deposit in : (₹) 2,75,400.00

2.Tender No.: Engg-GTL-North-1993 Description of work : Guntakal Division : Provision of Shunting neck at Timmanacherla (TIM) in Guntakal Gooty section involving (i) Construction of Retaining wall (ii) Earth work and (iii) Track linking. Advertised Value in (₹) 4,49,36,214.08 Earnest Money Deposit in : (₹) 3,74,700.00

3.Tender No.:Engg-GTL-Bridge-1994 Description of work : GTL Division: (1) Replacement of corroded top flange plates, top lateral bracings and top lateral gusset plates on Br.No. 45DN (26x16.30) @ Km: 240.32-241/8 between KLU-PMD Stations in DMM-GY section. (2) Providing bed plates of different sizes below the existing bedplates to correct X-level and vertical sag on Br.No. 45DN. (3) Metallization of steel girders and its components on Br.No. 45DN. (4) Provision of supporting the Signal, Telecom and OFC cable pipes running parallel to the Br.No. 45DN. Advertised Value in (₹) 2,56,67,106.10 Earnest Money Deposit in : (₹) 2,78,300.00

4.Tender No.:Engg-GTL-Bridge-1995 Description of work : BAY-GTL, GY-KLU, DMM-PAK Sec: Provision of Cradle arrangements for various major bridges and ROBs in SSE/Br/Central jurisdiction. Advertised Value in (₹) 4,08,85,719.23 Earnest Money Deposit in : (₹) 3,54,400.00

Any corrigenda will be issued online only.

Divisional Railway Manager/Works/Guntakal

Tender No. GTL-EM-63-2025-28 Date:12.12.2025

Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer/Maintenance/Guntakal acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders for the following works.

Tender No.: GTL-EM-63-2025-26 Name of the Work: Guntakal Division: 1. Provision of Electrical Arrangements for Upgradation of Crew Booking Lobby Building at Dhone by Providing All Specified Facilities along with Air Conditioning., 2. Improvement to colonies (including drains/water pipeline drainages/ roads, parks etc.) at DHNE. BMH & PDL Stations in ADEN/DHNE Sub-Division in Sr.DEN/Central Jurisdiction. Approximate Value: (₹) 54,32,232.76/-

Closing date and time: 05-01-2026 at 15.00hrs

For Bidding the tender and other details login to http://www.ireps.gov.in. Corrigendum of tender, if any will be issued online only.

Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer, Maintenance, Guntakal,

Massive security deployed for Messi's football match in Uppal



Uppal: Around 3,000 policemen have been deployed for Messi's football match at Uppal Stadium, Rachakonda

also be monitored via drones.

Messi has Z-category security, and CM Revanth Reddy will be present. Fans are advised to arrive early, park in designated areas, and follow safety protocols. Items like laptops, banners, cameras, cigarettes, fire-crackers, and pets are prohibited inside the stadium. Teams have also been formed to ensure women's safety.

LOK BHAVAN PARIWAR CELEBRATES PRE CHRISTMAS WITH DEVOTION AND JOY



Hyderabad: Lok Bhavan Pariwar celebrated Pre-Christmas festivities with great fervour and joy on Friday, spreading the divine spirit of Christmas through prayer, music and brotherly love. The

atmosphere resonated with devotion as members gathered to mark the occasion in a spirit of unity and goodwill.The Governor of Telangana Jishnu Dev Varma, graced the celebrations and joined the Lok Bhavan Pariwar and children in worshipful songs. Sharing in the sacred joy of the season, the Governor interacted warmly with the gathering, highlighting the importance of togetherness and harmony.The Festival Choristers of Hyderabad enthralled the audience with soul-stirring Christmas carols, adding a spiritual glow to the event. A beautifully decorated and illuminated Christmas tree stood as a symbol of hope, peace and divine cheer.

Community Pays Tributes to Narsaiah Goud



Warangal : Narsaiah Goud of Upparapalli village, Chennaiaropet mandal, Warangal district, passed away, leaving the village in deep sorrow. Members of the Upparapalli E m p l o y e e s , Businesspersons and Farmers visited the bereaved family and extended their condolences.As per information shared by village group member Vatte Ravi Kiran Reddy, the group founder Puli Devender Mudhiraj visited Upparapalli, paid floral tributes to Narsaiah Goud and consoled his sons and family members. Speaking on the occasion, Puli Devender Mudhiraj said that Narsaiah Goud's life of kindness and integrity was an inspiration to many. He noted that his sons Ailaiah, Ramesh, Srinu and Raju are continuing their father's legacy by serving the village and society. He mentioned that Srinu provides medical services to the poor at low cost through his private hospital, while Raju, an advocate, offers free legal services to the underprivileged.He described the loss of Narsaiah Goud as deeply painful and assured the family of the community's full support. MEPA Warangal district secretary Pendyala Krishna, along with family members, villagers, employees, businesspersons and farmers, were present during the condolence visit.

Tender No. GTL-EM-64-2025-26 Date:12.12.2025

Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer/Maintenance/Guntakal acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders for the following works...

Tender No.: GTL-EM-64-2025-26 Name of the Work: Guntakal division-Construction of new Trip shed at Tiruchanur (TCNPR) over Guntakal division. Approximate Value: (₹) 7903955.86/-

Closing date and time: 05-01-2026 at 15.00hrs

For Bidding the tender and other details login to http://www.ireps.gov.in. Corrigendum of tender, if any will be issued online only.

Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer, Maintenance, Guntakal,

For further tender conditions / details and for downloading the tender documents, Please visit website at https://www.ireps.gov.in or www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

Priority to Village Development Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy



Hyderabad: State Minister for Roads & Buildings and C i n e m a t o g r a p h y , Komatireddy Venkat Reddy, on Friday said that the development of villages in the Nalgonda Assembly constituency would be given top priority and assured that any amount of funds required for village development would be allocated.

Newly elected Congress Party Sarpanches from Nalgonda, Tipparti and Kanagal mandals met the Minister at his camp office (Indira Bhavan) in Nalgonda. The Minister congratulated the newly elected Sarpanches and extended his best wishes.Addressing them, Komatireddy Venkat Reddy said that public positions are not permanent and urged the Sarpanches to make the best use of the opportunity given by the people. He advised them to work inclusively by taking everyone

along and to implement development programmes beyond party affiliations."Elections are only for contesting. After elections, the focus should be entirely on development," he said. He reiterated that adequate funds would be sanctioned for the development of all villages in the Nalgonda constituency and asked the Sarpanches to bring any village-related problems directly to his notice.The Minister also urged them not to lose confidence when faced with difficulties and said that no problem is insurmountable. Speaking emotionally, he said that after losing his son, he finds happiness in serving the poor and sees his son in the people he helps. He added that the support given by the people of Nalgonda can never be repaid and assured that he would always remain accessible and stand with the people in their joys and sorrows.

People's Trust Must Be Honoured Neelam Madhu Mudhiraj



Hyderabad: Medak Parliament Congress Party Incharge Neelam Madhu Mudhiraj called upon newly elected Sarpanchs and Ward Members to uphold the trust of the people who voted for them and work continuously for village development and public welfare without compromising the faith reposed in them.

A grand felicitation programme was organised at Neelam Madhu Mudhiraj's Chitkul camp office to honour the Newly elected Nallavali Sarpanch Korvi Rani Suresh

and Kanukunta Ward Members following their victory in the Gram Panchayat elections. The winners were warmly felicitated with Shawls amid enthusiastic participation from party workers and villagers. Addressing the gathering, Neelam Madhu Mudhiraj said that every activist who worked tirelessly for the Congress Party would be duly recognised."I stand by everyone who believes in the Congress Party and works with commitment. The journey from activist to leader must always be rooted in service to the people," he said. He advised the newly elected representatives to actively implement development and welfare programmes in their respective villages and

ensure that the benefits of the Telangana People's Government under Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy reach every household.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is for information that **Residential Villas**, Construction Project, Situated at Survey No 122, 123, 148, 150 to 162, 165 to 169, 176 to 183, 186 to 188, velimela village, Ramachandra Puram, Sanga Reddy Dist, Telangana State being developed by M/s. Supadha Infra Private Limited has been accorded Environmental Clearance by state Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) vide EIA notification S/O. 1533 Dated 14th September-2006 Copy of the said environmental clearance is available with Telangana State Pollution Control Board,

Sd/-
M/s. Supadha Infra Private Limited (Authorised Signatory)

Union Bank of India
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)

JANGAMPALLI BRANCH

Sale notice for sale of Immovable properties

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 Read with Proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of JANGAMPALLI BRANCH Union Bank of India Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on 30-12-2025 , for recovery of Rs.10,44,513.78/ (Rupees Ten Lacs forty four Thousand Five Hundred Thirteen and paise Seventy Eight Only) +interest thereon due to the Union Bank of India, JANGAMPALLI BRANCH Secured Creditor from Mr. Gainikadi Venkaiah S/O G. Venkaiah (Borrower) & Mrs. Gainikadi Padma W/O Mr. Gainikadi Venkaiah (Co-Borrower) & Mr. Shettyapalli Srinivasulu Sharma (Guarantor). The reserve price will be Rs. 11,01,600/- and the earnest money deposited will be Rs. 1,10,160/-

Borrower: Mr. Gainikadi Venkaiah S/O G. Venkaiah,
Address 1: H No 4/3-45/1, Sangameshwar Colony,Banswada-503187, Dist-Nizamabad, Telangana
Address 2: Flat No 2 , Second Floor, Guru Raghendra Colony Chinnamallareddy Village Kamareddy Mandal Telangana – 503102, Mob: 9440575118
Co-Borrower: Mrs. Gainikadi Padma W/O Mr. Gainikadi Venkaiah
Address 1: H No 4/3-45/1, Sangameshwar Colony,Banswada-503187,Dist- Nizamabad, Telangana
Address 2: Flat No 2 , Second Floor, Guru Raghendra Colony Chinnamallareddy Village Kamareddy Mandal Telangana – 503102, Mob: 9440575118
Guarantor: Mr. Shettyapalli Srinivasulu Sharma
Address: Plot No 65 Sr Guru Raghendra Enclave, Near Railway Gate Chinnamallareddy, Kamareddy- 503123 Telangana
Details of Secured Asset:-
Residential RCC roofed flat no SF-2, Second Floor, Western Portion, Adm. 806.00 Sq Fts, including common area with undivided 1/6th share i.e. 37.66 Sq yards in the entire plot area of 226.11 Sqyards constructed over the open plot no 51, lies in Sy No 207/1, 207/2, 207/3a, 207/3b, 207/4A, 207/4B, 207/5, 207/6, 207/7, 207/8A, 207/8B, 207/9, 208/7, 208/12, 208/13A, 208/13B, 208/13C, 208/15, 208/16, 208/20A, 208/23, 208/28, 208/29, 208/30, 208/32, & 208/33 in the DTCP Approved vide G.P.L.P No 10/2011/HRO, in "GURU RAGHENDRA ENCLAVE" situated at Chinnamallareddy (V),Kamareddy (MDL),Dist. Nizamabad, within the limits of G.P Chinnamallareddy, Regn. Sub. Dist. Kamareddy Z.P. & Regn Dist. Nizamabad, as bounded by
Boundaries of Flat: North: Open to Sky, South: Open to Sky, East: Flat no SF-1 and staircase, West: Open to Sky.
Boundaries of the Land: North: 40 ft wide road, South: Plot no 50, East: Plot No 28, West: 33 ft wide road
Encumbrances known to the secured Creditor: Not Known
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in Union Bank of India Secured Creditor's website i.e. www.unionbankofindia.co.in and service Provider's website i.e. <https://banknet.com>
Date: 09-12-2025 **Sd/-Authorized Officer,**
Place: Jangampalli **Union Bank of India**

HINDUJA HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED
Corporate office at #167-169, 2nd Floor, Little Mount, Saidapet, Chennai-600 015.

APPENDIX -IV Possession Notice (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Hinduja Housing Finance Limited (HHFL) under the Securitization 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 the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, Demand Notice(s) issued by the Authorized Officer of the company to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) mentioned herein below to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sub-Section (4) of the Section 13 of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement rules, 2002. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub -section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of HHFL for an amount as mentioned herein under with interest thereon.

Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/Guarantor/LAN No.	Demand Notice Date and Amount	DATE OF PHYSICAL POSSESSION
1. Mr. KALPAGIRI VIJAYBorrower 2. Mrs. KALPAGIRI ANUSHCo-Borrower Both Are R/o. H.No.3-90 Manchuppula, Palakurthi, Warangal Rural, Telangana - 506222 Loan Account Nos. AP/WGL/WRNG/A000000560.	13.09.2025 Rs.9,36,405/- (Rupees Nine Lakh Thirty-Six Thousand Four Hundred Five Only)	12-12-2025
1. Mr. NAGELLI SATHISH, R/o.H.No 1-79, PASRANAGARAM, GOVINDARAOPET Mulugu, Warangal, Telangana, India - 506347,.....Borrower 2. Mrs. SHAGANTI ANUSHA R/o.H.No 1-79 PASRANAGARAM GOVINDARAOPET, MULUGU, Near school, Semburam, Warangal, Telangana, India - 506347.....Co-Borrower Loan Account Nos. AP/WGL/WRNG/A000000642..	13.09.2025 Rs.8,22,158/- (Rupees Eight lakh twenty-two thousand one hundred fifty-eight Only)	12-12-2025

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY : All that the land and R.C.C. building with Ground Floor and constructed in an extent of 293.33sq. Yards of land Residence of Door No 3-90 MANCHUPPULA VILL. PALAKURTHY MDL. JANGAON DIST. Telangana-506222. Another No.8707 0312 6911 within the limits of S.R.O.KADANDL Abounded as follows: Boundaries: EAST: PLOT of KAKARLA DURGAIAH, WEST: G.P CC ROAD, NORTH: HOUSE OF VEERASWAMY KALPAGIRI, SOUTH HOUSE OF KALPAGIRI YADIAIAH

Place : WARANGAL
Date : 12-12-2025

Sd/-Authorised Officer
For Hinduja Housing Finance Limited

IDBI BANK
IDBI Bank Limited, 3 rd floor, D. No: 5-9-89/1 and 2, Chapel Road, Hyderabad-500001, Telangana, www.idbibank.in, Email: dv.krishna@idbi.co.in

CIN: L65190MH2004GOI148838

NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES
Appendix – IV-A [See proviso to Rule 8 (6) and Rule 9 (1)]

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act) read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) and Rule 9 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (Rules)

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged to IDBI Bank Ltd., the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of IDBI Bank Ltd., the Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on December 29 th 2025 (as per detailed schedule given below), for recovery of amounts due to the IDBI Bank Ltd. Secured Creditor from Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) as mentioned herein below along with reserve prices and the Earnest Money Deposits (EMD) of each of the properties.

Important Dates	
Date of Sale of Bid document:	December 13 th , 2025 onwards
Date of Inspection :	Every working day during December 13, 2025 to December 23, 2025 during 10.30 am to 5.00 pm with prior request..
Last Date of submission of Bid:	December 24, 2025
Opening of Bids :	December 26, 2025
Date and time of e-auction :	December 29, 2025 from 11.00 am onwards
Name(s) of the Borrower(s) :	Smt.Suman Kapasi
Names of the Mortgageor(s)/ Guarantor(s):	Smt.Suman Kapasi W/O Nimeet Kapasi
Amount due :	Outstanding dues of Rs. 86,06,660/- as on December 11, 2025 plus charges, expenses and further interest thereon with effect from 12 th December 2025 at the contractual rates upon the footing of compound interest.

Property Details		Reserve Price	EMD
All that entire third floor of the House No. 16-11-781/6/1/2, on plot No 75 with plinth area of 1300 sq.ft and UDS of 62.33 sqyds including Car Parking at Moosarambagh Hyderabad owned by Suman Kapasi w/o Nimeet Kapasi and bounded by :North:Open to Sky /Neighbour's H.No:16-11-23/66, South: Stair case and corridor/30 ft road, East: Open to Sky/Plot No:76, West: Open to Sky/Plot No:74. Location Coordinates 17.372415 78.515436		Rs.32,40,000/-	Rs.3,24,000/-

Gist of the terms & conditions appearing in Bid Documents:

- Interested bidders shall submit proof of payment along with KYC documents (photo identity and address proofs) like PAN Card (compulsory), Aadhaar Card, Passport, Voter ID card, Driving License etc. in person to the authorized officer at the address given above. Online submission of auction participation application shall not be entertained and rejected. The bidder shall have to submit the bid along with necessary documents and filling forms in person by visiting the Authorized Officer (AO) at the address given above. EMD to be remitted to Account No.59434915010026, IFSC Code: IBKL0000594, Branch Name: IDBI Bank Limited, Kachiguda Branch, Hyderabad, by way of RTGS only in favour of IDBI Bank Ltd. The amount of EMD paid by the interested bidders shall carry no interest. The EMD shall be forfeited if the bidder does not participate in the e-auction by placing the bid. AO may retain EMD of top three bidders up to 3 months from the date of opening of the bids.
- The AO shall not take responsibility for any dues (Statutory or otherwise) outstanding as on date and yet to fall due, including dues that may affect transfer of properties in the name of the successful bidder and such dues, if any, shall have to be borne by the successful purchaser. IDBI shall not take any responsibility to provide information on the same. The successful bidder would be required to bear all the necessary expenses like stamp duty, registration, expenses, tax liabilities, if any, etc. for transfer of immovable property.
- IDBI Bank Ltd and AO do not take responsibility for any errors/omissions/ discrepancy/ shortfall etc. in the immovable properties or for procuring any permissions etc. or for the dues of any authority established by law. IDBI Bank Ltd and AO shall not be responsible for any error, inaccuracy or omission in this proclamation of sale.
- AO reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids without assigning any reason(s). In case all the bids are rejected, the AO reserves the right to sell the assets by any of the modes as prescribed in the Act.
- For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in IDBI Bank's website i.e. www.idbibank.in. For any clarification, the interested parties may contact Shri Venkata Krishna Reddy Devireddy DGM (Tel: 040 6769 4111, E-mail: dv.krishna@idbi.co.in) and Shri.N.Sreekanth, AGM (Cell: 9010003548), E-mail: n.sreekanth@idbi.co.in.
- For E-auction support, please contact Miss. B M Sushmitha / Mrs. Pooja M, Land Line:080-45982100 Mobile: 8951944383 /9686196751, E-mail sushmitha.b@antareassystems.com /pooja.m@antareassystems.com, Website: <https://www.bankauctions.com>, Anteras Systems Ltd., "Honganasu", #137/3, Bangalore Mysore Road, Opp: to Metro Pillar P-696, Kengeri, Bangalore-560060.

Statutory Notices as per Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 ("the Rules")

The Borrower and Mortgageor Smt.Suman Kapasi is hereby notified under Rule 9(1) of the Rules that the above mentioned immovable property shall be sold after 15 days from the date of this notice by holding public e-auction. However, the Borrower/Mortgageor(s) /Guarantor(s) may pay outstanding dues of Rs. 86,06,660/- as on December 11, 2025 plus charges, expenses and further interest thereon with effect from December 12 th 2025 at the contractual rates upon the footing of compound interest and take back the possession of the immovable properties in question. In case Borrower/Mortgageor/Guarantor(s) fail to pay the outstanding dues as demanded herein within 15 days from the date of this Notice, the Authorized Officer would be at liberty to proceed with the above mentioned public e-auction of the immovable property of the respective Borrower/Mortgageor.

Date: 13 th December, 2025
Place: Hyderabad.

Sd/-
Authorized Officer

IDBI BANK
IDBI Bank Limited, 3 rd floor, D. No: 5-9-89/1 and 2, Chapel Road, Hyderabad-500001, Telangana, www.idbibank.in, Email: dv.krishna@idbi.co.in

CIN: L65190MH2004GOI148838

NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES
Appendix – IV-A [See proviso to Rule 8 (6) and Rule 9 (1)]

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act) read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) and Rule 9 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (Rules)

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged to IDBI Bank Ltd., the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of IDBI Bank Ltd., the Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on December 29 th 2025 (as per detailed schedule given below), for recovery of amounts due to the IDBI Bank Ltd. Secured Creditor from Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) as mentioned herein below along with reserve prices and the Earnest Money Deposits (EMD) of each of the properties.

Important Dates	
Date of Sale of Bid document:	December 13 th , 2025 onwards
Date of Inspection :	Every working day during December 13, 2025 to December 23, 2025 during 10.30 am to 5.00 pm with prior request..
Last Date of submission of Bid:	December 24, 2025
Opening of Bids :	December 26, 2025
Date and time of e-auction :	December 29, 2025 from 11.00 am onwards
Name(s) of the Borrower(s) :	Shri Amar Ganesh and Ms Tankari Annapurma
Names of the Mortgageor(s)/ Guarantor(s):	Shri Amar Ganesh S/O D Bala Swamy
Amount due :	Outstanding dues of Rs. 17,43,353/- as on December 11, 2025 plus charges, expenses and further interest thereon with effect from 12 th December 2025 at the contractual rates upon the footing of compound interest.

Property Details		Reserve Price	EMD
All that open plot No.288 Middle Part admeasuring 150 Sq Yrds or 125.4 Sq Mtrs in Survey No:368,369,382, part & 383 part in VRR Grand Enclave situated at Keerasa and bounded by :North: Plot No.288 North part;South: Plot No.288 South Part;East: 30' wide road;West: Plot No.294 Location Coordinates 17.529432 78.663981		Rs.24,23,000/-	Rs.2,42,000/-

Gist of the terms & conditions appearing in Bid Documents:

- Interested bidders shall submit proof of payment along with KYC documents (photo identity and address proofs) like PAN Card (compulsory), Aadhaar Card, Passport, Voter ID card, Driving License etc. in person to the authorized officer at the address given above. Online submission of auction participation application shall not be entertained and rejected. The bidder shall have to submit the bid along with necessary documents and filling forms in person by visiting the Authorized Officer (AO) at the address given above. EMD to be remitted to Account No.116934915010026, IFSC Code: IBKL0001169, Branch Name: IDBI Bank Limited, AS Rao Nagar Branch, Hyderabad, by way of RTGS only in favour of IDBI Bank Ltd. The amount of EMD paid by the interested bidders shall carry no interest. The EMD shall be forfeited if the bidder does not participate in the e-auction by placing the bid. AO may retain EMD of top three bidders up to 3 months from the date of opening of the bids.
- The AO shall not take responsibility for any dues (Statutory or otherwise) outstanding as on date and yet to fall due, including dues that may affect transfer of properties in the name of the successful bidder and such dues, if any, shall have to be borne by the successful purchaser. IDBI shall not take any responsibility to provide information on the same. The successful bidder would be required to bear all the necessary expenses like stamp duty, registration, expenses, tax liabilities, if any, etc. for transfer of immovable property.
- IDBI Bank Ltd and AO do not take responsibility for any errors/omissions/ discrepancy/ shortfall etc. in the immovable properties or for procuring any permissions etc. or for the dues of any authority established by law. IDBI Bank Ltd and AO shall not be responsible for any error, inaccuracy or omission in this proclamation of sale.
- AO reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids without assigning any reason(s). In case all the bids are rejected, the AO reserves the right to sell the assets by any of the modes as prescribed in the Act.
- For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in IDBI Bank's website i.e. www.idbibank.in. For any clarification, the interested parties may contact Shri Venkata Krishna Reddy Devireddy DGM (Tel: 040 6769 4111, E-mail: dv.krishna@idbi.co.in) and Shri.N.Sreekanth, AGM (Cell: 9010003548), E-mail: n.sreekanth@idbi.co.in.
- For E-auction support, please contact Miss. B M Sushmitha / Mrs. Pooja M, Land Line:080-45982100 Mobile: 8951944383 /9686196751, E-mail sushmitha.b@antareassystems.com /pooja.m@antareassystems.com, Website: <https://www.bankauctions.com>, Anteras Systems Ltd., "Honganasu", #137/3, Bangalore Mysore Road, Opp: to Metro Pillar P-696, Kengeri, Bangalore-560060.

Statutory Notices as per Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 ("the Rules")

The Borrower and Mortgageor Shri Amar Ganesh is hereby notified under Rule 9(1) of the Rules that the above mentioned immovable property shall be sold after 15 days from the date of this notice by holding public e-auction. However, the Borrower/Mortgageor(s) /Guarantor(s) may pay outstanding dues of Rs. 17,43,353/- as on December 11, 2025 plus charges, expenses and further interest thereon with effect from December 12, 2025 at the contractual rates upon the footing of compound interest and take back the possession of the immovable properties in question. In case Borrower/Mortgageor/Guarantor(s) fail to pay the outstanding dues as demanded herein within 15 days from the date of this Notice, the Authorized Officer would be at liberty to proceed with the above mentioned public e-auction of the immovable property of the respective Borrower/Mortgageor..

Date: 13 th December, 2025
Place: Hyderabad.

Sd/-
Authorized Officer

Home Minister Visits Chinturu Hospital, Reviews Treatment for Accident Victims



Alluri District: Home Minister Vangalapudi Anitha on Friday visited the Chinturu Area Hospital to console the families of those who died in the tragic bus accident and to inquire about the medical treatment being provided to the injured.

Calling the incident “deeply unfortunate,” the Minister said it

was painful that nine people lost their lives. The bus, travelling from Simhachalam to Bhadrachalam via Araku, met with the accident while carrying 37 passengers, including two drivers. Five women and four men died on the spot. Police immediately shifted the injured to the hospital.

Minister Anitha said that Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu had directed officials to stay alert. Additional orthopedic doctors were deployed from Rajamahendravaram to support the treatment efforts. She noted that “small errors often lead to such major accidents.”

The government has already announced compensation for the victims. After recovery, all passengers will be safely transported to their destinations in two buses. Bodies will be handed over to families after post-mortem formalities.

The Minister said previous rules that restricted travel in foggy conditions are being re-implemented from today. She also announced special measures, including mandatory specialized licences for drivers on ghat roads, installation of warning boards, road repairs, and identification of accident-prone zones.

Atal-Modi Good Governance Yatra Holds Second-Day Meeting in Anantapur

The second day of the Atal-Modi Good Governance Yatra, organised under the leadership of the BJP, witnessed an impressive public meeting in Anantapur. Addressing the gathering, BJP Andhra Pradesh President P.V.N. Madhav paid rich tributes to former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, recalling his inspiring journey from a humble family in Gwalior to becoming one of India’s most respected national leaders.

Madhav said it was a matter of pride to install Vajpayee’s statues across the state and thanked Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu for promptly approving the initiative after discussions with alliance partners. He praised Vajpayee as a leader who treated even defeat as a challenge and moved forward with courage. He highlighted Vajpayee’s contributions—from participating in the freedom struggle and facing imprisonment, to transforming India into a global force through decisive nuclear tests. “Vajpayee was a statesman who strengthened India’s global standing through strong diplomacy. His courage was unmatched—he never attacked first but warned that any attack on India would be firmly answered,” Madhav



said. He recalled Vajpayee’s long-standing bond with N.T. Rama Rao, supporting him against political conspiracies in the 1980s, and later partnering with Chandrababu Naidu in the 1999 elections. Despite political challenges—even losing the prime ministership by a single vote—Vajpayee remained positive and principled.

Madhav noted that Vajpayee introduced revolutionary reforms, expanded welfare schemes for farmers and rural communities, and ushered unprecedented progress in telecom and technology. “His ten-

ure was a model of corruption-free good governance,” he said. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has directed that Vajpayee’s centenary be marked with nationwide programmes, including the Good Governance Yatra. Alliance leaders across Andhra Pradesh are actively participating. Madhav concluded that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, Andhra Pradesh will move steadily toward development and fulfill the trust placed by the people.

KG Reddy College hosts interactive session for first-year B.Tech students



Hyderabad: KG Reddy College of Engineering and Technology organised an interactive session for first-year B.Tech students, featuring Prof. Dr. Balakista Reddy, Chairman of the Telangana Council for Higher Education (TSCHE).

Dr. Reddy highlighted the growing importance of technology in shaping India’s future and encouraged students to focus on innovation, continuous skill development, and ethical use of emerging technologies, including AI. He also explained the relevance of the Preamble of the Indian Constitution, urging students to uphold its values of justice, equality, liberty, and fraternity in their academic and professional lives.

The event concluded with the formal launch of the college diary by Dr. Reddy, along with Ln. K. Krishna Reddy, Chairman of KG Reddy College, Dean Academics Dr. M.N. Narasaiah, and Principal Srinivas Reddy, marking a significant milestone for the institution.

Vijayawada “Up for Sale”: CPM Allegations of Massive Land Scams Under Coalition Government



Vijayawada, Dec 12 — CPM leaders have accused the ruling coalition government of large-scale land scams, illegal leases, and encroachments worth over 5,825 crore across the city. Speaking at a press meet at the CPM district office, party state secretariat member CH Baburao and state committee member Donepudi Kasinath alleged that Vijayawada has been “put on sale” under the current administration. According to the CPM, nearly 248 acres of valuable land in Vijayawada

have either been leased out to private companies or encroached upon with government support. Of this, around 13 acres were allegedly grabbed, while the remaining were handed out under questionable lease agreements. Leaders claimed that despite promises to protect public property, the coalition government is replicating — and even surpassing — the irregularities it once accused the previous YSRCP regime of. They cited the Bhavanipuram Island case, where just 10 acres were shown on paper, but

nearly 230 acres worth 4,600 crore are being handed over to a private firm believed to be linked to influential leaders. Other alleged irregularities include: Old Bus Stand land worth 400 crore allotted to Lulu Mart through GO 137 Allocation of prime municipal and temple lands to private entities Proposed privatization of Harihara Resorts facilities Encroachments in Joji Nagar, Satavahana College area, and lands belonging to SRR College CPM leaders criticised what they called the “bulldozer culture” in Vijayawada, accusing authorities of demolishing private homes and college buildings under the guise of development while failing to acquire even basic land for housing the poor or launching genuine development works.

EWS Credit Cooperative Societies to Be Set Up Across AP BC & EWS Welfare Minister Savitha announces major initiatives

Amaravati: The Andhra Pradesh government will establish credit cooperative societies in all EWS and Kapu Corporations on the model of the Brahmin Cooperative Credit Society, announced BC, EWS Welfare and Handlooms & Textiles Minister S. Savitha. At a review meeting with EWS and Kapu Corporation chairpersons and directors at the Secretariat, the minister said MSME parks will give priority to EWS communities to help create at least one entrepreneur in every family. She said welfare schemes will be redesigned to boost economic growth among EWS groups.

Savitha said the government is committed to the empowerment of Brahmin, Arya Vysya, Kamma, Reddy, Kshatriya, Kapu and other EBC communities. The 2025–26 budget allocated 10,608.61 crore for various EWS and EBC corporations, including substantial funds for Kapu,



Reddy, Kamma and Arya Vysya bodies. Focus on Kapu Community Development The minister accused the previous government of halting major Kapu community infrastructure projects. She said the present coalition government has already completed Kapu buildings in Visakhapatnam and Nellore, and will soon complete the pending district-level centres in Tirupati and Kurnool, along with 39 mini community halls.

Foreign Education Scheme to Be Revived Savitha announced that the foreign education scheme for EWS students will soon be relaunched under a new framework. She noted that between 2014–19, 2,234 students studied abroad under the NTR Foreign Education Scheme with 244 crore support, but the scheme was “diluted” later. The government now aims to restore full benefits. Credit Cooperatives and Cultural Initiatives Savitha said all key welfare schemes for EWS communities implemented between 2014–19 will be reinstated. She highlighted government recognition for Arya Vysya traditions, including officially observing the Kanyaka Parameswari Ammavari Atmarpana Day and renaming Penugonda after Vasavi Matha. A proposal is also under consideration to address all members of Komati, Gupta, and Shetty sub-groups collectively as Arya Vysyas.

AP govt begins distribution of 5G smartphones to 58,204 Anganwadi staff



Vijayawada, Dec 12 (RNI): Women and Child Welfare and Tribal Welfare Minister Gummidi Sandhya Rani on Thursday launched the distribution of 5G smartphones to 58,204 Anganwadi workers, supervisors, and block coordinators, replacing the older 4G devices that frequently faced technical issues. The initiative, taken up at a cost of 75 crore, aims to enhance efficiency and ensure faster, more accurate service delivery to pregnant women, lactating mothers, and children across the State. Speaking at the launch event held at the NTR Collectorate, the Minister said that nearly 1.25 lakh personnel are currently serving in 55,204 Anganwadi centres in Andhra Pradesh. Minister Sandhya Rani highlighted that in a recent review conducted by Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, the Women and Child Welfare Department achieved 98% service delivery, earning an A++ category rating and securing the fourth position at the State level. She noted that the department had progressed from the bottom ranks to the top tier through the collective efforts of Anganwadi staff and officials.

Pawan Kalyan Felicitates India’s Blind Women’s Cricket World Cup Winners



Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan met the victorious Indian Blind Women’s Cricket Team at his camp office in Mangalagiri. Players, coaches and support staff participated in the interaction.

Pawan Kalyan congratulated the team for bringing home the

World Cup and presented a cash award of 5 lakh to each player and 2 lakh to each coach. He also honoured every player with silk sarees, shawls, mementoes, Kondapalli dolls and Araku coffee gift packs.

Calling their achievement a matter of national pride, Pawan Kalyan

assured that he would personally appeal to all state Chief Ministers for special training facilities for blind cricketers and extend full support. He also said the coalition government in Andhra Pradesh is committed to promoting sports and would convey the players’ concerns to Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu.

Expressing joy over the inclusion of Andhra Pradesh players Deepika (team captain) and Pangi Karuna Kumari in the World Cup-winning squad, he directed officials to address their requests.

Deepika, from Tambalahatti Tanda in Sri Sathya Sai district, highlighted the lack of road connectivity to her village, prompting immediate instructions for action. Similar directions were given

International Evangelist Dr. John Wesley to Address Telangana Secretariat Christmas Celebrations

Hyderabad: International Evangelist Dr. John Wesley will be the chief speaker at the Christmas Celebrations being organised by the Telangana Secretariat Employees Church Committee on Monday, December 15, 2025, from 11.30 am onwards at the Telangana Secretariat Employees Church, located within the Secretariat premises beside the Fire Station.

Programme will be held in the spirit of faith, unity and goodwill, inspired by the biblical message “For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord” (Luke 2:11). Chief



Minister of Telangana A. Revanth Reddy and Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka, have extended their warm greetings and support to Christian employees on the occasion of Christmas.

Dr. John Wesley is expected to deliver a special Christmas message highlighting the values of love, peace, compassion and service to humanity, emphasising harmony and brotherhood in society. The event is being organised under the leadership of the Telangana Secretariat Employees Church Committee, with K. Lal Bahadur Sastry (President), T. Swaran Raj (Secretary), E. Chitti Babu (Vice President) and other committee members overseeing the arrangements. Secretariat employees and their family members have been cordially invited to participate in the celebrations and share the joy of Christmas in a spirit of unity and goodwill.

Vijayawada Police Deploy High-Tech Surveillance for Bhavani Deeksha Event

Vijayawada : City Police Commissioner S.V. Rajashekar Babu, IPS, is overseeing security arrangements for the Bhavani Deeksha relinquishment event using advanced technology as the key tool.

The Commissioner personally inspected the bandobast along with senior officers, monitoring crowd movement at snan ghats, queue lines, parking zones, tansure halls, and holding areas from the Command Control Room set up at the



Model Guest House. AI drones and CCTV cameras were used to track crowd density, while facial recognition cameras kept watch on the movement of known offenders.

Upon detection, photos were sent instantly from the control room to crime teams for immediate action. To ensure smooth traffic, the Commissioner instructed the Traffic

DCP to monitor vehicle movement through the Aasthram app and guide devotees to designated parking areas without disruption. He also advised women police personnel to continuously assess and report the approximate waiting time for devotees.

Later, the Commissioner inspected homagundam areas, virumudi stalls, and prasadam counters, issuing necessary instructions to officers and staff to maintain alertness and efficiency.

Uday Nagaraju appointed to UK House of Lords, to be known as Baron Uday Nagaraju

Vijayawada, Dec 12 (RNI): In a proud moment for Telangana and the global Indian community, Uday Nagaraju, a native of Shanigaram village in the erstwhile Karimnagar district, has been appointed to the House of Lords, the upper chamber of the British Parliament.

His appointment as a Life Peer was formally approved by



King Charles III on the recommendation of United Kingdom Prime Minister Keir Starmer. The House of Lords, often

compared to India’s Rajya Sabha, includes distinguished individuals recognized for their national and international contributions. Following his swearing-in, Uday Nagaraju will be formally addressed as Lord Uday Nagaraju or Baron Uday Nagaraju, marking his entry into a prestigious circle of influential global leaders.

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.

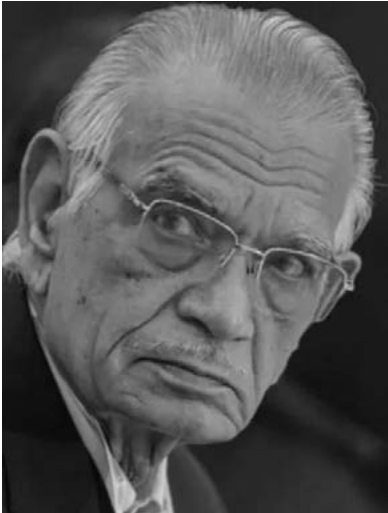
From history wars to power distribution

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.

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

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

No groupism among us, all 140 MLAs only belong to Congress group: Shivakumar

Belagavi, Dec 12 : Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar said on Friday that there is no groupism among the party cadre in the state, and noted that all the 140 MLAs only belong to the Congress group.

"All 140 MLAS, including me and the Chief Minister, only belong to one group, and that is the Congress group. Do not create any other group," said Shivakumar, while responding to a question about the dinner meeting. On Thursday, there was a dinner meeting, which was claimed to be a show of strength by Shivakumar.

"I am not displaying any strength, nor do I need to," said Shivakumar. Further clarifying about the dinner meeting, the Deputy Chief Minister said that the dinner was organised by his friend Doddannanavar.

"For the last 15 years, they have been inviting us home for a meal. We went there for only dinner out of respect for the family," he said.

Shivakumar said that people from his constituency also bring food; should he refuse their courtesy as well? "They invite affectionately. We go for food at different places each day. A boy from

my constituency said he would send 'ragi mudde' (ragi ball dish) and 'saaru (sambar). How can we refuse them? Tomorrow, senior leaders Asif Seth and Firoz Seth have invited us for dinner," he added.

On Chief Minister's son MLC Yathindra commenting about the Chief Minister's position, he said that the Chief Minister will answer everything. On other political developments, the Deputy Chief Minister said that he will travel to Delhi on December 13 to participate in the protest against voter fraud.

District Task Force Meeting on Pulse Polio Immunization Campaign: Pommala Sunil Kumar

Bengaluru: A District Task Force meeting for the systematic planning of the 2025 Pulse Polio Immunization Programme was held under the chairmanship of Bengaluru North City Corporation Commissioner, Pommala Sunil Kumar.

The meeting was attended by SMO Dr. Nagaraj,WHO consultants, Deputy Health Officers, administrative medical officers from all Urban Primary Health Centres, representatives from the Department of Women and Child Welfare, heads of private hospitals, representatives from apartments, NGOs, Rotary Club and more than 95 participants in total. The meeting included discussions on the measures taken for polio awareness activities, and the involvement of private hospitals,



apartments and volunteers.

Key decisions taken during the meeting:

Selection of volunteers/ booth staff for the Pulse Polio Programme: Medical officers of Urban Primary Health Centres were instructed to appoint the required staff from nursing colleges, degree colleges, medical colleges and paramedical institutions.

Expansion of awareness campaigns:

Directions were issued to create awareness about polio in all religious places, railway stations, bus stands, malls, high-rise buildings and public events.

Responsibility of private hospitals:

All private hospitals were instructed to immediately report AFP (Acute Flaccid Paralysis) and other suspected cases.

Setting up vaccination booths in view of the festive season:

As Christmas falls on 25-12-2025, instructions were given to establish Pulse Polio Immunization Booths in all churches on that day.

Additional Commissioner (Revenue), Joint Commissioners (Zone 1 and Zone 2), Health Officers and senior officials from various departments were present at the meeting.

Work in close coordination with the Police Department to prevent any untoward incidents during New Year celebrations: Naveen Kumar Raju

Bengaluru: Additional Commissioner Naveen Kumar Raju convened a meeting today to review and direct the precautionary measures to be undertaken by the Police, Traffic, BESCOM, Health, Solid Waste Management, and Engineering Departments in areas expected to witness high footfall—particularly Koramangala and JP Nagar—during the New Year celebrations within the Bengaluru South City Corporation limits.

Strictly follow Police Department advisories:

He instructed the officials in Koramangala and JP Nagar to coordinate closely with the Police Department and implement necessary measures to ensure that no untoward incidents occur during the New Year celebrations.

Ensure adequate lighting:

Officials from the BESCOM were directed to ensure that all streetlights in and around the pub clusters of Koramangala and JP Nagar are fully functional. Temporary lighting arrangements must be installed immediately in dark or poorly



lit areas.

Deploy medical teams and ambulances:

Police Department has already arranged for 10 precautionary beds at St. John's Hospital for New Year's Day. Similarly, he instructed that beds be reserved at Jayanagar Government Hospital.

A total of 6-7 teams comprising doctors, nurses, and ambulances must be deployed in

areas identified by the police.

Uninterrupted power supply in public areas:

BESCOM officials were instructed to ensure uninterrupted power supply in major celebration zones. To prevent any electrical emergencies, BESCOM must deploy nodal officers at designated police stations.

Immediate waste clearance:

The Solid Waste Management

Department was directed to promptly clear waste generated during the celebrations, including firecracker debris, alcohol bottles discarded in public areas, and other waste materials.

Install signboards at work sites:

The projects department was instructed to install mandatory signboards at all ongoing city corporation work sites in and around Koramangala and JP Nagar, and to immediately repair any disrupted footpaths.

Create a WhatsApp coordination group:

To ensure seamless coordination among all departments during the New Year celebrations, he directed that a WhatsApp group be created including all concerned officials for real-time updates and information sharing.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Commissioner of Police (Southeast Division) Sara Fatima ; Chief Engineer K.V.Ravi; Health Officer Balasundar; BESCOM Superintending Engineer; and other officials.

Team formed to expedite Mekedatu project

Bengaluru : The State government has issued a GO forming a team under the leadership of Karnataka Engineering Research Station Director to expedite Mekedatu project in view of the favourable Supreme Court order. The committee will comprise of Deputy Chief Engineer and other staff and will operate from its office in Ramanagara. The Mekedatu project office will also be set up at Ramanagara as per the GO.

A meeting on Mekedatu held on November 18 under the leadership of DCM DK Shivakumar has decided to set up the office of Superintending Engineer to expedite Mekedatu work. In view of requirement for Finance department approval for staffing and office set up, it has been decided to give the responsibility to KERS Director.

The team under KERS Director will comprise of an Executive engineer, three technical assistants, six assistant engineers, one accountant, Superintendent and other staff.

The Caveri Neeravari Nigam Limited (CNNL) will take steps to set up the Mekedatu project office. This office team will function under the leadership of CNNL Director and administrative expenses would be borne by the CNNL. The Director of CNNL has been instructed to handover all the relevant documents of Medatu project to KERS Director, the GO said.

FLAMES ON THE HORIZON: HOW CLIMATE CHANGE IS SUPERCHARGING WILDFIRE RISKS

Scientists examined multiple fire danger indices for the contiguous U.S. to assess the impact of climate change on future wildfire risk and seasonality. Wildfires are some of the most destructive natural disasters in the country, threatening lives, destroying homes and infrastructure, and creating air pollution. In order to properly forecast and manage wildfires, managers need to understand wildfire risk and allocate resources accordingly. A new study contributes scientific expertise to this effort.

Assessing Future Fire Risks

In the study, published in the November issue of the journal Earth's Future, researchers from the Desert Research Institute (DRI), Argonne National Laboratory, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison, teamed



up to assess future fire risk. They looked at the four fire danger indices used across North America to predict and manage the risk of wildfire to see how the risk correlated with observed wildfire size between 1984 and 2019. Then,

they examined how wildfire risk changed under the projected future climate, finding that both fire potential and a longer wildfire season are likely under climate change.

COMPREHENSIVE RISK EVALUATION

"We use several of these fire danger indices to evaluate fire risk in the contiguous U.S.," said Guo Yu, Ph.D., assistant research professor at DRI and lead author of the study. "But previous studies have only looked at how climate change will alter wildfire risk using one of them, and only a few studies have looked at how fire risk has translated to the size or characteristics of actual wildfires. We wanted to rigorously assess both in this paper."

Fire danger indices use information about weather conditions and fuel moisture, or how dry vegetation is on the ground. The most common fire danger indices used in North America are the USGS Fire Potential Index, the Canadian Forest Fire Weather Index, and the Energy Release Component and Burning

Indices from the National Fire Danger Rating System.

CORRELATION AND CLIMATE PROJECTIONS

First, the scientists used satellite remote sensing data from 1984-2019 to see how potential fire risk correlated with ultimate wildfire size for more than 13,000 wildfires, excluding controlled burns. They found that when wildfire risk was higher, wildfire size tended to be larger, and this relationship was stronger over larger areas. By plugging the fire danger indices into future climate projections, the study found that extreme wildfire risk will increase by an average of 10 days across the continental U.S. by the end of the century, driven largely by increased temperatures. Certain regions, like the southern Great Plains (including Kansas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Texas) are projected to have more than 40 additional days per

year of extreme wildfire danger. A few small regions are projected to see a decrease in their annual wildfire risk season due to higher rainfall and humidity, including the Pacific Northwest coast and the mid-Atlantic coast.

REGIONAL VARIATIONS AND SEASONAL SHIFTS

In the Southwest, the extreme wildfire season is projected to increase by more than 20 days per year, most of which will occur in the spring and summer months. Longer fire seasons extending into the winter months are also projected, particularly for the Texas-Louisiana coastal plain. "Under a warmer future climate, we can see that the fire danger will even be higher in the winter," Yu said. "This surprised me, because it feels counterintuitive, but climate change will alter the landscape in so many ways."

Beneficiaries hit 1.3 crore, CM Stalin hints at a KMUT raise



CHENNAI: Chief Minister MK Stalin on Friday signalled that the monthly entitlement under the Kalaigarnar Magalir Urimai Thittam (KMUT) would be increased as women advance socially and economically.

Speaking at the Vellum Tamil Pengal event and launching the second phase of the scheme in Chennai, he said Tamil Nadu had recovered from “ten years of neglect” and was now experiencing unprecedented growth. With the State recording 16 per cent GSDP growth, women must receive their due share of this progress, he said.

So far, 1.13 crore women have been receiving Rs 1,000 a month under KMUT, amounting to Rs 28,000 disbursed to each beneficiary. With an additional 16.9 lakh women enrolled through the Ungaludan Stalin outreach, a total of 1.3 crore women will now receive the monthly assistance. Stalin distributed RuPay cards to ten beneficiaries and said the increasing number of recipients reflected the success of Dravidian model initiatives. As women’s empowerment grows, the rights allowance will rise accordingly, he said.

The scheme is currently followed in ten states, includ-

ing Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and Puducherry.

In his welcome address, Deputy Chief Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin said several States had adopted the Rs 1,000 assistance model, though none had named it a ‘Urimai Thogai’ scheme that emphasised women’s rights.

The event, inaugurated as part of Vellum Tamizh Pengal to showcase women achievers, began with Mangala Isai. Social activist Krishnammal Jagannathan, para-athlete Thulasimathi Murugesan and Chief Secretary N Muruganandam were present.

Beneficiaries of various government schemes shared their experiences, including those supported by the Chief Minister’s Health Insurance Scheme and Self-Help Group programmes. Film personalities such as Sathyaraj, Devayani, Vasanthabalan and TJ Gnanavel spoke on the importance of government welfare initiatives.

Professionals from medicine and literature fields participated, while Sri Lankan women presented an embroidered kerchief bearing the

EPS accuses Karnataka of deliberate bid to deprive TN Cauvery water



CHENNAI: AIADMK general secretary Edappadi K Palaniswami on Wednesday accused the Congress government in Karnataka of pursuing a deliberate agenda to deny Tamil Nadu its rightful share of Cauvery water by moving ahead with steps to construct a dam at Mekedatu.

In a statement, he said the Karnataka government had formed a 30-member high-level officials committee to make arrangements for the dam project, which he described as an attempt to “turn Tamil Nadu into a desert”. He alleged that Chief Minister MK Stalin had failed to present strong legal arguments before the Cauvery Management Authority and the Supreme Court, resulting in the present situation.

Palaniswami said the DMK government had shown a lack of seriousness in defending Tamil Nadu’s interests, and claimed that every time the DMK came to power, surrendering the state’s rightful claims in the Cauvery dispute became “routine”. He accused the DMK leadership of betraying the people of Tamil Nadu to protect what he described as its “selfish interests and family-run political business”.



Honble Minister for Health and Family Welfare announced that 3.38 lakh girl children in Tamil Nadu will benefit from the forthcoming HPV–Cervical Cancer Vaccination Programme to be launched by the Honble Chief Minister

Karur stampede: TVK files reply to State’s plea

NEW DELHI: Actor-turned-politician Vijay’s TVK has filed its reply (preliminary-rejoinder) to the Tamil Nadu government’s plea urging the Supreme Court to set aside its order that handed over the probe into the Karur stampede case to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

In its response, the TVK has claimed that the Tamil Nadu government’s plea (counter-affidavit) lacks material facts and provides no valid reason to remove the jurisdiction of the CBI and the supervisory committee, constituted by the top court.

TVK asserts that several statements in the State government’s counter-affidavit are false and misleading. Considering such claims would hinder the



ongoing investigation and its supervision, TVK added. “The Respondents (Tamil Nadu government) are erroneously claiming that the Petitioner (TVK) has misled this Hon’ble Court, omitted material facts, or made unsupported assumptions - these averments on the Respondents’ behalf do not have any substance, and are not borne by the material on record

before this Hon’ble Court”, as per the response by the TVK. Thus, TVK seeks that it is essential in the interests of justice for the CBI probe in the present case to be continued to be monitored by the Justice (Retd) Ajay Rastogi Committee.

TVK’s response has been filed through Advocates Dixita Gohil, Pranjal Agarwal, Rupali Samuel and Yash S Vijay.

BJP slams TN government for betraying farmers

CHENNAI: BJP State president Nainar Nagenthran on Friday accused the ruling DMK government of betraying farmers by failing to constitute the Agricultural Development Committees promised in the party’s 2021 election manifesto.

Referring to Promise No 35, which assured committees comprising farmers’ representatives to address sectoral issues and fix Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for foodgrains and horticultural produce, Nainar asked Chief Minister MK Stalin, “You proudly claim to be a ‘son of the Delta’ (Deltakkaran) on every stage, but have you ful-



filled the commitment you made to the farmers of this State?”

He alleged that the DMK regime had not only failed to solve existing agricultural problems but had doubled the distress faced by farmers during its four-and-a-half-year tenure.

“From not providing timely power supply for farm operations to failing to supply millets through all fair-price shops, the government’s burden on farmers is countless,” he charged.

The BJP leader further claimed that farmers were being forced to dump their produce on the streets due to the lack of a fair support price and market intervention.

“The DMK government has cheated farmers by denying MSP for the crops grown through their hard work. The agricultural community is now ready to uproot this government for abandoning them.

A new model for climate financing

Practically nowhere in the world has escaped the effects of climate change and global warming. From the North Pole to Antarctica, Chile to China, every country has been on the receiving end of the immense damage caused by extreme weather events. But of all regions, Asia-Pacific stands out in terms of the impact of changing weather and a warming world. According to many reports, it is the most vulnerable region in the world as far as the effects of climate change are concerned. Over the past 60 years, temperatures have been rising faster there than anywhere else. With extreme climate events becoming more frequent and intense, the region faces the risk of losing more than a third of its gross domestic product as a result of climate change.

Asia-Pacific is made up of more than 50 countries and accounts for about 30 percent of the world’s land-mass. Almost 4.8 billion people live there, which is about 60 percent of the total global population. The rippling effects of climate change in the region are therefore felt around the world, not only because Asia-Pacific is the biggest region geographically but also because of the sheer number of people living there. In this sense, what happens in Asia-Pacific affects far more people than anything in any other part of the world. Climate change threatens not only the long-term well-being of people in the region, but also the decades of progress made there in terms of tackling poverty, providing better nutrition and improving food security, as well as advancing overall human development.

So far, what we have seen is that almost all the sources of funds for climate finance have failed to deliver.

With little sign of the climate crisis easing, or even the prospect of an effective global agreement that could be successful in at least slowing global warming, Asia-Pacific, like the rest of the world, is left with two options: adaptation and mitigation. Together, they could help cushion the impact of climate change and help to cope with the economic dam-



age that is being inflicted on the region in terms of floods, forest fires, landslides and drought.

However, both adaptation and mitigation efforts require trillions of dollars of investment and, though the Asia-Pacific is certainly home to some of the richest countries in the world, including Japan, South Korea and Singapore, most of the people in the region are very poor. In terms of absolute numbers, it has the largest number of people living in extreme poverty.

At the UN’s COP28 climate change conference in Dubai last December, it was estimated that nearly \$6 trillion in climate financing will be needed by 2050. However, developing countries say the actual amount required will be much higher, because the effects of climate change are growing more intense, far-reaching and longer lasting, so the amount of money needed to cope with them has already gone far beyond the estimates. Some believe the true figure that will be needed by 2050 is closer to \$50 trillion. Against this backdrop, a recent report by the World Economic Forum said that raising funds on such a scale will require money from all available sources, including philanthropy, and it called for the establishment of what it called a public-private-philanthropic partnership. Certainly, there is no disputing the fact that dealing with global issues such as climate change calls for a global action and funds to be raised from multiple sources, with contributions from all stakeholders, including corporations, gov-

ernments, nongovernmental organizations, and certainly the rich or well-to-do around the world.

A public-private-philanthropic partnership would therefore be a welcome move, provided it is set up in such a way to ensure that it adequately reflects the roles and responsibilities of each partner.

So far, what we have seen is that almost all the sources of funds for climate finance have failed to deliver. The issue has been on the table since 2012, when developed countries agreed to pay \$100 billion every year to help the developing world prepare for climate change. Donor countries have fallen so far short of their promises that most observers believe it was more of a bluff than a genuine commitment. However, the need for money to address climate-related issues has not disappeared in the absence of the promised funding.

It must not turn into yet another platform for empty promises that leaves the public sector holding the baby.

In the meantime, the situation has grown dramatically worse, the need for money to address it has risen sharply and, though several months have passed since COP28, there is still no clarity on how the financing should be organized, by whom, to what timescales and who will decide the disbursement of the funds. All of these questions are divisive issues and reaching a global consensus on any of them will be extremely difficult, unless the parties expected to pay up actually get on board and set the ball rolling by setting a strict, legally binding timetable for their contributions, so that an organization such as the UN can then decide where the money should go. As far as the responsibility for funding the efforts to address climate change is concerned, it rests not only on the shoulders of the governments of wealthy countries, but equally on the super-rich corporate conglomerates that are each sitting on tens of billions of dollars of profits that, in many cases, were earned in ways that damaged the climate.

Accelerating the region’s transformation of its agrifood systems

The world is facing a major challenge in achieving the UN’s Sustainable Development Goal 2, which seeks to eliminate hunger and all forms of malnutrition by 2030. This is particularly true in the Near East and North Africa region, which in recent years has experienced a worrisome surge in food insecurity.

This dire development can be attributed to a multitude of factors, with the impact of conflicts, the climate crisis and other calamities being the most prominent. The recent crises in Gaza, Sudan and Yemen, coupled with prolonged pressures in other countries such as Syria and Iraq, are of great concern and immediate action is necessary to overcome these challenges and safeguard food supply chains to ensure food security for all.

For that, we need to accelerate the transformation of agrifood systems to make them more efficient, more inclusive, more resilient and more sustainable. This will be one of the main issues under discussion at the 37th session of the Food and Agriculture Organization’s Regional Ministerial Conference for the Near East in Amman, Jordan, on March 4 and 5. During this biennial governing body meeting, ministers will gather to assess the situation in the region’s agrifood systems and create a plan of action going forward, as well as to identify key priorities for the FAO’s program of work in the region. The challenges faced by agrifood systems across the Near East and North Africa, and beyond, are enormous.

At the FAO, we have realigned and refocused our efforts toward supporting members in accelerating the transformation needed. We have adopted agile operating strategies, offered tailored and timely data and analytical support, enhanced our engagement with governments, the private sector, civil society, academia and international financial institutions and have established transformative partnerships with all key players. The reformed and restructured FAO is now better equipped, fit for purpose and already working toward this transformation. Ownership and leadership by FAO

members, and collective efforts by all development partners and stakeholders, are crucial. Shared vision, foresight, responsibilities and implementation arrangements are needed to achieve our goals. I would like to emphasize the significance of collaborations and partnerships, especially in the Near East and North Africa.

The challenges faced by agrifood systems across the region, and beyond, are enormous and constantly increasing. With a growing population and dwindling agricultural resources, we must strive to improve productivity and efficiency as much as possible. We must produce more with less. To this end, we need to leverage the potential of cooperation, trade, investment and the utilization of innovation and technology within the region and with other regions. The priority should be to establish food corridors, which ought to harness the potential of production, regional value chains, intraregional trade, storage and reserve systems. We need to safeguard supply chains and trade to ensure food availability, accessibility and affordability for all.

The region also faces severe water scarcity and climate shocks. As a result, we must prioritize the adaptation to climate change, as well as mitigating greenhouse gas emissions. Agrifood systems are solutions based on science and data. We should recognize and acknowledge the efforts made by Egypt and the UAE to encourage collective action and pathways during the COP27 and COP28 climate summits and for advancing the agenda of agrifood systems and food security, as well as the food-water-energy nexus.

Currently, more than half of the region’s population cannot afford a healthy diet, which is a serious concern. In support of this process, the FAO initiated a process at COP27 that culminated at COP28 with the launch of a “Global Roadmap for Achieving SDG2 without breaching the 1.5 C threshold.” This aims to make the case that accelerated climate actions can transform agrifood systems and help to achieve good, nutritious food for all for today and tomorrow. At the FAO, members have endorsed a “Strategic Framework for 2022-2031” based on

the aspiration of the “Four Betters”: better production, better nutrition, a better environment and a better life, leaving no one behind. This comprehensive framework provides us with an opportunity to take a wide-ranging look at our agrifood systems, identify areas that need improvement and take appropriate actions.

Members benefit from the FAO’s technical expertise, assistance and support through its headquarters, as well as regional, subregional and country offices, to ensure effective implementation in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the SDGs. My focus is on strengthening the FAO’s country offices to maximize their impact on the ground and support the work of members at the country level. In support of our Strategic Framework, we have in place a number of flagship initiatives to support transformation, including the FAO Hand-in-Hand Initiative that supports the implementation of nationally led, ambitious programs to accelerate agrifood systems’ transformations by eradicating poverty (SDG1), ending hunger and malnutrition (SDG2) and reducing inequalities (SDG10). There is also the One Country One Priority Product initiative that supports countries in the development of more sustainable food value chains for special agricultural products and improved rural livelihoods.

Proactive measures designed to tackle the challenges of agriculture and food security play a crucial role here. This is not only important from a social and economic point of view but also for maintaining peace and stability. In recent times, this region has experienced social and political unrest caused by a lack of food security. The consequences of such developments should be enough to prioritize addressing this challenge and prevent potential future surges. Currently, more than half of the region’s population cannot afford a healthy diet, which is a serious concern. Governments should work toward improving access to affordable, healthy diets for their population. The FAO will continue to support these national efforts, including by acting as a professional platform

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

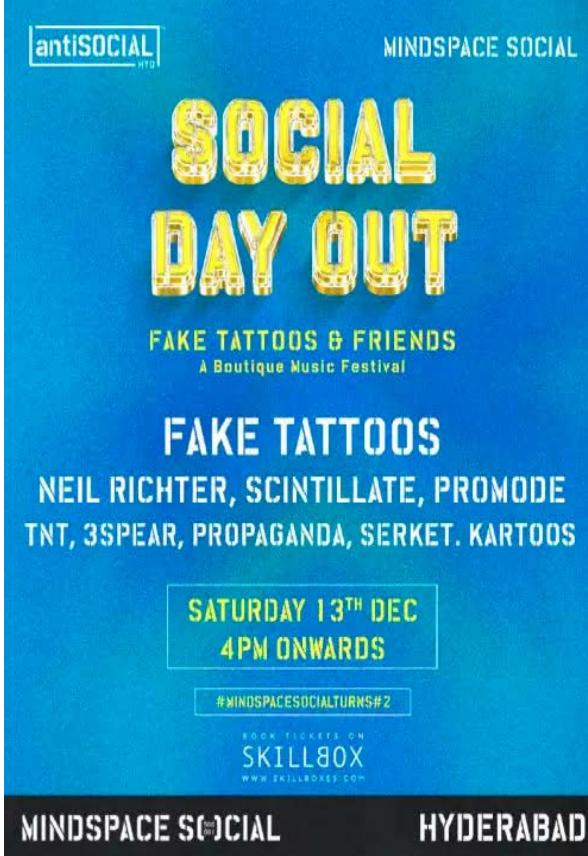
signal violations, operate effectively in fog, and issue emergency alerts when two trains are on the same track marks a significant leap forward. In a country where millions depend on rail travel daily, such technological interventions are critical.

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.

Trump's Gaza peace plan struggles to progress as Israel and Hamas face tough choices

A steady stream of water trickles through openings in the tent Ghadir al-Adham shares with her husband and six children in Gaza City. Her family is still displaced after the war and waiting for reconstruction to begin. "Here we are, living a life of humiliation," she told the BBC. "We want caravans. We want our homes rebuilt. We long for concrete to keep us warm. Every day I sit and cry for my children." Two months into an American-imposed ceasefire, Gaza is stuck in the first phase of Donald Trump's peace plan - its territory divided between the warring parties, its people still displaced and surrounded by rubble. Heavy rain has deluged camps and led several buildings to collapse, as a powerful winter storm sweeps through the Strip. More than 800,000 Gazans are at risk from flooding, the UN says.



Sticking point Plans for new homes - and new government - lie frozen in the next stage of US President Donald Trump's peace deal, as the search continues for Israel's last missing hostage, Ran Gvili. Israel's Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, has insisted Hamas must return all Israel's hostages - living and dead - before the two

sides move on to the next, more difficult, stage of the peace deal. But several searches of Gaza's rubble have so far shown no sign of him. Mr Gvili was captured during the 7 October Hamas attacks - a police officer, recovering from a broken shoulder, who went to defend nearby kibbutz Alumim. In response, a

Hamas official told the BBC their allegations were untrue, and that Israel was trying to avoid implementing the agreement. But with no sign of Ran's body, and pressure from Washington growing, his parents say they are counting on Israel's leaders not to move forward before their son is found. "Everyone in Israel[s] government says

to us, 'No, we don't move to the second level until Ran comes back.' This is their promise," Talik said. Many in Israel believe it would be politically difficult for Netanyahu to carry out the next steps in the deal, including withdrawing Israeli forces further back towards Gaza's perimeter, if even one hostage is still missing in Gaza. Time 'running out' Both Israel and Hamas face difficult concessions in the next stage of the deal. For Hamas, it means handing over weapons and power. For Israel, handing over security to an international stabilisation force. And this is also why leaders on both sides may be hesitating, says retired General Israel Ziv, a former head of Israel's military Operations Directorate. "Israel and Hamas are sharing the same interests not to move so fast into the second

stage," he told me. "Hamas doesn't want to lose control, and the Israeli side for political reasons also prefer to stay in Gaza, as nobody wants to explain to their base that they have to withdraw." He says Trump is the only one who can force the two sides forward, and that time is running out. "By waiting I think we might miss the opportunity because Hamas is reorganising and [its] strength is coming back," he explained. "We have to take a deep breath and go forward with that plan, because staying in the situation as it is, it's the worst-case scenario." Disarming Hamas - in a way both sides will accept - is seen as the first major hurdle. Without that, no foreign countries are likely to commit troops to secure the Strip, and no reconstruction is likely to begin in Hamas-controlled areas.

Russia hits back at Europe's big plan to loan Moscow's frozen cash to Ukraine



Ukraine is running out of cash to keep its military and its economy going, after almost four years of Russia's full-scale war. For Europe, the solution to plugging Kyiv's budget hole of 135.7bn (£119bn; \$159bn) for the next two years lies in frozen Russian assets sitting in Belgian bank Euroclear and EU leaders hope to sign that off at their Brussels summit next week. Russian officials warn the EU plan would be an act of theft and

Russia's central bank announced on Friday it was suing Euroclear in a Moscow court even before a final decision is made. In total, Russia has about 210bn of its assets frozen in the EU, and 185bn of that is held by Euroclear. The EU and Ukraine argue that money should be used to rebuild what Russia has destroyed: Brussels calls it a "reparations loan" and has come up with a plan to prop up Ukraine's economy to the tune of 90bn.

Taylor Swift shown breaking down in tears after she met Southport attack families



Taylor Swift broke down in tears after meeting survivors and families of the victims of the Southport stabbing attack, backstage footage from her Eras tour reveals. The star met privately with some of those affected by the attack in July 2024, which took place at a Taylor Swift-themed dance workshop, and claimed the lives of three young girls. Afterwards, she sobbed in her dressing room, as her mother, Andrea, tried to comfort her. "I know it doesn't seem like it, but I know you helped them," she said. Swift, who was already in her

stage costume, then had to pick herself up and perform for three and a half hours at London's Wembley Stadium. Speaking to select members of the media, including the BBC, at the New York premiere of her new six part Disney+ documentary, Swift revealed she had felt compelled to "create some form of escape" for her fans after the incident. "From a mental standpoint, I do live in a reality that's unreal a lot of the time," the star says in the first episode. "But I need to be able to handle all the feelings and then perk up and perform."

Reddit launches High Court challenge to Australia's social media ban for kids



Reddit has launched a challenge in Australia's highest court against the nation's landmark social media ban for children. The online forum is among 10 social media platforms which must bar Australians aged under 16 from having accounts, under a new law which began on Wednesday. The ban,

which is being watched closely around the world, was justified by campaigners and the government as necessary to protect children from harmful content and algorithms. Reddit is complying with the ban, but in its case will argue that the policy has serious implications for privacy and political rights.

Solve for Tomorrow 2025: Young Innovators Using AI to Transform Health, Hygiene & Wellbeing in India

Technology's role in healthcare is no longer just futuristic—it is reshaping diagnostics, care, and dignity for patients today. Samsung Solve for Tomorrow (SFT) 2025, Samsung's flagship education programme, in partnership with IIT Delhi, showcased this transformation by challenging thousands of students nationwide to design AI-first, human-centred solutions under the theme "Future of Health, Hygiene and Wellbeing."

Here's what this wave of innovation looks like:

1. Rooted in Real-Life Challenges
Students were invited to build accessible healthcare tech addressing hygiene, sanitation, nutrition, emotional well-being, and preventive care—ensuring better health outcomes are a right, not a privilege.

ventive care—ensuring better health outcomes are a right, not a privilege.

2. Practical Solutions for Better Tomorrow
Teams like Alchemist, BRHM, Hear Bright, Pink Brigadiers brought innovations ranged from multi-articulated bionic hands and AI early detection tools to predictive breast health apps and speech recognition devices tailored to India's linguistic diversity—all focused on delivering dignity and accessibility in care.

3. Theme Winner – Paraspeak: Giving Voice to the Unheard
Among the four national winners, Paraspeak stood out. Developed by 16-year-old Gurugram student Pranet Khetan, it is a compact AI device that converts impaired speech into clear, fluent playback—including Hindi. Inspired by people battling speech disorders, Pranet created India's first dataset for dysarthric Hindi, filling a critical gap in AI healthcare.

4. Other Winning Innovations Beyond Health & Well-Being

SFT 2025 also honoured:

Percevia – AI-powered glasses
Prithvi Rakshak – Gamified sustainability app

5. Support to Scale & Succeed
Winners received up to ₹1 crore incubation support at IIT Delhi, with additional awards for top teams, including ₹1 lakh grants, Goodwill Awards and Young Innovator Awards and Samsung Galaxy Z Flip smartphones for the top 20 teams.

Anant National University Hosted the 7th Convocation with Dr Sridhar Vembu as Chief Guest

December 2025: Anant National University recently hosted the 7th Convocation, conferring degrees on 299 students from the Bachelor of Design, Bachelor of Architecture, Master of Design, Anant Fellowship in Sustainability and Built Environment, MSc in Sustainability and Built Environment and Anant Fellowship in Climate Action. Padma Shri awardee and Chief Scientist and Co-founder of Zoho Corporation, Dr Sridhar Vembu, was the Chief Guest. Mr Ajay Piramal, President, Anant National University, Dr Sanjeev Vidyarthi, Provost, Anant

National University, and the members of the board were present during the convocation. Addressing Anant graduands during his convocation address, Dr Vembu said, "Coming to Anant National University has truly been a joy. The creativity and purpose-driven designs by Anant students blew my mind. I saw remarkable work, the kind of innovation our nation urgently needs. We often celebrate the achievements of our past, yet rarely do we pause to honour what we are building in the present. We must think beyond our own lifetimes and create for the future, and Anant is clearly teaching

its students to do exactly that. Good design elevates the soul and spirit, and I have seen that spirit alive across this campus. Keep dreaming, stay young, stay relevant. When you suspend your ego and stop trying to make a statement, you often end up making your most powerful one. Focus on the problem, and extraordinary work will follow." Dr Sridhar Vembu co-founded Zoho Corporation in 1996 and served as the company's CEO from 2000 to 2024. In 2025, he assumed the role of Chief Scientist to focus on deep-tech R&D, particularly in AI development. Zoho Corporation has emerged as the largest

software product company in India while pursuing a unique set of choices that span hiring, training, product strategy, location and customer satisfaction, all driven by a holistic philosophy that puts contentment and humility as key virtues. Speaking on the occasion, Mr Ajay Piramal, President, Anant National University, said, "Design gives us the tools to reimagine industries, rebuild communities and renew our environment. It is how we transition from 'Make in India' as an aspiration to 'Design for India' as a philosophy, one rooted in creativity, craftsmanship and care.

Germany accuses Russia of 2024 cyber-attack and disinformation

Germany has accused Russia of a cyber-attack on air traffic control and attempted electoral interference, and summoned the Russian ambassador. A foreign ministry spokesman said Russian military intelligence was behind a "cyber-attack against German air traffic control in August 2024". The spokesman also accused Russia of seeking to influence and destabilise the country's federal election in February this year. He said that Germany, in close coordination with its European partners, would respond with counter-measures to make Russia "pay a price for its hybrid actions". There was no immediate response from Russia. The



spokesman said the August 2024 cyber-attack could be attributed to the Fancy Bear Russian hacker group. "Our intelligence findings prove that the Russian military intelligence service GRU bears responsibility for this attack," he added. The ministry spokesman added it was now certain

that Moscow had attempted to "influence and destabilise both the last federal election and the ongoing internal affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany" through a disinformation campaign called Storm 1516. The campaign, it said, had focused in part on lead Green Party candi-

date Robert Habeck and lead CDU candidate Friedrich Merz, who is now chancellor. The German government said security agencies had identified fake videos alleging ballot manipulation as part of a Russian disinformation effort just days before the election. Fancy Bear is said to have previously leaked World Anti-Doping Agency data, and played a key role in the 2016 cyber-attack on the US Democratic National Committee, according to security experts. The latest accusations come amid heightened concerns in Europe over suspected Russian cyber-attacks since Russia launched its full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022.

Chief of S Korea's high-stakes exam quits over 'insane' English test



The English section of South Korea's gruelling college entrance exam, or Suneung, is notoriously difficult, with some students comparing it to deciphering an ancient script, and others calling it "insane". So intense was the criticism around this year's test that the top official in charge of

administering it resigned to take responsibility for the "chaos" it caused. "We sincerely accept the criticism that the difficulty of questions... was inappropriate," said Suneung chief Oh Seung-geol, adding that the test "fell short" despite having gone through several rounds of editing. Among the most daunting questions are one on Immanuel Kant's philosophy of law and another involving gaming jargon. The latter, worth three points, asks students to pick where a sentence should fit in a given paragraph. Here's the sentence in bold, followed by the paragraph.

CLAIR OBSCUR SWEEPS THE GAME AWARDS WITH NINE WINS



clair Obscur: Expedition 33 has been named game of the year in a record-breaking haul at this year's Game Awards. The French-developed role-playing game (RPG) cleaned up in nine of the 10 categories it was up for, with further wins in best narrative, best music and best performance. It fended off competition from Death Stranding 2, Nintendo platformer Donkey Kong Bananza, indie games Hollow Knight: Silksong and Hades 2, and medieval adventure Kingdom Come: Deliverance 2 to claim the top prize. During the ceremony in Los Angeles, players also got their first glimpses of two new Tomb Raider games, sequel Control Resonant and a new Star Wars role-playing game. Clair Obscur is set in a world where a supernatural being known as The Paintress prevents the population from growing past a certain age. The game, which tells the

story of a group of adventurers on a quest to destroy The Paintress, was praised for its emotional narrative and use of old-school, turn-based battles. Players were also won over by the story of developer Sandfall Interactive, formed by a group of employees who left gaming giant Ubisoft to make their dream project. Accepting the game of the year award, director Guillaume Broche - wearing a red beret and striped t-shirt in a nod to the game's strong French identity - said the year had been a "weird timeline" for the studio as he thanked his team. He also extended thanks to the "unsung heroes" of the industry - "the people who make tutorials on YouTube on how to make a game, because we had no idea how to make one before". Clair Obscur was the hot favourite going into the awards, and the most-nominated game in the ceremony's history with a total of 12 nods.

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 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 Vadalaru, 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 Vadalaru 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."

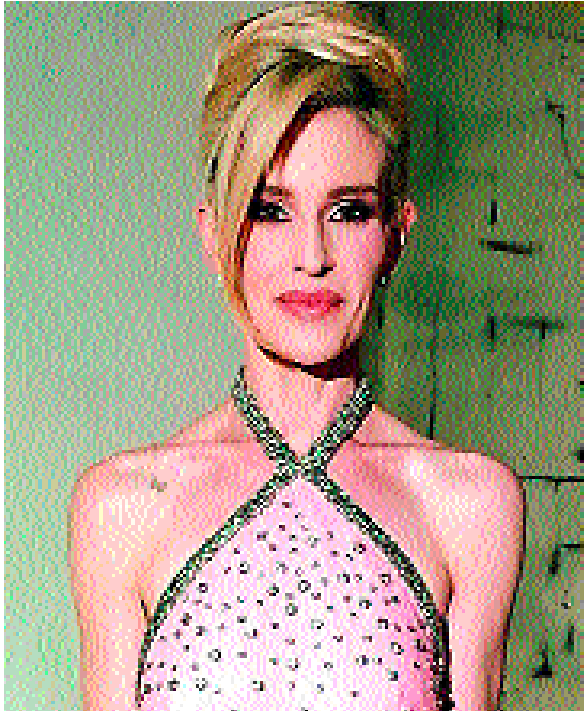
The suit was filed by Bilaal Salaam — also known as Brother Bilaal — who alleges that the actress confronted him in a Calabasas mall lobby in September 2021 and warned him that if he continued sharing her "personal business," he would "end up miss-

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.

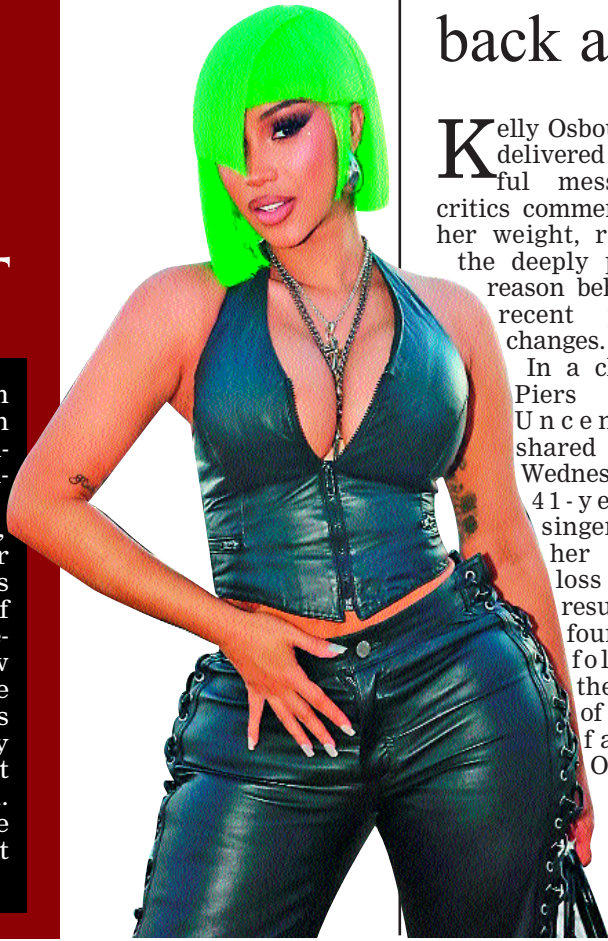
In a clip from Piers Morgan Uncensored shared on Wednesday, the 41-year-old singer said her weight loss is the result of profound grief following the death of her father, Ozzy Osbourne.

"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.

