


OM NAMO VENKATESAYA



16-12-2025  
Total pilgrims: 63,738  
Tonsures: 19,746  
Hundi kanukalu: 4.79 CR  
Waiting Compartments: 12

Approx. Darsan Time for Sarvadarshanam (with out SSD Tokens) .8 H



NATION | NEWS

Road accident victims to get Rs. 1.5 lakh cashless treatment for first 7 days: Gadkari

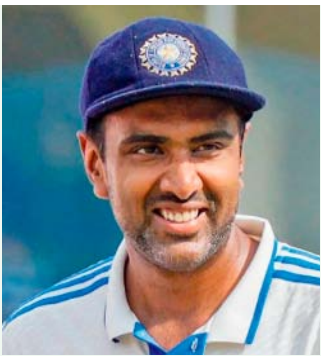


WORLD | NEWS

Venezuela denounces Trump's order for ship blockade as 'warmongering threats'

SPORTS | NEWS

IPLAuction 2026: CSK "Missed A Trick," R Ashwin Shows Five-Time Champions The Mirror Over 'Generational Talent' Miss



INBRIF

Peak coldwave likely across Telangana...

HYDERABAD: The city and several parts of Telangana are likely to experience a peak cold-wave between December 18 and 21, with temperatures expected to dip further over the next four days, according to weather observers.

According to weather enthusiast T Balaji, parts of Hyderabad may witness 7-9 degrees Celsius making it one of the coldest spells of the season so far.

Minimum temperatures are forecast to fall below 6 degrees Celsius in parts of north and west TelanganaFor the last 10 days, Telangana has been reeling under intense coldwave conditions, especially during early morning and night hours. Residents have been advised to take precautions against the cold.

SIR in 3 states, 2 UTs: Over 1 cr electors left out of draft electoral rolls

NEW DELHI: As many as 12.32 crore electors have found their names in the draft electoral rolls of three states and two Union territories published on Tuesday as part of the ongoing special intensive revision as compared to the 13.36 crore people who were part of the voters' list on October 27. Election Commission officials said the names in the draft electoral rolls also include new voters who had filled up Form 6 to become part of the electorate.

In West Bengal, out of 7.66 crore electors as on October 27, as many as 7.08 crore were included in the draft electoral rolls, a net difference of 58 lakh. EC officials said the electors who did not return the enumeration forms have been included in the last of ASD -- absent, shifted, dead/duplicate electors.

Centre clears major boost for digital governance

NEW DELHI: The Union Cabinet on Tuesday approved a major initiative aimed at strengthening digital governance and improving public service delivery across the country. The decision is expected to enhance transparency, reduce administrative delays and make government services more accessible to citizens, especially in rural and remote areas.

According to officials, the initiative will integrate multiple platforms under a unified digital framework, allowing seamless access to essential services such as welfare schemes, documentation and grievance redressal. The move aligns with the government's broader push towards technology-driven governance and ease of living.



President Murmu arrives in Hyderabad for winter sojourn

HYDERABAD (TSIT): President Droupadi Murmu arrived in Hyderabad on Wednesday for a five-day winter sojourn. Telangana Governor Jishnu Dev Varma, Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, ministers D. Sridhar Babu, and Seethakka accorded a warm welcome to the President at Air Force Station, Hakeempet.

Chief Secretary K. Ramakrishna Rao, Director General of Police B. Shivadhar Reddy and senior civil and defence officials received the President.The President later left by road for Rashtrapati Nilayam at Bollaram, where she will stay till December 21 as part of her winter retreat.

On December 19, the

President will inaugurate the National Conference for the Chairpersons of Public Service Commissions, being organised by the Telangana Public Service Commission in Hyderabad.On December 20, she will address a conference on 'Timeless Wisdom of Bharat: Pathways of Peace and Progress', being organised by Brahma Kumaris Shanti Sarovar in Hyderabad.Central government and state government departments, as well as Rashtrapati Nilayam officials, made elaborate arrangements for the President.

The police and fire services department have deployed personnel and provided adequate fire safety arrangements and fire tenders. The medical and health department has also kept a medical team on standby at Rashtrapati Nilayam.

CS & DGP Review 3rd Phase Panchayat Polling Pattern with State Election Commissioner



HYDERABAD (TSIT): Chief Secretary Ramakrishna Rao and Director General of Police (DGP) Shivadhar Reddy on Wednesday reviewed the polling pattern of the third phase of Gram Panchayat elections being held across the State. The review was conducted through webcasting facilities at the State Election Office, along with State Election Commissioner Rani Kumudini.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Secretary said that the State government would make wider use of webcasting technology in future elections

to ensure greater transparency in the polling process. He observed that the use of technology in elections helps reduce law and order issues in villages and enhances public confidence, which in turn is likely to improve voter turnout. The Chief Secretary noted that compared to the polling percentages recorded during the first and second phases, voter turnout in the third phase is expected to be higher. He congratulated district collectors, election officials and polling staff for ensuring the smooth and peaceful conduct of the elections.

Telangana Speaker dismisses petitions for disqualification of five BRS MLAs

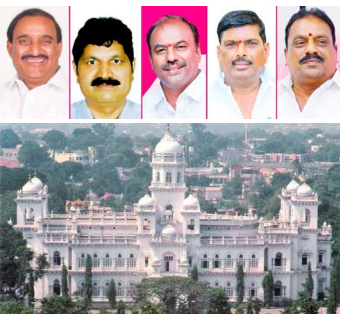
HYDERABAD (TSIT): Telangana Assembly Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar on Wednesday dismissed the petitions to disqualify five BRS MLAs who allegedly shifted loyalties to the ruling Congress.

Pronouncing the orders on the petitions for disqualification of the MLAs, the Speaker said the petitioners failed to provide evidence that they defected to the Congress.

The Speaker ruled that the anti-defection law does not apply to the MLAs Tellam Venkat Rao, Bandla Krishna Mohan Reddy, T. Prakash Goud, Gudem Mahipal Reddy, and Arekapudi Gandhi.

He made it clear that the MLAs are technically still in Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS).

The Speaker pronounced the orders on the petitions for the disqualification of five out of 10 BRS MLAs for allegedly switching loyalties to the ruling party. He had completed the hearing on the petitions



for the disqualification of eight MLAs and reserved the orders. The Speaker is likely to pronounce on Thursday orders on the disqualification of three other MLAs - Kale Yadaiah, Sanjay Kumar, and Pocharam Srinivas Reddy

The decision on the disqualification of two other MLAs, Danam Nagender and Kadiyam Srihari, is likely after they submit their replies to the notices served on them.

They sought more time to respond to the notice sent by the Speaker last month.

PM Modi arrives in Oman on final leg of his three-nation visit

Muscat, Dec 17 : Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrived in Oman's Muscat on Wednesday for the third and final leg of his three-nation visit. Upon his arrival, Oman's Deputy Prime Minister for Defence Affairs Sayyid Shihab bin Tariq Al Said warmly received PM Modi at the airport.



The two leaders warmly greeted each other at the airport. A Guard of Honour was accorded to PM Modi as part of the ceremonial welcome.This will be Prime Minister Modi's second visit to Oman, underscoring the growing depth of the India-Oman strategic partnership. The visit assumes spe-

cial significance as it coincides with the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between India and Oman. It also follows Sultan Haitham bin Tariq's state visit to India in December 2023, reflecting the high-level political engagement between the two countries.

Andhra Pradesh's overall growth rate shows upward trend



AMARAVATI, (TSIT) : Andhra Pradesh's overall economic growth rate is showing a strong upward trend, with

the State clearly outperforming the national average in the second quarter (Q2) and maintaining

strong growth momentum during the first half of the year, a top official said on Wednesday.

Peeyush Kumar, Principal Secretary, Planning, presented a comprehensive overview of Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP), Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the 5th Collectors' conference here.

NIGHTCLUB FIRE: Luthra brothers brought to Goa from Delhi

PANAJI (TSIT): Gaurav and Saurabh Luthra, co-owners of the Birch by Romeo Lane nightclub, were brought to Goa from Delhi on Wednesday after being deported from Thailand in connection with the December 6 fire incident that killed 25 persons.They will be interrogated by the Goa Police in connection with the devastating fire at the nightclub in Arpora, North Goa, an official said.

Air pollution: SC asks NHAI, MCD to consider shifting or closing 9 toll plazas at Delhi borders

NEW DELHI (TSIT): Taking a serious note of the severe air pollution levels in Delhi-NCR, the Supreme Court on Wednesday issued a slew of directions and asked the NHAI and the MCD to consider either temporary closing or relocating the nine toll plazas of the civic body at borders of the national capital to ease usual massive traffic congestion.

The top court described the pollution



crisis as an "annual feature" and called for pragmatic and practical solutions to tackle the menace and modified its own interim order of August 12 and permitted the authorities to take

coercive action against older vehicles that do not meet Bharat Stage-IV (BS-IV) emission standards.

It, however, refused to interfere with Delhi government's decision to stop physical classes for students of nursery to Class 5, holding that no further tinkering was required as the winter break was already approaching. In an effort to ease vehicular congestion at Delhi's borders.

K'taka Congress protest over MGNREGA row, 'hate politics' in National Herald case

Alleging misuse of power by the Modi-led BJP government, Siddaramaiah accused the BJP of indulging in politics of hatred and carrying out a malicious campaign by foisting cases on Congress leaders.

BELAGAVI (TSIT): The ruling Congress in Karnataka on Wednesday staged a protest against the Centre's move to replace the existing rural employment law MGNREGA, challenging the BJP to remove the picture of Mahatma Gandhi from currency notes as well.

The agitation led by chief minister Siddaramaiah and his deputy D K Shivakumar in front of the Gandhi statue at Suvarna Vidhana Soudha here also pro-



tested the alleged "hate politics" against the party leadership in the National Herald case. The protest witnessed the participation of ministers, Congress MLAs and MLCs.

Alleging misuse of power by

the Modi-led BJP government, Siddaramaiah accused the BJP of indulging in politics of hatred and carrying out a malicious campaign by foisting cases on Congress leaders, including Sonia Gandhi and Leader of

Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi.

"The trial court's rejection of the ED chargesheet in the National Herald case once again exposes how the Modi Government has misused power to harass political opponents.

In this context, we protested today at the Gandhi statue in Suvarna Soudha, Belagavi, and strongly condemned the Union Government's politics of vendetta. We stand in firm moral solidarity with Sonia Gandhi and her family in the face of the intimidation unleashed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah," he said. He further accused BJP of engaging in renaming exercises instead of focusing on work to benefit the poor.

Proactive measures guard TN from climate vagaries: CM Stalin

CHENNAI (TSIT): Acknowledging that the impacts of climate change are clearly visible, Chief Minister MK Stalin stressed that Tamil Nadu has been able to effectively protect itself from major damage due to proactive preparedness measures taken by the State government.

Speaking in the third meeting of Tamil Nadu Governing Council on Climate Change, Stalin further recalled that Cyclone Dittwah severely impacted Sri Lanka but Tamil Nadu was spared from heavy damage because the government had anticipated risks and strengthened disaster prevention and infor-



mation infrastructure three years ago.

"Cool roof project has been included in the action plan of Tamil Nadu Climate Change Mission. A pilot project implemented at the Perunthalaivar Kamarajar Government Girls Higher Secondary School in Ambattur has reduced classroom temperatures by 1.5 to 3 degrees Celsius. Based on this success, the project will be extended to 297 green schools across the State," he added.



**UCO BANK**  
(A Government of India Undertaking)  
Gachibowli Branch (2110), # 2, 2nd Floor, Sri Teja Enclave, Indira Nagar, Gachibowli, Hyderabad, Telangana - 500032 Contact: 040- 23005022.

**DEMAND NOTICE TO BORROWER**  
(Notice under section 13(2) of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act-2002) Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act-2002)  
Name of the Borrower/APPLICANT: Mr. Katragadda Bapanaiah S/O Venkateswara Rao Plot no 3, ICRI SAT Colony, Old Bowenpally Phase II, Secunderabad-500009.  
Co-Applicant: Mrs. Sirisha w/o K Bapanaiah Plot no 3, ICRI SAT Colony, Old Bowenpally Phase II Secunderabad-500009. Demand Notice Date: 06.12.2025  
Outstanding Amount: Rs.31,32,245.68 (Rupees Thirty one lakhs thirty two thousand two hundred forty five and sixty eight paise only) as on 29.10.2025 (inclusive of interest up to 30.06.2025 in loan account no 2110610017890)  
Schedule of Property: Property No 1: All that the semi finished Residential Flat bearing No. 412 in Fourth floor of RAMBAGH\* in part of survey no 96/1, 97 with built up area 1554 sq feet including Common area and one car parking slot earmarked in the parking area along with undivided share of land 49.00 Sq Yards equivalent to 40.96 Sq Meters (out of 7623.00 Sq Yards equivalent to 6372.82 Sq Meters) situated at LAXMI NAGAR VAMPUGUDA\* Under GHMC Kapra Circle and Mandal Medchal- Malkajgiri District, erstwhile Keesara Mandal, Ranga Reddy District and bounded as follows: Boundaries of the Flat: North- Open to sky South- Open to sky East- Open to sky West- Corridor  
Property No 2: Schedule of Property: All that the semi finished Residential Flat bearing No. 512 in fifth floor of RAMBAGH\* in part of survey no 96/1, 97 with built up area 1554 sq feet including Common area and one car parking slot earmarked in the parking area along with undivided share of land 49.00 Sq Yards equivalent to 40.96 Sq Meters out of 7623.00 Sq Yards equivalent to 6372.82 Sq Meters) situated at LAXMI NAGAR VAMPUGUDA\* Under GHMC Kapra Circle and Mandal Medchal- Malkajgiri District, erstwhile Keesara Mandal, Ranga Reddy District and bounded as follows: Boundaries of the Flat North- Open to sky South- Open to sky East- Open to sky West- Corridor.  
If you the above mentioned persons fail to repay the above mentioned amount due by you with future interest and incidental expenses, costs as stated above in terms of this notice under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act. Within 60 days from the date of this notice the Bank will exercise all or any of the rights detailed under Section 13(4) of SARFAESI Act and other applicable provisions of the said Act. This notice is without prejudice to the Bank's right to initiate such other actions or legal proceedings, as it deems necessary under any other Provision of Law.  
Date: 06.12.2025 Branch Manager, UCO Bank  
Place: Hyderabad

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
The general public is hereby informed that our client intends to acquire the agricultural land admeasuring (i) Acres - 2-00 Guntas, in survey number 401/2/3/2 (old survey number 401/2A), situated at Mucherla Village and Grampanchayat, Kandukur Mandal, Ranga Reddy District, Telangana State ("Schedule - A Property"), from its owner, Mr. K Jangaiah S/o. Mr. E. Ramulu, and (ii) Acres - 1-20 Guntas, in survey number 401/2/B1/3 and 401/2/B1/4, situated at Mucherla Village and Grampanchayat, Kandukur Mandal, Ranga Reddy District, Telangana State ("Schedule - B Property"), from its owners, Mr. Chenchu Ganesh S/o. Mr. Chenchu Jangaiah and Mr. Chenchu Shiva Teja S/o. Mr. Chenchu Jangaiah. The said owners have represented that they are the absolute owners having unrestricted rights of alienation over the Schedule A Property and Schedule B Property.  
If any person / entity / Bank or Financial Institution having or claiming any right, title, claim, benefit, estate, share, demand or interest of any nature whatsoever in respect of the Schedule Property or any part thereof by way of sale, transfer, exchange, assignment, charge, gift, covenant, trust, license, tenancy, share, sub-tenancy, inheritance, claim, let, lease, sub-lease, lien, mortgage, easement, devise, bequest, hypothecation, encumbrance, possession, development rights, possession in part performance, partnership, family arrangement/ settlement, its pendens, decree or order of any Court of Law or otherwise howsoever, by operation of law or otherwise, is hereby called upon to file their objections, along with supporting documents, to the undersigned within 10 (ten) days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which it shall be presumed that no adverse right, title, interest, share, claim or demand of any nature whatsoever exists into or upon or in respect of the Schedule Property.  
**SCHEDULE - A PROPERTY**  
All that piece and parcel of the agricultural land admeasuring Acres 2-00 Guntas, in survey number 401/2/3/2 (old survey number 401/2A), situated at Mucherla Village and Grampanchayat, Kandukur Mandal, Ranga Reddy District, Telangana State and Bounded as follows: North: Agricultural land of Ram Chandraiah, South: Agricultural land of K. Lingaiah, East: Road, West: Bata & Agricultural land of Ram Chandraiah.  
**SCHEDULE - B PROPERTY**  
All that piece and parcel of the agricultural land admeasuring Acres 1-20 Guntas, in survey numbers 401/2/B1/3 and 401/2/B1/4, situated at Mucherla Village and Grampanchayat, Kandukur Mandal, Ranga Reddy District, Telangana State and Bounded as follows: North : Agricultural land of Chenchu Jangaiah, South : Agricultural land of K. Malaiah, S/o. Lingaiah, East : Road, West : Road.  
BH. G. RATNAKAR, ADVOCATE  
H.No.6-3-1205/1, NGO's Colony, Vanasthalipuram, Hyderabad - 500 070. Mobile : 9346646392  
E-mail: ratnakarb@gmail.com  
Date: 18-12-2025 Place: Hyderabad.

**यूनियन बैंक Union Bank of India**  
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)  
**BRANCH NAME- NEW TOWN KAMAREDDY**  
Address- NGOS colony Kamareddy -503111  
Contact No: 9902112725  
**NOTICE TO THE BORROWER INFORMING ABOUT SALE (30 DAYS NOTICE)**  
RULE 6 (2)(b) (6) OF SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES 2002  
Date: 25-09-2025  
To,  
Borrower: Mr. Mudavath Ramesh S/o Mudavathi Mantkya,DNo H No 1-106/1 Banjapally Gramam,Machareddy, Kamareddy-503144,Mob: 9848759095.  
Co-Borrower: Mrs. Mudavathi Manjula w/o Mudavathi Ramesh DNo H No 1-106/1 Banjapally Gramam, Machareddy, Kamareddy-503144, Mob: 9848759095.  
Co-Obligant/Guarantor:Mr. Mutthi Kumar S/O M Siddaramulu, H NO 5-8-689 1 Ashoknagar, Kamareddy TS 503111, Mob: 9490259114.  
Sir/Madam,  
Sub - Sale of property belonging to Mr. Mudavath Ramesh S/o Mudavathi Mantkya,for realization of amount due to Bank under the SECURITIZATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002  
Union Bank of India, New Town Kamareddy Branch, NGOS colony Kamareddy -503111, Telangana, the secured creditor, caused a demand notice dated 24-04-2024 under Section 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002, calling upon you to pay the dues within the time stipulated therein. Since you failed to comply the said notice within the period stipulated, the Authorized Officer has taken possession of the immovable secured assets under Section 13(4) of the Act read with Rule 8 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on 31-07-2024.  
Even after taking possession of the secured asset, you have not paid the amount due to bank. As such, it has become necessary to sell the below mentioned property by holding public e-auction after 30 days from the date of receipt of this notice through online mode. The date and time of e-auction along with the Reserve Price of the  
Property and the details of the service provider, in which the e-auction to be conducted, shall be informed to you separately.  
Therefore, if you pay the amount due to the bank along with subsequent interest, costs, charges and expenses incurred by bank before the date of publication of sale notice, no further action shall be taken for sale of the property and you can redeem your property as Classification: Internal stipulated in sec. 13 (8) of the Act.  
**SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY**  
Description of Secured Properties: Newly constructed R.C.C roofed house, constructed on western portion of open plot no: 144; lies in Sy no: 799/1; vide LP no: 34/2004; admeasuring North to South: 35.00 feet and East to West: 28 feet and the total area which is 980.00 Sq feet (108.8 Sq Yards) equivalent to 91.0 Sq. meters, in which the RCC roof plinth area measuring 787.0 Sq. Feets, Situated at in ward no 5, Block No 8, Ashok Nagar Colony, Kamareddy Town, Kamareddy Mandal & Dist, within the limits of M.C. & Regn Sub-District, Kamareddy, Z.P. & Regd Dist Nizamabad. Boundaries: North: Open Plot no 143; South: 40.0 feet wide road; East: Remaining portion of open plot no 144; West: Open plot no 145.  
Date: 25-09-2025 AUTHORIZED OFFICER  
Place: New Town Kamareddy UNION BANK OF INDIA

**SHIRIRAM Finance**  
Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032  
Administrative office: 6<sup>th</sup> Floor (level 2), Building No.02, Aurum Q Parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Ghansoli, Navi Mumbai-400710.  
Branch at # 11-25-79 & 80, 1st, Pochammaiah, Warangal-506002.  
**SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE**  
Whereas, the undersigned being the authorised officer M/s. Shiriram Finance Limited, (Shriram City Union Finance Limited, amalgamated with Shiriram Transport Finance Company Limited, subsequently Shiriram Transport Company Limited name Changed as Shiriram Finance Limited, by it's Incorporation Certificate dt.30-11-2022) a corporate body registered and incorporated as a company under the Indian companies Act 1956, is doing Non-Banking financial activities, having its Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai - 600 032 and having its administrative office at 6th Floor (level 2), Building No.02, Aurum Q Parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Ghansoli, Navi Mumbai-400710, under the provisions of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (said Act) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (said Rules) issued demand notices to the Borrowers details of which are mentioned in the table below to repay the amount mentioned in the said demand notices. The Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said Rules, on this 17th day of December, 2025.  

Borrower Name and Address	Amount due as per Demand Notice
1) Alakuntla Santhosh S/O. Late Malaiiah, Age: 29 Years, Occ: Civil Contractor, R/O/H.No.19-9-461, Shambunipeta, Warangal Dist - 506 002, Cell: 9304952577 And Also At Alakuntla Santhosh S/O. Late Malaiiah, Age: 29 Years, Occ: Business, # Rcc Residential House With Open Place Gvmc H.No.19-9-461, 203.70 Sq. Yds, 170.31 Sq.Mts, 877.00 Sq.Fts, Near Nagamaiah Temple, Shambunipeta Warangal City & District. 2) Alakuntla Supriya, C/O. Alakuntla Santhosh, Age: 24 Years, R/O/H.No.19-9-461, Shambunipeta, Nagamaiah Temple, Warangal Dist - 506 002, Cell: 9392028277.3) Alakuntla Sampath, S/O. Malaiiah, Age: 33 Years, Occ: Business, R/O/H.No.19-9-461, Shambunipeta, Nagamaiah Temple, Warangal Dist - 506 002, Cell: 9908768180.4) Kesh Eshwar Prasad, S/O. Venkataiah, Age: 53 Years, Occ: Hostel Manager (Govt Employee), Emp Id: 1541941, Place Of Work: Gmr Polytechnic Gajwel, R/O.H.No.10-4-436/1, Subhash Nagar, Karim Nagar Dist - 505 001, Cell: 9949447079.	Rs.35,90,031/- (Thirty Five Lakhs Ninety Thousand and Thirty One Rupees Only

  
WARNZTF2407310004- DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY:Property holder Name is ALAKUTLA SANTHOSH Mortgage deed dated 21.08.2024 Registered as Document No.6699/2024 on the file of the office of Sub-Registrar at (WARANGAL FORT) The Existing Rcc Residential Roof house With Open Place bearing GVMC H.No.19-9-461 at an extent of 203.70 Sq.yds or 170.31 Sq.mts and RCC Roof plinth area covered by 877.00 Sq.Fts situated at Near Nagamaiah Temple, Shambunipeta Warangal City & District within the limits GVMC of SRO Warangal Fort is bounded by :-EAST: Property of Pallo Sammaiah, WEST -20'-0" Wide Road, NORTH -House of Veeriah, SOUTH -House of Komuramma.  
This notice is also hereby to caution the general public at large that the authorized officer of SFL is in the lawful Symbolic Possession of the immovable property mentioned herein above and the Borrowers or any person shall not after receipt of this notice transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise deal with/ alienate any of the above mentioned secured assets referred to in this notice, without prior written consent of SFL.  
Place: Warangal Date : 17-12-2025 Sd/-Authorised officer, Shiriram Finance Ltd.

Munnuru Kapu Bhavan to be completed on time, Naini Rajender Reddy assures



Warangal: Warangal West MLA Sri Naini Rajender Reddy on Wednesday reiterated his firm commitment to the welfare of the Munnuru Kapu community and directed that the construction of the District Munnuru Kapu Bhavan be completed within the stipulated timeframe.

After inspecting the ongoing construction works of the Munnuru Kapu Bhavan, the MLA said that for the last ten years the project had remained limited to foundation stones without meaningful progress. He stated that under the present government, concrete steps were taken to bring the project to fruition.

He informed that the initial estimated cost of the building was 5 crore, which was later re-estimated to 7 crore, following which the required funds were sanctioned and construction works were expedited. The MLA emphasized that the Bhavan would not only serve as a major milestone for the Munnuru Kapu community in the district but would also benefit future generations, as it is being built with modern facilities.

Members of the Munnuru Kapu community who participated in the programme expressed that despite their significant population in the district, the community had not received due recognition in the past.

Congress Dominates Third Phase of Panchayat Election TPCC President Mahesh Kumar Goud

Hyderabad: Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) President and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud expressed happiness over the Congress party's continued dominance in the third phase of the 2025 Panchayat elections, stating that villages once again have placed their trust in the Congress.

He said the people's verdict is a clear reflection of the effective governance and performance of the Congress government. The sweeping victory of Congress-backed candidates in a majority of Sarpanch seats across the State demonstrates the confidence rural voters have shown in the present administration, he added.

Mahesh Kumar Goud remarked that the third-phase Panchayat election results have come as a major setback to opposition parties and signal a decisive shift in Telangana's rural political landscape. He noted that the Congress party had taken the Panchayat elections very seriously, and the results validated its focused approach.TPCC President attributed the victory to strong, coordinated and



grassroots-level campaign strategies. He said the combined efforts of Ministers, MPs, MLAs and local leaders, working together on a common platform and extending outreach to the village level, played a key role in the party's success.

Stating that the verdict mirrors the aspirations of the people, he said it once again proves the satisfaction of rural communities with the Congress government's governance. The people-centric administration, welfare measures and development programmes implemented over the past two years under the leadership of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy are clearly visible in the election results, he said.

MEIL to Support Orphaned Children's Skill Development, Strengthen MNJ Cancer Hospital Sudha Reddy

Hyderabad: Sudha Reddy, Director of Megha Engineering and Infrastructures Limited (MEIL), on Wednesday said the company would extend full support for the skill development of orphaned children and take concrete steps to strengthen MNJ Cancer Hospital.

She said that MEIL has been imparting skill-based training to youth for the past ten years to help them become self-reliant, and similar initiatives would now be extended to orphaned children as well. Drawing a parallel with the development of the cancer block at NIMS Hospital, she stated that MNJ Cancer Hospital would also be developed on similar lines. She added that consultations would be held with doctors to assess the hospital's requirements and address them accordingly. Under the aegis of MEIL and the SR Foundation, woollen blankets were distributed at various locations in the city to protect the needy from the winter chill. Sudha Reddy distributed blankets and fruits to children undergoing treatment at MNJ Cancer Hospital and also distributed blankets to students of Sai Seva Sangh Vidya Mandir at Moosapet.

Speaking to the media, she said Sai Seva Sangh provides education to orphans and children who have lost one or both parents, and assured that her organisation would extend complete support to help them lead self-reliant lives after completing Class 10 or higher education. She noted that the institution is already offering vocational courses and said addi-



tional courses would be introduced with MEIL's support.

Sudha Reddy said she derives immense satisfaction from working with children and described former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi as her inspiration. She emphasised that right decisions taken at a young age can shape an individual's entire life.

Referring to the winter season, she said people across the state are facing hardships due to the cold and that her foundations are extending assistance across Telangana. She also cautioned that winter often brings a higher risk of infections and advised people to prioritise personal hygiene.

At MNJ Cancer Hospital Sudha Reddy interacted with children undergoing cancer treatment and reiterated that food has been provided to cancer patients for several years through Akshaya Patra. She said welfare and support activities would be expanded further in the coming days.

Representatives of Sai Seva Sangh and doctors from MNJ Cancer Hospital were present at the programme.

MUNNURU KAPU BUILDING WORK ACCELERATED, EV SRINIVAS RAO APPOINTED CONVENER



H a n u m a k o n d a : Warangal West MLA Naini Rajender Reddy inspected the construction of the District Munnuru Kapu Sangam building, noting that work, stalled for a decade, has now been accelerated. The building's estimated cost has been revised from 5 crore to 7 crore, and it will feature modern facilities for future generations.During the programme, EV Srinivas Rao was unanimously appointed convener of the building committee. MLA Naini and community members thanked the Chief Minister for approving funds, assuring that construction will be completed with quality, transparency, and within the stipulated time.Key members of the Munnuru Kapu community participated, emphasizing the importance of prioritizing the welfare of the Kapu community in the district.

FOR ADVERTISEMENT PLEASE CONTACT: 9948480279, 7330778889

**CAN FIN HOMES LTD**  
Branch: 3-11-114, Plot No-2, 1 Floor, Sri Nilayam, RTC Colony, LB Nagar, Hyderabad-500074, Phone No-040-48501072/7625079183 Email:bnagar@canfinhomes.com CIN No. L85110KA1867K008699  
**APPENDIX- IV-A. [See proviso to rule 9 (1)]**  
**Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties**  
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 9 (1) 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 physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Can Fin Homes Ltd., LB Nagar Branch, will be sold by holding e-auction on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on 07-01-2026, for recovery of Rs.40,32,930/- (Rupees Forty Lakh Thirty Two Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty Only) due to Can Fin Homes Ltd. from Mr.Kashoju Srinivas S/o.Late Somaiah and Mrs.Kashoju Ramadevi, W/o.Kashoju Srinivas as on 17-12-2025, together with further interest and other charges thereon. The reserve price will be Rs. 23,00,000/- (Rupees Twenty Three Lakh Only) and the earnest money deposit will be Rs.2,30,000/- (Rupees Two Lakh Thirty Thousand Only)  
**SCHEDULE OF THE MORTGAGED PROPERTY**  
All that the Residential Flat bearing No. 207, having House No. 5-74/207, in the Second Floor, of "PRIYA TOWERS", having a plinth area 1000 Sft., (including Common area and One Car Parking area), together with an undivided Share of Land admeasuring 22Sq.yards, (out of total admeasuring Land 1031Sq.yards), Constructed on Plot No. 112,113,114,115,116 & 25Part, Sy No. 116Part & 87, Situated at Medipally Village, Under Peerzadiguda Municipal Corporation, Medipally Mandal, Medchal-Malkajgiri District, Bounded By As Follows Boundaries For Flat: North: Flat No. 208 South: Flat No. 208, East: Corridor , West: Open to sky.Boundaries For Land : North: Plot No. 51, South: 25'Wide Road, East: Plot Nos. 114, 115 & 25Part, West: Plot Nos. 117 & 111.  
**Encumbrances is NIL**  
The detailed terms and conditions of the sale are provided in the official website of Can Fin Homes Ltd., (https://www.canfinhomes.com/SearchAuction.aspx).  
Link for participating in e-auction : www.bankesauctionwizard.com  
Date: 17/12/2025 Sd/- Authorised Officer, Can Fin Homes Ltd.  
Place: LB Nagar (Hyderabad)

**Godrej Finance Limited**  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Public Notice by 'Godrej Finance Limited' in terms of Paragraph 11 of Reserve Bank of India (Non-Banking Financial Companies - Branch Authorisation) Directions, 2025 and Paragraph 102 of Reserve Bank of India (Non-Banking Financial Companies - Responsible Business Conduct) Directions, 2025  
Godrej Finance Limited (the "Company" or "GFL") is a Public Limited Company incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 (Corporate Identification Number: U67120MH1992PLC065457) and is registered with the Reserve Bank of India (COR. No: 13.00368) as a Non-Deposit taking Non-Banking Financial Company ("NBFC"). GFL has its registered office situated at Godrej One, Prokshannagar, Eastern Express Highway, Vikhroli (E), Mumbai - 400079, Maharashtra.  
Notice is hereby given that the Company shall shift its Branch Office situated at Dr. KSR Sastry Business Park, 2nd floor, H.No. 2/1/583/1, KUC X Road, Orugallu, Nayeem Nagar, Lashkar Singaram, Naim Nagar, Hanamkonda - 506001, Telangana to C 504, Kandakatta Gateway, H. No. 5-11-503 KU, X-Roads, Nainnagar, Hanamkonda- 506009, Telangana due to operational reasons from 3 months to the date of this notice.  
All customer queries can be addressed at [customercare@godrejcapital.com](mailto:customercare@godrejcapital.com).  
Any clarifications or inquiries in this regard may be addressed to the Company at its registered office within 30 (thirty) days from the date of this notice addressed to Mr. Yogesh Jain, Chief Compliance Officer or at [gfi.compliance@godrejfinance.com](mailto:gfi.compliance@godrejfinance.com)  
Sd/-  
On behalf of Godrej Finance Limited  
Place: Warangal  
Date: 18/12/2025

**यूनियन बैंक Union Bank of India**  
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)  
**MIRDODDI BRANCH**  
District-Siddipet, PIN CODE -502108.  
Contact No: 9985990603  
**NOTICE TO THE BORROWER INFORMING ABOUT SALE (30 DAYS NOTICE)**  
RULE 6 (2)(b) (6) OF SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES 2002  
Date: 06-10-2025  
To,  
1. THE BORROWERS:  
Firm(s): 1) M/S Sri Durga Bhavani Traders, Unit: H.No-4-96, Gudikandula Vli, Thoguta Mdi, Siddipet Dist., Mobile No: 9959858646.  
Proprietor (s): 2) Sri Thumkunta Krishna Reddy S/O Narsa Reddy, Gudikandula Vli, Thoguta Mdi, Siddipet Dist, Mobile No: 9959858646.  
Co-Obligant(s): Mr. Gorla Venkata Reddy S/O Satti Reddy H.NO: 4-51, Gudikandula Village Thoguta mandal, Pin: 919550924960.  
Sir/Madam,  
Sub - Sale of property belonging to M/S Sri Durga Bhavani Traders, for realization of amount due to Bank under the SECURITIZATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002  
Union Bank of India, Mirdoddi Branch-502108, District-Siddipet, Telangana, the secured creditor, caused a demand notice dated 22.12.2023 under Section 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002, calling upon you to pay the dues within the time stipulated therein. Since you failed to comply the said notice within the period stipulated, the Authorized Officer has taken possession of the immovable secured assets under Section 13(4) of the Act read with Rule 8 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on 21.03.2024.  
Even after taking possession of the secured asset, you have not paid the amount due to bank. As such, it has become necessary to sell the below mentioned property by holding public e-auction after 30 days from the date of receipt of this notice through online mode. The date and time of e-auction along with the Reserve Price of the property and the details of the service provider, in which the e-auction to be conducted, shall be informed to you separately. Therefore, if you pay the amount due to the bank along with subsequent interest, costs, charges and expenses incurred by bank before the date of publication of sale notice, no further action shall be taken for sale of the property and you can redeem your property as Classification: Internal stipulated in sec. 13 (8) of the Act.  
**SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY**  
Mortgage of immovable property described herein below: All the piece and parcel of immovable property in Sy No. 1182/UZH. No 4-96 Area 302.50 sq.yds, Const Area 898.67 Sq.Fts situated at Gudikandula Thoguta (M), Dist. Siddipet Sub Registrar Siddipet Urban, Dist. Registrar Siddipet at Sangareddy, the sale deed documented on 74/10/2017 at S.R.O SIDDIPEET (Urban). BOUNDED BY: North: Open place of Chintha Venkaiah; South: Open place of Thumkuntha Ram Reddy; East: 60 ft.s road; West: Open place of Thumkuntha Nagaraju Reddy.  
Date: 06-10-2025 AUTHORIZED OFFICER  
Place: Mirdoddi UNION BANK OF INDIA

**SHIRIRAM Finance**  
Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032  
Administrative office: 6th Floor (level 2), Building No.02, Aurum Q Parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Ghansoli, Navi Mumbai-400710.  
**SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE**  
Whereas, the undersigned being the authorised officer of Shiriram Finance Limited, (Shriram City Union Finance Limited, amalgamated with Shiriram Transport Finance Company Limited, subsequently Shiriram Transport Company Limited name Changed as Shiriram Finance Limited, by it's Incorporation Certificate dt.13-11-2022) a corporate body registered and incorporated as a company under the Indian companies Act 1956, is doing Non-Banking financial activities, having its Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai - 600 032 and having its administrative office at 6th Floor (level 2), Building No.02, Aurum Q Parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Ghansoli, Navi Mumbai-400710, under the provisions of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (said Act) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (said Rules) issued demand notices to the Borrowers details of which are mentioned in the table below to repay the amount mentioned in the said demand notices.  
The Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said Rules, on this 16TH December, 2025.  

Borrower Name and Address	Amount due as per Demand Notice
1) UPENDER MARADHAPAKHU @ALIAS UPENDER MARADAPAKA @ALIAS UPENDER MARRADHAPAKHU, S/O: BRAHMA CHARY MARRADHA PAKHU @ALIAS BRAHMA CHARY MARADHAPAKHU @ALIAS MARADAPAKA BRAHMA CHARY, Age:40 Years, Occ: Self Employee, R/O: H No:1-6-645, Indira Nagar, Near Ramalayam, Chaitanyapuri, Kothapet, Saroor Nagar, Hyderabad-500060, B/O: Proprietor Of "Vaishnavi Wooden Furniture Works", At # Same As Residency Address, 7981832603/8. 2) GOVINDAMMA MARADAPAKA, W/O:BRAHMA CHARY M, Age: 55 Years, Occ: House Wife, R/O: H No:1-6-645, Indira Nagar, Near Ramalayam, Chaitanyapuri, Kothapet, Hyderabad-500060, 7981835536. 3) VASUDEV MUMMEDIVARAPU, S/O: MUMMIDIVARAPU JAGANNADAM @ MUMMEDIVARAPU JAGANNADHAM , Age: 55 Years, Occ: Govt Employee, R/O:Flat Number 304, Koppala Towers, Budha Nagar, Boduppal, Rangareddy-500092, O/O: "Survey Of India" Working As A "Assistant", At Uppal, Hyderabad, 9963966555. .....Borrowers/Co-borrower /Guarantors/Legal heirs	Rs. 2902562/- (Rupees Twenty Nine Lacs Two Thousand Five Hundred Sixty Two Only)

  
Description of Property  
CHKDPTF2202140003 - DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY: Property holder Name is MARADAPAKA GOVINDAMMA, Mortgage deed dated 15.02.2022 Registered as Document No.2678/2022 on the file of the office of Sub-Registrar at (UPPAL) ALL THAT THE HOUSE NO. 1-6-645 (OLD NO.1-6-82/4/A), PTIN NO. 1030105136 ON PLOT NO.3 SOUTHERN PART, IN SURVEY NO.212 ADMEASURING 126 SQ. YDS., OR 105.3 SQ. MTRS., SITUATED AT INDIRA NAGAR, KOTHAPET VILLAGE, UPPAL MANDAL, MEDCHAL-MALKAJGIRI DISTRICT AND Bounded As Follows: Towards East: 15'-0" Wide Road, Towards West: Plot No.4, Towards North: Plot No.3 Norther Part, Towards South: Neighbour's House.  
This notice is also hereby to caution the general public at large that the authorized officer of SFL is in the lawful Symbolic Possession of the immovable property mentioned herein above and the Borrowers or any person shall not after receipt of this notice transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise deal with/ alienate any of the above mentioned secured assets referred to in this notice, without prior written consent of SFL.  
Sd/-  
Place: MEDCHAL-MALKAJGIRI.  
Date : 16-12-2025. Authorized Officer Shiriram Finance Limited



DEMAND NOTICE (ABRIDGED)

A notice is hereby given that the following Borrower/s : SRI. VASA PRAVEEN KUMAR, S/o.SRI. VASA BHIKSHAM (LATE), A/C. Nos. : 41081757357 (Home Loan), 41204190573 (Home Top Up Loan), 41097967945 (Suraksha Loan) have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained by them from the State Bank of India, NH Road Branch, Suryapet District, and the loans have been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). The notices were issued to them under Section 13(2) of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 on their last known addresses, but they have been returned unreserved and as such they are hereby informed by way of this public notice.

Name of the Borrower: Sri. Vasa Praveen Kumar, S/o.Sri. Vasa Bhiksham (Late), R/o.Plot No. 13, Ward No. 4, Block No. 8, Bagh Hayathnagar Village, Hayathnagar Mandal, Rangareddy District-501505.

Date of Demand Notice: 08.12.2025 Date of NPA: 15.03.2025

Amount Outstanding: Rs.91,15,927.27 (Rupees Ninety One Lakhs Fifteen Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty Seven and Twenty Seven Paise Only) as on 06.12.2025 + You are also liable to pay accrued interest + future interest & expenses, Costs, Charges, etc.

SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY

All that part and parcel of Newly constructed House consisting of Ground and First Floors constructed on Plot No. 13, admeasuring 217 Sq. Yards, equivalent to 181.41 Sq. Mtrs., having total Plinth area of 2710 Sft., (Each Floor consists: 1355 Sft) with RCC roofing, out of the layout made in Survey Nos. 217 Part and 219 / Part, Situated at BAGH HAYATHNAGAR Village, Hayathnagar Revenue Mandal, Ranga Reddy District, under Ward No. 4, Block No. 8 of Hayathnagar Circle of G.H.M.C. Limits, within the Registration District. Ranga Reddy, and Sub-District: Hayathnagar, Vide Document No: 4323/2022, Date : 18.07.2022, Property Standing in the name of Sri Vasa Praveen Kumar S/o Late Vasa Bhiksham. Boundaries: North: Neighbours Land, South: Plot No. 14, East: 30 Feet Wide Road, West: Plot No.24.

The steps are being taken for substituted service of notice. The above Borrower(s) and / or their Guarantor(s) (whenever applicable) are hereby called upon to make payment of outstanding amount within 60 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which further steps will be taken after expiry of 60 days from the date of this notice under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

Date : 08.12.2025 Sd/- Authorised Officer, State Bank of India Place: Suryapet

OFFICE OF THE RECOVERY OFFICER-I/II  
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL HYDERABAD(DRT 1)  
3rd Floor, Triveni Complex, Abids, Hyderabad-500 001

FORM NO. 14 [See Regulation 33(2)]

By Regd. A/D, Dasti failing which by Publication

DEMAND NOTICE

NOTICE UNDER SECTIONS 25 TO 28 OF THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS & BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1993 AND RULE 2 OF SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961.

RC/145/2025 03-12-2025

STATE BANK OF INDIA

Versus

AKSHARA INDUSTRIES BUSE

To

(CD 1) AKSHARA INDUSTRIES BUSE NAGARAJU BUSE NAGESWARA RAO REPRESENTED BY ITS PROPRIETOR SRI NAGARAJU BUSE, MAJOR, MALE, SHED AT PLOT NO.56/PART, BLOCK NO.7, AYODHYA NAGAR, SUBHASHNAGAR, IDA JEEDIMETLA, MEDCHAL, TELANGANA-500055 ALSO AT: REGD OFFICE AT H.NO.7-607, PLOT NO.2, SUBHASHNAGAR, IDA JEEDIMETLA, HYDERABAD-500055 (CD 2) SRI NAGARAJU BUSE S/O. SRI BUSE NAGESWARA RAO, MAJOR, MALE, PROPRIETOR OF AKSHARA INDUSTRIES, H.NO.7-607, PLOT NO.2, SUBHASHNAGAR, IDA JEEDIMETLA, HYDERABAD-500055

This is to notify that as per the Recovery Certificate issued in pursuance of orders passed by the Presiding Officer, DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL HYDERABAD (DRT 1) in OA/170/2024 an amount of Rs. 64,24,884.00 (Rupees Sixty Four Lakhs Twenty Four Thousands Eight Hundred Eighty Four Only) along with pendente lite and future interest @ 15.40% Simple Interest Yearly w.e.f. 06-05-2024 till realization and costs of Rs. 97,000.00 (Rupees Ninety Seven Thousands Only) has become due against you (Jointly and severally/Fully/Limited).

2. You are hereby directed to pay the above sum within 15 days of the receipts of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made in accordance with the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 and Rules there under.

3. You are hereby ordered to declare on an affidavit the particulars of your assets on or before the next date of hearing.

4. You are hereby ordered to appear before the undersigned on 28-01-2026 at 10:30 a.m. for further proceedings.

5. In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will also be liable to pay: (a) Such interests as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the certificate / execution proceedings.

(b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and warrants and other processes and all other proceedings taken for recovering the amount due.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal, on this date: 03-12-2025.

PP Recovery Officer, DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, HYDERABAD (DRT 1)

BAJAJ FINANCE LIMITED

Registered Office: Bajaj Finance Limited, C/o Bajaj Auto Limited Complex, Mumbai Pune Road Aurli Pune 411035 Corporate Office: Bajaj Finance Limited, Off Pune-Ahmednagar Road, Viman Nagar, Pune - 411014 Branch Office: Bajaj Finance Limited, 1st Floor D No 6 2 P961 Above Indian Bank Bajaj Nagar, Janagan, 506167 Authorized Officer's Details: Name: Vishnu Kaimal Email ID: vishnu.kaimal@bajajfinserv.in Mob No. +91 7972125519

APPENDIX - IV A [See Regulation 33(2)]

e-Auction Sale Notice Under SARFAESI Act 2002

Sale of Immovable Assets Under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 ("ACT")

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and to the Borrowers/Co-borrowers/Mortgagor(s) in respect of below mentioned secured asset which is mortgaged with Bajaj Finance Limited ("BFL"), and possession of which had been taken by undersigned Authorised Officer of BFL under the provisions of the ACT will be sold by Auction for recovery of the amount mentioned hereunder and further applicable interest, charges and costs etc..

The secured asset described below is being sold on "AS IS WHERE IS, AS IS WHAT IS AND WHATEVER THERE IS" under Rule No. 8 & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules ("the Rules") for recovery of the dues detailed as under:

Particulars of E-auction	
Name & Address of Borrower	1.Baba Medical And General Stores thr. Its Prop. Mohammed Zameeruddin R/o. 2-40 Bachannapet Bachannapet Jangaon Telangana 506221 Contact- 7989439190 Email id- mdzameeruddin11111@gmail.com Also at: R/o. 3-25 Main Road Bachannapet, Dist. Jogaamba Gadwal 506221 Also at, R/o. Door No 2-60/1 In Survey No 598/B Bachannapet Village & Mandal, Jangaon District 506221 2. Reshma Reshma C/o Mohammed Zameeruddin R/o. H No 2-60/1 2No Street Ramakrishna School Area Bachannapet Bachannapet Mandal Jangaon Telangana 506221 Contact- 7780643906 Email id- mdzameeruddin11111@gmail.com 3.Mohammed Zameeruddin S/o Mohammed Kashim R/o. H No 2-60/1 2No Street. Ramakrishna School Area Bachannapet Bachannapet Mandal Jangaon Telangana 506221 Contact- 7989439190 Email id- mdzameeruddin11111@gmail.com
Loan Account Number	P229PBS13019656
Statutory Demand Notice u/s.13(2) Date & Amount	Notice dated 12.06.2025 Demand amount ₹ 4468532/-
Outstanding Amount as on 17.12.2025	₹ 4600578/- (Rupees Forty Six Lakhs Five Hundred Seventy Eight Only)
Description of Immovable Property	All the part and parcel of Door No 2-60/1 In Survey No 598/B Situated At Bachannapet Village & Mandal, Jangaon District 506221 along with proportionate share in common areas (Area adm. 2722.50 Sq.Ft.) Bounded as: East- Open Place of G Venkataiah; West- Grama Panchayath Road; North- Open Place of Gangaraboina Laxmaiah; South- Open Place of Beddie Veeresham
Reserve Price in INR	₹ 49,86,862/- (Rupees Forty Nine Lakhs Eighty Six Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty Two Only)
EMD	₹ 498686/-
E-auction date and time	20/01/26 11:00 am to 1:00 pm
E-auction Portal	https://bankauctions.in
Last date of submission of EMD	19/01/26
Bid Increment Amount in Rs.	₹25000/-
Encumbrance Known to Secured Creditor	Not Known
Date of Inspection of Property	From 19/12/25 to 19/01/26 on working day between 9.30 AM to 5 PM with Prior appointment
Public in General and Borrowers in particular please take notice that if in case auction on date scheduled herein fails for any reason whatsoever then secured creditor may enforce security interest by way of sale through public auction at the discretion on or after the secured creditor. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link https://bankauctions.in and https://www.bajajfinserv.in/auction-notices	
Date: 17/12/25 Place: Pune	Authorized Officer Bajaj Finance Ltd.



www.thesouthindiatimes.com

Hyderabad International Short Film Festival from Dec 19



Hyderabad:The Hyderabad International Short Film Festival (HISFF) will be held from December 19 to 21 at Prasads Multiplex, Hyderabad, announced Uma Maheshwar Rao, Patron of the Organising Committee, filmmaker of Ankuram, and member of the Telangana Gaddar Film Awards Jury Committee. Addressing the media at the Press Club on Wednesday, he said the festival is being organised by the Dadasaheb Phalke School of Film Studies with the support of the Telangana Film Development Corporation, in association with the Departments of Culture, Youth Affairs and Tourism of the Telangana Government.

AIIMS Mangalagiri crosses 30 lakh OPD consultations; hosts Anusandhan Divas 2025

Vijayawada: AIIMS Mangalagiri marked a significant milestone by crossing 30 lakh OPD consultations since its inception in 2019, with an average daily footfall of around 3,500 patients. The announcement came during the Fourth Annual Research Day, "Anusandhan Divas 2025", highlighting the institute's focus on ethical and



innovative clinical research.

Executive Director Prof. Ahanthem Santa Singh and Dean (Research) Prof. Joy A. Ghoshal emphasized AIIMS Mangalagiri's core pillars—Medical Education, Research, and Patient Care—and its ongoing studies on cancer, anemia, and sickle cell disease, aiming to translate research into better patient outcomes.

Special Chief Secretary vikas Raj Reviews New High Court Construction Works

Hyderabad: Vikas Raj Special Chief Secretary, Transport and Roads & Buildings Department, Government of Telangana, inspected the construction works of the New High Court Buildings Complex at Rajendranagar, Hyderabad, on Wednesday. Accompanied by the Chief Engineer (Buildings), Chief Engineer (Electrical), R&B field engineers, contractor M/s DEC Infrastructure Projects (India) Pvt. Ltd., and consultants M/s Team One India Pvt. Ltd., the Special Chief Secretary reviewed the progress of works and fixed timelines for completion.The consultants were directed to submit drawing schedules well in advance to facilitate proper planning and mobilisation by the contractor. Officials were instructed to prepare a detailed work programme, conduct frequent reviews, and accelerate construction to meet agreed milestones. Directions were also issued to expedite approvals for modified plans in coordination with judicial authorities and to fast-track pending clearances, including forest clearances for Zone-2. Officials were asked to work in close coordination to compensate for delays caused due to design changes. The New High Court complex, with a build-up area of 36.52 lakh square feet, is being constructed at an estimated cost of 2,583 crore, aimed at providing world-class judicial infrastructure for Telangana.



Kotte Shailaja awarded Ph.D. for AI-based healthcare research

Warangal: Kotte Shailaja, Assistant Professor in the Department of Electronics Communication and Instrumentation Engineering (ECIE) at Kakatiya Institute of Technology and Science (KITSW), Warangal, has been awarded a Ph.D. degree by Koneru Lakshmaiah Educational Foundation (KLEF), Guntur.Her thesis, titled "Development of Intelligent Healthcare System using Machine Learning and Deep Learning Approaches for EEG-Based Emotion Detection", focuses on developing an intelligent system that uses EEG signals to detect emotions, enabling early identification of mental and neurological health conditions.The research, supervised by Dr. J. R.K. Kumar Dabbakuti, contributes to AI-based biomedical signal processing and has been recognized through publications and patents in national and international journals and conferences.Principal Prof. K. Ashoka Reddy and other KITSW officials, including Chairman Capt. V. Lakshmi Kantha Rao, congratulated Shailaja for her significant contribution to healthcare technology and AI research.



The last phase of the Sarpanch elections ended peacefully



tion polling through webcasting from the Collectorate meeting hall.Voters flocked to the polling centers since morning.Polling continued from 7 am to 1 pm. Those who were standing in the queue till one o'clock in the afternoon were given an opportunity to vote.After noon, the process of counting of votes was taken up. A total of 85.55 percent votes were cast in 5Mandals.

WANAPARTHY:The third phase of panchayat polling in Pebberu, Chinnam Bavi, VipanaGandla, Sri Rangapuram and Pangal Mandals of the district ended peacefully.Elections were held for 81 Sarpanch and 702 Ward Members positions.Collector.Adarsh Surabhi and other officials observed the election

Retired Railway Employee Felicitated on 43rd Pensioners Day



Hanamkonda: As part of the 43rd Pensioners' Day celebrations, a meeting was held on Wednesday at the Railway Community Hall, Kazipet, to honour retired railway employees for their dedicated service.Warangal West MLA Naini Rajender Reddy attended the programme as the chief guest and felicitated retired railway personnel who ren-

dered distinguished service during their tenure.During the event, Mattapalli Prem Sunder, who served as a Welding Mistry in the Railways, was honoured for his valuable contribution. The programme was attended by his elder grandson Puli Rajesh Mudhiraj, President, MEPA Hanamkonda District, his daughter Puli Lakshmi Ashok Mudhiraj, granddaughter Naini Shailaja Srikanth Mudhiraj, along with other family members. The event underscored the significance of recognising the lifelong service and contributions of pensioners to the Railways.

Krishna Bhaskar Calls on Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka



Hyderabad (TSIT): Krishna Bhaskar, who has recently assumed charge as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL), paid a courtesy visit to Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka on Wednesday morning.The meeting took place at Praja Bhavan, where Krishna Bhaskar met the Deputy Chief Minister and exchanged views. Deputy Chief Minister extended his best wishes to Krishna Bhaskar on assuming charge as CMD of Singareni and expressed confidence that the company would continue to play a vital role in the state's economic development under his leadership.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is informed to the general public that my Clients 1. Smt. Gadepaga Chandana W/o. Gadepaga Laxman and 2. Smt. Gadepaga Amma W/o. Gadepaga Narayana Rao informed that he had misplaced Original Regd. Sale Deeds (Link) Doc. Nos. 4428/1982, dated:09-07-1982, at SRO, Nizamabad (RO) pertaining to the below mentioned Schedule of Property. If anybody found the above Document same may be intimated / hand over the same to the below mentioned office. My Client further states that he wants to avail loan by mortgaging the schedule mentioned property. If any person has any claim /interest/dispute over the said transaction, the same may be intimated to the undersigned within 7 (seven) days from the date of this publication, failing which, no further claims/objections will be entertained and my client will proceed with the same.

SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY All that the Open Plot No. (33), as per L.P. No. 68/81, Itd: 03-08-1981, bearing Municipal No. (6 - 1 - 132 /A) Situated in Ward No. (6), Block No. (1) situated at Kanteswar, Nizamabad, admeasuring (33.77) Sq. yards or (282.40) Sq.mtrs within the Municipal Corporation Limits of Nizamabad. Regn. Sub. Dist. Regn. Dist. Nizamabad and Bounded by: North: House of Ravinder on Plot No. (27), South: 40-0 Wide Road, East: House of Rajamani & others on Plot No. 34, West: 40-0 Wide Road, & House of Rajaram on Plot No. 32 P. Santosh Kumar, Advocate #1-8-506/2/A/1, Adnan Chambers, Prakashnagar, Begumpet, Secunderabad - 500016. Cell : 09440067560

INDIRA SHOBHAN SLAMS CENTRE OVER CHANGES TO MGNREGA

Hyderabad: Congress leader Indira Shobhan on Wednesday criticised the Union government for what she termed an "iron-handed approach" towards the Mahatma

Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGA) and warned against any attempt to weaken the programme.She condemned the reported move to remove Mahatma Gandhi's name from the scheme, calling it immoral, and alleged that the BJP was trying to impose its ideology on the people. She recalled that the employment guarantee programme was introduced nearly two decades ago by the Congress government under the leadership and vision of Sonia Gandhi to prevent hunger and provide livelihood security to rural poor.



**SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED**  
Regd Office: Sri Towers, Plot No. 14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600 032.  
Office Address: Shriram Finance Ltd, Zonal Office, D.No: 8-4-1, Opp. LIC Divisional Office, Ganesh Nagar, Karimnagar-505 001. And Branch Office At H.No: 7-7-5/5, Thahasili Chowrasta, Jagtial.

E AUCTION SALE NOTICE IN RESPECT OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E Auction Sale Notice for sale of the Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstructions of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules under Rule 9 (1) issued now after expiry of 30 days of the Intending sale Notice dated 23.07.2025. Since all of you have failed to exercise your right of redemption as contemplated under section 13 (8) of Act 54/2002 r/w Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, this notice for e-auction sale is issued. This is to inform the borrowers/guarantors/mortgagors/co-applicants /co-borrowers as under: (1) Shiva Matching Center Koratla Rep., By Its Proprietor Choutapelly Shiva Kumar, H.No: 5-1-82, Near Union Bank, India Road, Korutla, Karimnagar, Cell: 9908718252, Pincode: 505326 (Borrower). (2) Choutapelly Shiva Kumar S/o. Kondaiah, Age: 49 Years, Occ: Business (Shiva Matching Center), H.No: 1-2-16, Markandeya Nagar, Jagtial, Karimnagar, Cell: 9908718252, Pincode: 505327 (Guarantor). (3) Choutapelly Lavanya W/o. Shiva Kumar, Age: 44 Years, Occ: Business (Cloth Store), H.No: 1-2-16, Markandeya Nagar, Jagtial, Karimnagar, Cell: 8106938252, Pincode: 505327 (Guarantor). (4) Manapuri Sridhar S/I, Laxmikantham, Age: 42 Years, Occ: Business (Sree Bhavani Industries), H.No: 1-2-209/1A/1A, Sai Ram Nagar, Near Govt High School, Weekly Bazar, Jagtial, Karimnagar, Cell:8919570510, Pincode: 505327. (Guarantor)

1. That, we M/s. Shriram Finance Limited (Formerly known as Shriram City Union Finance Limited) it is informed that "Shriram City Union Finance Limited" has been amalgamated with "Shriram Transport Finance Limited" as per order of Hon'ble NCLT, Chennai on 09.11.2022 in C.P. No: 69-76 of 2022. Subsequently, the name of M/s. Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited stands changed to M/s. Shriram Finance Limited with effect from 30.11.2022 as per "Certificate of Incorporation Pursuant to change of Name" as certified by Registrar of Companies under Ministry of Corporate Affairs. registered under Companies Act, 2013, registered with RBI to do Non-Banking Finance Business, Authorized Officer Shriram Finance Ltd, ZONAL OFFICE: 8-4-1, Opp. LIC Divisional Office, Ganesh Nagar, Karimnagar- 505001 and branch office at H.No: 7-7-5/5, THAHASIL CHOWRASTHA, JAGTIAL (hereinafter referred as Company/ Lender) hereby issue the following notice as under: 2. We refer to our Demand Notices dated 19.10.2024 issued by us under Section 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (hereinafter referred to as "SARFAESI ACT"), wherein we had called upon you to pay the dues of Rs. 29,22,787/- (Twenty Nine Lakhs Twenty Two Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty Seven Rupees Only) in Loan account No. JAGTITF2204090001 along with further interest, expenses and other costs till the payment of entire amount as payable by you all under the facility granted by Shriram Finance Limited within 60 days from the date of the said notice. You have since then failed and neglected to pay the amount as demanded. 3. Consequently the secured creditor has already issued Notice dated 14.01.2025 under section 13 (4) notifying you all that the secured creditor represented by its Authorised Officer has already taken physical possession of the properties described therein on 14-08-2025 under the provision of SARFAESI Act and The Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 have been completed and Shriram Finance Limited now proposes to sell the secured asset as described hereunder by public auction and/or any other methods as prescribed under the provisions of law and rules. after a period of 30 days from the date of publication of this notice in the manner described under the law and rules on the basis of 'As is where is basis & As is what is basis & Whatever there is basis' through Online. Public e-Auction, realise the debt notified under demand notice dated 19.10.2024 i.e. an outstanding amount of Rs. 29,22,787/- (Twenty Nine Lakhs Twenty Two Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty Seven Rupees Only) along with interest, incidental expenses, charges, costs, and all expenses.

Name of Borrowers/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/Mortgagers	Date & Amount of 13(2) Demand Notice	Description of Property belonging to CHOUTAPPELLY LAVANYA	Earnesh Money Deposit Details (EMD) Details	Date & Time of Auction	Contact Person and Inspection date
(1) Shiva Matching Center Koratla Rep., By Its Proprietor Choutapelly Shiva Kumar, H.No: 5-1-82, Near Union Bank, India Road, Korutla, Karimnagar, Cell: 9908718252, Pincode: 505326 (Borrower). (2) Choutapelly Shiva Kumar S/o. Kondaiah, Age: 49 Years, Occ: Business (Shiva Matching Center), H.No: 1-2-16, Markandeya Nagar, Jagtial, Karimnagar, Cell: 9908718252, Pincode: 505327 (Guarantor). (3) Choutapelly Lavanya W/o. Shiva Kumar, Age: 44 Years, Occ: Business (Cloth Store), H.No: 1-2-16, Markandeya Nagar, Jagtial, Karimnagar, Cell: 8106938252, Pincode: 505327 (Guarantor). (4) Manapuri Sridhar S/I, Laxmikantham, Age: 42 Years, Occ: Business (Sree Bhavani Industries), H.No: 1-2-209/1A/1A, Sai Ram Nagar, Near Govt High School, Weekly Bazar, Jagtial, Karimnagar, Cell: 8919570510, Pincode: 505327. (Guarantor)	To pay total amount of Rs. 29,22,787/- (Twenty Nine Lakhs Twenty Two Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty Seven Rupees Only) As On 19.10.2024. With Further Interest + Charges Due To Shriram Finance Limited Under Loan No: JAGTITF22040 90001, Demand Notice Dated 19.10.2024	SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTY: DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY OF CHOUTAPPELLY LAVANYA VIDE DOCUMENT NO. 2243/2022, SUB-REGISTER OF JAGTIAL. All that the constructed G+2 house bearing H.No. 1-2-16, admeasuring to an extent of 30.48 sq.Yards or 25.48 Sq. Mtrs., situated at Markandeya Temple Wada, (Weekly Bazar) Jagtial town and District, under the limits of Jagtial Municipality, within the Jurisdiction of Registration Sub-District Jagtial, and Registration District Karimnagar. Bounded By: East: Road, West: House of Annamma Laxminarayana (H.No. 1-2-81), North: House of Choutapelly Lavanya (H.No. 1-2-16/1), South: 4 Feet Road & House of Rudra Bheemalaiah (H.No. 1-2-80)	EMD to be deposited by way of Demand Draft In favour of SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED	DT: 24.01.2026 Time: 11.00 a.m. to 01.00 p.m	A. Kumara Swamy, Contact No.: 9866252181, SHAIK AZEEZ, 9701279270. Customer care: 0222_40081572 Property Inspection Date 21.01.2026 Time 11.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.

RESERVE PRICE AMOUNT IS RS. 27,00,000/- (RUPEES TWENTY SEVEN LAKHS ONLY). EMD AMOUNT: RS.2,70,000/- (RUPEES TWO LAKHS SEVENTY THOUSAND ONLY) BID INCREMENT RS.10,000/- AND IN SUCH MULTIPLES LAST DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF EMD: 23.01.2026, TIME 10.00 A.M.TO 05.00 P.M.

The interested bidders required assistance in creating login ID & Password, uploading data, submitting bid, training on e-bidding process etc., may contact Mr. Shriram Auto mail India Limited contact person: Mr. Gaurav Namboodiri, Contact No. 9833922941, Email ID: gaurav.n@samil.in and for any property related query may contact Shriram Finance Limited Authorized Officer A. Kumara Swamy, Contact No.: 9866252181, during office hours and working days. The Authorized Officer reserves the right to reject any or all bids without furnishing any further reasons. The online auction will be conducted on website (https://eauctions.Samil.in/home) of our auction agency Shriram Auto Mail India Limited, and for the place of Tender Submission/for obtaining the bid form/Tender open & Auction, please visit the website https://eauctions.Samil.in/home and for detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer to the link https://www.shriramfinance.in/auction provided in the Shriram Finance Limited website.

Place: Jagtial, Date: 17.12.2025 Sd/- (Authorised Officer), Shriram Finance Limited

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, HYDERABAD (DRT-2), 1st FLOOR, TRIVENI COMPLEX, ABIDS, HYDERABAD

Case No. O.A/968/2025  
Summons under Sub Section (4) of Section 19 of The Act (RDBFI Act) read with Sub Rule (2A) of Rule 5 of Debt Recovery Tribunal (Procedure) Rules 1993.

BANK OF INDIA, KHAIRATABAD BRANCH, HYDERABAD VS

M/s. Sri Laxmi Prasanna Waddera Labour Contract, Co-Operative Society Limited (Sri Laxmi Prasanna WLCOS) & Another..

To, 1. M/s. Sri Laxmi Prasanna Waddera Labour Contract, Co-operative Society Limited Represented by its President, Sri. Pallapu Bhojiah, at D.No. 12-1-587/2, GSI Road, Bandlaguda, Hyderabad-68.

2. Sri. Pallapu Bhojiah, S/o., Rama Swamy, Aged 54 years, Occ: Business, R/o. H.No. 12-1-587/2, GSI Road, Bandlaguda, Hyderabad-68. Defendants

SUMMONS/SUBSTITUTED SERVICE BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION

WHEREAS OA/968/2025 was listed before Hon'ble Registrar on 12-12-2025. And Whereas this Hon'ble Tribunal is pleased to issue summons of the said application under Section 19 (4) of the Act, OA filed against you for the recovery of debts of Rs. 28,43,516-77 P.

In accordance with sub Section (4) of Section 19 of the Act, You the defendants are directed as under: To Show cause with in the 30 days of the service of summons as to why relief prayed for should not be granted (i) To disclose particulars of properties or assets other than properties and assets specified by the applicant under Sr.No. 3A of the original application. (ii) You are restrained from dealing with or disposing of secure assets of such other assets and properties disclosed under Sr. No. 3A of the original application, pending hearing and disposal of the application for attachment of properties. (iii) You shall not transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise except in the ordinary course of your business any of the assets over which security interest is created and /or other assets and properties specified or disclosed under Serial No. 3A of the original application without the prior approval of the Tribunal. (iv) You shall be liable to account for the sale proceeds realized by sale of secure assets or other assets and properties in the ordinary course of business and deposit such sale proceeds in the account maintained with the bank or financial institutions holding security interest over such assets. Your also directed to file the written statement with a copy thereof furnished to the applicant and to appear before Registrar on 21-01-2026 at 10.30 AM failing which the application shall be heard and decided in your absence. Given under my hand and the seal of this Tribunal of this 17th day of December, 2025. Signature of the Officer Authorised to issue summons, Debts Recovery Tribunal-II, Hyderabad.

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, HYDERABAD (DRT-2), 1st FLOOR, TRIVENI COMPLEX, ABIDS, HYDERABAD-500001

Case No. O.A/967/2025

Summons under Sub Section (4) of Section 19 of The Act (RDBFI Act) read with Sub Rule (2A) of Rule 5 of Debt Recovery Tribunal (Procedure) Rules 1993.

BANK OF INDIA, KHAIRATABAD BRANCH, HYDERABAD

M/s. Laxminarasa Waddera Labour Contract, Co-Operative Society Limited (Laxminarasa WLCOS) & Another..

To, 1. M/s. Laxminarasa Waddera Labour Contract, Co-operative Society Limited Represented by its President Sri. Bontha Somaiah, at D.No. 13-6-251/5/162/A, Telicomegar, Karimnagar, Hyderabad-67. 2. Sri. Bontha Somaiah, S/o. Ramulu, Aged 42 years, Occ: Business, R/o H.No. 2-83-1-44, Mallikarjuna Nagar, Medipalli, Hyderabad-500 092. Defendants

SUMMONS/SUBSTITUTED SERVICE BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION

WHEREAS OA/967/2025 was listed before Hon'ble Registrar on 12-12-2025. And Whereas this Hon'ble Tribunal is pleased to issue summons of the said application under Section 19 (4) of the Act, OA filed against you for the recovery of debts of Rs. 27,06,648-09 P.

In accordance with sub Section (4) of Section 19 of the Act, You the defendants







# Telangana Rising 2047 A Roadmap for the Nation



BY AMARA VAJI NAGARAJU  
TPCC PRESIDENT PRO

The Telangana Rising Global Summit 2025 concluded on a grand note, standing as a symbol of the state's renewed developmental aspirations. Held at the iconic Future City venue, the conference showcased the state's progressive vision, with Chief Minister Revanth Reddy unveiling the 'Telangana Rising Vision Document 2047'. The document is not confined to Telangana's growth

alone it aims to contribute meaningfully to India's overall progress. With the ambitious goal of transforming Telangana into a 3-trillion-dollar economy by 2047, the state is moving ahead with the slogan 'Telangana Rising 2047'. The Vision Document lays out a comprehensive roadmap ensuring equal access to education, youth employment, women's empowerment, farmer welfare, and job security forming the foundation for a sustainable and inclusive Telangana.

The year 2047 marks a century of India's independence. In this context, the Telangana Government has set its sights on a long-term framework through Telangana Rising 2047. Achieving a 3-trillion-dollar economy demands coordinated growth across industrial, agricultural, and service sectors. From the current GSDP of 16.41 lakh crore, the Congress government plans to scale towards the trillion mark and beyond, through sector-specific

investments and a well-structured strategy. Nearly four lakh public suggestions, input from ISB experts, and NITI Aayog guidance have shaped this dynamic blueprint aimed at strengthening the rural economy.

To enhance industrial competitiveness at a global scale, the Vision Document prioritizes manufacturing hubs, aerospace, semiconductors, green hydrogen hubs, life sciences, radial highways, and electric vehicle manufacturing ensuring balanced district-wise development. Simultaneously, the document outlines initiatives to expand high-value employment for youth through human capital development, digital public infrastructure, and robust IT sector growth paving the way for increased job opportunities.

The two-day summit witnessed commitments worth 5.75 lakh crore, marking a major leap for Telangana's economic future. The state's flagship initiative, Future

City, has emerged as the epicentre of investor interest, thanks to its world-class infrastructure. Leading companies from IT, energy, real estate, tourism, pharmaceuticals, automobiles and data centres have come forward with strong investment proposals. These commitments are set to generate thousands of new jobs and livelihood opportunities. Empowering youth, women, minorities, and backward communities remains the central theme of the Vision Document. Measures such as 1 lakh crore in loans for women's self-help groups, 30,000 crore for healthcare, and improved safety nets for the poor underscore the state's commitment to inclusive growth. AI-enabled health services, TOMCOM-driven skill development, and expanded apprenticeship programmes promise global opportunities for Telangana's youth.

On the second day of the summit, 35 MoUs amounting to 1.88 lakh crore were signed. Brookfield alone

committed 75,000 crore to the Bharat Future City project. Major agreements were sealed across deep tech, renewable energy, aerospace, logistics, and electronics sectors. Reliance Consumer Products' FMCG unit and Purview Group's AI data centres are expected to create lakhs of jobs. The Power Finance Corporation announced 50,000 crore for the power sector; InfraKey DC Parks pledged 70,000 crore for data centres; Biological E committed 3,500 crore for pharma manufacturing; Ferris India earmarked 2,000 crore for food processing; and tourism projects worth 7,045 crore are set to create 40,000 jobs. Investments in auto manufacturing, green hydrogen, life sciences, EV clusters, and radial highways will further strengthen the state economy.

The Vision Document also places equal importance on welfare, urban development, and social justice. Over the next five years, women's self-help groups will receive loans

amounting to 1 lakh crore. Senior citizens above 60 will be ensured healthcare and income support. With around 30,000 crore allocated for public health and renewed emphasis on apprenticeship-based education, Telangana Skill Mission and Young India Skills University are set to open new doors for youth.

Hyderabad served as the nucleus of the Global Summit, further cementing its position as a leading technology hub. As the city expands into neighbouring districts, the government has set out to develop 30,000 acres in Ranga Reddy district as a carbon-neutral Bharat Future City. Under the Blue-Green Hyderabad 2047 initiative, the Moosi Riverfront, beautification of 100 lakes, green streets, walkways, metro expansion, and 24/7 water supply are given prime focus. Regional development will be ensured through growth corridors such as Zaheerabad, Nizamabad, Kakatiya Textile Park, and the Kodangal cluster not limit-

ing progress to the Greater Hyderabad region alone.

The massive response from national and international investors has filled Telangana's future with optimism. Under Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's leadership, ministers and officials collaborated effectively to ensure the summit's resounding success, capturing global attention. The government has opened the summit venue to the public for three days from December 10, allowing citizens, students, and youth to witness the transformative developments first-hand. With an overwhelming response exceeding expectations, Telangana is well on its way to becoming "Unstoppable" and "Unbeatable", just as envisioned by the Chief Minister. With firm governmental resolve and enthusiastic public participation, Telangana is poised to emerge as a guiding force for a developed India.



**SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY**  
Follow us on [@SCRRailwaysIndia](#)  
Details of the Tender Notices of S.C. Railway can be seen on our website: [www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in](#)

**Open e-Tender Notice No. :  
DRM/Works/BZA/43/2025**  
**Dated : 15-12-2025**

**PUB/1613**

For and on behalf of the **President of India**, the undersigned invites E-Tenders for the following works up to **15:00 hours** and the date mentioned against each.

**SI. No. : 1. Tender No. : E-52-North-BZA-2025. Details of Work : Name of Work : ADEN/SLO Sub Division - Proposed improvements to staff quarters (Multi storied blocks at SLO, CCT & COA) duly replacing perished doors and windows, provision of mosquito mesh, improvements to broken/damaged drop walls , stair case hand railings ,replacement of corroded pipe lines, de silting of drains and removing of debris etc.(SLO - Qtr Nos.111,113,116,118,124 & 134 - Total 76 units, CCT - Qtr Nos - 50,52,72,75,76 & 86 Total 52units & COA - Qtr Nos.78,107 & 108-Total-31units) (Umbrella Work Project ID : 11.06.51.24.3.55.002 of 2024-25).**  
**Period of Completion :** 06 (Six Months). **Tender Value :** Rs.1,97,35,816/-. **Earnest Money Deposit :** Rs.2,48,700/-. **Date of closing :** 07-01-2026.

**SI. No. : 2. Tender No. : E-53-North-BZA-2025. Details of Work : Name of Work : CCT - Improvements to waiting halls and Rooms including toilets, VIP lounge, Booking Office, Parcel office and other passenger related amenities on PF 1 & Improvements to PF Surface, water supply arrangements, SS water booths, sitting benches on PF No. 2 & 3. (Umbrella Work Project ID : 11.06.53.24.3.55.071 of 2024-25)**  
**Period of Completion :** 12 (Twelve Months). **Tender Value :** Rs.8,30,18,959/-. **Earnest Money Deposit :** Rs.5,65,100/-. **Date of closing :** 07-01-2026.

**SI. No. : 3. Tender No. : E-54-North-BZA-2025. Details of Work : Name of Work : YLM - Provision of Modular Toilets and Premium Waiting Hall, COP Shelters on PF No.2 for balance length of PF, Construction of New Building incorporating Booking Office and Retiring Rooms on PF No.2. (Umbrella Work Project ID : 11.06.53.24.3.55.034 of 2024-25).**  
**Period of Completion :** 12 (Twelve Months). **Tender Value :** Rs.8,12,00,136/-. **Earnest Money Deposit :** Rs.5,56,000/-. **Date of closing :** 07-01-2026.

**SI. No. : 4. Tender No. : E-55-North-BZA-2025. Details of Work : Name of Work : SLO - Improvements to Waiting Halls and Waiting Rooms including toilets, VIP lounge, Booking Office, Parcel office and other passenger related amenities on PF 1, Improvements to PF Surface including Water Supply Arrangements, SS Water Booths, Sitting Benches, and Provision of COP Shelters of IRS Type on PF 2 & 3. (Umbrella Work Project ID : 11.06.53.24.3.55.070 of 2024-25).**  
**Period of Completion :** 12 (Twelve Months). **Tender Value :** Rs.8,32,29,568/-. **Earnest Money Deposit :** Rs.5,66,200/-. **Date of closing :** 07-01-2026.

**SI. No. : 5. Tender No. : E-56-North-BZA-2025. Details of Work : Name of Work : Vijayawada Division : BZA-VSKP Section : Cleaning of tracks including cess/slopes etc., on either side along the track running meters by removing/picking up of muck, garbage, plastic & paper waste strewn and other materials in ADEN/RJY, SLO & TUNI sub divisions in Sr.DEN/North/BZA Jurisdiction for a period of 2 years.**  
**Period of Completion :** 24 (Twenty Four Months). **Tender Value :** Rs.37,65,840/-. **Earnest Money Deposit :** Rs.75,300/-. **Date of closing :** 09-01-2026.

1) Tender conditions/other particulars such as the details of Name of work in full, the similar nature of the above works, eligibility criteria etc., are available in the Tender documents published in website at "www.irops.gov.in".

2) The prospective tenderers are advised to visit website "www.irops.gov.in", before the date of tender closing to note any changes/corrigenda for any tender.

3) The Tender Notice is also displayed in the Notice Board located in the office of Divisional Railway Manager (Works), South Central Railway, Vijayawada and ADEN sub-divisional offices of Vijayawada Division which can be seen.

4) The Railway reserves the right to cancel the tender without assigning any reason thereto.

**Divisional Railway Manager (Works), Vijayawada.**

## Indian Railways provides free Wi-Fi at 6,117 stations; CCTV surveillance expanded across network

New Delhi: Indian Railways has provided free Wi-Fi services at 6,117 railway stations across the country, while strengthening passenger safety through extensive deployment of CCTV surveillance systems at stations and in coaches, Parliament was informed on Tuesday.

In a written reply to questions in the Lok Sabha, Union Minister for Railways, Information & Broadcasting, and Electronics & Information Technology Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw said no separate funds were sanctioned by the Ministry of Railways for providing Wi-Fi services at railway stations. To access the facility, passengers are required to provide only their mobile number for OTP verification, and no other personal information is sought. He added that railway authorities promptly address any issues related to the functioning of Wi-Fi services.

On passenger security, the Minister said the installation of CCTV cameras at stations and coaches is an ongoing process. So far, CCTV surveillance systems have been installed at 1,731 stations and in 11,953 coaches to ensure a safe and secure journey for passengers. These systems are funded under capital expenditure. At New Delhi Railway Station, CCTV coverage has been significantly enhanced. Cameras already cover outdoor areas such as entry and exit points, foot over bridges and platforms, as well as indoor areas including waiting halls and ticket counters. Following the development of new areas after February 15, 2025, additional cameras have been installed. At present, 250 CCTV cameras are operational at the station. The measures reflect Indian Railways' continued focus on improving passenger amenities and strengthening security infrastructure across the national rail network.

## Goa nightclub fire: Luthra brothers deported from Thailand, taken into police custody

NEW DELHI: Gaurav Luthra and Saurabh Luthra, co-owners of the Birch by Romeo Lane nightclub in Goa where a massive fire killed 25 people, were arrested on Tuesday as soon as they landed in Delhi after being deported from Thailand.

The brothers arrived in the Indian capital in an Indigo flight and were immediately handed over to authorities for further legal proceedings, 10 days after a blaze tore through the Birch by Romeo Lane nightclub in Arpora in North Goa.

Gaurav, 44, and Saurabh, 40, will be produced before a Delhi court where the Goa police will seek their transit arrest. They were questioned at the airport, the formalities taking several hours.

Several reporters and camera-persons were travelling on the flight. As the plane landed in Delhi, a TV reporter attempted to record the Luthra brothers inside the aircraft, prompting accompanying officials to tighten security around the two men and prevent them from talking to anybody.



The Luthra brothers are facing a case of culpable homicide and negligence following the December 6 tragedy, which investigators allege was compounded by the nightclub operating in violation of mandatory fire safety norms. The incident raised serious questions over alleged fire

safety violations and lapses by the management.

Gaurav and Saurabh fled to Phuket in the early hours of December 7, hours after the fire at their nightclub, prompting the authorities to issue an Interpol Blue Corner Notice and cancel their passports.

The duo was detained by Thai

authorities at Phuket on December 11 following a request from the Indian government which later coordinated with officials in Thailand to deport them under legal treaties between the two nations.

On December 11, a Delhi court rejected the transit anticipatory bail pleas. Additional Sessions Judge Vandana termed the allegations against the brothers "prima facie grave and serious" and severely criticised their "conduct."

The court took note of the police investigation that the brothers had booked tickets to Phuket one hour after the fire, a fact their counsel had initially "concealed" while seeking protection from immediate arrest.

The judge said that leaving immediately after the tragedy was a clear attempt to "evade the legal process". Observing that "someone has to be held accountable" for the tragedy, the Goa bench of the Bombay High Court on Monday converted a civil suit against the nightclub into a public interest litigation (PIL).

**FOR  
ADVERTISEMENT  
PLEASE  
CONTACT:  
9948480279,  
7330778889**

**TENDER NOTICE No. :  
11-GS-SC-II-25-OT,  
Dated : 12-12-2025.**

On behalf of the President of India, CAO/C/RSP/SCR-ENGINEERING /SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, Secunderabad invites Open Tenders for the following works through e-procurement up to 15:00 hours of 09-01-2026.

**Tender No. : 11-GS-SC-II-25-OT. Name of the work : Request for Proposal (RFP) for Appointment of General Consultant for Gati Shakti Unit of Hyderabad Division.**  
**Advertised Value :** Rs.3,57,47,760.00. **Earnest Money Deposit :** Rs.3,28,700.00.

For further details visit the website [www.irops.gov.in](#)

**Dy. Chief Engineer / Gati Shakti / Hyderabad.**

**Corrigendum No. : E-05-BZA -2025, Dated : 15-12-2025**

The following modification has been made for the tender No.E-37-Central-BZA-2025 invited under e-Tender Notice No.DRM/Works/BZA/41/2025 dated : 02-12-2025 and the details are indicated below.

**SI. No. : 1. Tender Document deleted : File Name : 3- Conditions Track work. New Tender document added now : File Name : 3- Conditions Track works - pdf.**

**SI. No. : 2. Tender Document deleted : Document Description : Conditions Track work. New Tender document added now : Document description : Conditions Track work.**  
Please note other terms and conditions of the above Tender notice remain unaltered.

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## Kolkata Police Commissioner says Messi event schedule changed at last minute

Kolkata, Dec 17 : Kolkata Police Commissioner Manoj Verma on Wednesday said that Argentine football star Lionel Messi's event schedule at the Salt Lake Stadium was changed at the last minute and that following the change, the police department did not hear from the organiser anymore.

According to the police commissioner, Messi was initially scheduled to stay at the Taj Bengal, which falls under the jurisdiction of Kolkata Police. Later, the event schedule was altered and Messi stayed at the Hyatt, located adjacent to the Salt Lake Stadium, which comes under the jurisdiction of Bidhannagar Police. Speaking at the inauguration of the

Kolkata Police's annual sports competition, Manoj Verma said: "Satadru Dutta had come to talk about Messi staying at the Taj Bengal. But after the event was shifted to a different location, there was no further discussion with him."

Satadru Dutta is currently in police custody. From the beginning, there were allegations that the chaos at the Salt Lake Stadium on December 13 broke out due to the presence of a large number of political leaders, celebrities and organisers.

Everyone knew from the start that Messi would be staying at the Hyatt. However, it is alleged that he was initially supposed to stay at the Taj Bengal, and after the change to a different

five-star hotel, Satadru Dutta did not contact the Kolkata Police.

On Tuesday, the committee formed by the Chief Minister and headed by retired Justice Asim Kumar Roy submitted its preliminary report on the incident. The committee also includes Chief Secretary Manoj Pant and Home Secretary Nandini Chakraborty.

The police have been asked to submit a report on their role on the day of the incident, how the arrangements were made, and how surveillance was conducted. Reports were sought from the police and the sports department within 24 hours. On December 13, the Salt Lake Stadium was full long before Messi's event began.

## Army celebrates Vijay Diwas in remote Mechuka in Arunachal

ITANAGAR: The Indian Army on Tuesday commemorated Vijay Diwas in the remote border village of Mechuka in Arunachal Pradesh's Shi-Yomi district.

The Army organised a special screening of a documentary on the 1971 war for school students, highlighting military operations, strategic leadership and bravery of Indian soldiers, defence spokesperson Lt Col Mahendra Rawat said.

The screening was followed by an interactive session in which Army personnel spoke on the historical importance of the 1971 war and the enduring role of the armed forces in safeguarding the nation's unity and integrity.

The programme also focused on fostering patriotism and national pride

among the younger generation, while strengthening the bond between the Indian Army and students in the border region. Emphasis was laid on values such as courage, discipline and selfless service exemplified by the soldiers, the official said.

The Army also felicitated veterans with officers visiting their residences, acknowledging their immense courage, sacrifices and invaluable contribution to the nation.

Army personnel interacted with the war heroes and their families, reaffirming their commitment to honouring those who laid down their lives in the service of the country.

The state's leaders also paid rich tributes to the valour and sacrifice of the armed forces on the occasion.

Deputy Chief Minister

Chowna Mein led the tributes, recalling the courage and selfless service of the soldiers who upheld the nation's honour and secured peace and freedom for future generations.

Mein said Vijay Diwas is a solemn reminder of the "unmatched courage, sacrifice and valour of the Indian Armed Forces who secured a historic victory in 1971 and upheld the honour of our nation".

He said their dedication and selfless service continue to ensure India's sovereignty, peace and freedom. Home Minister Mama Natung also paid homage to the soldiers, stating that the "brave hearts fought with courage and compassion to protect justice and humanity".

He said their sacrifices are etched forever in India's history and in the hearts of every Indian.

## Indian Railways nears full electrification with 99.2% of broad gauge network powered



2025, India's electrification level of 99.2 per cent surpasses that of the UK (39%), Russia (52%), France (60%), Spain (67%), Japan (64%) and China (82%), with only Switzerland achieving 100 per cent electrification.

During the financial years 2023-24 and 2024-25, Indian Railways electrified 7,188 route kilometres and 2,701 route kilometres respectively. The Minister also noted that all new line and multi-tracking projects are being sanctioned and constructed with elec-

trification.

Electrification has been completed 100 per cent in 14 railway zones, including Central, Eastern, Northern, South Central, Western and East Coast Railways, among others. Several other zones, such as North Western, Southern, Northeast Frontier and South Western Railways, are nearing full electrification.

At the state and Union Territory level, 25 States/UTs have achieved 100 per cent electrification, including Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Bihar, Jharkhand, Kerala, Maharashtra, West Bengal and all Northeastern states with existing BG networks such as Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura and Mizoram. States like Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Assam and Goa are close to completion, with electrification works underway on the remaining sections.

The Minister said electrification timelines depend on factors such as forest and statutory clearances, shifting of utilities, terrain conditions, law and order situations and climatic constraints. However, efforts are ongoing to complete the remaining sections at the earliest.

Highlighting environmental benefits, Shri Vaishnaw pointed out that rail transport emits only 11.5 grams of CO per tonne-kilometre, compared to 101 grams for road transport, amounting to nearly 89 per cent lower emissions, as per a NITI Aayog report.

He reiterated that Indian Railways is committed to sustainable operations through near-total electrification and increasing use of renewable energy sources such as solar and wind power, contributing significantly to the reduction of carbon footprint in the transport sector.



# EDITORIAL

## "It Was A Shell From My Tank": When A Father Met The Pak Soldier Who Killed His Son

Reality can hit you harder than any fiction that appears on the big screen. That's true for the film Ikkis, which tells the story of 2nd Lt. Arun Khetarpal, who was just 21 years old (hence the film's name) when he laid down his life on December 16, 1971.

### That Fateful Trip To Lahore

Ikkis has an additional plot point that unfolds a full 30 years after the martyrdom of one of India's youngest Param Vir Chakra awardees. This is how it unfolds... At the fabled Battle of Basantar - said to be the second biggest tank battle since World War 2 - fought on the Indo-Pak border on December 16, 1971, in the Shakargarh-Samba sector between Pathankot and Jammu, Arun Khetarpal, who was serving in 17 Poona Horse tank regiment, destroyed 10 Pakistani tanks before a shell fired from one claimed his life. Of course, Khetarpal's parents - mother Maheshwari, and father, retired Brigadier Madan Lal Khetarpal, himself a WWII veteran who also fought in the 1948 and 1965 Indo-Pak wars - were proud of Arun's courage on the battlefield, but they struggled with the pain of losing a son so early. Madan Lal Khetarpal, like many others of his generation, hailed from across the border. His roots lay in the town of Sargodha, which is in present-day Pakistan, not far from Lahore. He had studied at Lahore's well-known Government College before joining the army. "Papa always wanted to go back to Sargodha, the place of his birth, his 'watan'. He doubted he would get a visa, as he was ex-Army. But in 2001, when he was 81, he and four others were invited to a Lahore Govt College Students' Reunion. When he got his visa, he was very excited," recalls Mukesh Khetarpal. Upon reaching Lahore, Madan Lal accepted the request of retired Pakistan Army Brigadier, Khawaja Mohammad Naser, to stay at his home during the reunion. Naser was also an alumnus of the Government College in Lahore. "Brigadier Naser was a good host. He even organised my father's visit to Sargodha on the second day of his stay. Papa was very touched. On the third and last morning, Brigadier Naser took him for a walk, saying he had something to share with him," Mukesh recounts. "Papa was just not prepared for what Brigadier Naser said next. He said, 'Sir, I am from the 13 Lancers tank regiment, and on 16th December 1971, I was a Major, commanding a squadron of tanks that was confronted by the tanks of 17 Poona Horse.'" "My father's immediate response was, 'Mera beta Arun bhi 17 Poona Horse mein tha.'" ("my son, Arun, was also in 17 Poona Horse." Then came the shock: "I know, sir. It was a shell from my tank that killed Lt Arun." "My father was stunned by the revelation. For a few moments, he said nothing. Brig. Naser went on - 'Sir, at the Battle of Bade Pind [that's what the Pakistan Army calls the battle], Lt. Arun stood like a rock before our Patton tanks. He was a brave soldier and the main reason for our defeat that day..." "Recovering some composure, my father asked Brig. Naser, 'How did you find out Arun's name? How did you know it was his tank?'" Mukesh Khetarpal, now well into his 70s, recounts the story thus: "16th December was the last day of the 1971 war; the Pakistan Army surrendered in Dhaka that day. Brig. Naser told my father that by the 17th, the ceasefire was in force, and as he was recovering the bodies of Pakistani soldiers, he saw Indian soldiers around Arun's tank. "Naser added: 'Sir, I asked the Indian soldiers about the officer who had fought bravely commanding this tank. The soldiers told me, 'Sahab shaheed ho gaye' [he has been martyred]. When I asked them his name, they said he was Arun Khetarpal. I have never forgotten his name, sir.'"

# Editorial

## Hansi: From the centre of history to the margins and then to the district's threshold



PRIYANKA SAURABH

(Hansi: History snatched the district, time returned it)

Hansi was once the capital of the Haryana region. During the reign of George Thomas, it served as an administrative and commercial center. During the Mughal period, a mint and a military cantonment were established here. Due to intense resistance against the British in the 1857 rebellion, Hansi was stripped of its district status, and Hisar was created around 1870-1880. Following the formation of Haryana in 1966, Hisar was reorganized several times. In 2025, Hansi was announced as a district, a move seen as historical justice. History never changes suddenly; it takes a gradual turn. The ancient city of Hansi in Haryana is a living example of this. Once considered one of the most important centers of power, administration, trade, and strategic importance in northern India, this same city was a significant center of governance for centuries. Today, after enduring years of administrative neglect, Hansi is once again moving towards regaining its identity as a district. The announcement of Hansi's new district status in 2025 is being seen not just as an administrative decision, but as an attempt to complete an unfinished chapter of history. Hansi's glory was at its peak long before the British arrived in India. During the reign of George Thomas, Hansi served as the capital of the Haryana region. At that time, the city was one of the major trading centers of northern India under the Delhi Pargana. Administrative orders

were issued from Hansi, and the surrounding area was governed. This city was not only a center of power but also a major hub of trade, cultural exchange, and military strategies. Hansi's importance remained undiminished even during the Mughal period. Historical documents and maps from Akbar's reign depict Hansi as an important Mughal center. A mint was established here, where coins were minted. The presence of a mint in any city was considered a symbol of its economic and administrative strength. This clearly demonstrates that Hansi was not just a town, but a vital pillar of the economy of that era. Hansi's geographical location also made it extremely strategically important. Located on the routes leading to Delhi, Punjab, and Rajasthan, the Mughals established a military cantonment here. Later, the British, recognizing this strategic importance, maintained a military presence here. Hansi's fortifications, administrative structure, and military system made it one of the safe and organized cities of northern India. But the course of history changed with the First War of Independence of 1857. Hansi and the surrounding areas openly revolted against British rule. This region was among the areas where the British faced the most intense resistance. Local people, soldiers, and landlords challenged British authority. This rebellion was not just a law and order problem for the British, but a direct challenge to their authority. Following the 1857 rebellion, the British adopted a policy of retaliation. Areas that offered the most resistance were administratively weakened. Hansi also fell victim to this policy. Although there is no precise and authentic date for Hansi's district status, historians believe that between 1870 and 1880, the British shifted the district headquarters from Hansi to Hisar, establishing a new district. This virtually eliminated Hansi's administrative importance. By making Hisar a district, the

British not only altered the administrative structure but also marginalized Hansi's historical role. Areas like Fatehabad and Sirsa were governed from Hisar. This change was not merely a matter of convenience, but a strategy to control a region that had dared to rebel against British rule. Historians also point out that around 1700 AD, Haryana existed on maps with a distinct geopolitical identity separate from Punjab. Many maps from that period are still available, showing Hansi as the capital of Haryana. George Thomas ruled the entire region with Hansi as his primary center. This clearly demonstrates that Hansi's importance was not limited to a single ruler or period; rather, it remained a center of power for a long time. After independence, when the state of Haryana was formed in 1966, Hisar was the largest district in the state. At that time, Hansi was hoping to regain its historical status. However, administrative priorities and political balances prevented this from happening. Instead, Hisar district was periodically reorganized. Bhiwani was made a separate district in 1972. Sirsa was followed by district status in 1975 and Fatehabad in 1997. Charkhi Dadri became a new district in 2016, splitting from Bhiwani. All these divisions have continually altered and reduced the administrative map of Hisar, but Hansi has remained excluded from the district list each time. This neglect gradually led to discontent in Hansi. People began to feel that this was not merely administrative neglect, but rather an extension of historical injustice. Over the past ten years, the demand for Hansi to become a district began to gain momentum. Local social organizations, trade associations, and political representatives consistently raised the issue. This demand gradually took the form of a mass movement. The people of Hansi argued that the city met all the criteria for becoming a district—historically, geographi-

cally, and administratively. Several administrative offices already existed here. Considering the distance from surrounding areas and population pressure, becoming a district was considered logical. But above all these arguments, there was also an emotional aspect—the desire to restore Hansi's lost prestige. When Hansi was announced as a new district in 2025, it wasn't just seen as an administrative news. This announcement was seen as the culmination of Hansi's history, struggle, and wait. People saw it as a partial rectification of the injustices inflicted by the British after 1857, which had long been ignored in independent India. The creation of Hansi as a district is also an important step towards administrative decentralization. This will not only provide better administrative facilities to the local people but will also accelerate regional development. New opportunities are likely to arise in areas such as education, health, roads, and employment. This decision will also strengthen regional balance. History shows that cities removed from the center of power are marginalized not only geographically but also psychologically. Hansi suffered this fate for a long time. But now, with the creation of a district, the city is poised to return to the center of attention. The story of Hansi also teaches us that history isn't just a collection of events recorded in books, but it also influences current policies and decisions. The establishment of Hansi as a district is proof that history, even if delayed, always finds its rightful course. Today, as Hansi stands on the threshold of districthood, it marks not just the expansion of an administrative unit, but the restoration of the soul of a city that once provided Haryana with its capital, that defied authority, and that endured long periods of neglect, yet remained true to its identity. This new chapter for Hansi connects with the same old glory of history from which its journey began.

## Redefining Aravali, The Oldest Hills Chain: Why A Matter Of Concern?



JAG MOHAN THAKEN

The coming generations will hardly believe that there was a chain of the oldest mountains, namely the Aravali hills, on Indian earth and they will read only in the books that the hills spread over 800 km from Gujarat to Delhi, through Rajasthan and Haryana, ever actually existed. Reason: The recent Supreme Court decision. On November 20, 2025, a Supreme Court bench passed a vital judgement over the definition of the Aravalli Hills, India's oldest mountain range, accepting the recommendations made by a committee spearheaded by the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC). The Court ruling has narrowed the new definition of the Aravalli hills to the extent of 100 metre elevation threshold, resulting in the outage of hills parts below 100 meters height from the definition of mountains category, which will exclude over 90% of the range from protection, allowing large-scale mining. The former Chief Minister of Rajasthan, Ashok Gehlot warns that this decision is not about environmental protection; it is a 'red carpet' for mining mafias. History will never forgive the injustice the government is inflicting upon future generations by inviting the Thar Desert right up to Delhi's doorstep. This recent controversial redefinition will have severe negative effects on the environment and public health in North-West India, particularly the Delhi-NCR region. Ashok Gehlot tweeted on December 16, 2025, "The Aravalli range is not just a mountain for Rajasthan; it is our 'protective

shield.' Limiting it to a '100-meter' scope based on the Union Government's recommendation is tantamount to signing a 'death certificate' for 90% of the state's Aravallis. The most alarming fact is that 90% of the Aravalli hills in Rajasthan are lower than 100 meters in height. If these are excluded from the definition, it is not merely a change of name, but the removal of a legal shield. This directly implies that the Forest Conservation Act will no longer apply in these areas, allowing for unfettered mining." Supporting his point, Gehlot states that a mountain is defined not by its height, but by its Geological Structure. A small rock is part of the same tectonic plate and mountain range as a towering peak. Separating the two is scientifically irrational. How will the vanishing Aravali chain affect the environment and ecological balance? Mr. Gehlot explains that the Aravalli is a wall that prevents the Thar Desert from expanding. Experts warn that even smaller hills (ridges) of 10 to 30 meters are equally effective in blocking dust storms. Opening these small hills to mining is akin to personally inviting the desert to expand into Delhi and Eastern Rajasthan. The rocky structure of the Aravallis intercepts rainwater and channels it underground. These hills act as groundwater recharge zones for the entire region. Removing them is an invitation to drought in North-West India, a region already grappling with water scarcity. The Aravalli is the barrier that stops the deadly heat waves from the west and prevents the Thar Desert from encroaching upon the fertile plains of Eastern Rajasthan, Delhi, and Uttar Pradesh. Kumari Selja, a former Union Minister, and Sirsa MP, in a press statement on 3rd December, criticizing the decision to remove hills below 100 metres in height from mining restrictions in the Aravalli mountain range, calling it a reckless assault on India's environment and the future of generations to come, said the decision is anti-environment, destructive, and a result of the government's misguided policies that are pushing natural resources towards a crisis. Kumari

Selja said the Aravalli is not merely a mountain range-it is the ecological lifeline of North India. It protects the Rajasthan-Haryana-Delhi region from desertification, plays a critical role in water conservation, and safeguards the livelihood and lives of millions of people. In such a situation, giving mining mafias a free hand is utterly irresponsible. She added that the government's move is a dangerous step towards legalising illegal mining and destroying the environment. The destruction of Aravalli hills will directly and severely impact water sources, greenery, ground-water levels, and public health. Kumari Selja warned that Haryana and Delhi-NCR are already facing severe pollution and water scarcity. Weakening the Aravalli range could trigger an environmental disaster for the entire region. It is a well-established fact that the Aravalli hills chain is the oldest mountain on Earth. It spans over 800km from Gujarat to Delhi (through Rajasthan and Haryana). The highest peak in the Aravalli Range is Guru Peak on Mount Abu. The Forest cover in Aravali chains not only preserves humidity in the atmosphere, but it also modulates wind direction and its flow, regulating rainfall patterns and checks drought across some northern states. It also serves as pollution barricades to the Delhi-NCR areas, which are even presently facing higher AQI despite this Hills chain's role in trapping pollutants. What shall be the position of Delhi-NCR pollution, when there will be no Aravali to give protection? Concludingly we can say that the Aravallis act as a crucial natural barrier, blocking dust and sand storms from the Thar Desert from spreading into the fertile Indo-Gangetic plains. Their disappearance would allow the desert to expand eastward, impacting agriculture and quality of life for millions. The hills serve as natural wind regulators and "lungs" that filter the air. Losing this natural shield would significantly worsen air quality in the Delhi-NCR region, leading to increased respiratory illnesses like asthma and bronchitis, and other health problems.

## The Dangerous Logic Behind America's \$1.25 Billion 'Mining' Deal With Pakistan

When Pakistan's Field Marshal, General Asim Munir, presented a box of lustrous mineral samples to US President Donald Trump during his September visit to the White House, it became quite a spectacle - a token of shifting geopolitical directions. Munir's display of Pakistan's alleged mineral wealth has now been quickly followed by a commitment, with the Export-Import Bank of the United States (EXIM Bank) approving \$1.25 billion in financing for the Reko Diq copper-gold mining project in Balochistan on December 10. This move crucially demonstrates one of America's most substantial economic engagements in Pakistan's critical mineral sector, a pivotal shift from its security-centric ties in the past. Donald Trump's sudden - and to many, surprising - embrace of Pakistan comes at a time when the India-US relationship remains fraught. While multiple factors have contributed to this shift, two stand out - Trump's increasingly transactional approach to India and Pakistan's well-timed lobbying efforts in Washington. A 'Personal' Interest In Pak Beyond the official strategic narrative, Trump's personal interest in Pakistan's minerals appears to be augmented by his close associates and family's direct involvement in related private sector ventures. Trump's instinct to treat diplomacy as business deals is, after all, widely established. The conversation around Pakistan's mineral potential is often inflated by domestic and diplomatic rhetoric. For years, Pakistani leaders have cited the figure of \$6 trillion in untapped critical mineral assets. However, this oft-repeated claim remains uncorroborated by internationally certified assessments, those required by global financial markets to determine a mine's economic viability. Much of Pakistan's resource base also faces significant infrastructural challenges and remains underdeveloped. The substantial mineral wealth in Pakistan lies in gold and copper deposits, especially within the Reko Diq and Saindak mines in



Chagai district of the largest Balochistan Province. Reko Diq, operated by Barrick Gold, is reported to contain billions of pounds of copper and millions of ounces of gold. While the company has reported plans to begin production by 2028, the timeline has been subjected to previous delays. This signals the complicated political and technical environment in which projects operate in Pakistan. As the project progresses, the current excitement over the Reko Diq project will likely be dampened by the grim security realities of the location where the US intends to operate. Chagai, a district bordering Afghanistan and Iran, while less affected by insurgency compared to the southern coastal areas near Gwadar, does not remain immune to violence. China's Not-So-Pretty Experience The most lethal insurgent groups in the province, particularly the Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) and the Balochistan Liberation Front (BLF), have an extensive operational presence in the province. The insurgency is rooted in deep grievances of political and economic marginalisation, compounded by resentment toward foreign-led economic projects. Chinese economic projects, in particular, are perceived by Baloch militants as tools of resource extraction benefiting the Punjabi-dominated Pakistani state. In that light, foreign projects and person-

nel have often been singled out as prime targets. More recently, the security threat manifested in a suicide attack in Nokundi town of Chagai District in late November. The blast, carried out by a female suicide operative targeting the headquarters of a paramilitary force, occurred less than 50 kilometres from the Reko Diq and Saindak sites. The increasing use of female operatives in suicide blasts, a tactic previously employed by the BLA's Majeed Brigade, notably in the Karachi University bombing in 2022 that killed Chinese nationals, informs the expansion of the insurgency's operational scope. The timing and location of the incident should, therefore, be seen as a deliberate signal of the security challenges inherent in operating in the volatile province. A Double Whammy For Pakistan For Pakistan, its renewed relationship with the US presents a pleasant opening, at the moment. The primary benefit is, of course, the economic investment and securing a Western financial partner. Secondly, a critical gain for Pakistan lies in the potential for security support or grants to address militancy in the area; both Baloch groups and Islamist factions such as the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) are known to operate in the restive province. In the past, the US has been reluctant to support Islamabad against anti-Pakistan groups.





## It exposes hatred towards poor, Mahatma Gandhi: Siddaramaiah on Centre’s move to rename MGNREGA

Bengaluru, Dec 16 : The Union government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, which is attempting to change the name and structure of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGA), has itself exposed its hatred towards the poor and Mahatma Gandhi, said Karnataka CM Siddaramaiah.

A press statement by Chief Minister Shri Siddaramaiah released on Tuesday in this regard stated, "Implemented by the UPA government 20 years ago, the MGNREGA scheme has played a crucial role in eradicating unemployment and poverty in rural areas. This scheme, which guarantees the right to employment to every individual, has received praise from economists both in India and abroad."

"However, while MGNREGA was a genuine form of employment guarantee, the proposed new structure under the Narendra Modi government strips away that guarantee and places the assurance of work at the whims of political leaders. This will further deepen caste discrimination and social inequality," the CM highlighted.



The NDA government has altered the very structure of MGNREGA, a scheme whose entire expenditure was earlier borne by the Central government, by shifting nearly 40 per cent of the cost onto the state governments. This stands as clear evidence of the anti-federal attitude that Prime Minister Modi has followed ever since coming to power, Siddaramaiah said. "This move will also increase the migration of poor people in search of work, as the proposed form does not guarantee employment in their own location — forcing families to travel long distances to survive," he added.

Naming this scheme after Mahatma Gandhi, who sowed the dream of

Gram Swaraj, was a meaningful decision. While Prime Minister Narendra Modi indulges in praising Gandhi during his foreign tours, within the country, he has consistently engaged in attempts to erase Gandhi's legacy from key national programmes. From a parivar that seeks to glorify Gandhi's assassin, Godse, what different conduct can one really expect? Siddaramaiah questioned.

Narendra Modi is widely known for simply changing the names of landmark schemes launched by the UPA government rather than preserving or strengthening them. It would be more appropriate for this government to start a "Ministry of Name Change," with the Prime Minister himself holding that portfolio, he criticized.

"More than 25 flagship programmes launched during earlier governments were merely renamed or repackaged by the present regime. The Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan was rechristened as the Swachh Bharat Mission, while the Basic Savings Bank Deposit Account scheme was rebranded as the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana.

### Mangaluru: City police issue guidelines for New Year celebrations

Mangaluru, Dec 17: In view of New Year celebrations, the Mangaluru City Police Commissionerate has issued a set of guidelines in the interest of public safety and maintenance of law and order. As per the guidelines, hotels, restaurants, clubs, resorts and other establishments planning to organise New Year programmes within the limits of the Mangaluru City Police Commissionerate must obtain prior permission from the office of the assistant commissioners of police concerned. Applications seeking permission should be submitted on or before Dec 23 by 5 pm. No New Year celebrations will be permitted without prior approval, and legal action will be initiated against violators. All New Year programmes must conclude by 12.30 am, after which no events will be allowed. The use of loudspeakers and sound systems will require prior permission from the competent authority and must strictly adhere to the Noise Pollution Rules, 2000 and Supreme Court directions. The use of DJs has been strictly prohibited. The police have imposed a complete ban on the possession and consumption of prohibited narcotic substances during New Year celebrations. Obscene dances, indecent performances, gambling and other immoral activities under the guise of celebration have also been strictly banned.

## Vendetta politics is BJP’s style; their false cases don’t have shelf-life: Shivakumar

Belagavi: Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Tuesday strongly criticised the BJP, accusing it of indulging in vendetta politics and attempting to defeat the Congress through conspiracies that he said would not sustain in the long run.

Speaking at a protest organised at the Suvarna Vidhana Soudha premises here, Shivakumar said the National Herald case had exposed the BJP's political motives. "Vendetta politics is BJP's style. National Herald is a national asset



and the court's order has proved that BJP's false cases do not have a long shelf-life. They cannot defeat us through conspir-

acies," he asserted. Calling the court's observations a victory for democracy, the Deputy CM said the case was an

embarrassment for the BJP and justice for the Congress party. He alleged that the BJP had conspired to imprison Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Sonia Gandhi and demanded an end to such politics of vendetta. He also urged party workers to strengthen the leadership of Rahul Gandhi and Sonia Gandhi.

Explaining the background of the National Herald, Shivakumar said it was founded in 1937 by Jawaharlal Nehru to give voice to the people and is a national asset of the Congress party.

## Hi Life Exhibition brings luxury fashion showcase to Bengaluru

Bengaluru: Fashion enthusiasts in the city are in for a stylish year-end treat as the Hi Life Exhibition returns with a spectacular showcase of luxury fashion and lifestyle collections. The three-day exhibition will be held on December 19, 20 and 21 at The Lalit Ashok, Bengaluru.

The exhibition will feature an exclusive curation of designer wear, couture creations, jewellery, lifestyle products and statement accessories,



offering visitors a one-stop destination to elevate their year-end wardrobe. Showcasing

the finest in fashion, artistry and creativity, Hi Life brings together renowned designers

and premium brands under one iconic roof.

Known for its high-end presentations and trendsetting collections, the Hi Life Exhibition promises an immersive shopping experience for fashion lovers, style connoisseurs and luxury seekers alike. With festive and year-end celebrations around the corner, the exhibition offers the perfect opportunity to discover unique designs and timeless pieces in an elegant setting.

## Dabba Network Accelerates PM-WANI Rollout, Fueling India’s Billion-User Connectivity Ambition

Bengaluru : As India's digital adoption accelerates fuelled by UPI payments, online learning, telehealth, and a growing digital economy the need for robust, reliable, and inclusive internet access has become critical. Stepping up to this national priority is Dabba Network, a community-powered broadband marketplace that has emerged as one of the most successful implementers of the Indian Government's PM-WANI initiative, demonstrating scalable success.

Karam Lakshman, CEO and Founder of Dabba Network, said, "India's connectivity challenge is also its greatest opportunity. The demand for broadband is universal, but traditional deployment models don't economically fit the last mile. PM-WANI flips that



script by empowering local entrepreneurs and community partners to build internet access where it's needed most. We are seeing the rise of a new, open broadband layer—one built for scale, affordability, and true inclusion. PM-WANI gave India a framework to unlock last-mile connectivity through community-led models, and our mission at Dabba Network is to push this vision forward by building an internet network that is inclusive, decentralised, and truly accessible to every Indian."

The company's traction reflects India's massive last-mile gap. Despite having over 800 million mobile broadband users, the country has only ~40 million fixed broadband connections, and penetration in low-income communities drops to as low as one connection per 100 people. Dabba Network's model fills this gap through community-run hotspots, sachet-sized data packs starting at Rs.1, and highly localised distribution. Central to this progress is Dabba Network's decentralised DePIN marketplace, which uses blockchain transparency and Web2 simplicity to align incentives across all stakeholders. Its DBT token model rewards uptime, quality of service, and expansion.

## Kharge asks Modi, Shah to resign over dismissal of ED case; Singhvi says law spoke louder than noise

New Delhi: Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Tuesday demanded the resignation of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah after a court refused to take cognisance of the ECIR filed by the Enforcement Directorate in the National Herald case, calling the decision a "slap on the face" of the BJP leadership.

Addressing a press conference along with senior party leaders at his residence, Kharge said justice had prevailed and the verdict should serve as a lesson against the misuse of central investigating agencies. He accused the BJP of weaponising the ED, CBI and the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) to harass political opponents and malign the Gandhi family and the Congress party.



Kharge alleged that the BJP government had repeatedly used the ED to engineer defections and form governments in several states. He said the Congress would fight back politically on all platforms, from the streets to Parliament, to expose what he termed as the government's misuse of power.

Explaining the legal aspects of the case, senior Congress MP and Supreme Court lawyer Dr Abhishek Manu Singhvi said the law had "spoken louder than

noise". He remarked that the case was heavy on rhetoric but lacked substance, noting that the court refused to take cognisance at the threshold stage as even the minimum legal requirements under the PMLA were not met.

Singhvi said there were internal notings by the CBI and the ED between 2014 and 2021 stating that no predicate offence was made out in the complaint filed by Subramanian Swamy. Despite this, he alleged, the ED proceeded to file

the ECIR in June 2021 under pressure from the top, a move now rejected by the court.

Calling it a unique case, Singhvi said not a single rupee had changed hands nor had any immovable property been transferred. He explained that the matter involved a routine conversion of debt into equity by Associated Journals Limited, and pointed out that Young Indian, which acquired the shares, is a not-for-profit company whose directors draw no salary, dividends or perks.

He further noted that between 2021 and 2025, the ED questioned senior Congress leaders, including Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi and Mallikarjun Kharge, for nearly 90 hours, with Rahul Gandhi alone being questioned for over 50 hours, yet nothing incriminating emerged.

### Natanam Institute of Dance to Celebrate 250th Birth Anniversary of Shri Muthuswamy Deekshitar in Bengaluru

Bengaluru : Achaarya Dr. Raksha Karthik, Natanam Institute of Dance, a member of the International Dance Council (CID), will commemorate the 250th birth anniversary of Shri Muthuswamy Deekshitar, one of the illustrious composers of the revered Carnatic Music Trinity, through a special thematic Bharatanatyam presentation on December 20, 2025, at Medai – The Stage, Koramangala, from 5:30 pm onwards. The tribute performance will be presented by Acharya Dr. Raksha Karthik, along with her disciples, celebrating the spiritual depth, musical brilliance, and timeless compositions of M u t h u s w a m y Deekshitar through classical dance and live Carnatic music.

### Preparatory Meeting Held Under the Chairmanship of the Commissioner for Pulse Polio Immunization Campaign–2025



Bengaluru : A preparatory meeting regarding the Pulse Polio Immunization Campaign–2025 to be conducted within the limits of the Bengaluru North City Corporation was held under the chairmanship of Commissioner Pommala Sunil Kumar.

During the meeting, detailed discussions were held on the comprehensive preparations for the Pulse Polio Immunization Campaign scheduled to be conducted from December 21 to December 24, 2025, and the Commissioner issued necessary instructions to ensure the effective implementation of the campaign. Target to Immunize 2,70,297

Children:

The total population of the Bengaluru North City Corporation is 24,55,245, and under this campaign, a target has been set to administer polio drops to 2,70,297 children below the age of five years.

Vaccination at 726 Booths: On the first day of the campaign, vaccination will be carried out through booth activities at 726 booths. During the following three days, vaccination teams will conduct door-to-door visits to administer the vaccine. In addition, 101 transit teams will be deployed to cover children at public places such as malls, cinema theatres.

## Grand trailer of Vrusshabha unveiled in Kochi; Mohanlal returns in a powerful father-son saga



Bengaluru: The much-awaited trailer of Vrusshabha was unveiled at a grand launch event in Kochi on December 16, turning the occasion into a festive celebration for Laletan fans. The spectacular on-ground event marked the official beginning of the film's promotional journey, building massive anticipation for one of the biggest Pan-Indian releases slated for Christmas 2025.

The launch saw the presence of lead actor Mohanlal along with co-stars Samarjit Lankesh,

Ragini Dwivedi and Nayan Sarika, director Nanda Kishore, and producers Varun Mathur, Abhishek S. Vyas and Sanjay Dwivedi, Group CEO and CFO of Balaji Telefilms. Their presence added to the grandeur of the event, which celebrated cinema, scale and star power.

The trailer offers a glimpse into an emotionally charged narrative unfolding across two timelines, exploring the deep and enduring bond between a father and son. Mohanlal appears in a

striking dual role, portraying King Vijayendra Vrusshabha in the past and a successful businessman in the present, haunted by memories of a previous life. His son, played by Samarjit Lankesh, is drawn into this haunting past as he battles destiny to protect his father. The visuals promise high-octane action, strong emotional depth and stunning cinematography, with Ragini Dwivedi seen in a fierce, action-oriented role alongside Nayan Sarika, Ajay and Garuda Ram.

Producer Ektaa R. Kapoor said Vrusshabha is a special milestone in Balaji Telefilms' Pan-Indian journey, calling it a true big-screen experience. She expressed gratitude to Mohanlal for lending his legacy and unmatched screen presence to the project, adding that the film is made with honesty, emotion and scale to connect with audiences worldwide.

## A journey of devotion, discipline, and divine expression unfolds on stage



B e n g a l u r u : Natyanjali School of Dance proudly presents Rangamilaana, the B h a r a t a n a t y a m Rangapravesham of Ms. Saachi Varun, a c o m m u n i c a t i o n designer and dedicated disciple of Guru Acharya Ashok Kumar. The performance will be held on Saturday, 20th

December at 6:00 PM at the Dr. Premachandra Sagar Auditorium, K u m a r a s w a m y Layout, adjacent to Dayananda Sagar College, Bengaluru.

The event will be graced by distinguished dignitaries, including C. R. C h a n d r a s h e k a r, R e n o w n e d

Psychiatrist, Sukumar Kuna, President, Bangalore City Institute, Guru Vandya Srinath, Director, Brahmara School of Dance

Dr. A. Kumuda, Ph.D. in Dasa Sahitya. Rangamilaana marks a significant milestone in Ms. Saachi Varun's artistic journey, reflecting her years of discipline, dedication, and rigorous training under the guidance of Guru Acharya Ashok Kumar. The program will showcase her mastery of technique, expression, rhythm, and traditional repertoire, celebrating the rich heritage of Bharatanatyam.

All art lovers, well-wishers, and members of the dance fraternity are cordially invited to witness and bless the young artist as she takes the stage for this landmark debut.



# Tamil Nadu: ED alleges corruption in MAWS, Government, police to reply to petition

K Athinarayanan, president, Maruthu Senai Society of Madurai, filed a petition before the Madras High Court, based on the letter, seeking directions to the Tamil Nadu DGP to obtain the necessary approval from the Chief Secretary and register a case.

CHENNAI: The Madras High Court has directed the state government and the Directorate of Enforcement (ED) to file their responses to a petition seeking the registration of a case in connection with allegations of bribery in appointments in the Municipal Administration and Water Supply (MAWS) department, based on a letter sent by the ED to the police.

During 2024-25, a total of 2,538 appointments, including assistant engineers, junior engineers, and sanitary inspectors, were made in the MAWS department. It has been alleged that bribes ranging from Rs 25 lakh to Rs 35 lakh per post were collected, amounting to Rs



34 crore. In this regard, the Enforcement Directorate had sent a letter to the Tamil Nadu Director General of Police (DGP) in October, seeking registration of a case. K Athinarayanan, president, Maruthu Senai Society of

Madurai, filed a petition before the Madras High Court, based on the letter, seeking directions to the Tamil Nadu DGP to obtain the necessary approval from the Chief Secretary and register a case. He stated that the ED had sent a 232-page

letter with supporting evidence. If credible information indicating the commission of a cognisable offence is received, it is the duty of the police to register a case. As the Enforcement Directorate does not have direct jurisdiction

to register corruption cases, it had sent the letter to the DGP requesting registration of a case. As no case has been registered, the ED has been unable to proceed with its investigation, the petition said.

It was further stated that despite sending a letter to the DGP in November seeking registration of a case to ensure transparent governance, no action had been taken.

After hearing the petition, the bench comprising Chief Justice Manindra Mohan Shrivastava and Justice G Arul Murugan, directed the State government, the DGP and the Enforcement Directorate to file their counter-affidavit by January 23.

# MP Kanimozhi to head DMK committee to prepare election manifesto

CHENNAI: The ruling DMK has constituted a committee to prepare its election manifesto for the upcoming Assembly elections. The committee will be headed by MP and party Deputy General Secretary Kanimozhi.

In a statement issued on Wednesday, DMK General Secretary Duraimurugan said that Cabinet Ministers Govi Chezhaian, Palanivel Thiaga Rajan, and TRB Rajaa have been appointed as members of the committee. They are also in charge of various wings of the party.

Former MPs TKS Elangovan and MM Abdullah; MLAs Ezhilan Naganathan and MLA Tamilarasi Ravikumar; former MLA Constantine Ravindran; Environment Secretary



Karthikeya Sivasenathipathi; retired IAS officer G Santhanam; and Dream Tamil Nadu convener Suresh Sambandam are among the other members of the committee. The commit-

tee will hold consultations with various welfare associations, including those representing farmers, traders, and residents, to gather inputs for the preparation of the election manifesto.

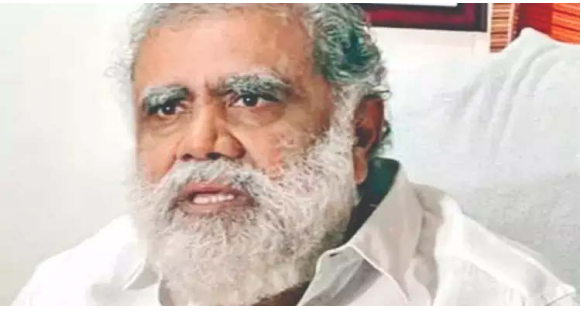


Honble Chief Minister released Key Technical Reports on Tamil Nadu's Blue Carbon Wealth and Marine Litter Management during the Third Meeting of the Tamil Nadu Climate Change Governing Council

# TN Minister Periyasamy moves Madras HC against ED probe, summons; agency told to respond

CHENNAI: Hearing a petition filed by Rural Development Minister and senior DMK leader I Periyasamy challenging the Directorate of Enforcement (ED) investigation against him and family members, the Madras High Court directed the Directorate of Enforcement (ED) to file its response.

Earlier, after the AIADMK ousted the DMK and came to power, the Directorate of Vigilance and Anti-Corruption (DVAC) had registered a case alleging that during his tenure as Housing Minister between 2006 and 2011, Periyasamy had amassed assets worth Rs 2.35 crore disproportionate to his known sources of income. His wife P



Suseela, and sons IP Senthilkumar and IP Prabhu, were also named as accused. When the DMK returned to power, the Dindigul court had discharged the Minister and others from the case. However, the Madras High Court set aside that order on April 28. An appeal challenging this order is presently pending before the Supreme Court. In the meantime, the Enforcement

Directorate registered a case under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act in connection with the matter and conducted searches in August at the residences of Periyasamy, his sons Prabhu and Palani constituency DMK MLA Senthilkumar, his daughter Indira, as well as at the offices of the Minister and the MLA. During the searches, the officials

seized property documents, investment details, mobile phones, and bank account details of companies, among other materials. Subsequently, the central agency issued notices to Periyasamy and his family members seeking their explanation regarding the proposed attachment of properties.

Challenging these notices as well as the ED investigation, Periyasamy and his family members filed petitions before the Madras High Court. MP Kanimozhi to head DMK committee to prepare election manifesto

When the petitions came up for hearing before a Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Manindra Mohan

Shrivastava and G Arul Murugan, the petitioners' advocate, senior counsel John Sathyan, argued that since the Supreme Court has stayed the trial in the disproportionate assets case against Periyasamy, the ED investigation should also be stayed.

He further submitted that after the filing of the petition, the agency had issued a summons directing the Minister to appear for inquiry on Thursday. The advocate representing the central agency sought time to file a reply to the petitions.

After hearing both sides, the bench directed the Enforcement Directorate to file its counter affidavit by January 5 and adjourned the hearing.

# Surprising Reasons You're Gaining Weight

**WHAT'S WITH THE WEIGHT GAIN?**  
If you started taking in more calories than usual or cutting back on exercise, you wouldn't be surprised if the numbers on the scale crept higher. But what if you're doing everything the same as you always do, and your weight still goes up? It's time to delve a little deeper into what else might be going on.

**LACK OF SLEEP**  
There are two issues at work with sleep and weight gain. First, if you're up late, the odds are greater that you're doing some late-night snacking, which means more calories. The other reason involves what's going on in your body when you're sleep-deprived. Changes in hormone levels increase hunger and appetite and also make you feel not as full after eating.

**STRESS**  
When life's demands get too intense, our bodies go into survival mode. Cortisol, the "stress hormone," is secreted, which causes an increase in appetite. And of course, we may reach for high-calorie comfort foods in times of stress as well. This combination is a perfect breeding ground for weight gain.

**ANTI-DEPRESSANTS**  
An unfortunate side effect from some antidepressants is weight gain. Talk to your doctor about making changes to your treatment plan if you think your antidepressant is causing weight gain. But never stop or change your medication on your own. Realize that some people experience weight gain after beginning drug treatment simply because they're feeling better, which leads to a better appetite. Also, depression itself can cause changes in weight.

**STERIODS**  
Anti-inflammatory steroid medi-



cations like prednisone are notorious for causing weight gain. Fluid retention and increased appetite are the main reasons. Some people may also see a temporary change in where their body holds fat while taking steroids -- to places like the face, the belly, or the back of the neck. If you've taken steroids for more than a week, don't stop them abruptly. That can lead to serious problems. Check with your doctor first.

**DRUGS THAT MAY CAUSE WEIGHT GAIN**  
Several other prescription drugs are linked to weight gain. The list includes antipsychotic drugs (used to treat disorders like schizophrenia and bipolar disorder), along with medications to treat migraines, seizures, high blood pressure, and diabetes. Work with your doctor to find a medication that treats your symptoms and lessens side effects.

**DON'T JUMP TO BLAME THE PILL**  
Contrary to popular belief, combination birth control pills (estrogen and progestin) aren't proven to cause lasting weight gain. It is

thought that some women taking the combination pill may experience some weight gain related to fluid retention, but this is usually short-term. If you're still concerned about possible weight gain, talk to your doctor.

**HYPOTHYROIDISM**  
If your thyroid (the butterfly-shaped gland in the front of your neck) is not making enough thyroid hormone, you're probably feeling tired, weak, and cold, and gaining weight. Without enough thyroid hormone, your metabolism slows, making weight gain more likely. Even a thyroid functioning at the lower end of the normal range might cause weight gain. Treating hypothyroidism with medication may reverse some of the weight gain.

**DON'T BLAME MENOPAUSE**  
Most women do gain some weight around the time of menopause, but hormones probably aren't the only cause. Aging slows your metabolism, so you burn fewer calories. And changes in lifestyle (such as exercis-

ing less) play a role. But where you gain weight may be related to menopause, with fat accumulating around your waist more than your hips and thighs.

**CUSHING'S SYNDROME**  
Weight gain is a common symptom of Cushing's syndrome, a condition in which you are exposed to too much of the stress hormone cortisol, which in turn causes weight gain and other abnormalities. You can get Cushing's syndrome if you take steroids for asthma, arthritis, or lupus. It can also happen when your adrenal glands make too much cortisol, or it could be related to a tumor. The weight gain may be most prominent around the face, neck, upper back, or waist.

**POLYCYSTIC OVARY SYNDROME (PCOS)**  
PCOS is a common hormonal problem in women of childbearing age. Most women with PCOS grow many small cysts on their ovaries. The condition leads to hormone imbalances that affect a woman's menstrual cycle and can lead to extra body hair and acne. Women with this condition are resistant to insulin (the hormone that controls blood sugar), so it may cause weight gain. The weight tends to collect around the belly, putting these women at greater risk for heart disease.

**QUITTING SMOKING**  
Quitting smoking is one of the best things you can do for your health. When you quit, you may gain some weight, but perhaps less than you think. On average, people who stop smoking gain less than 10 pounds. You should stop feeling hungrier after several weeks, which will make it easier to help lose any weight you gained.

# CPM opposes changes to MGNREGS, condemns 'majoritarian' law-making



*Calling for nationwide protests, he urged rural workers and beneficiaries to unite, drawing parallels with the agitation that led to the repeal of the farm laws*

CHENNAI: CPM State secretary P Shanmugam on Tuesday strongly opposed the Union government's proposed amendments to the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, alleging that the changes would effectively dismantle the 100-day employment scheme that supports crores of rural households.

Law was enacted in 2005 during the UPA regime, with the support of Left parties, and had since become a crucial livelihood and poverty-alleviation measure in rural India. He accused the BJP-led Union government of weakening the scheme over the past decade by cutting alloca-

tions, reducing work-days, delaying wage payments and shrinking beneficiary coverage, forcing many rural workers to drop out. In several villages, he said, employment had fallen from the assured 100 days to barely 10 or 20 days a year.

Shanmugam criticised the proposal to remove Mahatma Gandhi's name from the scheme and to alter the funding pattern by reducing the Centre's share to 60 per cent and increasing the States' burden to 40 per cent, while retaining decision-making powers with the Union government. He warned that this would place severe financial strain on States, particularly non-BJP-ruled States, and ultimately hurt rural workers.

He also objected to provisions that, he said, diluted the legal guarantee of employment by making work subject to official discretion, thereby denying workers the right to demand jobs or unemployment allowance. Calling for nationwide protests, he urged rural workers and beneficiaries to unite, drawing parallels with the agitation that led to the repeal of the farm laws. He said the CPM would lead sustained protests until the proposed amendments were withdrawn.



# AM/NS INDIA WINS TOP INNOVATION AWARD AT NECA 2025, SHOWCASING COMMITMENT TO DECARBONISATION AND ENERGY LEADERSHIP

New Delhi/ Hazira, 17 December 2025: ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel India (AM/NS India) has been awarded the prestigious Best Innovator Award at the National Energy Conservation Awards (NECA) 2025, organised by the Ministry of Power and implemented by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE). The award was jointly presented by the Hon'ble President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu, and the Hon'ble Minister of Power, Shri Manohar Lal Khattar at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi on Sunday. On behalf of AM/NS India, the award was received by Mr. Baiju Masrani, Chief of Hot Metal Delivery at Hazira plant in Gujarat. The event also marked National Energy Conservation Day 2025 celebrations. The NECA is among India's highest recognitions for energy efficiency; it recognises achievements across seven categories, including innovation. AM/NS India was selected in the Energy Efficiency Innovation – Industry category for its Steel Making Plant-2 project (SMP-2) at the Hazira plant. The award is a tribute to



AM/NS India's leadership in decarbonising steelmaking and setting benchmarks through operational innovation. It demonstrates the company's commitment to its promise: 'Smarter Steels, Brighter Futures', delivering sustainable solutions. About the Award-Winning Project: Steel Making Plant-2 SMP-2 focuses on optimising the CONARC (Converter + Arc) furnace – an advanced hybrid of Electric Arc Furnace (EAF) and Basic Oxygen Furnace (BOF) technologies. This system is used in steelmaking with hot metal, Direct

Reduced Iron (DRI) and scrap. The process is highly energy-intensive, requiring sustained electrical input to maintain the arc. AM/NS India enhanced the Electrode Regulation System (ERS) by integrating advanced Programmable Logic Controller (PLC) and Auto Arc Length control, allowing for real-time adjustment of arc length and improved electrode positioning. This resulted in stable furnace operation and a 10% reduction in furnace electrical energy use, significantly lowering energy consump-

tion and CO2 emissions. The project has delivered measurable impact: o Power savings of over 56,400 megawatt-hours/year – enough to power thousands of households annually o Annual CO2 emissions reduction of 41,700 tonnes – equivalent to the emissions from 10,000 cars in a year o 2% increase in furnace productivity by reducing turn-around time This milestone aligns with AM/NS India's long-term decarbonisation goals and India's national target of net-zero emissions by 2070. By reducing CO2 emissions, optimising ener-

gy consumption, and embracing sustainable practices, the company is not only contributing to India's climate goals but also aligning itself with the global mission to combat climate change and secure a low-carbon future. The recognition of the project as the Best Innovator Award 2025 stands as a proud milestone in the company's journey, reinforcing dedication to environmental responsibility, technological advancement, and sustainable growth. This remarkable achievement also serves as a powerful inspiration for the entire AM/NS India team to intensify efforts toward energy efficiency and innovation. ABOUT ARCELORMITTAL NIPPON STEEL INDIA (AM/NS India): ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel India (AM/NS India) is a joint venture between ArcelorMittal and Nippon Steel, two of the world's leading steel manufacturing organisations. A leading integrated flat carbon steel producer in India, the company has a crude steel capacity of 9 million tonnes per annum with state-of-the-art downstream facilities.

## ASN Bank signs a contract with HCLTech to accelerate digital transformation and enhance customer experience



NOIDA, India, Dec 17, 2025— HCLTech, a leading global technology company, today announced that it has been selected as a strategic partner by ASN Bank (formerly de Volksbank), the fourth-largest retail bank in the Netherlands. As part of its new strategy 'Simplify and Grow', ASN Bank aims to modernise and standardise its IT architecture, which will involve consolidating IT services, simplifying the vendor landscape and building a future-ready organisation. Under the multi-year agreement, HCLTech will support ASN Bank's enterprise applications, and streamline services through a distributed delivery model to enhance efficiency and customer experience. Michel Ruijterman, Chief Information Officer, ASN Bank: "By signing this agreement, HCLTech's proven track record in delivering scalable, innovative solutions tailored to

the financial services sector means we can now confidently press on with streamlining our business by reducing the number of existing products and aligning the underlying processes and systems under our new strategy. Standardising and further automating our systems will enable us to organise our business operations more efficiently and effectively." Sudip Lahiri, Executive Vice President and Head of Financial Services for Europe, HCLTech: "By aligning our engineering mindset and scalable, domain-led solutions with ASN Bank's strategic goals, we are set to deliver tangible impact and long-term value, laying the foundation for future-ready operations. Collaborating with ASN Bank marks a major step forward for HCLTech as we grow our presence in the Dutch banking sector."

About ASN Bank

ASN Bank is an accessible and forward-looking bank with an eye for people, society and the future. We sustainably contribute to financial solutions for our customers while addressing Dutch societal issues. We pay particular attention to sustainability, financial wellbeing and good and affordable housing. Our services focus mainly on payments, savings and mortgages – always with an eye for both the interests of the customer and social impact. As a bank, we combine the convenience of secure mobile banking with the power of personal advice. Thanks to our nationwide network of branches, we are also physically close by when it matters. Through this approach, ASN Bank occupies a distinctive position in the Dutch banking landscape. We now serve three million customers, making us the fourth-largest retail bank in the Netherlands.

## Indian Equities Hit Record Highs as Inflation Tumbles and Valuations Reset: PL Asset Management

Mumbai, December 17, 2025: PL Asset Management, the asset management division of PL Capital Group (Prabhudas Lilladher), in their recent report 'PMS Strategy Updates and Insights', cited that Indian equity markets scaled fresh all-time highs in November, decisively outperforming global peers as a powerful combination of record-low inflation, resilient domestic growth and normalized valuations improved the risk-reward profile for investors. While global markets remained uneven – pressured by weakness in technology stocks, a cooling AI-led rally and soft macro data from China – India stood out as a relative bright spot, supported by strong domestic fundamentals and steady liquidity conditions. Headline inflation emerged as a key driver of sentiment during the month. Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation fell sharply to 0.25%, the lowest level on record and well below the Reserve Bank of India's medium-term target of 4%. The sharp disinflation reinforced expectations of additional policy easing, providing meaningful support to equity valuations. Reflecting



confidence in the domestic growth outlook, the RBI revised its FY26 GDP growth forecast upwards to 7.3%, while India posted 8.2% GDP growth in Q2FY26, reaffirming its status as the fastest-growing major economy globally. Domestic activity indicators remained supportive despite global headwinds. Manufacturing PMI moderated to 56.6 amid tariff-related export softness but continued to signal healthy expansion. GST collections remained robust at ₹1.70 lakh crore, underlining the strength of domestic demand, while strong festive consumption further cushioned growth. Importantly, India's current account deficit improved to 1.3% of GDP, helping main-

tain macro stability despite currency pressures and volatile global capital flows. In contrast, global markets displayed growing signs of fatigue. The Nasdaq 100 declined during the month amid profit-taking in AI-linked stocks, while China and Hong Kong equities weakened on sluggish macro data and muted policy traction. Precious metals outperformed as investors sought safety, and crude oil prices softened ahead of expected rate cuts by the US Federal Reserve. Against this backdrop, India's relative stability, predictable policy environment and domestic flow resilience helped it extend its outperformance. Despite the strong rally in headline indices, PL Asset

Management cautions that market participation remains narrow, an important theme highlighted in its quantitative indicators. Only 22% of stocks are outperforming the Nifty 50 on a 12-month basis, while just 28% of stocks are trading above their 50-day exponential moving average – both metrics sitting near historically depressed levels. Additionally, only 23% of stocks are generating positive rolling alpha, compared with a long-term average of 46%. Historically, such extreme narrowness in participation has often preceded phases of mean reversion and broader market recovery. The Nifty-Gold one-year return spread has moved into deeply negative territory – a signal that has, in the past, marked inflection points where investor preference begins to shift from safe-haven assets toward growth-oriented equities. Mr. Siddharth Vora, Head - Quant Investment Strategies & Fund Manager, PL Asset Management, said, "Indian markets continue to demonstrate relative resilience at a time when global risk assets are undergoing a phase of recalibration.

## Oasis Fertility's Janani Yatra Reaches Vemulawada to Educate Communities and Spread Fertility Awareness

Karimnagar, 17 December 2025: Oasis Fertility, India's trusted name in reproductive medicine, continues its nationwide fertility awareness movement, Oasis Janani Yatra, with its next stop at Vemulawada. This initiative aims to take fertility awareness, expert guidance, and early screening directly into communities across Tier I, II, and III regions. The event was graced by Chief Guests – Sri Chinthakunta Vijaya Ramana Rao, MLA, Peddapalli, Vyavasaaya Committee Vice-chairman, Sri Rakesh, Vemulawada Congress Zilla Vice-President Komraiah, Congress block president Sri Venkataswamy and Market committee directors, Sri Vastad Krishna, Sri Daitha Kumar, Sri Vidyasagar who appreciated Oasis Fertility's efforts in bringing essential reproductive health education closer to families and strengthening community-level health awareness. As fertility challenges continue to rise due to lifestyle changes, delayed parenthood, and lack of scientific knowledge, the Oasis



Janani Yatra bus provides free fertility consultations and tests for couples that include free AMH, free semen analysis and haemoglobin tests in safe, hygienic sample collection zones, ensuring that couples receive early, accurate, and compassionate guidance. From Vemulawada, the Oasis Janani Yatra will move to Peddapalli, Gunthakal, and Yemmiganur in the coming days, taking this awareness and early screening support to more communities. Shri Chinthakunta Vijaya Ramana Rao, MLA, Peddapalli appreciated the

initiative, "I appreciate Oasis Fertility for launching an initiative that promotes much-needed reproductive health awareness. When scientific information reaches the community, it empowers families, eliminates fear, and encourages healthier decisions. Programs like Janani Yatra play an important role in building a healthier future." Dr. Durga G. Rao, Medical Director & Co-founder, Oasis Fertility, speaking on the occasion said, "As science continues to transform the way we treat fertility, the Oasis Janani Yatra takes informa-

tion about advanced, evidence-based reproductive care to the core of communities, providing early medical guidance to couples embarking on their journey towards parenthood." Mr. Pushkaraj Shenai, CEO, Oasis Fertility, asserted, "As India's fertility rate continues to fall, accessible, timely reproductive care is more important than ever. We are strengthening the reach of the Good Hands of Science with expert counselling, early diagnostics, and guided support at the grassroots level, so that aspiring couples can make informed decisions about their next steps." Dr. Jigna Tamagond, Clinical Head & Fertility Specialist added, "The overwhelming response to our previous edition of Oasis Janani Yatra showed that couples deeply value the right guidance. Through this initiative, we aim to ensure timely information and compassionate support to the local community, which still faces challenges in understanding fertility issues and available advanced treatments."

## Stock markets rebound in early trade after two days of decline

Mumbai: Benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty rebounded in early trade on Wednesday driven by value buying at lower levels and a positive trend in Asian markets. Steady buying activity by domestic institutional investors also brought comfort to the markets, according to experts. The 30-share BSE Sensex climbed 201.23 points to 84,881.09 in early trade. The 50-share NSE Nifty went up by 64.8 points to 25,924.90. From the Sensex firms, Eternal, State Bank of India, Bajaj Finance, Axis Bank, Tata Consultancy Services and Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles were among the major gainers. However, ICICI Bank, Trent, HDFC Bank and Sun Pharma were among the laggards. In Asian markets, South Korea's Kospi, Japan's Nikkei 225 index, Shanghai's SSE Composite index, and Hong Kong's Hang Seng index quoted in positive territory. US mar-



kets ended mostly lower on Tuesday. "Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth Rs 2,381.92 crore on Tuesday, while Domestic Institutional Investors (DIIs) bought stocks worth Rs 1,077.48 crore, according to exchange data. Steady domestic inflows through SIPs and insurance channels continue to provide a strong structural buffer, helping to limit downside

risks, Ponmudi R, CEO of Enrich Money, an online trading and wealth tech firm, said. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, jumped 1.19 per cent to USD 59.62 per barrel. On Tuesday, the Sensex tanked 533.50 points or 0.63 per cent to settle at 84,679.86. The Nifty dropped 167.20 points or 0.64 per cent to 25,860.10. The 30-share BSE Sensex climbed 201.23 points to 84,881.09 in early trade.

## Rupee recovers 55 paise from all-time low level to close at 90.38 against US dollar

Mumbai: The rupee recovered 55 paise from its all-time low level to close at 90.38 (provisional) against the US dollar after a volatile trade on Wednesday, amid suspected aggressive central bank intervention. Analysts said the rupee's recent fall against the US dollar was primarily driven by external factors, not domestic economic weakness, and the high volatility in the forex market is expected to persist amid shifting economic and geopolitical cues. The lack of progress in the US-India trade negotiations and extended selling by foreign portfolio investors have weighed on the sentiment, while Brent crude oil prices hovering near USD 60 per barrel supported the domestic unit at lower levels. At the interbank foreign exchange, the rupee opened at 91.05 against the US dollar, then recovered some lost ground to touch an intra-day high of 89.96, registering a 97 paise gain from



its previous close. At the end of trade on Wednesday, the rupee was quoted at 90.38 (provisional), up 55 paise over its last close. On Tuesday, the rupee tanked below 91 per dollar, hitting a low of 91.14. It finally settled at an all-time low of 90.93 against the American currency. "The Indian rupee appreciated after a five-day losing streak, bolstered by suspected aggressive intervention from the central bank," Dilip Parmar, Research Analyst, HDFC Securities, said. Parmar further added that

high volatility is expected to persist in the forex market amid shifting economic and geopolitical headlines. "Technically, USD/INR has immediate resistance at 90.60 and support at 89.70," he said. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading 0.42 per cent higher at 98.56. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, was trading 2.09 per cent higher at USD 60.16 per barrel in futures trade. "The rupee's record low against the US dollar

### Highlights

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was primarily driven by external factors, not domestic economic weakness. Key reasons, apart from the imposition of steep US tariffs (50 per cent) on Indian exports, include persistent capital outflows and dollar demand linked to non-deliverable forward maturities. "These factors have led to a roughly 6 per cent year-to-date depreciation, making the rupee Asia's most negatively impacted currency in 2025," said Deepak Agrawal,

Chief Investment Officer – Debt and Product Head, Kotak Mutual Fund. Agrawal said despite India's strong GDP growth, robust forex reserves, and a manageable current account deficit, the lack of progress in the US-India trade negotiations and extended selling by foreign portfolio investors have weighed on the sentiment. "The RBI remains focused on curbing volatility rather than defending a specific level, supporting a market-driven approach. Looking ahead to 2026, the rupee is expected to relatively appreciate if the India-US trade deal is finalised and capital flows improve," Agrawal said. On the domestic equity market front, Sensex declined 120.21 points to settle at 84,559.65, while the Nifty dropped 41.55 points to 25,818.55. Foreign Institutional Investors sold equities worth Rs 2,381.92 crore on Tuesday, according to exchange data.



# Venezuela denounces Trump's order for ship blockade as 'warmongering threats'

US President Donald Trump has ordered "a total and complete" blockade of all sanctioned oil tankers entering and leaving Venezuela - a move that Caracas has denounced as "warmongering threats". Trump wrote that Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro's government had been designated a foreign terrorist organisation (FTO), which had also engaged in "Drug Smuggling, and Human Trafficking". His remarks come after the US seized an oil tanker off the coast of Venezuela last week - a move that was seen as significant given Venezuela's reliance on oil. The US has also recently conducted deadly strikes on alleged Venezuelan drug-smuggling boats, and has significantly built up its naval presence nearby. Trump's post did not give further detail of how the wide-ranging blockade on sanctioned oil tankers would be enforced. As of last week,

more than 30 of the 80 ships in Venezuelan waters or approaching the country were under US sanctions, according to data compiled by TankerTrackers.com. Multiple new US sanctions on ships said to be carrying Venezuelan oil were issued after the tanker was seized. Sanctions were also placed on some of President Maduro's relatives and on businesses associated with what the US called his illegitimate regime. In his Truth Social post on Tuesday, Trump wrote that Venezuela was "completely surrounded by the largest Armada ever assembled in the History of South America". He added that it would "only get bigger" and "be like nothing they have ever seen before". Trump also accused Maduro's government of using "stolen" oil to "finance themselves, Drug Terrorism, Human Trafficking, Murder, and Kidnapping". The president



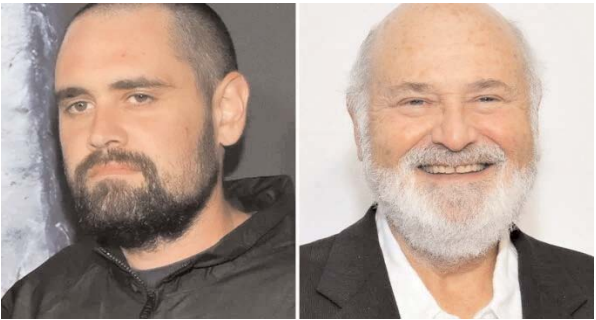
has repeatedly accused Venezuela of drug smuggling, and since September the US military has killed at least 90 people with its strikes on boats that were allegedly carrying fentanyl and other illegal drugs to the US. However, it has provided no public evidence that these vessels were carrying drugs, be it fentanyl - which is mainly produced in Mexico - or cocaine. Tuesday's post from Trump

suggested that a label the US had previously applied only to Maduro was now being widened to his whole government. Last month, the US formally alleged that the Venezuelan Cartel de los Soles group was an FTO. The designation meant that Maduro was effectively designated as terrorist as well, because he was alleged to be group's leader - which he denies. In response to the recent US actions,

Venezuela - home to the world's largest proven oil reserves - has accused Washington of seeking to steal its resources. Venezuela's economy is heavily dependent on oil exports, even though the amount of oil it actually produces is relatively small given that the country is home to the world's largest proven reserves. When announcing the tanker seizure off Venezuela's coast last week, the White House said the vessel in question, called the Skipper, had been involved in "illicit oil shipping" and would be taken to a US port. Venezuela's government decried the move, with Maduro saying the US "kidnapped the crew" and "stole" the ship. The US had been building up its military presence in the Caribbean Sea, which borders Venezuela to the north, in the weeks and months before the raid. The build-up has involved thousands of

troops and the USS Gerald Ford - the world's largest aircraft carrier - being positioned within striking distance of Venezuela. Congressman Joaquin Castro, a Democrat representing Texas, said Trump's "naval blockade is unquestionably an act of war". He added that US lawmakers would on Thursday vote on a resolution "directing the president to end hostilities with Venezuela". The US, under both Trump and former President Joe Biden, has opposed the Maduro government for years and pressed for him to be removed by imposing stringent sanctions. Maduro's government has been accused of rights abuses by the wider international community for many years. Venezuela's opposition, as well as many nations including the US, denounced last year's election as rigged and say his rule is therefore illegitimate.

## Nick Reiner charged with murder of his parents Rob and Michele



Prosecutors in Los Angeles have filed murder charges against Nick Reiner over the deaths of his parents, Hollywood director Rob Reiner and his wife Michele. Nick Reiner is facing two counts of first-degree murder with a special circumstance alleging multiple murders, district attorney Nathan Hochman said. He could be sentenced to life without the possibility of parole or the death penalty if found guilty. He will be brought to court to formally face charges and enter a plea after he is medically cleared by prison officials, Mr Hochman said. US media report that could happen on Wednesday. The couple

were found dead on Sunday in their home in Brentwood, Los Angeles, with multiple stab wounds. The charges also include a "special allegation" that Reiner used a knife. During a news conference on Tuesday, Mr Hochman said no decision had been made about whether prosecutors would seek the death penalty. The suspect, 32, was also accused of using a "dangerous and deadly weapon, that being a knife". He was initially expected to appear before a judge later on Tuesday for an arraignment hearing, though this was rescheduled. Rob Reiner directed a handful of iconic films in a variety of genres.

## Nato spending pledge is Trump's biggest foreign policy success, Rutte tells



Nato countries' pledge to spend 5% of their economic output on defence is Donald Trump's "biggest foreign policy success," the alliance's chief has said. In an interview with the BBC, Mark Rutte said it was thanks to Donald Trump that Nato was "stronger than it ever was", adding that Trump "is good news for collective defence, for Nato and for Ukraine". The US leader has harshly criticised European allies for spending very little on defence - even threatening to withdraw US protection if they fail to do so. The Nato chief has warned that Russia could attack allies within the next five years. Russia's President Vladimir Putin dismissed such talk as "hysteria" on Wednesday. "I've said it repeatedly - it's a lie, nonsense, pure nonsense, about some imaginary Russian threat to European countries," Putin told defence officials in Moscow. After Putin launched Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February

2022, he announced the annexation of four Ukrainian regions - Donetsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhia, and Kherson. Russia had already annexed Crimea in 2014. It now occupies most of Luhansk, and is understood to demand Ukraine's withdrawal from all of Donetsk, too, even though Ukraine still controls up to 23% of the eastern region. Putin said the goals of what he calls "the special military operation" would be achieved. He said he preferred to do it through diplomacy, before warning that, "if the opposing side and their foreign patrons refuse to engage in substantive discussions, Russia will achieve the liberation of its historical lands by military means". In his interview with the BBC Radio 4's PM programme, the Nato secretary general said it was "insane" that Putin's pursuit of his "historical idea that you want to regain access to Ukraine" - or over the entire territory that used to constitute the former Soviet Union - had caused the death or serious injury to 1.1m of his people. Mark Rutte praised Trump's efforts to find an end to the war. US envoys have been conducting intense negotiations with Ukrainian officials over a Trump-proposed peace plan whose initial draft was seen as favouring Russia.

## Shock as popular South African DJ shot dead in Johannesburg



A popular South African radio and club DJ has been shot dead in the country's largest city, Johannesburg, sending shockwaves across the nation grappling with entrenched crime. Warrick Stock, popularly known as DJ Warras, was gunned down in the city centre on Tuesday afternoon. Police said the 40-year-old media personality was approached by three suspects, one of whom opened fire on him before fleeing on foot. The motive of the shooting is

unknown and no arrests have been made, police said. Stock was a well-known radio and TV presenter and a podcaster in South Africa. Fred Kekana, a local police chief, said Stock was attacked outside Zambesi House near Carlton Centre. Stock spent several hours at the building overseeing the installation of security systems at the premises, which had been controversially occupied by unknown people, reports the state-run SABC.

## NAVEED AKRAM CHARGED WITH 15 COUNTS OF MURDER OVER BONDI SHOOTING

Naveed Akram, the surviving suspect in Sunday's mass shooting at Bondi Beach in Sydney, has been charged with 59 offences, including 15 counts of murder and one of committing a terrorist act, the New South Wales police say. Akram, 24, was critically injured during the incident. His father Sajid Akram, 50, was killed in an exchange of fire with police at the scene. Fifteen people were killed and dozens of others were injured in the attack, which targeted Australia's Jewish community at an event celebrating the first night of Hanukkah. It was the country's deadliest shooting since 1996. Akram also faces 40 charges of causing grievous bodily harm with intent to murder, as well as one charge of causing a public display of a prohibit-



ed terrorist organisation symbol. Akram had his first hearing from his hospital bedside, the local New South Wales court said. The case has been adjourned until April 2026, the court added. Earlier on Wednesday, New South Wales Police Commissioner Mal Lanyon said they were waiting for medication to wear off before formally questioning Akram. "For his fairness, we

been "motivated by Islamic State" group ideology. On Tuesday, it emerged that the father and son had travelled to the Philippines in November. The Philippine immigration bureau told the BBC that they were in the country from 1 November to 28 November. Their final destination was the southern city of Davao, an immigration spokesperson said. Naveed Akram travelled to the Philippines using an Australian passport, while his father Sajid used an Indian passport, border authorities in Manila told the BBC. Sajid Akram was originally from the southern Indian city of Hyderabad, but had "limited contact" with his family there, a police official from the Indian state of Telangana said.

# US ACCUSED OF USING ILLEGAL WORKERS AT CENTRE PROCESSING REFUGEE CLAIMS IN SOUTH AFRICA

South Africa has accused the US of using Kenyan nationals who did not have work permits at a facility processing applications by white South Africans for refugee status. Seven Kenyans were arrested after intelligence reports revealed that people "had recently entered South Africa on tourist visas and had illegally taken up work" at the centre, said a statement from South Africa's department of home affairs. The BBC has approached the US State Department for comment. While the US is trying to reduce overall levels of migration, it says that members of South Africa's white Afrikaner community can get asylum because they face persecution - a claim South Africa's government

strongly rejects. The US has reduced its yearly intake of refugees from around the world from 125,000 to 7,500, but says it will prioritise Afrikaners, who are mostly descendants of Dutch and French settlers. This is one of the issues that have caused a sharp deterioration in relations between South Africa and the Trump administration. South Africa says the Kenyan nationals arrested in Tuesday's raid will now be deported and will be banned from entering the country for five years. They had previously been denied work visas but were found "engaging in work despite only being in possession of tourist visas, in clear violation of their conditions of entry into the country", the statement said.



South Africa also expressed concern that foreign officials appeared to have coordinated with undocumented workers and said it had reached out to the US and Kenya to resolve the matter. The home affairs department said the raid showcased the commitment that South Africa shared "with the United States to combating illegal

immigration and visa abuse in all its forms". No US officials were arrested and the operation was not at a diplomatic site, it said. While the State Department is yet to respond to the BBC's request for comment, in a statement issued to US publications, Tommy Pigott, principal deputy spokesperson for the State Department, said the

department was "seeking immediate clarification from the South African government" on the issue and expected "full cooperation and accountability". "Interfering in our refugee operations is unacceptable," US publication The Hill quoted Pigott saying. The processing of applications by white South Africans is being done by RSC Africa, according to the US embassy in South Africa. RSC Africa is a Kenyan-based refugee support centre operated by Church World Service (CWS). The BBC has asked RSC Africa for comment. US President Donald Trump has repeatedly claimed that Afrikaners are being subjected to a "genocide" in South Africa, even though there is

no evidence that white farmers are more likely to be the victims of crime than their black counterparts. He offered Afrikaners refugee status earlier this year after South African President Cyril Ramaphosa signed a law allowing the government to seize land without compensation in rare instances. A first group of about 50 people flew to the US on a chartered plane - it is not clear how many others have moved, or are in the process of applying. Because of the legacy of the racist apartheid system, the majority of privately owned farmland in South Africa is owned by the white community and South Africa's government is under pressure to provide more land to black farmers.

## Miss Finland's viral 'slanted-eyes' photo stirs racism firestorm



Finland's delegate to last month's Miss Universe pageant held in Thailand has sparked controversy and outrage after a photo of her pulling the corners of her eyes went viral. Sarah Dzafce, who has been stripped of her Miss Finland crown, uploaded the photo with the caption "eating with a Chinese". The slanted-eyes pose is often seen as disrespectful to East Asians. The post drew backlash in Japan, South Korea and China against the 22-year-old and even against her country's flag carrier, Finnair. Finland's prime minister weighed in on Monday, saying that making such gestures was "thoughtless and stupid" and that the controversy that ensued was "damaging" to the country. Ms Dzafce claimed the gesture was her reaction to a headache during dinner. She said a friend added the offensive caption to the 11 December post without her consent, according to local tabloid Ilta-Sanomat. Ms Dzafce has apologised for the

photo, noting it has "caused ill will in many people". "That was not my intention in any way... One of the most important things for me is respect for people, their backgrounds and differences," she wrote on an Instagram post. The apology still drew criticism, with some calling it "insincere" given it was written in Finnish. One person wrote: "That was uncalled for, Asian people didn't do anything to you... We [are] still disappointed in you." Two right-wing MPs in Finland, Juho Eerola and Kaisa Garedew, posted photos of themselves mimicking Ms Dzafce's gesture to show their support for the beauty queen. The posts were taken down after backlash. Eerola apologised adding he felt Ms Dzafce was given "disproportionately harsh punishment". Finnish Prime Minister Petteri Orpo condemned the MPs' actions as "childish", adding that lawmakers should set an example of proper conduct.



"BEFUDDLED BY UMPIRES' DECISION":

T20 World Cup Winner Fumes As India vs South Africa T20I Gets Delayed Due To Excessive Fog

The India vs South Africa 4th T20I in Lucknow on Wednesday could well have decided the result of the series, with the hosts needing a win to seal it. However, what the two teams and the thousands of spectators got was an endless wait. The toss, which was supposed to take place at 6:30 PM IST, was delayed again and again due to excessive fog. Umpires opted for pitch inspections at 6:50 PM, 7:30 PM, 8 PM, 8:30 PM, 9 PM, and 9:25 PM. On each occasion, play could not begin, frustrating everyone. India currently lead the series 2-1. 2007 T20 World Cup winner Robin Uthappa, who was commenting on the match, was visibly irritated. He wondered whether it was possible for the fog to clear as the evening progressed. "I am actually befuddled by the umpire's decision. This is not going to get better. I have played first-class cricket in much worse conditions



than this. This is way better," said Robin Uthappa. Ahead of the fourth T20I, Indian all-rounder Axar Patel was ruled out of the

remaining two matches of the five-match series against South Africa due to illness, the BCCI said on Monday. The BCCI stated

that the star all-rounder will remain with the Indian team in Lucknow and will undergo further medical assessment. In place of Axar

Patel, the BCCI Men's Selection Committee named Shahbaz Ahmed as his replacement for the remaining T20I matches against South Africa in Lucknow and Ahmedabad. The fifth and final T20I between the two countries will be played at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad on December 19. Squads South Africa Squad: Reeza Hendricks, Quinton de Kock (w), Aiden Markram (c), Dewald Brevis, Tristan Stubbs, Donovan Ferreira, Marco Jansen, Corbin Bosch, Anrich Nortje, Lungi Ngidi, Ottneil Baartman, David Miller, Keshav Maharaj, George Linde, Tony de Zorzi, Lutho Sipamla, Kwena Maphaka , The India vs New Zealand ODI World Cup 2023 match at the Himachal Pradesh Cricket Association Stadium in Dharamsala was halted twice due to dense fog during the Indian innings.

Tata Group Felicitates ICC Women's World Cup 2025 Winning Team



Following their landmark victory at the ICC Women's World Cup 2025, the Indian Women's Cricket Team was formally felicitated by Tata Motors in recognition of their outstanding achievement. At a ceremony held at the Bombay House on 16th December 2025, the company announced a special gesture of appreciation under which each member of the world cup winning squad will be awarded a Tata Sierra, the recently unveiled model positioned as an icon reimaged. The event was attended by senior leadership from the

Tata Group, including Mr. N. Chandrasekaran, Chairman of Tata Sons and Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles Ltd., and Mr. Shailesh Chandra, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles Ltd. Their presence underscored the Group's commitment to celebrating excellence and supporting Indian sport. Mr. N. Chandrasekaran, Chairman of Tata Sons and Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles Ltd. commented, "Every child knew where they were when the world

changed for them in July 1983. One of those children who watched the men's cricket team's success became one of the world's great batsmen, and he dominated every kind of bowler for over two decades. Eventually, he won a world cup of his own, and it was only then that the bat finally left Sachin Tendulkar's hands. In the year 2025, on the 2nd of November, a date a new generation of children will always remember, the women's team finally did what their faithful followers knew they were capable of.

IPL Auction 2026: CSK "Missed A Trick," R Ashwin Shows Five-Time Champions The Mirror Over 'Generational Talent' Miss

Cameron Green, the tall Australian all-rounder, quite expectedly generated massive interest as Kolkata Knight Riders and Chennai Super Kings went head-to-head to acquire his services at the IPL 2026 auction. Ultimately, KKR roped him in for a whopping sum of Rs 25.20 crore at the Indian Premier League (IPL) auction. With that, he became the most expensive overseas player in the history of the tournament. As his bidding reached the Rs 25 crore mark, he surpassed the previous record set by his Australian teammate Mitchell Starc, who was bought by KKR for Rs 24.75 crore in the IPL 2024 auction. Overall, he became the third-costliest player in the history



of the IPL auction after Rishabh Pant (Rs 27 crore to Lucknow Super Giants in the IPL 2025 mega auction) and Punjab Kings skipper Shreyas Iyer (Rs 26.75 crore in the IPL 2025 auction). As KKR's bid crossed Rs 25 crore, CSK pulled out. Former CSK player Ravichandran Ashwin, however, opined that CSK had

missed a trick. "We conducted a mock auction, and that's when it became clear there was virtually no chance of him going over Rs 30 crore. In fact, had KKR been a little more patient - like some other franchises, Punjab for instance, who took their time while bidding - things might have played out differently," Ashwin said in a

video on Ash Ki Baat. "If that had happened, CSK would likely have let Cameron Green go much earlier. I had a sense that CSK were bidding more out of necessity than intent; it didn't feel like they were fully committed to acquiring him." Personally, I felt Cameron Green would have been a terrific addition to CSK, and in that sense, they may have missed a small trick. That said, this isn't about the price point. Cameron Green is a generational talent, and for KKR, he is an outstanding acquisition," Ashwin added. Green previously played for Mumbai Indians and Royal Challengers Bengaluru, the defending champions, before missing the 2025 season due to back surgery.

Alex Carey Breaks Silence After Snicko Controversy In Ashes Sees Him Gets Called A 'Cheater'

Alex Carey steered Australia to a dominant position on Day 1 of the third Ashes Test at Adelaide Oval on Wednesday. After a shaky start, which saw Australia slump to 94/4 soon after lunch, Carey, along with the last-minute inclusion of Usman Khawaja, added 91 runs for the fifth wicket to rescue Australia. Carey scored 106 off 143 balls. The South Australian, whose father Gordon died in September after a protracted battle with cancer, looked up to the sky after notching his third Test century. This achievement was significant for Carey, who looked skyward in tribute to his late father, who passed away in September from leukaemia. The 34-year-old also became Australia's leading run-scor-



er in Tests this year, surpassing Steve Smith's 618 runs to rank sixth in the world for runs in the format. However, the century didn't come without controversy. Carey survived an early chance in the innings when he flashed at the first ball of the 63rd over

from Josh Tongue. Wicketkeeper Jamie Smith and a fielder appealed and celebrated for a catch behind, but standing umpire Ahsan Raza turned it down as England reviewed the decision almost immediately. There was a spike shown on

the snickometer, but it appeared two to three frames before the ball passed the bat. Chris Gaffaney, the TV umpire, said the spike was "before the bat" and that the ball appeared to have "gone well under" the bat. "There's a clear gap, no spike." "I thought there was a bit of a feather or some sort of noise when it passed the bat. It looked a bit funny on the replay, didn't it, with the noise coming early? If I were given out, I think I would have reviewed it - probably not confidently, though. It was a nice sound as it passed the bat, yeah. "Snicko obviously didn't line up, did it? That's just the way cricket goes sometimes, isn't it? You have a bit of luck, and maybe it went my way today," said Carey.

'Felt like humiliation' - Egypt reacts to Salah's Liverpool row



What hits you most in Cairo, after the noise, is the sheer number of people. Egypt has a population of about 120 million. Its capital city is home to 23 million. For context, the population of Liverpool is just under one million. Come to appreciate that and only then do you begin to understand the scale of national fury that followed when Mohamed Salah gave his incendiary interview on 6 December, claiming Liverpool had "thrown him under the bus". "This interview was like a revolution in Egypt," says Diaa El-Sayed, the former Egypt assistant coach, who has known Salah since he was 16. "99% of Egypt supports Salah, and you can see from the reaction at Anfield that the Liverpool fans support him too." Across British media, Salah was criticised heavily for his actions. Former Liverpool defender Jamie Carragher branded the interview a "disgrace" and accused the 33-year-old of

throwing the club under the bus. Others insisted Salah was in the wrong for airing his grievances in public. Yet in Cairo, the 'Egyptian King' can do no wrong. "Before Salah, no-one supported Liverpool here," says Noura Essam, a Cairo local. "Before Salah, we didn't have a global figure, so we will always support him." During the 2018 presidential election, more than one million Egyptians crossed out the names of the listed candidates and cast their vote for Salah. He is an unofficial leader. In these parts, he is known as the 'Fourth Pyramid'. Around Ramses Square, the Cairo transport hub where Salah would change buses to reach training during his nine-hour round commute as a teenager, the cafe-goers describe their disbelief when he was named on the bench for three games in a row by Arne Slot and then left out of the squad for the Champions League trip to Inter Milan.

Anaya Bangar's Heartwarming Reaction As CSK Pick Up Sarfaraz Khan During IPL 2026 Auction

Anaya Bangar, child of former India batter Sanjay Bangar, was over the moon as her friend Sarfaraz Khan was bought by Chennai Super Kings (CSK) during Tuesday's IPL 2026 min-auction in Abu Dhabi. Sarfaraz, who last played in the IPL in 2023, was roped in at his base price of Rs 75 lakh. After years of being rejected, Sarfaraz thanked CSK for giving his career a new life. "Thank you so much, CSK for giving me new life," Sarfaraz captioned a video on his Instagram story. Reacting to a welcome post for Sarfaraz from CSK, Anaya dropped a 'fire' and a 'clap-



ping hands' emojis in the comment section. During IPL 2025, Anaya visited Sarfaraz's house to spend quality time with the batter and his family. She had taken to social media to

post a few pictures alongside Sarfaraz and his father Naushad Khan. In a video shared by Anaya, Sarfaraz revealed the two were meeting after a gap of two-three years. "We held bats before

we held phones. Friends since the beginning. Missed you @musheerkhan.97," Anaya captioned the post. Last year, Anaya shared a journey of transformation post a hormonal replacement therapy and gender reaffirming surgery. Anaya, who was formerly named Aryan, is an athlete and played age-group cricket following her father Sanjay Bangar's footsteps. Sarfaraz, on the other hand, has been in excellent form in this year's Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, amassing 256 runs from six innings at an average of 64.00 and a strike-rate of 182.85.

ACTIVE AERO AND OVERTAKE MODE - F1'S NEW TERMINOLOGY

Formula 1 has revealed the terminology the sport will use to refer to the technical complexities of the new 2026 rules. F1 is introducing arguably the biggest regulatory change in its history next season, with new chassis and engine rules, and the mandating of sustainable fuels. The new engines, which remain 1.6-litre V6 turbo hybrids, have significantly increased electrical capacity, which has required innovations in the cars' aerodynamics. Drivers will manage electrical energy throughout races - sometimes even on qualifying laps - to secure the best performance. F1 and governing body the FIA have consulted with what is described as a "wide range of new, casual and core fans to understand what kind of terminology would help them better



understand the key features of the new regulations". A statement said this involved "using third-party polling data and our 50,000 strong community 'Fan Voice', as well as consultation with the FIA, F1 teams and other technical experts to finalise and agree on the terms". The aim was to make a series of complex new areas of the sport as easy to understand

as possible to the widest audience. So previous terms for some of the devices - such as "x-mode" and "z-mode" for the active aerodynamics - have been dropped in favour of descriptions that give a more direct and straightforward indication of what the technology actually does. What's the new technology? Rule-makers say drivers will have more

power in their hands to make decisions over energy deployment, regeneration and conservation. The new rules mean cars will have a series of modes which will be indicated on television graphics to aid the audience's understanding of the action. Overtake mode: Replaces the current DRS overtaking aid. A burst of extra electrical energy available when drivers are within a second of the car in front to deploy power to assist with an overtake. Boost mode: Driver-operated energy deployment from the energy recovery system that can be used in attack or defence. Gives the driver maximum power from the engine and battery at the push of a button. Both these modes will have to be used with calculation as total energy is limited.

Bonmati named Fifa Best women's player of the year



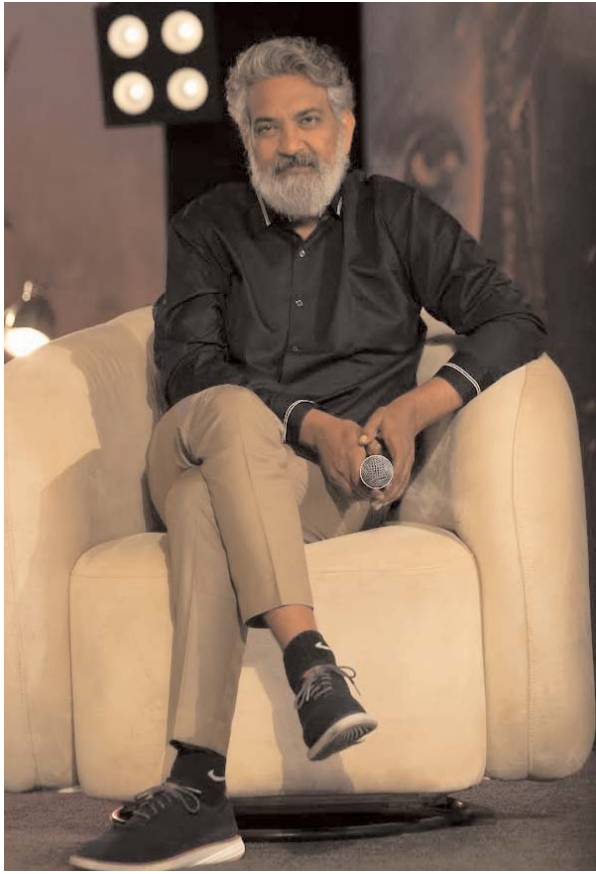
Barcelona midfielder Aitana Bonmati has been named the women's player of the year at the Fifa Best Awards for the third year in a row while England manager Sarina Wiegman is coach of the year for a fifth time. Bonmati, 27, was a key part of the Spain team who finished runners-up to England at Euro 2025, where she won the player of the tournament prize. The Spaniard won a domestic treble with Barcelona - scoring 12 and assisting six goals in La Liga F - but was a runner-up in the Champions League with her club, who lost to Arsenal in the final. Bonmati was named the competition's player of the season by Uefa, registering nine goal contributions in her 11 appearances and scoring in their 4-1 semi-final second-leg win at Chelsea. She said of her Fifa award: "I am grateful to have the honour. If it wasn't for all the play-

ers, coaches and the fans, I would not win it - [but] I will enjoy." Bonmati was also awarded the women's Ballon d'Or in September, becoming the first player to win it three times, having received it in 2023 and 2024. She earned the Fifa Best award in 2023 following a World Cup victory with Spain, and again in 2024 after winning a historic quadruple with Barcelona. Arsenal and Spain midfielder Mariona Caldentey and Barcelona forward Alexia Putellas were also nominated for this year's Fifa Best honour. Paris St-Germain and France forward Ousmane Dembele won the men's award at the ceremony in Qatar. Wiegman earns fifth coach of the year award Wiegman was honoured as the best women's coach of the year after guiding England to a second consecutive European title.



## SS Rajamouli on watching Avatar: Fire and Ash, “I was like a child in the theatre” as James Cameron expresses his desire to visit Rajamouli’s film set!

A deep dive into Avatar: Fire and Ash and the art of filmmaking through the eyes of two cinematic ICONS - James Cameron and SS Rajamouli\* A global cinematic moment was created when filmmaking titans James Cameron and SS Rajamouli came together to discuss the world's biggest franchise, Avatar and its upcoming instalment, Avatar: Fire and Ash. The two visionary directors spoke candidly about the nuances of large scale storytelling, their individual creative processes and the shared nervousness that accompanies the release of a film of such magnitude. Their conversation offered a rare insight into the mindset of filmmakers who continue to redefine the boundaries of cinema on a global stage. Reflecting on his experience of watching Avatar: Fire and Ash, SS Rajamouli described feeling “like a child in the theatre”, praising James Cameron's ability to continuously evolve cinematic spectacle while keeping emotion at the heart of storytelling. SS Rajamouli even shared that Avatar ran for a year in IMAX in



Hyderabad. The filmmaker highlighted how the Avatar franchise remains a benchmark for immersive, big screen experiences. James Cameron too expressed his admiration for SS Rajamouli's cinematic vision and shared

his desire to visit the Indian auteur's film set. \_Avatar: Fire and Ash from 20th Century Studios releases in India on 19 December in 6 languages English, Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, and Kannada.\_

## Zamana releasing in theatres on Jan 30



The crime thriller Zamana is set to release in theatres on January 30. The film features Surya Srinivas and Sanjeev Kumar in the lead roles and marks the directorial debut of Bhaskar Jakkula. The movie is produced by Tejaswi Adapa, Boddula Lakshman and Shivakanth, Sashikanth. Recently, the trailer launch event of Zamana was held in a grand manner, with the entire film unit attending the program. Speaking at the event, director Bhaskar Jakkula said that Zamana is a different kind of crime thriller made with a strong and engaging subject. He added that the film will keep audiences entertained from start to finish and will surprise them with unexpected twists throughout the narra-

tive. Producer Shivakanth shared that the director handled the film with a very gripping screenplay. He expressed confidence that Zamana will surely entertain all sections of the audience and thanked the media for their continuous support to the film. Actors Surya Srinivas and Sanjeev Kumar stated that the team worked very hard on the film and expressed hope that the audience will enjoy it when it releases on January 30. Set against the backdrop of Hyderabad old city, Zamana reflects the mindset of today's youth. The film promises engaging entertainment with strong content that connects well with the younger generation. The cast also includes Swathi Kashyap and Zara.

## Shambhala Locks Strong Pre-Release Business, Heads For Wide December 25 Release

Aadi Sai Kumar ventures into compelling new territory with Shambhala: A Mystical World, a supernatural thriller that has quickly grown into one of the most talked-about upcoming releases. Directed by Ugandhar Muni and produced by Rajasekhar Annabhimoju and Mahidhar Reddy under the Shining Pictures banner, the film has generated strong buzz across both trade circles and audiences. Riding on this mounting hype, the film has clocked impressive pre-release business. Both theatrical and non-theatrical rights have been closed at lucrative prices, ensuring table profits for the producers even before release. Notably, the theatrical rights have been picked up by prominent distributors, underlining the industry's confidence in the project. Usha Pictures acquired the Andhra and Ceded rights, while Mythri Distributors secured the Nizam territory. The overseas rights were bagged by Moonshine Cinemas, and Kumar Bangalore Films picked up the Karnataka rights. With such strong backing, Shambhala is gearing up for a wide and impactful release across India and overseas



markets. Another major strength of the film is its well-planned promotional strategy. From visually arresting concept posters and intriguing glimpses to a gripping teaser and a well-received theatrical trailer, every update has heightened the mystery surrounding the film. Adding to the momentum, the recently released first single Naa Peru Shambhala, sung by Geetha

Madhuri, has emerged as an instant chartbuster. The film's music is composed by Sricharan Pakala. The film also features a strong ensemble cast including Archana Iyer, Swasika, Ravi Varma, Madhunandan, and Siva Karthik, promising a rich and layered narrative. The film with cinematography handled by Praveen K Bangari is all set to hit theatres on December 25.

## Gurram Paapireddy” has a strong story at its core, and every scene moves forward in a fun zone, making the audience laugh: Hero Naresh Agastya

Starring Naresh Agastya and Faria Abdullah as the lead pair, “Gurram Paapireddy” is being presented by Dr. Sandhya Goli and produced by Venu Saddi, Amar Burra, and Jayakanth (Bobby). Directed by Murali Manohar, the film is a dark comedy based on a completely new concept that hasn't been seen on screen before. “Gurram Paapireddy” is set for a worldwide grand theatrical release on the 19th of this month. In an interview held today, Naresh Agastya spoke about the highlights of the film. “I have never done a film like this before. In my earlier movies, my characters were usually settled and calm. In ‘Gurram Paapireddy’, my character is more energetic and takes

the lead. I really liked the story when director Murali Manohar narrated it. After that, we traveled for nearly a year for the project work. During promotions, Tejaswini, the heroine of Raju Weds Rambai, accidentally called our film ‘Gedela Paapireddy’ instead of ‘Gurram Paapireddy’. Even though it was a wrong title, it went viral and helped more people get to know about our movie.” “In the film, I come with a specific purpose. To accomplish it, I need a few people I know who are not very intelligent. I select those who I can manage even if they question me. What exactly my mission is has not been revealed even in the trailer. We are on a hunt for a dead body. Whose body it is and why it matters is the main

point of the story.” “The storyline revolves around what happens when intelligent people behave foolishly, and when foolish people act intelligently, and how those situations affect their lives. We've had dark comedy films in the past, but they were never labeled as dark comedies. When someone is in trouble, they feel pain, but the same situation makes others laugh - that's dark comedy. In this film, the characters go through hardships, but those situations turn into entertainment for the audience. The entire movie moves in a fun zone. Though every scene has comedy, there is a strong story running underneath. The audience will be shocked at the interval.” “Our producers made this film without any compro-



mise. Especially Amar garu ensured that even when the budget increased, the quality was never reduced. We waited specifically for Yogi Babu. I don't have combination scenes with Brahmanandam garu, but I do share scenes with Yogi Babu. He is extremely friendly. He even took me around Ramoji Film City on

his bike and clicked selfies, saying these moments would be memories for him. That made me very happy.” “No matter how good the script is, you need the right artists to perform it. In our film, Faria Abdullah, Rajkumar Kasireddy, and Vamsidhar delivered excellent comedy timing. Acting alongside them was a great experience for me as well. We worked in a very friendly atmosphere, discussing scenes and performing together. Krishna Saurabh has composed very good songs for the film, and even the promotional song is receiving a strong response.” “A film must reach people through its trailer and teaser first; after that, the audience should carry it forward. Our trailer is getting a very good

response. Since I acted in it, I can't judge it myself, but everyone who watched it says it's good. People who worked on the film are confident it will be a hit. We are having premieres tomorrow. I haven't watched the full film yet, and I'm eagerly waiting to see the audience's response after the screening.” “I love traveling, and I also practice free diving. That means taking a single breath and diving as deep as possible into the sea. I once went down to a depth of 80 feet for 3 minutes and 40 seconds.” “In my view, a commercial film is one that can engage the audience even without songs or fights. It should have sensible elements and be appealing to viewers. None of my films so far have been purely commercial.

## I request every social media user not to support AI-generated nonsense: Sreeleela



**Hyderabad:** Actress Sreeleela, who is one of the top stars in the Telugu and Tamil film industries, on Wednesday urged every social media user not to support AI-generated nonsense. Taking to her Instagram page to post an emotional appeal, the actress wrote, “I put my hands together and request every social media user not to support AI-generated nonsense. There is a difference between using and abusing technology. Advancements in technology are meant to simplify life, not complicate it, in my opinion.” Taking to her Instagram page to post an emotional appeal, the actress wrote, “I put my hands together and request every social media user not to support AI-generated nonsense. There is a difference between using and abusing technology. Advancements in technology are meant to simplify life, not complicate it, in my opinion.” Stating that she had been unaware of many things happening online due to her schedules, the actress said, “I thank my well-wishers for bringing this to my notice.

I have always taken things with a pinch of salt and lived in my own world, but this is deeply disturbing and devastating. I also see my fellow colleagues going through the same and am reaching out on behalf of everyone. With grace and dignity, and with trust in my audience, I ask you to please stand by us. The authorities will be taking it over from here.” It may be recalled that another top actress, Priyanka Arul Mohan, had raised concerns about the same issue in October this year. Actress Priyanka Arul Mohan, who is popular in both the Tamil and Telugu film industries, had said, “Some AI-generated images falsely depicting me have been circulating. Please stop sharing or spreading these fake visuals. AI should be used for ethical creativity and not misinformation. Let's be mindful of what we create and what we share. Thank you.” Stating that she had been unaware of many things happening online due to her schedules, the actress said, I thank my well-wishers for bringing this to my notice.

## Vaishnavi Kokkura’s First Look Poster From Purushaha Catches Attention

Taking a film to the audience and building strong pre-release hype is no easy task. However, the Purushaha has managed to grab attention with just concept posters, taglines, and character introduction posters. Presented by Battula Saraswathi and produced by Battula Koteswara Rao under the Kalyan Productions banner, Purushaha marks the debut of Pavan Kalyan Battula as a hero. The film is directed by Veeru Ulavala and has already generated solid buzz among audiences. So far, posters introducing three major characters have been released. Now, the makers have unveiled the first look poster of heroine Vaishnavi Kokkura's character. The poster clearly hints at the nature of her role. It symbolically suggests conflict between husband and wife, echoing the idea that “two swords cannot fit in one sheath.” The dialogue featured on the poster—“Kanti Chooputho Kaadu, Kanneellatho Champestha. (I won't kill you with a glance, but with tears)”, offers a powerful insight into the intensity of her character. The serious face-off between the couple in the poster hints at the scale and depth of marital conflict that will be portrayed in the film. Along with Pavan Kalyan, the posters indicate that characters played by Kasireddy and Saptagiri will be special attractions. The first look poster of Vaishnavi Kokkura's role has certainly caught everyone's attention, and it remains to be seen how compelling the posters of the remaining characters will be. It is known that Vaishnavi Kokkura, Vishika, and Hasini Sudheer are playing the female leads in this film. The team also reveals that comedians like Vennela Kishore, VTV Ganesh, Ananth Sriram, Pammi Sai, and



Mirchi Kiran will provide ample laughter. Post-production work is currently progressing at a brisk pace, and the release date will be announced soon. Cast: Pavan Kalyan, Saptagiri, Kasireddy Rajkumar, Vaishnavi Kokkura, Vishika, Hasini Sudheer, Sri Sandhya, Gabi Rock, Anaira Gupta, Vennela Kishore, Rajeev Kanakala, Pammi Sai, VTV Ganesh, and others.

## Jinn, Made with a New Concept, Will Scare & Captivate Everyone: Producer Nikhil M. Gowda

Produced by Nikhil M. Gowda under the banners of Sadalamma Film Productions and Bilva Studios, Jinn features Amit Rao, Parvez Simba, Prakash Tuminad, Ravi Bhatt, and Sangeetha in key roles. The film is directed by Chinmay Ram and is set for a grand release on December 19. The teaser and trailer have already generated strong buzz. As the release date approaches, producer Nikhil M. Gowda shared insights about the film with the media. Excerpts from his interaction: I'm from Bengaluru. I've loved films since childhood and mostly watched Telugu movies. That passion drew me to the industry. I came in with the dream of acting, but eventually became a producer. I met Chinmay Ram through my friends' circle. Knowing my passion for cinema, he narrated the story of Jinn. I really liked it—the concept felt fresh—so I decided to produce it. We shot Jinn along the Karnataka-Andhra border. With its different and new concept, the



film will captivate audiences. I've already watched it, and the feeling I had while listening to the story is exactly what came through on screen. It's designed to genuinely scare viewers. Alex's background score and Sunil Honnali's visuals are major highlights. The film offers a strong theatrical experience. Chinmay Ram has brought it to the screen beautifully, and thanks to the team's collective effort, Jinn has turned out wonderfully. Amit Rao, Parvez Simba, Prakash Tuminad, Ravi

**Highlights**  
■ Produced by Nikhil M. Gowda under the banners of Sadalamma Film Productions and Bilva Studios, Jinn features Amit Rao, Parvez Simba, Prakash Tuminad, Ravi Bhatt, and Sangeetha in key roles. The film is directed by Chinmay Ram and is set for a grand release on December 19.

Bhatt, Sangeetha—everyone delivered excellent performances and were very supportive throughout the shoot. Jinn will give audiences a completely new experience. I hope they embrace this fresh attempt. The concept of a jinn isn't widely known, and through this film, we're introducing a new world. I'm currently listening to a few more stories, all in discussion stages. Going forward, I plan to continue producing films regularly in both Kannada and Telugu.