

NATION | NEWS



Rajnath launches BRO manual to streamline strategic road construction



WORLD | NEWS

Jaishankar begins visit to Sri Lanka as PM Modi's special envoy

SPORTS | NEWS

25
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INBRIEF

Four of family die in house fire in WB's Howrah

HOWRAH (TSIT): Four members of a family were charred to death after a fire broke out at their house in West Bengal's Howrah district around midnight, officials said on Monday. The incident occurred at Sauria village under the Joypur police station limits. The deceased were identified as Durjodhan Dolui (72), his son Duddhakumar Dolui (45), daughter-in-law Shibani Dolui (40), and granddaughter Shampa Dolui (15). Officials said the victims were asleep when the fire engulfed their kuchcha house. Two fire tenders were pressed into service and managed to douse the blaze, but the family could not be rescued in time.

CAF jawan shoots colleague dead inside camp in Chhattisgarh

RAIPUR (TSIT): A Chhattisgarh Armed Force (CAF) constable allegedly shot his colleague dead inside a barrack camp during the intervening night of Sunday and Monday in Kharagpur district, around 130 km west of Raipur. The incident took place at the 17th CAF battalion's Ghagra base camp following an altercation between the two jawans. Police said the accused has been identified as Arvind Gautam, while the deceased was Sonbir Jaat, who was serving as a mess commander.

J&K police vows vigil against terrorism and crime

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Director General of Police (DGP) Nalin Prabhat reaffirmed the UT police's commitment to maintaining strict vigilance over terrorism and all forms of criminal activity. Speaking at the inauguration of the 14th Police Martyrs Memorial T20 Cricket Tournament 2025-2026 in Kathua, the DGP emphasized that the police will closely monitor drugs, gangsters, mafia networks, and especially terrorism.

"The constant aim of the police is to stamp out anti-national and anti-social activities in Jammu and Kashmir," DGP Prabhat stated. He highlighted ongoing operations by the J&K Police and security forces targeting terrorists, overground workers (OGWs), sympathizers, drug traffickers, and individuals involved in hawala money rackets.

CM Directs Departments to Submit Employee Details by January 26



• Chief Minister orders all departments to submit details of regular, outsourcing, and contract employees and verify their salaries and benefits by January 26.

• Government offices operating from rented buildings must be shifted to government-owned premises by January 26.

to vacate all rented premises and shift government offices to government-owned buildings by January 26.

The Chief Minister

stressed strict adherence to these directions and called for timely compliance from all concerned departments.

'CONSPIRACY TO SELL ARAVALI': Gehlot accuses Centre of turning CEC into 'puppet'

JAIPUR, Dec 22: Former Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has strongly criticised the Union government's move to change the definition of the Aravali range, calling it misleading, factually hollow, and driven by vested interests.

He also rejected Union Minister Bhupender Yadav's claim that mining would be permitted on only 0.19 per cent of the Aravali area, terming it an attempt to mislead the public through selective statistics.

Gehlot said the new "100-metre definition" of the Aravali cannot be viewed in isolation. When examined alongside two major policy decisions taken by the Union government, it becomes clear that this is not an exercise in environmental protection but a deliberate plan to hand over the Aravali ecosystem to the mining mafia through institutional capture.

He shed light on how the protector was turned into a predator and how the CEC was neutralised. Gehlot alleged that through a notification issued on September 5, 2023, the Union government deliberately weakened the Central Empowered Committee (CEC)—formed in 2002 under the supervision of the Supreme Court to protect



the environment—by removing it from the Court's oversight and placing it under the Ministry of Environment.

The committee, which was earlier an independent, court-monitored body, was converted into a permanent government committee through executive notification.

Earlier, CEC members were appointed with the Supreme Court's approval. Post-notification, the Central Government assumed complete control over appointments, effectively turning the CEC into an instrument of the government. "This is the same CEC whose independent report led to the arrest of a powerful BJP minister, Janardhan Reddy, in an illegal mining case in Karnataka on September 5, 2011," Gehlot said.

Revanth pay tributes to ex-PM Narasimha Rao



HYDERABAD: Andhra Pradesh Governor S. Abdul Nazeer, Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and leaders from various political parties in both Telugu states on Tuesday paid tributes to former Prime Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao on his death anniversary. Governor of Andhra Pradesh S. Abdul Nazeer paid tributes to Narasimha Rao on his death anniversary. The Governor said Narasimha Rao was a visionary statesman, a distinguished scholar, and an outstanding administrator whose leadership played a pivotal role in shaping modern India. He made historic contributions to economic reforms, national integration, and India's global standing, and his legacy continues to inspire generations.

AP to lead quantum technology revolution in India, says CM Naidu



sum computing devices will be produced here in the next two years.

He claimed that the announcement of the quantum programme received an overwhelming response. Through a single announcement to train quantum experts, 54,000 people registered.

The programme is being implemented through a strategic partnership led by WISER (The Washington Institute for STEM, Entrepreneurship and Research) and Qubitech as the India partner.

"Twenty-five years ago, I presented a vision for IT. Today, I am presenting a vision for Quantum. Just like Silicon Valley anchored the digital age, Amaravati's Quantum Valley will anchor the knowledge economy of the future," he said.

Intel flags ISI plot to incite anti-India fury in Bangladesh, push New Delhi into military response



NEW DELHI (TSIT): With the situation in Bangladesh going from bad to worse, Intelligence agencies have learnt that there is a deliberate attempt by the ISI to provoke India. The plan is to provoke India into attacking Bangladesh, so that it garners international attention, agencies have learnt.

The ISI-backed elements are provoking people, stating that India is protecting ousted leader Sheikh Hasina, while backing her party, the Awami League.

The August 2024 uprising managed to create an anti-Hasina wave across the country, and this is being taken advantage of by the ISI.

Following her ouster, she fled to India and remained in New Delhi since then. Following the collapse of the Sheikh Hasina government and the subsequent takeover by Muhammad Yunus as caretaker of the interim government, chaos ensued throughout the country.

Street violence has become a daily routine apart from the persecution of the minority community.

An official stated that there is a significant

RBI data expose TDP-JSP lies, says Jagan Mohan Reddy



AMARAVATI (TSIT): Former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy said on Tuesday that the lies of TDP-JSP have been exposed with the statistics released by the RBI about the state's performance in the manufacturing and industry sectors during 2019-24.

YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) president said that after forming the government, Telugu Desam Party (TDP) and Jana Sena Party (JSP) persistently made the allegations that brand AP was destroyed owing to the YSRCP government, that investors abandoned AP owing to the YSRCP government and that no industrial growth was witnessed during the period of the YSRCP government.

"If this picture were remotely true, then AP's performance in the manufacturing and industry front should have been miserable. But the facts bring to light a totally different picture," Jagan Mohan Reddy said in a post on 'X'. The former CM highlighted the statistics released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) this month. The sta-

tistics revealed that in terms of Gross Value Added (GVA), Andhra Pradesh stood number one in South India and number five in India in the manufacturing sector during 2019-24.

Similarly, in the industry sector growth, Andhra Pradesh stood number one in South India and number eight in India during the same period. "Is this destruction of Brand AP or a booming economy because of transformative leadership?" he asked.

Meanwhile, YSRCP leader and former minister Ambati Rambabu strongly criticised Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, stating that his recent speeches are strange, aggressive, and confusing, aimed not at governance but at protecting Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu.

Revanth has no understanding of river water issues: KTR



Hyderabad (TSIT): Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) working president K.T. Rama Rao on Tuesday accused Chief Minister Revanth Reddy of having "zero understanding" of river water issues and branded irrigation ministers as "dangerously ignorant."

Addressing a felicitation meeting of newly elected Sarpanches, Deputy Sarpanches and Ward Members at the BRS party office in Nalgonda, Rama Rao congratulated the grassroots representatives and said their victory has infused renewed confidence and energy into the party. KTR, as the BRS leader is popularly known, alleged that the Congress government is indulging in diversionary politics and case dramas only because it has failed to answer the serious questions raised by former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao (KCR) on irrigation projects and governance.

He challenged the Chief Minister to stop leaking stories from behind the scenes and come openly before the cameras to declare what cases he intends to file.

RBI announces Rs 3 trillion liquidity boost through OMOs, forex swap



MUMBAI (TSIT): The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Tuesday announced a fresh set of steps to inject a large amount of money into the banking system to ease tight liquidity conditions.

Through a mix of open market operations (OMOs) and a foreign exchange swap, the central bank will add nearly Rs 3 trillion to the system over the coming weeks. As part of the

plan, the RBI will buy government bonds worth Rs 2 trillion through OMOs. These purchases will be done in four equal tranches of Rs 50,000 crore each on

December 29, January 5, January 12 and January 22. In addition, the central bank will conduct a three-year USD/INR buy-sell swap of \$10 billion on January 13, which will also help release rupee liquidity into the banking system.

Market participants said such a large injection was widely expected, even before the RBI stepped in to sell dollars in the foreign exchange market last week. The

main reason for the liquidity squeeze is the RBI's recent intervention in the currency market.

Last week, the central bank sold dollars aggressively to prevent a sharp fall in the rupee, which had weakened due to uncertainty around a possible trade deal with the US and continued foreign portfolio investor outflows from Indian equity and debt markets.



SIDDIPET MAIN BRANCH

Address: 11-1-181, Medak Road, Siddipet,

Contact No: 9819551105

Sale notice for sale of Immovable properties

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

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of SIDDIPET MAIN BRANCH Union Bank of India Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on 09-01-2025, for recovery of Rs. 23,92,491.81 (Rupees Twenty Three Lacs Ninety Two Thousand Four Hundred Ninety Four and Eighty one paisa only) + Ints + Other charges due to the Union of India, SIDDIPET MAIN BRANCH Secured Creditor from Mr. Padakanti Anjala S/o. Padakanti Thirupathiah (Borrower). The reserve price will be Rs. 28,35,000/- and the earnest money deposited will be Rs. 2,83,500/-

Borrower: PADAKANTI ANJALA S/O PADAKANTI THIRUPATHIAH, H.No.6-1-63, Paripally Colony, Siddipet. 502103.

Co-Borrower: NIL.

Description of Property:-

All that piece and parcel of all that House property bearing No 6-1-63 (old) H No 6-1-69 (new) situated at Paripally Street, Near Mammapuram Temple , Siddipet, Dist Siddipet, Telengana 502103 belonging to Sri.PadakantiAnjala Land admeasuring 174.27 SqYds and BUA of 562 sqft (Registered document no 1168/2010)

Boundaries of Property:-

North: House of Mangali Pentalia and Bukka Nagaiah, South: House of Kallepu Rajalai, East: Lane and road, West: House and Open place of Mangali Bucchiah.

Encumbrances known to the secured Creditor: Not Known

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in Union Bank of India Secured Creditor's website i.e. www.unionbankofindia.co.in and Service Provider's website i.e. https://baanknet.in

Date: 22.12.2025

Place: Siddipet Main Branch

Sd/-Authorized Officer, Union Bank of India



HINDUJA HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

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

APPENDIX -IV [Rule 8(1)] Possession Notice (For Immovable Property)

Whereas The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Hinduja Housing Finance Ltd., under the Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (ACT NO.54 OF 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a demand notice to below mentioned Borrowers/ Guarantors. After completion of 60 days from date of receipt of the said notice, the Borrowers/ Guarantor/s has failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers/ Guarantor/s and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Physical Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on them under section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on this.

Application No. Borrower and Co-Borrowers Name and Address	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Total Outstanding amount as on	DATE OF PHYSICAL POSSESSION
1. Mr. Bodas Ravi Kumar, H.No.1-67/16/1,Kistupuram Kesiaduram, Warangal, Telangana 506112.Borrower	27.02.2024 and Rs.21,35,366/- (Twenty One Lakhs Thirty Five Thousand Three Hundred Sixty Six Only)	20-12-2025. Rs. 21,35,100/-	20-12-2025
2. Mrs. Bodas Shirisha, H.No.1-67/16/1,Kistupuram Kesiaduram, Warangal, Telangana - 506112Co-Borrower			

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:

All that the land bearing survey No.229/D, and RCC building bearing Gram Panchayath Door No.1-67/16/A/1 with ground floor constructed plinth area of 481.00 Sq. feet in an extent of 250.00 Sq. yards of land situated at Kesiaduram Village, Kesiaduram Mandal, Mahabubabad District, Telangana-506112, within the limits of S.R.O.Mahabubabad bounded as follows: BOUNDARIES: EAST: House of a Sarahi, WEST: Open Place of B. Rajeshwari, NORTH: Service Road (ROB), SOUTH: G.P.Road

The Borrower/s/ Guarantor/s in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Hinduja Housing Finance Limited, for an above-mentioned demanded amount and further interest thereon

Place : Warangal.

Sd/-Authorized Officer

,For Hinduja Housing Finance Limited



IDBI Bank Limited, 3rd floor, D. No: 5-9-89/1 and 2,

Chapel Road, Hyderabad-500001, Telangana,

040-67694111. Email: dvkrishna@idbi.co.in

NOTICE UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 (THE SARFAESI ACT)

Name of the Borrower, Mortgagor and Guarantor:

The Borrower, Sri. Doraswamy Mohan Rohit Das And Smt. H Shirley Haphizibah, 1-9-295/32/3, Flat No.203, 2nd Floor Poomima Mansion, Street No 7, Vidyasagar Hyderabad Telangana 500004

Also: No 5 5th Main Road Lakes, Andra 15th Crs, Bangalore Kemata 560030

Also: At IT Park, Madhugiri Hyderabad Telangana 500081

Notice is hereby given to the aforesaid Borrower and Mortgagor that the aforesaid Borrower was sanctioned financial assistance of Re.64,00,000.00 (Rupees Sixty Lacs Fourty Only) by IDBI Bank Ltd. (IDBI Bank), by way of Home loan. Pursuant to the sanction of the said financial assistance, necessary loan and security documents were executed by aforementioned Borrower and Mortgagor. The said financial assistance has been secured inter alia, by mortgage by deposit of title deeds of the property mentioned below (the Secured Asset). As the aforesaid Borrower has defaulted in repayment of the said financial assistance in terms of the Loan Agreements) dated 25/04/2022, the accounts of the Borrower have been classified as non-performing assets (NPA) w.e.f. 05-11-2025 in the books of IDBI Bank in terms of the guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India from time to time. In view of the defaults committed by the aforesaid Borrower, IDBI Bank vide letter bearing Ref. No: LRN2807685404262024 dated 02/12/2025, has declared the said financial Assistance to be in default and other monies applied towards the principal sum of Rs. 64,00,000.00 (Rupees Sixty Lacs Fourty Only) as on 08/12/2025 to have become immediately due and payable by the Borrower and called upon the Borrower to pay to IDBI Bank the said sum together with further interest thereon till payment or realization, at the contractual rate as stated in the said letter. As on 08-11-2025 an amount of Rs.63,96,20.00 (Rupees Sixty Three Lacs Ninety Six Thousand Two Hundred Only) as per Annexure-II together with expenses, charges and further interest thereon from effect is due and payable by the Borrower to IDBI Bank along with further interest thereon at the contractual rate till payment/realization. Necessary notice, bearing Ref. No: 2807685404262024 dated 12-12-2025 was issued/served by IDBI Bank under section 13(2) of the SARFAESI Act at the respective address of the Borrower/Mortgagor by Registered post with acknowledgement Due which was returned un-serve with postal remark 'No such person in this address/in sufficient address/want of H.n.o. & no. no. In view of the said public notice is issued in compliance with Rule 3 (1) of the SARFAESI Rules.

Please note that you shall not transfer or otherwise (other than in the ordinary course of your business) any of the Secured Asset, without prior written consent of IDBI Bank, failing which you shall be liable for an offence punishable under section 29 of the SARFAESI Act.

We invite your attention to provisions of sub section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to the Borrower/Mortgagor to pay the aforesaid amount within sixty days from the date of the notice. In the circumstances, Borrower/Mortgagor is, once again, requested to pay the aforesaid amount within sixty days from the date hereof failing which IDBI Bank, as a secured creditor shall be entitled to enforce its security interest, under the provisions of the SARFAESI Act as also under any other law as available to IDBI Bank.

Details of the Secured Asset

Notice of the deposit of title deeds created by the Borrower/Mortgagor, on 27/04/2022, in respect of its immovable property all that semi furnished Flat bearing number 102, in First Floor, of "LOTUS DWARAKA", having super built up area measuring 1210.30 Sq. feet, including of common areas, balconies and R/car parking along with an undivided share of 44.40 Sq. yards, out of total extent of 500 Sq. yards, in Survey No.2182, situated at KONDAPUR Village limits, Seringapatna GHMC Circle and Mandal District Rangareddy in the State of Telangana. **Boundaries:** North: Open to Sky, South: Corridor, Lift Staircase, East: Open to Sky, West: Open to Sky

Date:23-12-2025

Sd/- Authorised Officer

IDBI Bank Limited



TELANGANA GRAMEENA BANK

(Sponsored by State Bank of India)

RAMNAGAR BRANCH, HANAMKONDA DISTRICT

HEAD OFFICE : HYDERABAD, RBO : WARANGAL

POSSESSION NOTICE

Under Rule 8(1) (For immovable property)

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Telangana Grameneen Bank, Ramnagar Branch, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (No.3 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice dated : 14/07/2025 calling upon the borrower 1.5mt. Patnamshetty Bhagya Lakshmi, R/o H.No. 3-11-18, Kakatiya Colony, Hanamkonda - 506001 to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Housing Loan Rs. 10,94,151/- + Topup Loan Rs. 8,49,656/- Total Liabilities of Rs. 19,43,807/- (Rupees Nineteen Lakhs Forty Three Thousand Eight Hundred and Seven Only) as on 14.07.2025 along with future interest at contractual rate from 15.07.2025 together with incidental expenses, cost, charges, etc. within 60 days from the date of the notice.

The borrower/ guarantor having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower / guarantor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken constructive 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 day of December of the year 2025

The borrower / guarantor in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Telangana Grameneen Bank, Ramnagar Branch, for an amount of Housing Loan Rs. 10,94,151/- + Topup Loan Rs. 8,49,656/- Total Liabilities of Rs. 19,43,807/- (Rupees Nineteen Lakhs Forty Three Thousand Eight Hundred and Seven Only) as on 14/07/2025 + along with future interest at contractual rate together with incidental expenses, cost charges, etc. The present outstanding in respect of the Housing Loan Rs. 10,46,923.45ps + Topup Loan Rs. 8,22,610.36ps Total Liabilities of Rs. 18,69,533.81ps (Rupees Eighteen Lakhs Sixty Nine Thousand Five Hundred Thirty Three and Eighty One Paisa Only) excluding future interest, costs and incidental expenses thereon.

The borrower attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

All that part and parcel of flat bearing No. 402 in third floor with total plinth area of 1250 sqft including common area and balconies together with undivided share of 58.80 Sq. yard total extent of 1624.44 Sq. yards or 1358.19 Sq. mtrs under the name and style of Suryas's sardar ajab Singh complex in M.H.No. 3-1-18 situated at Kakatiya Colony Hanamkonda. **Boundaries of the Flat No. 402 East :** Duct and open place, **West :** Duct, **North :** Corridor, **South :** Back area and Road, **Boundaries of Entire Property :** **East :** Temple and Kakatiya Colony Road, **West :** Sharath Eye Hospital, **North :** Neighbour's Land, **South :** Road.

Date : 16-12-2025

Sd/-

Authorized Officer / Regional Manager

Alc No: HL 7313981284, Topup.7314062993

Telangana

HYDERABAD
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2025

2

info.southindientimes@gmail.com

BRS Spent 27,000 Cr on Palamuru Without Delivering Water: Uttam

Hyderabad: Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy on Tuesday alleged that the previous BRS government spent nearly 27,000 crore on the Palamuru-Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Project without supplying water to even a single acre.

Addressing a press meet at the Secretariat, he accused BRS leaders of misleading the public with false claims. He said the Congress government has spent 7,000 crore in the last two years on Palamuru and would place full expenditure details before the public.

Uttam Kumar Reddy stated that the Palamuru project had no statutory approvals, rejecting claims of permission to draw 45 TMC of water, and criticised former ministers for what he termed deceptive statements. He alleged that in 2020 water-sharing proposals sent to the Centre, no allocations were sought for Palamuru, SLBC, or Dindi.

The Minister claimed that despite 1.83 lakh crore spent on irrigation during BRS



rule, no new ayacut was created and water distribution relied largely on projects built during United Andhra Pradesh. He also alleged that the previous government facilitated Andhra Pradesh's water diversion under the Rayalaseema Lift Irrigation Scheme, which the Congress government has since halted.

He assured that the SLBC project will be completed within three years, reiterated zero tolerance for commissions, and said the Assembly would function strictly as per rules.



Congress Registers Big Win in Local Body Elections; Felicitation Held at Alair

Yadadri Bhuvanagiri: The Congress party celebrated its strong performance in the recent local body elections with a felicitation programme held at Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Gardens in Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district. The event honoured the newly elected Sarpanches and Vice-Sarpanches of the Alair Assembly constituency, where the Congress secured a decisive victory. Adluri Laxman

Kumar, Minister for SC, ST & Minority Welfare, attended as the chief guest. He said the electoral mandate reflects people's confidence in the Congress government's commitment to social justice and grassroots development.

Kumar, Minister for SC, ST & Minority Welfare, attended as the chief guest. He said the electoral mandate reflects people's confidence in the Congress government's commitment to social justice and grassroots development.

The above borrower/s are advised to make the payments of outstanding with in period of 60 days from the date of issuance of notice U/s 13(2), failing which further steps will be taken after expiry of 60 days from the date of issuance of notice U/s 13(2) mentioned above as per the provisions of Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

FOR ADVERTISEMENT PLEASE CONTACT:
9948480279, 7330778889

HINDUJA HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

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

DEMAND NOTICE

You the below mentioned Borrowers, Co-borrowers and Guarantors have availed Home Loans/ Loan Against Property facility (ies) by mortgaging your immovable property/ies from HHFL. You defaulted in repayment; your loan/s was classified Non-Performing Assets/ADemand Notice under section 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Asset and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 for the recovery of the outstanding dues sent on last known addresses however the same have returned unserved. Hence the contents of which are being published herewith as per Section 13(2) of the Act read with Rule 3(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 as and by way of Alternative Service upon you. Details of the Borrowers, Co-borrowers, Guarantor, Securities, Outstanding Dues, Demand Notice sent under Section 13 (2) and Amount claimed

KITS Warangal Shines in Campus Placements with Fabulous Results

WARANGAL, December 23, TSIT : Former Member of parliament, Rajya Sabha, Capt. V. Lakshminikantha Rao, Chairman, KITS Warangal said in a Press note that the Campus Placements of B.Tech students in more than 50 Multinational top IT and Core Engg Companies, during the first semester of academic year of 2025-2026, reached a record of 317 + marks.

For this current semester, reputed MNCs including LTI Mindtree, Oracle, Infosys, Cognizant, T TEC, chubb, EWGCS, Realpage, Hexaware Technologies, Dextara, Ashoka Builders, Northern Tools, Medha ServoDrives, TCS and TECHNIPFCM have selected total of 317 from present final year pursuing B.Tech. and M.Tech. students. In the process of both online and offline modes of the Campus hiring process by the

companies, KITSW recorded a result of huge number placement even for these drastic conditions. 30 companies offered their selectees with a CTC in the range of Rs. 5 Lakh - 15.5 Lakh per annum. Principal Prof. K. Ashoka Reddy stated that the above success is mainly attributed to both the versatile internal training programmes by the faculty and the external training programmes by industry experts, conducted meticulously from time to time. Further Prof. K. Ashoka Reddy mentioned that the college is implementing competency outcome based curricula imparting 21st century industry relevant knowledge, skills and qualities and also organising Skill Development Programmes (SDP) through their well established interface & Tie-ups with TCS, Automation Anywhere Univ., NASSCOM and Wipro.

24641-Sangareddy Bypass Road Branch (HNO.4-7-33, Bypass Road, Sangareddy) Email: ubin0824640@unionbankofindia.bank Contact No: 9909998242

SALE NOTICE

FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 Read with Proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Bypass Road Sangareddy Branch Union Bank of India Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on 09-01-2026, for recovery of Rs.14,06,527.40 (Rupees Fourteen Lacs Six Thousand Five Hundred Twenty Seven and paisa ninety two only as on 06-01-2025) Ints Other Charges due to the Union Bank of India, BYPASS ROAD SANGAREDDY BRANCH Secured Creditor from Late Mr. Kunchala Madhava S/o Kunchala Subha Rao (Borrower) & Mr. Kunchala Rajshekhara Rao (Co-Borrower & Estate of the deceased) Mr. Kunchala Madhava represented by Legal Heir(s); Kunchala Gouri W/o Kunchala Rao, H No 4-7-25/9/1, Balaji Nagar, Sangareddy-502001. Estate of the deceased Mr. Kunchala Madhava represented by Legal Heir (s); Kunchala Gouri W/o Kunchala Madhava, H No 4-7-25/9/1, Balaji Nagar, Sangareddy-502001.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

All that the open plot bearing no.51/part/B (135 Sq. yds) admeasuring 200 Sq.yds in Sy No.203/5(Old) & 203/5(New), Situated at Kalavakunta, Sangareddy Town & District, Telangana State. **Boundaries of Property:** North: 33 feet Wide Road; South: Plot No.50/49; East: Plot No.52; West: 33ft Wide Road. Encumbrances known to the secured Creditor: Not Known; For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in Union Bank of India Secured Creditor's website i.e. <https://banknet.com>

Date: 22-12-2025 Place: BYPASSROAD SANGAREDDY

STATUTORY 30/15 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER RULE 8(6)/Rule 9(1) OF STATUTORY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES 2002

This may also be treated as notice u/s 8(6)/Rule 9(1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 to the borrower/s and guarantor/s of the said loan about the holding of E-Auction Sale on the above-mentioned date.

SD/-Authorized Officer, Union Bank of India

STATUTORY 30/15 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER RULE 8(6)/Rule 9(1) OF STATUTORY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES 2002

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Common devotees to get top priority during Vaikuntha Dwara Darshanam: AP government

Tirumala, December 22, 2025: Acting on the instructions of Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Sri N. Chandrababu Naidu, the State government has accorded top priority to common devotees during the forthcoming Vaikuntha Dwara Darshanam, with nearly 90 per cent of the available darshan time earmarked exclusively for them, said AP Endowments Minister Sri Anam Ramnarayana Reddy.



The Minister, along with AP Home Minister Smt. V. Anita and Revenue and Tirupati District In-charge Minister Sri A. Satyaprasad, reviewed the arrangements being made by TTD in coordination with the district administration and police at a meeting held at Annamayya Bhavan in Tirumala on Monday evening. The Vaikuntha Dwara Darshanam is scheduled to be held for ten days from December 30 to January 8. Addressing the media later, the Endowments Minister said the Chief Minister had constituted a three-member committee comprising the Endowments, Revenue and Home Ministers to ensure smooth and

hassle-free darshan for pilgrims. Following the CM's directions, the committee conducted a comprehensive review of all arrangements. He said that, for the first time, TTD introduced an online token system through the electronic DIP in a transparent manner for Vaikuntha Ekadasi, Dwadasi and January 1. Over 23 lakh devotees from 27 states registered for darshan, and around 1.89 lakh tokens were allotted for the first three days, reflecting the nationwide devotional fervour associated with the occasion.

The Minister noted that around 39 hours of darshan time have been allotted on December 30 and 31 alone, giving unprecedented priority to common pilgrims. Out of the

total 182 darshan hours during the ten-day period, over 164 hours have been reserved for common devotees. He added that TTD authorities and the Trust Board held several meetings on security and crowd management, and elaborate arrangements have been made by TTD Vigilance and district police keeping pilgrim safety in view. Besides darshan, Annaprasadam arrangements have also been ensured for devotees.

Appealing to pilgrims, the Minister urged devotees holding online tokens for the first three days to arrive at Tirumala strictly as per their allotted time slots and cooperate with TTD and police. Tokenless devotees were requested to maintain patience and avail darshan from January 2 to 8.

Reiterating the government's commitment, he said the objective was to ensure that no pilgrim leaves Tirumala dissatisfied, while preserving the spiritual sanctity of Sanatana Dharma. He also instructed officials and police personnel to deal with devotees patiently and courteously, in line with the Chief Minister's directions.

National workshop on transfer of technologies for sustainable sericulture begins at SPMVV



Tirupati, December 22, 2025: The Department of Biosciences and Sericulture, Sri Padmavati Mahila Visvavidyalayam (SPMVV), organized a two-day national workshop on "Transfer of technologies for sustainable sericulture" from December 22 to 23, with the objective of strength-

ening technology dissemination and promoting eco-friendly practices in sericulture. Prof. P. Sujathamma, Member, PM-USHA, invited the dignitaries and participants and highlighted the relevance of the workshop in creating awareness among farmers, students and other stakeholders. The programme aims to facilitate the effective transfer of proven technologies, digital innovations and sustainable practices to enhance productivity, profitability and environmental sustainability in sericulture.



Satellite LVM6-M6/Bluebird launch from Sriharikota Space Center on 24 8.00am Dr. V. Narayana, Secretary Department of Space & Chairman, ISRO along with his staff have come to pay homage to Sri Kalahastiswara Swamy.

Andal Tiruppavai replaces Suprabhatam at Tirumala during Dhanurmasam

Tirumala: HH Sri Sri Vidyeswari Sri Padmaraja of Sri Bhandarkeri Matha, Udupi, visited the Sri Venkateswara Swamy Temple at Tirumala on Monday morning. Temple Deputy Executive Officer Lokanadham participated in the programme.

Dhanurmasam, regarded as the most sacred month in all Sri Vaishnava temples, commenced on December 16 at 1.23 pm. From December 17 onwards, the Andal Sri Godai Tiruppavai Pasura Parayanam has replaced the traditional Suprabhatam Seva at the Tirumala temple. This special observance will continue until January 14.

Sri Andal, also known as Godadevi or Nachiyar, is revered as the only female among the 12 Alwars. Tiruppavai is a collection of 30 pasurams composed by Andal in praise of Sri Venkateswara Swamy and forms an integral part of the Divya Prabandham. During the month-long Tiruppavai Parayanam at the Sri Venkateswara Swamy temple, one pasuram is recited each day. As part of the Dhanurmasam rituals, Ekantha Seva is performed to Sri Krishna Swamy instead of Bhoga Srinivasa Murthy, and



the Tiruppavai recitation also takes place in Ekantam. Consequently, Tomala and Archana sevas are being performed in Ekantam, and devotees are not permitted to attend these sevas until January 14. Recommendation letters for these sevas will not be entertained during this period. In view of the Vaikuntha Dwara Darshanam, several arjita sevas including Kalyanotsavam, Unjal Seva, Arjita Brahmotsavam, and Sahasra Deepalankara Seva will remain cancelled from December 29 to January 1. From January 2 to 8, these sevas will be conducted in Ekantam without the presence of devotees. TTD has requested devotees to take note of these changes and extend their cooperation during the Dhanurmasam observances.

AINU Launches AP's First Dedicated Robotic Kidney Surgery Programme in Vizag

Vizag, December 23: Asian Institute of Nephrology & Urology (AINU), Vizag, has achieved a major milestone by becoming Andhra Pradesh's first dedicated kidney care hospital to introduce an advanced Robotic Surgery Programme for Urology and Nephrology. The initiative marks a significant step forward in precision-driven, minimally invasive surgical care in the region.

With the launch of state-of-the-art robotic technology, AINU strengthens its leadership in advanced kidney and urological care. The programme enhances procedures the hospital has been offering for several years and positions AINU as the only single-specialty kidney hospital in Vizag equipped with this latest technology.

The advanced robotic platform enables a wide range of sophisticated procedures, including



robotic prostate surgeries, complex urological and reconstructive surgeries, paediatric urology procedures, partial nephrectomy, and kidney transplants. Equipped with 3D high-definition visualisation, 10x magnification, tremor-free movements, and wristed instruments, the technology allows surgeons to

perform highly complex surgeries with exceptional precision. Patients benefit from reduced pain, smaller incisions, quicker recovery, and improved clinical outcomes. The robotic surgery programme is led by a team of trained and certified robotic urologists, supported by modern operating theatres, advanced diagnostics, and a dedicated perioperative care team. With this advancement, patients in Vizag no longer need to travel to other cities for high-end robotic urological and kidney surgeries. Speaking on the occasion, Visakhapatnam MP Shri Sribharat Mathukumilli said the introduction of

robotic technology reflects Vizag's steady progress in advanced healthcare and will offer patients safer procedures and smoother recovery. AINU Managing Director Dr. G. Ravindra Varma termed the launch a landmark development, highlighting improved precision, reduced blood loss, and faster recovery, especially in prostate cancer surgeries. Dr. Amit Sable, Executive Director, noted that robotic-assisted surgery is transforming the treatment of complex conditions, ensuring superior outcomes and patient comfort.

AINU CEO Sandeep Guduru said the integration of robotic systems reinforces the hospital's commitment to clinical excellence and patient-centric care. With this launch, AINU Vizag further consolidates its position as a leading centre for urology and nephrology, setting new benchmarks in surgical innovation and excellence.

CREDAI Hyderabad Property Show 2026 to be held from 6-8 February at HITEX

On the Strength of CREDAIbility, CREDAI Hyderabad Calls Homebuyers to 'Permanent Ho Jao' at Property Show 2026



6th, 7th, and 8th February, 2026

Hall No. 4, HITEX, HITEC City

PR
Pern

homebuyers.

BRAND HYDERABAD ENTERING ITS NEXT GROWTH PHASE

Mr. B. Jagannath Rao, President-Elect, CREDAI Hyderabad, said: "Hyderabad has decisively moved beyond being only a technology hub to emerge as a global destination for lifestyle, sports, tourism, and investments. The next phase of the city's growth integrates future industries, premium living, and world-class infrastructure, while maintaining balance with sustainability and liveability.

The city's ability to successfully host global conference reflects its readiness, execution capability, and global appeal—factors that strongly reinforce Hyderabad's long-term real estate attractiveness. It signifies that Government's vision to showcase a future city is ahead of times."

FOCUS ON SUSTAINABLE, INCLUSIVE URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Mr. K. Kranti Kiran Reddy, General Secretary, CREDAI Hyderabad, added: "Hyderabad's growth trajectory is increasingly aligned with sustainable development, climate resilience, and smart urban planning. The real estate sector has a critical role in shaping greener and more inclusive cities. The CREDAI Hyderabad Property Show 2026 will offer an enhanced visitor experience with larger stalls, dedicated family and wellness zones, senior-friendly spaces, and curated engagement areas, while continuing to showcase only RERA-approved CREDAI member projects." He further encouraged homebuyers to visit the show and make informed, secure property decisions backed by CREDAI's credibility and commitment to quality.

Accreditation G.O. must be amended, two-card system should be scrapped: TUWJ

Hyderabad: The Telangana Union of Working Journalists (TUVJ) has strongly demanded amendments to G.O. No. 252, issued for granting new accreditations to journalists after a gap of two years, terming it flawed, unjust, and divisive. TUWJ State General Secretary Askani Maruthi Sagar said the G.O. undermines the basic rights and self-respect of journalists and creates unnecessary divisions within the fraternity. Addressing a media conference at the Somajiguda Press Club on Tuesday, Askani Maruthi Sagar, along with Union Treasurer P. Yoganand, TENJU State General Secretary A. Ramana Kumar, and IJU National Executive Member Avvari Bhaskar, recalled that during the Telangana movement, journalists were assured accreditation for all. He noted that in March 2014, then prospective Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao had announced accreditation cards for all journalists, following which the then Media



Chairman Allam Narayana issued cards to nearly 23,000 journalists, including desk journalists, in an unprecedented move.

The TUWJ leaders alleged that the new G.O. revives old agendas by separating desk journalists and introducing a confusing two-card system—"Media Card" and "Media Card"—without clearly specifying the benefits attached to each. They demanded uniform benefits and accreditation for all journalists, calling the handling of accreditation for cable channels, TUWJ

crimatory.

They further pointed out that new conditions imposed nearly two years after the Congress government came to power would result in the cancellation of over 10,000 accreditation cards, depriving journalists of their rightful entitlement. Limiting mandal-level cards to just one per mandal and abolishing constituency-level cards, they said, has caused severe injustice to part-time reporters.

Criticising the handling of accreditation for cable channels, TUWJ

leaders recalled that under G.O. No. 239, 12 state-level and four district-level accreditations were granted earlier, whereas the present G.O., issued under the tenure of Media Academy Chairman Srinivas Reddy, does not provide even a single state-level card to cable channels.

TENJU leaders Ramana Kumar and Yoganand termed it unjust to increase the minimum experience requirement for independent journalists from 10 years to 15 years, alleging that even major newspa-

pers and satellite channels have been adversely affected by the new norm. Siju leader Avvari Bhaskar questioned the inclusion of Press Council of India (PCI) members in the Media Accreditation Committee, pointing out that the PCI itself has not been constituted by the Central Government and currently has no members.

Stating that the Chief Minister and the Information Minister may have been misled by the Media Academy and certain organisations, TUWJ demanded an immediate review of G.O. 252 and the issuance of a fresh G.O. ensuring accreditation for all eligible journalists.

Announcing the next course of action, Askani Maruthi Sagar said statewide dharnas will be held in front of all District Collector offices on the 27th of this month under the TUWJ banner, if the government fails to amend the G.O. by then. Several district-level TUWJ leaders and members participated in the programme.

The CREDAI Hyderabad Property Show has established itself as a premium, buyer-centric real estate platform, bringing together developers, homebuyers, policymakers, and industry stakeholders. Only RERA-approved projects from CREDAI member developers will be shown

enough to invest before the next price cycle sets in." He further added that the momentum generated by the Telangana Rising Global Summit 2025 has laid a strong macroeconomic foundation for the city's next phase of growth, translating into continued confidence for both developers and

Chaos at Bangladesh High Commission as VHP, Bajrang Dal protesters clash with police

Protesters forced several barricades down as police struggled to contain the surge.

NEW DELHI: Holding saffron flags and shouting slogans against the lynching of a Hindu man in Bangladesh, hundreds of supporters of the VHP and the Bajrang Dal broke barricades and clashed with police near the fortified Bangladesh High Commission on Tuesday. Protesters forced several barricades down as police struggled to contain the surge.

The high security area witnessed a beefed-up police presence in the morning ahead of the protest announced by the Hindu right against the lynching of a Hindu man



in the strife-torn neighbouring nation.

A sea of banners and placards bobbed in the air, reading denunciatory messages against the Hindu right against the lynching of a Hindu man

hiye (Each drop of blood of a Hindu must be accounted for)." On December 18, Dipu Chandra Das, a 25-year-old garment factory worker, was lynched to death by a mob and his body set on fire over alleged blasphemy in Baluka in Mymensingh.

According to the police, Das was first beaten up by a mob outside the factory over blasphemy allegations and hanged from a tree. The crowd then left the body of the deceased on the side of the Dhaka-Mymensingh highway and later set it on fire.

Unnao rape case: Delhi HC suspends jail term of Kuldeep Sengar, grants bail



NEW DELHI: The Delhi High Court on Tuesday suspended the jail term of expelled BJP leader Kuldeep Singh Sengar, who is serving life imprisonment in the Unnao rape case.

A bench of Justices Subramonium Prasad and Harish Vaidyanathan Shankar released Sengar on bail while directing him to furnish a personal bond of Rs 15 lakh with three sureties of the like amount.

The high court also directed Sengar not to come within a 5 km radius of the victim's house and not threaten her or her mother. "Violation of any of the conditions would lead to cancellation of bail," the court said. Sengar's sentence has been suspended by

the high court till the pendency of his appeal challenging his conviction and sentence in the rape case. He has challenged the December 2019 trial court verdict in the rape case. The minor girl was kidnapped and raped by Sengar in 2017. The rape case and other connected cases were transferred to Delhi from a trial court in Uttar Pradesh on the directions of the Supreme Court on August 1, 2019. Sengar's appeal against his conviction in the case of the survivor's father's custodial death case is also pending, where he has sought suspension of sentence on the ground that he has already spent a substantial time in jail. He was sentenced to 10 years in jail in the custodial death case.

Kerala CMO interfering in Sabarimala SIT probe through IPS officers, alleges Cong

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Opposition Congress on Tuesday levelled grave charges against Kerala CMO in connection with the ongoing SIT probe into the Sabarimala gold loss case and accused it of interfering with the investigation through intermediaries. While talking to reporters here, Leader of Opposition V D Satheesan alleged that two IPS officers were assigned by the CMO to exert intense pressure on the SIT that probes the case.

He said the opposition was refraining from naming the officers concerned only out of propriety, but warned that he would be compelled to disclose their identities if they did not stop exerting pressure upon investigating officers.

Stressing the need for a sincere and impartial investigation, he said it is a case involving the theft of gold belonging to Lord Ayyappa. He said the opposition is closely monitoring the probe and would point out any lapses in the investigation.

Satheesan said the investigation would now move forward in the right direction only because of the High Court's intervention. He clarified that the opposition has not so far expressed any lack of confidence in the SIT and said he expects the real culprits to be brought before the law at the earliest. Satheesan said the opposition would wait for a few more days to assess how the SIT probe progresses and cautioned that the situation should not reach a stage where a CBI investi-



He said the opposition was refraining from naming the officers concerned only out of propriety, but warned that he would be compelled to disclose their identities if they did not stop exerting pressure upon investigating officers.

gation becomes inevitable. He alleged that it was only because the probe is under court scrutiny that it is moving forward to some extent. Otherwise, he claimed, the investigation would have gone nowhere. Had the probe remained

entirely under the government's control, Satheesan said, key accused like former TDB chiefs A Padmakumar and N Vasu would not have been arrested.

Sabarimala Lord Ayyappa Temple has been at the centre of a huge political controversy over the loss of gold for some time.

Special Investigation Team is probing the loss of gold and related complaints, and several persons, including two past presidents of the Travancore Devaswom Board (TDB), have been arrested in this regard.

The SIT recently told a Vigilance Court that Pankaj Bhandari of Smart Creations and Ballari-based jeweller Govardhan Roddam played a central role in a conspiracy to steal gold from artefacts of the Sabarimala temple. The SIT on Friday arrested both Bhandari and Roddam.

Rahul Gandhi, Tejashwi Yadav are part-time politicians: Nitin Nabin



"When Rahul Gandhi is in the country, he abuses the Constitution and the Election Commission. When he goes abroad, he abuses the country. Such people should be punished," Nabin said. Without naming RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav, the BJP leader took an indirect swipe at him, accusing him of lacking seriousness toward legislative responsibilities.

"There is a leader in Bihar who also does part-time politics. When the Assembly is in session, he leaves," Nabin said.

tics. We should not do part-time politics like Rahul Gandhi," Nabin said. Launching a direct attack on the Congress leader, Nabin said that Rahul Gandhi repeatedly disrespects national institutions and the country itself.

PUBLIC NOTICE

ICICI Home Finance Registered Office: ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai- 400051
Corporate Office: ICICI HFC Tower, JB Nagar, Andheri Kurta Road, Andheri East, Mumbai- 400059
Branch Address: 3rd Floor, 3-903/10, Nagarjuna Nagar colony, Yella Reddy Guda, Ameerpet, Punjagutta, Hyderabad, Telangana- 500073

The following borrower/s have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained by them from ICICI Home Finance Company Limited ("ICICI HFC") and the loans have been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). A notice was issued to them under Section 13 (2) of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act-2002 on their last known addresses, however it was not served and hence they are hereby notified by this of the public notice.

Sr. Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ (Loan Account Number) & Address	Property Address of Secured Asset/ Asset to be Enforced	Date of Notice Sent/ Outstanding as on Date of Notice	NPA Date
1. Avula Rakesh (Borrower), Avula Saravva (Co-Borrower), 8 371 6 2 Road No 8 Sai Baba Nagar Aarya Hospital, Hyderabad-Hyderabad Quthubulapur, Telangana- 500055. Plot No. 131, East: Plot No. 130, West: 18'-0" Wide Road.	All That The House Bearing No. 8-371/6/2, Plot No. 1150802196 on Plot No. 131/A/Part, With A Plinth Area of 900 Sq.Ft In Ground Floor And 900 Sq.Ft In First Floor, Thus The Total Plinth Are 1800 Sq.Ft of R.C.C. Admeasuring 100 Yards or Equivalent To 83.67 Sq.Meters, Situated At Sai Baba Nagar of Quthubulapur Village, Quthubulapur Mandal, Under	11-12-2025 20,26,269.82/-	09-12-2025

The steps are being taken for substituted service of notice. The above borrower/s and/or their guarantors (as applicable) are advised to make the payments of outstanding within period of 60 days from the date of publication of this notice else further steps will be taken as per the provisions of Securitisation and Re-Construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

Date: December 24, 2025
Place: Hyderabad

Rajnath launches BRO manual to streamline strategic road construction

New Delhi, Dec 23 : Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Tuesday released the 'Guide on Preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for Road Infrastructure Projects' prepared by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO), in South Block, New Delhi.

The BRO is entrusted with the construction and maintenance of highways and strategic roads in some of the most remote and challenging terrains of the country, and the DPRs serve as a comprehensive document covering engineering design, construction methodology, execution strategy, quality control and cost analysis.

"BRO has developed the guide to provide a concise, comprehensive and uniform reference encompassing specifications, standards, guidelines & procedures for DPR preparation. It is intended to assist engineers at every stage of project formulation, whether for new construction or upgradation of existing road infrastructure," the Ministry of Defence (MoD) said in its press note.

The guide aims to address the issues of time

dedicated to the nation 125 strategically significant infrastructure projects of BRO, reiterating the Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government's commitment to keep strengthening the border infrastructure. Describing connectivity tools as lifelines for security, economy, and disaster management, Rajnath Singh had said, "There are numerous benefits of robust infrastructure in border areas. It ensures military mobility, smooth transportation of logistics, an increase in tourism & employment opportunities and, most importantly, stronger faith in development, democracy and the government."

The 125 projects launched on December 7 are spread across two Union Territories -- Ladakh and Jammu & Kashmir -- and seven states -- Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Rajasthan, West Bengal and Mizoram. These include 28 roads, 93 bridges and four other projects, all completed at a cost of Rs 5,000 crore, the highest-value inaugurations in the BRO's history.

Notably, earlier in December, Rajnath Singh



and cost overruns arising from inadequately prepared DPRs.

"It is expected to significantly enhance the quality and consistency of the reports, ensuring timely execution of projects & contributing to improved strategic connectivity and socio-economic development of border regions through systematic planning, technical accuracy, quality assurance & cost-effectiveness," it added.

Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi, Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways Secretary V. Umashankar, DG Border Roads Lt Gen Raghu Srinivasan, and other senior civil and military officials were present on the occasion.

Notably, earlier in December, Rajnath Singh



Vice President Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan in a group photo during the National Conference on "AI Evolution" in New Delhi.....

Countdown for launch of ISRO's Bluebird Block-2 Mission begins in Sriharikota

SRIHARIKOTA: The 24-hour countdown for the launch of LVM3-M6 rocket, which will carry a new generation US communication satellite commenced here on Tuesday, ISRO said.

In a dedicated commercial mission, ISRO is scheduled to launch the Bluebird Block-2 space-craft on board its heavy lift launch vehicle LVM3-M6 at 8.54 am from the second launch pad at this spaceport on Wednesday.

Weighing 6,100 kg, the communication satellite would be the heaviest payload to be placed into the Low Earth Orbit (LEO) in LVM3 launch history, the Bengaluru-headquartered space agency said. The previous heaviest was the LVM3-M5 Communication Satellite 03, weighing about 4,400 kg that was successfully launched by ISRO on November 2. Wednesday's mission is being undertaken as part of the commercial agreement signed between NewSpace India Ltd (NSIL) and US-based AST SpaceMobile (AST and Science, LLC). NewSpace India Ltd is the commercial arm of ISRO. The historic mission would deploy the next generation communication satellite designed to provide high-speed cellular broadband directly to smartphones worldwide. AST SpaceMobile is building the first and only space-based cellular broadband network, which is accessible directly by smartphones and designed for both commercial and government applications.

BARKATPURA BRANCH	
इंडियन बैंक Indian Bank	3-4-499 & 3-4-764, Near Barkatpura Chaman, Barkatpura, Hyderabad-500027
APPENDIX IV (Rule 8(1))	
POSSESSION NOTICE (for immovable property)	
Whereas The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Indian Bank under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with rule 8 & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated 10.10.2025 calling upon the borrower (1) Mr.Gatla Srinivas S/o G. Narayana (Borrower/ Mortgagor) H.N. 13-10/12, Plot No 12, In survey No 4, 5 and 20 Part, Bibi Saheb Maqta Village, Peerzadiguda Gram Panchayat, Ghatkesar mandal, Ranga Reddy District, Telangana – 500088 (2) Gatla Vijay Kumar S/o G. Narayana (Borrower/ Mortgagor) Hno-82, Muhyampet, Mallapur, Karimnagar-50331 (3) Gatla Veni S/o G Narayana (Borrower/ Mortgagor) H.no.4894 CD OT Housur Road Electronic City, Phase I, Bangalore South, Bangalore-560100 with our BARKATPURA BRANCH to repay the amount mentioned in the notice Rs. 22,70,326.08 (Rupees Twenty-Two Lakhs Seventy Thousand Three Hundred Sixty Six Rupees and Paise Eight Only) within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13 (4) of the said Act read with rule 8 & 9 of the said rules on this 17th day of DECEMBER of the year 2025. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing with the property will be subject to the charge of the Indian Bank for an amount of Rs. 22,13,144 (Rupees Twenty-Two Lakhs Thirteen Thousand One Hundred and Forty-Four Only) on 16.12.2025 and interest thereon from 17.12.2025 onwards.	
"We draw attention to the provisions of Section 13(8) of the SARFAESI Act and the Rules framed there under which deals with your rights of redemption over the securities"	
Residential Property : All that the piece and parcel of (H.No. 13-130/12) Plot No. 12, In survey No 4, 5 and 20 Part, admeasuring 222 Sq.yds., or 185.59 Sq.Mtrs. Situated at Bibi Saheb Maqta Village, Peerzadiguda Gram Panchayat, Ghatkesar mandal, Ranga Reddy District, Under S.R.O. Uppal and Bounded by Boundary: North : Open Land, South : Plot no. 13, East: 25'-0" Wide Road, West: Plot No 24.	
Place: Barkatpura	Sd/-Authorised Officer, Indian Bank

Union Bank of India ZAHEERABAD Branch	
Zaheerabad Branch	
Sale notice for sale of immovable properties	
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 Read with Proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.	
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Zaheerabad BRANCH Union Bank of India Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", and "Whatever there is" on 09-01-2026, for recovery of Rs.13,08,781/- (Rupees Thirteen Lacs Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Eighty One Only on 31.03.2021) + interest+ any other charges due to the Union Bank of India, Zaheerabad BRANCH Secured Creditor from Mr. Gore Navaz Reddy S/o. Indra Reddy (Borrower) and Mr. Mr.Gore Datta Reddy S/o Gore Navaz Reddy (Guarantor). The reserve price will be Rs. 17,21,250/- and the earnest money deposited will be Rs. 1,72,125/-	
Borrower: Mr.Gore Navaz Reddy S/o Indra Reddy, Plot No.51, Venkatramana Nagar Colony,Alipur Zaheerabad	
Guarantor: Mr.Gore Datta Reddy S/o Gore Navaz Reddy, Plot No.51, Venkatramana Nagar Colony,Alipur, Zaheerabad	
Description of Mortgaged Property:	
The security property is the land admeasuring 146.66 Sq.yds and Residential Building with Ground floor plinth area is 543.75 sq.ft of Hno-19, Plot no.51 in Sy.No.64/A/3 of LP no.17/17, situated at Venkatramana Nagar Colony, Alipur Village & Gram Panchayat (earlier), Now Zaheerabad Mandal & Municipality, Sangareddy District in favour of 1. Sri Mr. Gore Navaz Reddy & Mr. Gore Datta Reddy.	
Boundaries as per SALE DEED & valuation report	
As per Site: North House on Plot no.50, South: House on Plot no.52, East: Plot	

Editorial

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2025

Bangladesh
on edge

The political unrest in Bangladesh in the wake of the murder of a popular and powerful youth leader and the lynching of a young Hindu man has turned the country into a powder keg. The response of the interim government to both incidents is indicative of the regime striving to balance domestic political compulsions and foreign policy requirements. Yunus has not only condemned the brutal lynching of the Hindu youth Dipu Chandra Das and followed it up with swift arrests, but also appealed for restraint and peace. Regarding the killing of youth leader Sharif Osman Hadi, he linked the demand for restraint, responsibility, and a firm commitment to reject hatred with "honouring his (Hadi's) sacrifice." Hadi, a spokesperson for the Inquilab Mancha, or Platform for Revolution, and a prominent leader of the 2024 uprising that led to the ouster of the Sheikh Hasina government, was going to fight elections as an independent candidate. The turmoil is complicating the prevailing fluid situation as Bangladesh hopes to conduct general elections in a couple of months. Predictably, the journey from overthrowing the government to announcing the date for general elections has been fraught with confusion and uncertainty. From banning the Sheikh Hasina-led party from participating in elections to the emergence of a fledgling party spawned by a popular protest movement, to the jitteriness of mainstream parties such as the Bangladesh Nationalist Party, these are challenges that are not easy for the country to grapple with. Adding to the grim scenario are the radical Islamic forces lurking in the shadows.

The protests in the wake of Hadi's assassination not only turned violent but also led to an outburst of anti-India sentiment. The simmering discontent against India, perceived to be shielding Sheikh Hasina and consequently entangled in the country's domestic politics, soon deteriorated into raging anti-India sentiment bordering on hatred. This unseemly turn of events should be a major cause of concern for New Delhi. India has its reasons to stonewall Dhaka's demand for the extradition of Sheikh Hasina, who has been convicted of the so-called "crimes against humanity," but it cannot afford to be seen as "playing partisan politics," especially by people vulnerable to being swayed by emotions and orchestrated campaigns by anti-India elements.

Part of the trouble lies with India as well. The government turned a blind eye and did not rein in the pro-government media, which is whipping up unwarranted passions through provocative debates, while the party and its supporters are trying to fish in troubled waters for narrow electoral gains in West Bengal. The media's embarrassing misinformation propaganda during Operation Sindo and jingoistic rhetoric in the right-wing ecosystem have been counterproductive, and the government does not seem to have learned lessons from them. Keeping an eye on the ball by India will not be enough. Firstly, in the larger national interest, the government should rein in those whipping up hysterical sentiments. Secondly, political parties should refrain from using the situation for narrow electoral gains. Thirdly, for the demand to protect Hindu minorities in Bangladesh to be effective and morally persuasive and to counter unwarranted finger-pointing, India should, in the long run, set the example concerning the treatment and safety of its own minorities.

Capital shifts: The global economy's hidden rebalancing

MARCELLO ESTEVÃO

Next year, global growth is expected to be near 3.1%, almost the same as this year. To many observers, such steadiness suggests a world economy drifting sideways, neither slowing nor accelerating. But the stability implied by the headline figure is not the product of inertia. It reflects a rebalancing that is quietly reshaping how global savings and investment interact.

The core message of the Institute of International Finance's latest Capital Flows Report lies in shifting growth patterns. The United States is cooling after a strong post-pandemic period, while Europe and Japan, long seen as weak links, have found firmer footing. China's structural slowdown continues, but India and a broader set of Asian economies are growing faster.

Emerging markets as a group may still be expanding at close to 4.2% annually, but the strongest performers within that group have changed. The world economy's engines are rotating, and they are no longer pulling in the same direction.

This redistribution shows up most clearly in capital flows. Nonresident flows into emerging markets reached about \$1.18 trillion in 2025, well above historical averages. But this surge does not mark the start of a boom. Much of the strength reflected bank-related flows, official financing, and balance-sheet rebuilding in emerging Europe and parts of Asia. As these temporary drivers fade, flows are projected to moderate to roughly \$1.13 trillion in 2026 — a normalization rather than a retreat.

Capital-flow ratios put this into perspective. Nonresident inflows amounted to about 2.6% of emerging-market GDP in 2025 and are expected to fall to 2.3% in 2026. That is below pre-pandemic norms, but the aggregate figure is misleading because inward flows to China have collapsed. Excluding China, other emerging markets are absorbing capital at roughly the same pace as in the mid-



2010s. The apparent softness reflects China's weight, not a broad deterioration in fundamentals. What matters, then, is direction. Capital is rotating away from China and toward emerging markets offering credible policy frameworks, resilient domestic demand, and clearer investment opportunities.

Several Asian economies are attracting larger shares of foreign direct investment and portfolio flows, and emerging Europe is recovering after a turbulent period. Latin America has stabilized across a range of external indicators, while some commodity importers are beginning to absorb larger inflows. These shifts are incremental, but they signal a world in which capital circulates more selectively than it did during the liquidity-heavy decade after the 2008 financial crisis.

China's evolving role sits at the center of this configuration. The country remains the largest source of external savings among emerging markets, with a current-account surplus of roughly \$500 to \$700 billion. But the recycling of that surplus has changed. Instead of accumulating primarily as central bank reserves, a growing share now flows outward through firms, banks, and households investing abroad.

China has thus become a structural exporter of capital, helping to explain why global reserve accumulation remains modest even with a somewhat softer dollar. Chinese savings increasingly support investment in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East rather than flowing into traditional reserve channels.

A second shift is visible in external balances. Asia, excluding China, has emerged as a major surplus center. Vietnam continues to attract foreign direct investment with unusual consistency. India finances its deficit without strain, supported by strong services exports.

South Korea and Malaysia have benefited from the global tech upswing and the depth of their information and communication technology sectors. By contrast, commodity exporters are channeling more resources toward domestic transformation. Saudi Arabia's external surplus has narrowed as it invests heavily in logistics, manufacturing, and non-oil sectors. Latin America remains broadly balanced, while emerging Europe is more mixed, though not under systemic pressure. Several African economies are gradually regaining market access as reforms strengthen their macroeconomic frameworks.

Together, these changes amount to a subtle but meaningful redrawing of global imbalances. Surpluses are concentrating in parts of Asia, commodity exporters are looking inward, and many emerging economies are managing their external

accounts more effectively.

Technology adds another dimension. The rapid build-out of artificial-intelligence computing capacity made a visible contribution to US GDP in early 2025. These capital-intensive, energy-hungry investments are beginning to influence where global savings flow and where production capacity expands.

Emerging economies with domestic digital capabilities and strong exports of ICT services are well positioned to anchor the next phase of digital investment. Their participation, however, will depend not only on macroeconomic stability and regulatory clarity, but also on access to reliable energy and skilled labor.

All this is unfolding against familiar risks. The US fiscal trajectory remains uncertain, and China's domestic demand is weak as its property correction continues. Geopolitical tensions have disrupted trade and raised costs, while AI complicates economic measurement as intangible investment grows.

Yet the global system has absorbed these pressures through exchange-rate adjustments and portfolio shifts rather than sudden stops or external crises. That resilience reflects the underlying rotation in capital flows. The dollar illustrates the point. It weakened against most emerging-market currencies in 2025 as US growth cooled, but the adjustment was orderly. Several emerging-market currencies remain undervalued even after appreciation. The IIF's baseline for 2026 is a broadly stable, perhaps slightly softer, dollar. Hedging costs have fallen, local-currency markets have deepened, and adjustment is occurring through foreign-exchange channels rather than reserve drawdowns. The world economy is not drifting; it is rebalancing.

Growth remains steady, but its composition has changed. Capital flows remain strong because their channels have shifted. With technology redrawing comparative advantage, policymakers should focus less on headline growth rates and more on the structural reorientation shaping the coming decade.

Conservative reckoning: Vance avoids red lines in fight over bigotry

The bitter infighting over antisemitism, free speech and bigotry during Turning Point USA's annual national conference not only exposed fissures in President Donald Trump's movement but also laid bare a challenge for his potential successor.

How would his likely heir apparent handle an explosive debate among Republicans over whether extremists and conspiracy theorists should be embraced or excluded from the conservative coalition?

On Sunday, Vice President JD Vance gave an answer, suggesting he was more than willing to forgo imposing any moral red lines.

"When I say that I'm going to fight alongside of you, I mean all of you — each and every one," Vance said at Turning Point USA's annual gathering, AmericaFest. "President Trump did not build the greatest coalition in politics by running his supporters through endless, self-defeating purity tests."

Vance's plea for a big-tent coalition, however, belied the cracks visible in the past week in his party. The

annual conservative gathering was just a year ago a platform united under Trump and elevated by its co-founder, Charlie Kirk. Kirk's assassination in September galvanized Republicans and fueled conspiracy theories among them. This year, the event showcased intense jostling over the direction of Trump's movement and whom it would platform.

Last week, Ben Shapiro warned that the "conservative movement was in serious danger" from those willing to amplify conspiracies, including Candace Owens, a podcaster widely accused of antisemitism who has also spread unfounded theories about Kirk's death.

On Friday, Vivek Ramaswamy, an Indian American running for governor of Ohio as a Republican, also criticized a faction of the party. He went after those who have embraced the idea that so-called "heritage Americans" — a predominantly white group whose families have been in the country for multiple generations — have a greater claim to the nation than more recent arrivals.



Those comments appeared to put Ramaswamy at odds with Vance, who has spoken out against "importing millions and millions of low-wage serfs" and argued that mass migration was the

"theft of the American dream." Ramaswamy also took on those who have spoken out against derogatory attacks against Vance's wife, Usha Vance. And he said Fuentes and others promoting hateful views had "no place in

the future of the conservative movement." Vance, however, left open the possibility that they did.

"I didn't bring a list of conservatives to denounce and deplatform," Vance said, arguing that Kirk had

welcomed debate. "We have far more important work to do than canceling each other." Vance has previously disavowed Fuentes, calling him a "total loser" during the 2024 campaign. On Sunday, he again criticized antisemitism and "ethnic hatred," including attacks on his wife, while playing down Fuentes' influence.

But as vice president, Vance has repeatedly refused to pick a side in intraparty fights over bigotry. When the emergence of a Telegram group chat showed Republican elected leaders and young party activists using racist and homophobic language, as well as invoking Adolf Hitler, Vance compared them to "anything said in a college group chat." He also embraced false claims about Haitian Americans in the 2024 race, declining to condemn those who spread racist conspiracy theories.

On Sunday, Vance declined to issue warnings about extremist figures like other speakers at the conference, instead arguing that the coalition was open to all as long as they "love America." After receiving the endorsement for presi-

dent of Erika Kirk, the widow of Charlie Kirk, Vance encouraged supporters to unite around Trump's immigration policies and the targeting of diversity initiatives. The White House has argued that they have unfairly led to the disenfranchisement of white men.

"We don't treat anybody different because of their race or their sex, so we have relegated DEI to the dustbin of history," Vance said. "In the United States of America, you don't have to apologize for being white anymore." While Vance has not announced plans to run for president, he showed signs Sunday that he had his eyes on the future. He criticized Democrats' potential leaders, including Gov. Gavin Newsom of California, and mocked Rep. Jasmine Crockett, a Black Democrat in Texas running for Senate, for what he called a "street girl persona." Crockett said the vice president was seeking to distract. "Republicans like JD Vance attack my nails and lashes because they can't keep up with me when it comes to debating the issues," she said.

Threats to church pastor, insult to Muslim community: Complaint filed in Bengaluru over viral video

Bengaluru, Dec 23: A complaint has been filed at the Koramangala police station against a man identified as Satyanishta Arya for allegedly threatening a church pastor and making derogatory remarks targeting the Christian and Muslim communities.

According to the complaint, the accused allegedly entered a programme with deliberate



intent and not only threatened a church pastor but also spoke in a derogatory manner against Christians and Muslims. Police said

Satyanishta Arya had created social media accounts in his name and was allegedly posting messages and speeches that repeatedly spread communal hatred. It is further alleged that he had opened a bank account in a bank within the Koramangala limits and was seeking financial assistance through messages, claiming it was for the protection of religion.

Inter-Departmental Coordination Meeting for Integrated Infrastructure Development in East City Corporation: D.S. Ramesh



Bengaluru: With the objective of achieving comprehensive infrastructure development in the Bengaluru East City Corporation area, a progress review and inter-departmental coordination meeting was held under the chairmanship of Bengaluru East City Corporation Commissioner D.S. Ramesh.

from various departments including the High-Density Corridor, BMRCL, KIADB, BDA, BMTC, and the Police Department participated in the meeting.

Review of High-Density Corridor Project Progress

The Commissioner reviewed the progress of major road development and works being undertaken under the High-Density Corridor project along Old Madras Road Link-1 and 2 and Old Airport Road. These works include carriageway improvements, construction of footpaths, median development, cycle track construction, provision of street lighting, RCC stormwater drains, and installation of signage. Officers were instructed to expedite the works and ensure early completion. Inter-Departmental Coordination for Traffic Decongestion To reduce traffic congestion through integrated development of arterial, sub-arterial, and major roads in the East City Corporation area, the

following issues were discussed:

- Rectification of unscientific entry and exit points along the Outer Ring Road
- Widening of narrow carriageways beneath metro lines, flyovers, and underpasses on the Outer Ring Road
- Removal of encroachments on roads and footpaths along major roads
- Relocation of unscientific bus stops at junctions to suitable locations
- Resolution of parking-related issues on major roads
- Identification of suitable locations for construction of skywalks in high-traffic areas

- Construction of bus bays wherever required

- Acquisition of required Road Development (RD) lands for road widening as per the Revised Master Plan-2015 in CDP roads and narrow road stretches
- Traffic management

Traffic Management During Road Works

As comprehensive road development works, including new asphalting, are planned in the coming days, the Commissioner directed that details of roads proposed for asphalting be shared with the Traffic Police Department in advance. Movement of vehicles should be restricted for at least 24 hours after asphalting to ensure better road quality. Officers were also instructed to inform the Police Department prior to commencement of any road works to facilitate preparation of traffic diversion plans.

Public Safety Measures

The Commissioner instructed officials to install barricades and display adequate cautionary signage at locations where road and other infrastructure development works are underway to ensure public safety.

K'taka village witnesses daily two-hour blackout to boost children's education



blackout of all digital devices.

to education and household involvement.

The move is timely, especially for students who are preparing to write SSLC exams.

Parents have also been encouraged to ensure that their children are not distracted during this time and that they study.

The women of the village have also taken well to the shift, moving away from the TV serials they were regularly exposed to before. A former Gram Panchayat President, speaking to IANS, reiterated the educational purpose behind this experiment.

"This is one of the steps that has been taken for the education of children. We want to create a disciplined environment for them," he said.

Chair fight: Rajanna writes letter to Rahul

Tumakuru: As the leadership change and power-sharing dispute in the state Congress escalates day by day, a letter written by former minister and MLA K.N. Rajanna to Congress leader and Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi regarding the developments in the state Congress has been revealed.

In a letter written by former minister K.N. Rajanna to Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on November 17, he batted for Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Siddaramaiah was the main reason for the Congress party coming to power in Karnataka in 2013 and 2023. He mentioned in the letter that Siddaramaiah is a leader who provides justice to the non-Hindu communities. It is said that former

minister Rajanna has written and sent 4 letters to Rahul Gandhi so far, and in all these letters, he has given full marks to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah as a non-Hindu leader. He also mentioned in the letter that he worked hard for development in the department when he was the Minister of Cooperation and that he brought about changes.

is said that he also mentioned that he is loyal to the Nehru family. Former Minister Rajanna, who also mentioned in the letter about the damage to the party if Siddaramaiah is removed from the post of Chief Minister and the benefits to the party from Siddaramaiah, has already written 4 letters to the high command, one letter a week, and all the letters are said to be in favor of Siddaramaiah.

Pulse Polio Vaccination Programme Successfully Conducted in Bengaluru Central City Corporation: Rajendra Cholan

Bengaluru: The Pulse Polio Vaccination Programme has been successfully implemented within the jurisdiction of the Bengaluru Central City Corporation, with vaccination coverage exceeding the estimated target by the third day, stated Commissioner Rajendra Cholan. During the four-day programme, it was estimated that approximately 1,85,588 (1.85 lakh) children would be vaccinated within the Bengaluru Central City Corporation limits. Within the first three days, 1,86,889 (1.86 lakh) children were administered the Pulse Polio vaccine, achieving 100.54 per cent coverage. By vaccinating more children than the estimated target, the programme was declared a success. The Commissioner expressed his gratitude to Additional Commissioner (Development) Daljit Kumar, Joint Commissioners K. Ranganath and Hemanth Sharan, Health Officer Shivakumar, as well as doctors, medical staff, and all voluntary organizations for their active participation and support in the successful execution of the programme.

VB-G RAM G Is Anti-Dalit and Anti-Backward Classes: Prepare for a Mass Struggle Against the Centre – Dr. Anand Kumar



Bengaluru : Dr. Anand Kumar, National Coordinator of the AICC SC Department and Maharashtra In-Charge said that, Replacing the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGA) with the 'Viksit Bharat Employment Guarantee and Livelihood Mission – VB-G RAM G' is an anti-Dalit policy. Every citizen must raise their voice against this scheme, which strikes at the livelihood of the poor, the backward classes, and rural communities.

Speaking at the National Executive Committee meeting of the AICC SC Wing held in New Delhi, he said that remaining silent against historic blunders that snatch employment from crores of poor people and suppress Dalits would amount to an injustice we inflict upon ourselves. In today's times, silence itself

is the biggest crime. If India's soul is to be protected, safeguarding the rights of the poor must be the top priority. Protesting against policies like VB-G RAM G is a democratic duty. The time has come to prepare for a mass struggle, he said.

He alleged that the BJP has deliberately weakened NREGA, India's only guaranteed social safety net for the rural poor, and is treating the oppressed with contempt. Villages were developing through MGNREGA,

and humanity. However, in recent times, political tendencies that undermine these values have increased, weakening the very soul of India. Systematic attempts to strip the rights of the poor, Dalits, and backward classes are a matter of grave concern.

Many welfare schemes designed for the poor have remained only on paper. Fundamental rights such as employment, education, healthcare, and food security are today being sacrificed for political gain. Corporate interests are being given priority, while the voice of the common citizen is being suppressed, deepening social inequality, he said. By betraying the promise of equal opportunity for every citizen, the government is directly attacking constitutional values. This reflects an agenda of centralizing power and a repressive mindset.

Congress has murdered Gandhiji not once but many times: MP Basavaraj Bommai



Bidar: Former Chief Minister and MP Basavaraj Bommai alleged that, The Congress has murdered Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi not once but several times. The Congress party invokes Gandhi's name only to gain political benefit and out of fear that this advantage may slip away, it keeps talking about Gandhi.

Asked about dropping Gandhi's name from the NREGA scheme here on Tuesday, he told reporters that Gandhiji had advised the dissolution of the Congress party. However, Jawaharlal Nehru did not dissolve it, and it was then that Gandhi was assassinated. By imposing the

Emergency, Gandhi was "killed" once again. By repeatedly acting against Gandhi's principles, the Congress has murdered him many times, he alleged.

The former CM said that by separating Gandhi and Ram, the Congress is committing a sinful act. Ram and Gandhi are not different; Gandhi's soul constantly chanted the name of Ram. Gandhi, who upheld the ideals of Ram, spoke of the concept of Ram Rajya. Today, the name of Ram that existed in Gandhi's soul has been attached to the employment guarantee scheme.

Earlier, the scheme carried Nehru's name, and during elections, Gandhi's name was added.

Dr. Manmohan Singh Bengaluru City University PG Centre inaugurated at Bagalur



Bengaluru: Minister for Higher Education Dr. M.C. Sudhakar on Tuesday announced that the state government will soon take steps to fill all permanent teaching and non-teaching vacancies in public universities and provide the required infrastructure to strengthen higher education across Karnataka. He was speaking after formally inaugurating the Postgraduate Centre of Dr. Manmohan Singh Bengaluru City University at Bagalur, under the Byatarayanapura Assembly constituency, at a programme held on the premises of the Government Pre-University College.

Dr. Sudhakar emphasised that while expanding access to higher education is important, equal focus must be placed on

maintaining academic quality. He said the government is committed to improving standards in public universities through timely recruitment and infrastructure development.

Presiding over the event, Revenue Minister and Byatarayanapura MLA Krishna Byre Gowda assured that the land required for the new Postgraduate Centre would be provided. He also stated that prompt steps would be taken for the construction of a public hospital and a

sports complex in the area.

In his introductory address, Vice-Chancellor Prof. Ramesh B. said the Postgraduate Centre is a significant initiative aimed at delivering quality higher education at an affordable cost to students from poor and middle-class families. He urged students to enrol in large numbers and make full use of the opportunity, adding that the university is prioritising skill development and employment-oriented education.

Inspection by the Commissioner of Bengaluru North City Corporation from CBI Bus Stop to Esteem Mall

Bengaluru : Commissioner of Bengaluru North City Corporation, Pommala Sunil Kumar, conducted an inspection along Bellary Road from the CBI Bus Stop to Esteem Mall and issued necessary directions to the concerned officials.

During the inspection he instructed to regular cleaning of the central median on Bellary Road shall be carried out, and all necessary safety measures must be strictly adhered to during the cleaning operations to ensure public safety.

Construction debris located on the National Highway service road near Hebbal Lake shall be removed at the earliest through the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI).

The functioning of the mechanical sweeping machine operating along the Hebbal service road was reviewed,

and officials were instructed to further enhance the effectiveness of the cleaning operations.

The indoor sports complex and swimming pool at Coffee Board Layout were inspected. The Commissioner reviewed issues related to vehicle parking and directed officials to put in place appropriate arrangements.

Emphasizing priority to urban cleanliness, smooth traffic movement, and improvement of public amenities, the Commissioner directed all concerned departments to work in coordination.

During the inspection, Joint Commissioner Smt. Pallavi, Executive Engineers, Assistant Executive Engineers, engineers from the Solid Waste Management Department, and other concerned staff were present.

Infighting, 'oppressive' hate speech bill stalling Karnataka's progress: MP Basavaraj Bommai

Kalaburagi: Former Chief Minister and MP Basavaraj Bommai launched a sharp attack on the Congress-led government, alleging that relentless infighting among party leaders over positions of power has paralysed governance and brought development in Karnataka to a standstill. Speaking to the media in Kalaburagi, he said the internal power struggle within the Congress was no longer a secret. "It is not the Opposition alone that is saying this. Even ruling party MLAs are openly admitting that the government is unstable. The KPCC Vice-President himself has written a letter highlighting the negative impact of this infighting on administration," he said. The former CM asserted that no government plagued by instability could deliver development, adding that the situation in

Karnataka was a classic example. The MP said the Congress was caught in confusion, with no clear command structure. There is a high command, but there is no command.

TN Assembly polls: OPS camp to meet in Chennai

CHENNAI: A crucial meeting of district secretaries of the AIADMK Volunteers Rights Recovery Association will be held at 5 p.m. on Tuesday in Vepery, Chennai, under the leadership of senior leader Panruti Ramachandran, with former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister O. Panneerselvam (OPS) expected to make an important political announcement.

With only a few months left for the state Assembly elections, the meeting has assumed significance amid growing speculation over OPS' future political alignment.

The meeting comes shortly after OPS renamed the AIADMK Volunteers Rights Recovery Committee as the AIADMK Volunteers Rights Recovery Association, a move widely seen as part of organisational consolidation ahead of the polls. Soon after, OPS declared that he was being political-



sidelined within the NDA and chose to withdraw from the alliance. Despite quitting the NDA, OPS has not yet announced a new alliance. In a development that reignited political speculation, he recently travelled to New Delhi along with his son at the invitation of the BJP. During the visit, OPS met Union Home Minister Amit Shah for

around 20 minutes and is learnt to have also held discussions with other BJP leaders.

Addressing reporters later, OPS said the meeting with Amit Shah was a courtesy call and that the discussion focused on the prevailing political situation in Tamil Nadu. However, political circles suggest that the BJP is keen on bringing OPS back into the NDA. According to sources, OPS has placed a firm condition for any return - reunification of the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK). Sources said OPS clearly conveyed to Amit Shah that he would not rejoin the NDA until the AIADMK merger process is completed. As anticipation builds ahead of the meeting in Chennai, observers believe the decisions emerging from the district secretaries' meet could shape the political course of OPS in the run-up to the elections.

Madras High Court directs personal appearance of TN Home Secretary, DGP in contempt proceedings

CHENNAI: In a contempt of court case, the Madras High Court has directed the Tamil Nadu Home Secretary and the State Director General of Police (DGP) to appear in person on January 12. The case is related to a habeas corpus petition filed before the Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court, alleging that no proper information was furnished to the Additional Public Prosecutor.

Based on this, charges were framed against A Chandrasekaran, who had served as an Inspector at the Suthamalli Police Station in Tirunelveli district in 2014.

Following a departmental inquiry, the Tirunelveli



Range Deputy Inspector General of Police (DIG) imposed a punishment of stoppage of two annual increments. Challenging this, Chandrasekaran preferred an appeal, in which the DGP ultimately reduced the punishment to a stoppage of increment for six months.

Contending that the pun-

ishment was imposed without considering a letter sent by the Government Advocate stating that the Inspector had, in fact, furnished the required information properly, Chandrasekaran filed a petition before the Madras High Court. After hearing the matter, the High Court, in April this year, set aside

the punishment order and also directed that Chandrasekaran's name be included in the promotion panel for the year 2016. Alleging that no steps had been taken to implement this order, Chandrasekaran filed a contempt of court petition, which came up for hearing before Justice PT Asha.

The counsel for the petitioner submitted that the applications sent along with a copy of the High Court's order, seeking inclusion of his name in the promotion panel, had not been considered. Taking note of this, the Court observed that no action had been taken so far to implement the order passed in April.

How does climate change affect human health?

Climate change affects human health in a variety of ways. Extreme changes in the weather and environment can increase existing health problems, as well as creating new ones.

Extremes in weather and temperature, increased pollution and environmental toxins, and changes in food security can all cause physical and mental health problems. Climate change is affecting some of the essential factors that influence human health, including:

safety of shelter
air quality
quality, safety, and supply of drinking water

food availability
nutrition levels in food

As climate change progresses, researchers expect an increase in related health issues.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), researchers predict that certain effects of climate change will contribute to an increase of about 250,000 deaths per year between 2030 and 2050 from conditions such as:

heat stress
malnutrition
diarrhea
malaria

Climate change can also contribute to migration, as factors such as drought and plummeting fish stocks can lead rural populations to move into urban centers. Living in urban areas can increase the risk of disease due to overcrowding and higher temperatures.

Mental health

Extreme weather and natural disasters can be traumatic and stressful for the people whom they affect. People may undergo displacement, injury, the loss of their home and possessions, or the loss of loved ones. Extreme heat may also have a more significant effect on people with mental health conditions. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), suicide rates increase with higher temperatures.

The CDC suggest that climate change and higher temperatures have a negative effect on depression and other mental health conditions.

Extreme temperatures can also change how certain medications, such as schizophrenia treatments, work in the body. In addition, they

may affect people's ability to regulate their body temperature correctly.

Researchers have found that natural disasters, such as Hurricane Katrina, have negative mental health effects on those involved, including post-traumatic stress disorder and high levels of anxiety. Floods, heat waves, and wildfires may also create these issues. Concerns about the effects of climate change may also be a source of increased anxiety or despair for some people.

Infectious diseases

According to the WHO, climate change is likely to cause an increase in insect-transmitted infections and waterborne diseases. The reason for this is that changes in climate could increase the length of the seasons during which insects transmit infections. These changes could also expand the area in which they occur. Countries such as the United States may be at risk of an increase in both current waterborne and insect-borne diseases and diseases that are not yet present in the area.

Changes in rainfall patterns could also increase the risk of waterborne diseases and infectious diseases that cause diarrhea. Heat and weather-related conditions

Rising temperatures can cause or exacerbate a wide range of severe health problems. Prolonged exposure to extreme heat can cause: heatstroke

heat exhaustion
muscle cramps
worsening of existing conditions, such as respiratory and heart conditions
death

Extreme changes in temperature are likely to have a more significant effect on certain groups. Source of people:

children
older adults
people with chronic health conditions

people with less economic stability
people who are socially isolated
those living in urban areas, where heat levels will be several degrees warmer than they are in areas with fewer buildings

An increase in extreme weather conditions poses a serious risk to health. Hot, dry conditions and droughts can cause:

dust storms
wildfires
a decrease in water supply and quality

reduced quality of air
lack of food

All of these factors can have severe effects on human health, including:

increased risk of infections
injury
burns
respiratory problems from smoke exposure
malnutrition
death
Severe flooding and flash floods

can be very dangerous. According to the CDC, approximately 98 people die each year in the U.S. as a result of flooding.

While the immediate dangers of flooding include drowning and injury from damaged buildings, other risks of flooding include: exposure to toxic chemicals in runoff

displacement and homelessness, which can affect physical and mental health an increase in respiratory diseases from living in damp environments mold, which can reduce indoor air quality Air pollution

An increase in air pollution can pose a high risk to health. Higher levels of dust, ozone, and fine particles in the air can all reduce air quality and cause or exacerbate a range of health issues, including:

asthma
chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)

coughing and irritation of the throat

inflammation of the lungs

risk of lung cancer

airway congestion

chest pain

heart attacks

Allergens

Warmer temperatures can lead to an increase in pollen production. An increase in carbon dioxide can lead to higher levels of allergens from plants.

As a result, people may experience the following effects:

greater sensitivity to allergens

asthma, including longer or more frequent bouts of acute asthma

worsening of other respiratory conditions

A combination of warmer weather and more rainfall can lead to increased dampness and fungi, including mold, indoors. These conditions can also cause breathing problems.

Food security

Weather changes affect crops and food production. Food prices may rise, which may cause people to adopt less healthy diets. Poor diets can lead to hunger, malnutrition, or obesity. According to the CDC, the nutritional value of certain foods may decrease due to climate change. Experts predict that increased carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere and changes to the nutrients in the soil will result in fewer nutrients in many crops.

Nilgris: Revamped
Dolphin's Nose viewpoint reopens on December 22

Nilgris: The Dolphins Nose viewpoint in the Nilgiris has been reopened to tourists from Monday after remaining closed for three months for maintenance work, the Forest Department said. The viewpoint, which falls under the Coonoor forest range, was shut from September 12 to carry out renovation works, including upgrades to pathways, toilets and installation of safety railings. With most of the work now completed, tourists are being permitted to visit the spot, Coonoor forest ranger Ravindranath said. Dolphins Nose is a popular natural viewpoint located about 12 km from Coonoor and is maintained by the Forest Department. It is a regular stop for tourists visiting Sims Park and other nearby attractions.

Tiruparkundram dargah hosts syncretic kanduri



MADURAI: The annual Sandanakoodu Kanduri festival of Sikandar Badusha Dargah atop the Tiruparkundram hill here commenced amidst protests by a section of Hindu devotees who questioned local officials for granting permission to the event, whereas the High Court verdict was not implemented in the Karthigai Deepam lamp lighting case, directing lighting at a new

place instead of Uchi Pillayar Temple as done by the temple authorities.

Following permission from the Tirumangalam Revenue Divisional Officer, the flag was hoisted on the night of December 21 at Hazrat Sultan Sikandar Badusha Auliya Dargah in connection with the Santhanakoodu festival on January 6, 2026.

Even as the Sandanakoodu festival went ahead with syn-

cretic practices, including Hindu devotees participating, and a traditional Hindu nadaswaram performance at the shrine, right-wing Hindutva groups opposed the permission granted for the religious event.

Protesting against the decision of the official, a section of devotees and BJP functionaries staged a 'road roko' agitation on Sunday night, seeking to know how permission could be granted to one community while the Madras High Court order on lighting the Karthigai Deepam atop a stone pillar near the dargah was not carried out, even as an appeal against the verdict is being heard by a two-judge bench. The protesters were detained. Both the Hindu Munnani and the BJP flayed the local authorities for the "dual standards."

What is eco-anxiety?

Researchers coined the term "eco-anxiety" to describe chronic or severe anxiety related to humans' relationship with the environment.

In 2017, the American Psychiatric Association (APA) described eco-anxiety as "a chronic fear of environmental doom." Eco-anxiety is not currently listed in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5), meaning that doctors do not officially consider it a diagnosable condition. However, mental health professionals do use the term eco-anxiety within the field of eco-psychology, a branch that deals with people's psychological relationships with the rest of nature and how this impacts their identity, well-being, and health.

The immediate effects of climate change — such as damage to community groups, a loss of food, and reduced medical supply security — can cause acute harm to people's mental health. The gradual impacts of climate change, including increasingly rising sea levels and changes in weather patterns, may even lead to chronic mental health symptoms. The APA point out that a changing climate can affect mental health in several ways and manifest as:

trauma and shock
post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)

anxiety

depression

substance abuse

aggression

reduced feelings of

autonomy and control

feelings of helplessness

fatalism, and fear

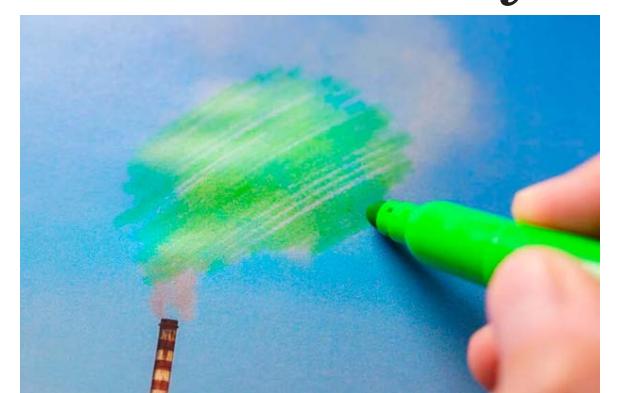
Scientific evidence is emerging that people are starting to experience extreme or chronic anxiety because they feel as though they cannot control environmental problems, especially climate change. For some people, the increase in environmental issues often rely on natural resources and tend to reside in more vulnerable geographic areas. They may face the fear of losing housing, their livelihood, or their cultural heritage, which can be damaging for their sense of identity, belonging, and sense of community.

Environmental damage does not affect all people equally. For this reason, some people may feel anxiety around ecological issues more intensely.

Some parts of the world are more vulnerable to the effects of extreme weather, including coastal communities and low-lying areas. Particularly, people whose livelihoods depend on the environment — such as those with jobs in fishing, tourism, and agriculture — are more likely to be affected.

Also, people who live in indigenous communities often rely on natural resources and tend to reside in more vulnerable geographic areas. They may face the fear of losing housing, their livelihood, or their cultural heritage, which can be damaging for their sense of identity, belonging, and sense of community.

People who work in environmental jobs or as first responders and emergency healthcare workers might also be more prone to eco-anxiety. These groups face more physical and mental health effects from changing climates and environmental damage.



their generation's behavior may have on the environment and that of future generations. Who does it affect?

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HCLSoftware to Acquire Jaspersoft from Cloud Software Group

NOIDA December 22, 2025 – HCLSoftware, the software business division of HCLTech, today announced its intent to acquire Jaspersoft, a business unit of Cloud Software Group and provider of a leading embedded analytics and pixel-perfect reporting platform.

HCLSoftware's Data & AI division (Actian) is seeing increased demand for its metadata management, data catalog and data governance solutions and has demonstrated good growth over the last five years, driven by enterprise data management solutions. The acquisition will further enhance Actian's proposition by enabling an end-to-end, immersive data management experience, while expanding reach through a large, global developer community comprised of data engineers and architects actively building, deploying and extending data platforms across the



modern enterprise environment. Jaspersoft provides a comprehensive business intelligence and reporting platform that enables organizations to create pixel-perfect reports, interactive dashboards and advanced visualizations. Jaspersoft has consistently served as an industry leader for pixel-perfect reporting, making it the solution of choice for regulated industries such as government, banking and financial services.

"As GenAI adoption accelerates, our customers want business intelligence solutions that can deliver consistent analytics and reports and offer flexibility to fully own the analytics experience," said Marc Potter, CEO Actian & Portfolio General Manager of HCLSoftware's Data & AI division. "With Jaspersoft, Actian will provide seamless AI-powered embedded analytics with strong architectural flexibility, allowing high-volume pixel-perfect reports and interactive dashboards to be seamlessly integrated into customer-facing applications, driving scalable self-service business intelligence."

"Jaspersoft has earned the trust of organizations worldwide through its embedded analytics capabilities," said Steven Schneider, General Manager of Analytics business unit at Cloud Software Group. "We believe HCLSoftware is a strong strategic owner for the business and look forward to Jaspersoft continuing to serve customers under HCLSoftware's ownership." The acquisition is expected to close within six months of signing.

Make Every Christmas Moment Special with California Almonds

Christmas is just around the corner, bringing excitement, warmth, and the promise of festive indulgence. The season encourages us to savour flavours that spark joy, combined with cherishing meaningful moments. This year, elevate your holiday meals and gifting traditions with the wholesome goodness of California Almonds. Naturally rich in 15 essential nutrients, they offer a satisfying crunch while promoting heart health, providing lasting energy, and helping in appetite control, which is especially valuable during a month filled with gatherings, elaborate meals, and travel.

The versatility of California Almonds is one of their greatest strengths. Whether enjoyed whole, chopped, or shredded, they add texture and flavour to every dish. From spiced fruitcakes and decadent cookies to traditional Indian sweets and modern baked treats, almonds enhance festive cuisines with ease. As more families in India embrace mindful eating, California Almonds



are also becoming a popular addition to breakfast, offering a nutritious start to the busy December days.

In the spirit of Christmas giving, California Almonds make a thoughtful and premium choice. Curated hampers and homemade almond treats convey warmth and celebration while offering a meaningful way to share health and happiness. Perfect for loved ones, friends, and colleagues, California Almonds bring a touch of affection and seasonal indulgence to every gift.

Bollywood star Soha Ali Khan shared, "Christmas has always held deep significance for me - filled with warmth, shared meals, and small family traditions. Each year, I strive to achieve a balance of indulgence and nourishment at my festive gatherings. California Almonds feature prominently in many of my dishes, not only for their depth of flavour but also for their benefits to our health. Even starting the day with a handful of almonds makes a noticeable impact."

Sheela Krishnaswamy, Nutrition and Wellness Consultant, said, "It's natural to enjoy treats during festivals, but maintaining good health doesn't have to be complex. Almonds are known to support heart health by helping to lower LDL and total cholesterol levels. Their adaptability allows them to fit seamlessly into festive menus, enhancing both taste and nutritional benefits. Starting the day with almonds can also provide a gradual release of energy, that, along with a balanced diet, helps you get through many events of the season." Ritika Samaddar,

Regional Head – Dietetics at Max Healthcare, New Delhi, noted, "The Christmas period is abundant with culinary treats, but it's beneficial to include foods that promote steady energy and satiety. California Almonds are nutrient-rich and aid in weight management by helping sustain a feeling of fullness. Their low glycemic index helps in preventing spikes in blood sugar levels. Adding almonds, whether in breakfast dishes or festive recipes, is an easy and effective way to ensure that celebrations are both enjoyable and balanced." Dr Madhumitha Krishnan, Ayurveda Expert, mentioned, "For centuries, almonds have been esteemed in Ayurveda for their nourishing and fortifying attributes. Ancient texts emphasise their role in promoting vitality and skin health. California almonds being warm, balancing to the doshas, with beneficial fats that help achieve healthy skin and glowing appearance in the winter season - a quality many cherish during festive times."

ICAR-IIMR observes Kisan Samman Diwas, highlights millet farming and farmer welfare

Hyderabad: Reaffirming its commitment to farmer welfare and sustainable agriculture, the ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research (ICAR-IIMR), Hyderabad, observed Kisan Samman Diwas at its campus on Monday as part of Swachatha Pakhwada. The programme was organized in line with the nationwide initiative of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) to honour farmers on the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Late Chaudhary Charan Singh.

The event focused on creating awareness about the Viksit Bharat – Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeekika Mission (Gramin) Bill, 2025, which aims to strengthen rural livelihood security by enhancing employment opportunities, ensuring income stability,



ICAR-IIMR, highlighted the crucial role of farmers in nation-building and food security. She emphasized the growing importance of millets as climate-resilient crops,

particularly for dryland and rainfed regions, citing their nutritional value, low input requirements, and resilience to climatic stress. She urged farmers to adopt

improved millet production technologies, scientific post-harvest practices, and value addition to enhance income and sustainability.

Scientists from ICAR-IIMR interacted with farmers and showcased initiatives across the millet value chain. An exposure visit to NutriHub and the Shree Anna Processing & Training Unit provided insights into modern processing, packaging, and enterprise development. Around 250 farmers and stakeholders from Sangareddy district participated in the programme.

Dr. Tara Satyavathi expressed gratitude to farmers and reaffirmed ICAR-IIMR's commitment to promoting millets as "Shree Anna" and advancing inclusive, farmer-centric agricultural development.

GITAM Hyderabad celebrates pre-Christmas festivities with joy and grandeur

Hyderabad: GITAM Deemed to be University, Hyderabad, celebrated the spirit of Christmas with great enthusiasm at Shivaji Auditorium on Monday, marking pre-Christmas festivities in a vibrant and joyful atmosphere. The auditorium was beautifully decorated with colourful bells and stars, setting a festive tone for the celebrations.

The programme began with a warm welcome address, followed by melodious Christmas carols that ushered in the festive spirit. Students of GITAM showcased their talents through soulful singing, energetic dance performances, and a thoughtfully enacted Nativity scene, highlighting the core values of Christmas—love, caring, sharing, and spreading goodness.

An engaging English play depicting the significance of Christmas



and focusing on the birth and sacrifice of Jesus Christ captivated the audience with its powerful message. Reflections on the symbolism of Christmas ornaments such as the star, bell, wreath, candle, candy cane, and Santa Claus added meaning to the celebrations. A cheerful appearance by Santa Claus, who distributed gifts, further delighted the audience.

Prof. B. Sudheer Prem Kumar, Former Vice-Chancellor of Rayalseema University and Secretary, APSCH, Andhra Pradesh, delivered an inspiring mes-

sage on the true essence of Christmas. Prof. D. S. Rao, Pro Vice-Chancellor; DVVSR Varma, Resident Director; Ambika Philip, Director – Hospitality & Campus Life; and Dr. Joseph Jayakar, Associate Professor, Department of English, also participated. The celebrations concluded with the ceremonial cutting of the Christmas cake, followed by a snack party, ramp walk, and games. The event fostered a strong sense of community, spreading warmth, harmony, and festive cheer across the GITAM Hyderabad campus.

Immerse in Dubai's Winter Wonderland



In the symphony of global winter festivities, Dubai emerges as a mesmerizing canvas where Arabian grandeur converges with playful enchantments. From shimmering souk bazaars and theatrical ballets to multicultural markets and mountain escapes, the City of Gold unveils its unique ways of celebrating the season, blending opulent shopping sprees and family adventures - proving that the desert city knows how to sparkle through the season.

MADINAT JUMEIRAH FESTIVE MARKET

No winter in Dubai feels complete without this free outdoor extravaganza at Madinat Jumeirah's Fort Island, the Arabian mini-city of five-star resorts. From 5th to 31st December, a towering 36-foot Christmas tree anchors the 1,750sqm sparkling wonderland with twinkling lights, homegrown market stalls offering artisan crafts, live music, mulled grape, mince pies, festively decorated abra rides past Burj Al Arab, Venetian carousel, North Pole mini train, snow fight zone, and endless festive vibes – the perfect Arabian escape blending heritage charm with holiday magic.

GLOBAL VILLAGE

Dubai's favorite multiculti-

tural family entertainment destination relaunches for its landmark 30th season from 15 October 2025 to 10 May 2026, transforming into a vibrant global hub across 30 stunning pavilions representing 90 cultures. Hunt for unique treasures like Turkish stained-glass lanterns, colorful Indian embroidered purses, and intricate European jewelry from artisan stalls, while savoring a world of international cuisines from every corner of the globe. Thrill the family with adrenaline-pumping rides, glide across the outdoor Snowfest Ice Rink, uncover the weird and wonderful at Ripley's Believe It or Not, and immerse in cultural journeys along the Road of Asia – making Global Village the city's ultimate shopper's paradise and endless entertainment odyssey for all ages.

HATTA WINTER FESTIVAL

Escape to Hatta's majestic Hajar Mountains where the Hatta Winter Festival ignites Wadi Hub from 5th December to 31st January, turning this highland haven into a thrilling cultural adventure zone. Free entry unlocks artisan bazaars brimming with local crafts and Hatta honey delights, live bands beneath crisp mountain skies, authentic Emirati dance shows, interactive family work-

shops, kayaking adventures, scenic hiking paths, and mountain bike trails – weaving Bedouin traditions with Dubai's bold winter pursuits for breathtaking high-altitude magic.

WINTER CITY AT EXPO CITY DUBAI

From 6th to 31st December 2025, Al Wasl Plaza at Expo City Dubai will transform into Winter City – a dazzling festive wonderland. Families can enjoy live shows, creative workshops and twinkling lights, with falling snow and a spectacular tree lighting bringing the season to life.

It's a joyful setting, where the magic of winter meets Dubai's festive spirit.

CHRISTMAS IN WINTER DISTRICT

From 13-28 December, the grounds in front of Jumeirah Emirates Towers will transform into a beautiful Winter District. Get ready to hop on your sleigh and head to the North Pole for a magical experience with family and friends. This year's edition promises tons of holiday cheer, dazzling lights and Santa-approved fun for everyone. Explore a bustling Christmas market brimming

with handcrafted gifts and seasonal treats, as well as family-friendly attractions including a snow play area for the little ones. Santa will be ready to meet you at his grotto as you sing along to the tunes with Christmas carolers. With carnival games, kids' workshops and decorations, there will be plenty of opportunities to capture your holiday moments. Mark your calendars and gather your loved ones for this pop-up.

DUBAI SHOPPING FESTIVAL NIGHTS

Dubai Festival City Mall's Festival Bay relaunches e&

DSF Nights through 11 January 2026 as the electrifying heart of Dubai Shopping Festival's 30th season, delivering non-stop waterfront excitement from 5th December 2025 with free Saturday megastar concerts from Nora Fatehi to Mahmoud El Essely, Sunday X Factor talent show downs with judges like Ragheb Alama, and nightly Imagine laser-water spectacles synced to Arabic anthems from 4:30pm (tickets AED 50-AED 250). Families chase daily raffle dreams amid trendy food trucks like Helipad by Frozen Cherry, Samsung AI pop-ups, character meet-and-greets with Modesh & Dana, and closing fireworks, blending retail frenzy with multicultural street-party vibes at this must-visit lifestyle destination.

MEET SANTA AT SKI DUBAI

The jolliest time of the year is on its way, and from 1st to 25th December, Ski Dubai will once again transform into a magical winter wonderland. Santa and his cheerful elves will set up their festive grotto on the snowy slopes, ready to welcome families for a dose of holiday cheer. Enjoy a cosy cup of hot chocolate, take in the sparkling decorations and capture the perfect photo with the man in red.

THE WINTER WONDERVERSE AT HOUSE OF HYPE

Dubai Mall's House of Hype transforms into Winter Wonderverse from 13th to 28th December, turning the city's most famous shopping address into an immersive seasonal playground. Visitors step into a world of falling "snow", glowing light installations and futuristic sets designed for exploration, play and plenty of photos – all wrapped into a timed, ticketed experience starting from AED 99 per person. Interactive zones, digital art backdrops and live entertainment fuse to craft a winter escape blending pop-up theme park vibes with retail dazzle, perfect for family photo ops before mall dining and shopping.

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT AT EXPO CITY DUBAI

From 20th to 24th December 2025, Al Wasl Plaza will host the third annual Carols by Candlelight, a heartwarming celebration featuring the Firdaus Orchestra and local school choirs. Audiences can enjoy festive classics performed by vocalists, musicians and dancers, set against Christmas-themed projections under Expo City Dubai's iconic dome. Expect surprise visits from Santa and Mrs. Claus, with entry also including access to Winter City.

Jaishankar begins visit to Sri Lanka as PM Modi's special envoy



COLOMBO: External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar landed in Colombo on Monday to hold talks with Sri Lanka's top leadership as the island nation begins reconstruction efforts following Cyclone Ditwah.

Jaishankar is visiting Sri Lanka as Prime Minister Narendra Modi's special envoy. "The visit underscores India's Neighbourhood First Policy and takes place in the context of Operation Sagar Bandhu launched to address the devastation caused by Cyclone Ditwah," the Ministry of External Affairs

(MEA) said in New Delhi.

The cyclone that hit the island nation in late November killed over 640 people and damaged crops, tea estates and critical transport infrastructures including roads and bridges.

India had launched Operation Sagar Bandhu to help Sri Lanka deal with the crisis. On Tuesday, Jaishankar will hold talks with the top Sri Lankan leadership.

"Landed in Colombo this evening. Thank Deputy @ TourismMin Ruwan Ranasinghe for the warm reception. Look forward to

my meetings with Sri Lankan leadership tomorrow," the external affairs minister said on X.

Since the launch of Operation Sagar Bandhu on November 28, India has provided over 1,134 tonnes of humanitarian assistance to Sri Lanka, including dry rations, tents, tarpaulins, hygiene kits, clothing, water purification systems, and 14.5 tonnes of medicines and surgical equipment.

Several Indian naval ships including INS Vikrant, INS Udaygiri, INS Sukanya and INS Gharial delivered large volumes of relief mate-

rials to Colombo and Trincomalee.

Two teams of the National Disaster Response Force conducted immediate search and rescue operations, while an 85-member Indian Army Field Hospital set up in Mahiyanganaya provided life-saving medical care to more than 7,000 patients. Indian Air Force and Navy helicopters evacuated survivors, transported troops, and delivered relief supplies reflecting India's steadfast commitment to Sri Lanka during a time of crisis.

Major Russian drone and missile attack on Ukraine kills at least 3



KYIV: Russia fired more than 650 drones and three dozen missiles at Ukraine in a large-scale attack that began during the night and stretched into daylight hours Tuesday, officials said. At least three people were killed, including a 4-year-old child.

The barrage struck homes and the power grid in 13 regions of Ukraine, causing widespread outages in bitter temperatures. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said, a day after he described recent progress on finding a peace deal "quite solid."

The bombardment demonstrated Russian President Vladimir Putin's intention of prosecuting the invasion of Ukraine, Zelenskyy said in a post on the Telegram messaging app. Ukrainian and European officials have complained that Putin is not sincerely engaging with US-led peace efforts. The attack "is an extremely clear signal of Russian priorities," Zelenskyy said. "A strike before Christmas, when people want to be with their families, at home, in safety. A strike, in fact, in the midst of negotiations that are being conducted to end this war. Putin cannot accept the fact that we must stop killing."

Japan gets local consent, clearing last major hurdle to restart the world's largest nuclear plant

TOKYO: The governor of Niigata on Tuesday formally gave local consent to put two reactors at the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa nuclear power plant in the north-central prefecture back online, clearing a last hurdle toward restarting the plant idled for more than a decade following the 2011 meltdowns at another plant managed by the same utility.

Gov. Hideyo Hanazumi, in his meeting with Economy and Industry Minister Ryosei Akazawa, conveyed the prefecture's "endorsement" to restart the No. 6 and No. 7 reactors at the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa plant, accepting the government's pledge to ensure safety, emergency response and understanding of the residents. Restart preparations for No. 6 reactor have moved ahead, and utility company



TEPCO is expected to apply for a final safety inspection by the Nuclear Safety Authority later this week, ahead of a possible resumption in January. Work at the other reactor is expected to take a few more years.

The move comes one day after the Niigata prefectural assembly adopted a budget bill that included funding necessary for a restart, supporting the governor's earlier consent.

"It was a heavy and difficult decision," Hanazumi told reporters. Hanazumi also met with Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi, who also supports nuclear energy, and asked her to visit to observe the safety at the plant. Japan once planned

At least 5 killed after Mexican Navy plane on medical mission crashes in Texas

GALVESTON : A small Mexican Navy plane transporting a young medical patient and seven others crashed Monday near Galveston, killing at least five people and setting off a search in waters along the Texas coast, officials said.

Four of the people aboard were Navy officers, and four were civilians, including a child, Mexico's Navy said in a statement to The Associated Press. Two of the passengers were from a nonprofit that

provides aid to Mexican children with severe burns, including transports to a Galveston hospital. US Coast Guard Petty Officer Luke Baker said at least five passengers had died but did not identify which passengers.

The cause of the crash is under investigation. Mexico's Marines said in a statement that it is sending "its deepest condolences to the families of those who lost their lives in this tragic accident." The crash took place Monday afternoon in Galveston Bay near the base of

the causeway that connects Galveston Island to the mainland. Emergency responders and search teams rushed to the scene near the popular beach destination along

the Texas coast that is about 50 miles (80.5 kilometres) southeast of Houston. Sky Decker, a professional yacht captain who lives about a mile (1.6 kilometres) from the crash site, said he jumped in his boat to see if he could help. He said he picked up two police officers who directed him through thick fog to a nearly completely submerged plane. Decker jumped in the water and found a badly injured woman trapped beneath chairs and other debris. "I couldn't believe. She had maybe 3 inches of air gap to breathe in," he said. "And there was jet fuel

in there mixed with the water; the fumes were really bad. She was really fighting for her life." He said he also pulled out a man sitting in front of her who had already died. He described both of them as dressed in civilian clothes. Mexico's Navy said the plane was helping with a medical mission in coordination with the Michou and Mau Foundation, which provides emergency transports to children with life-threatening burns to Shriners Children's Hospital in Galveston, according to the nonprofit's website.

Oman, India show the benefit of 'economic statecraft'



Oman and India recently signed a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement that will offer duty-free access to over 98 percent of India's exports to Oman. Bilateral trade between the two countries reached \$10.6 billion in 2025. More than 6,000 India-Oman joint ventures operate in Oman. Outward foreign direct investment from India to Oman is \$675 million. This latest agreement aims to increase bilateral trade and promote India's exports of textiles, engineering goods, pharmaceuticals, and agricultural goods. India will offer tariff liberalization of almost 77.8 percent of its total tariff lines, which involves more than 94 percent of imports from Oman by value. India will cut tariffs on select goods, such as dates and petrochemicals, from Oman. The recent development in the region is the classic example of adopted effective economic statecraft policy.

In his 1985 book "Economic Statecraft," David Baldwin reevaluates the effectiveness of economic statecraft and other forms of economic techniques. The "statecraft" is the foreign policy tool used by the state holders with the aim to influence other global actors. Economic statecraft includes all economic tools that are used in foreign policies. There are forms of positive economic statecraft — so-called "carrots": finan-

cial aid, investments, subsidies for exports and imports, favorable tariff discrimination — and negative forms, referred to as "sticks": embargos, boycotts, license denial, blacklisting, tariff increases, and freezing assets. Highlighting their significance, Baldwin argues that "economic techniques usually cost more than propaganda or diplomacy and thus tend to have more inherent credibility."

Earlier, in 1945, Albert Hirschman published a book, "National Power and the Structure of Foreign Trade," that examined the role of trade in economic relationships between states. The importance of trade is that "it (the trade) conducted between country A, on the one hand, and countries B,C, D, etc., on the other hand, is worth something to B,C, D, etc., and that they would, therefore, consent to grant A certain advantages — military, political, economic — in order to retain the possibility of trading with A."

Andreas Grimm and Viktor Eszterhai examine the Belt and Road initiative as a case study of China's economic statecraft, and compare the effect of Baldwin's "classical" exercise of economic statecraft which is engaged at a specific dimension of actor's behavior with Hirschman's policy, which aims to make countries adapt their policy objectives themselves, pri-

marily voluntarily, with the aim to match those of the economically influential state more commonly.

SIGNING NEW TRADE DEALS BECAME A VITAL PILLAR

The uncertain and challenging geopolitical global landscape leads to the diversification of geopolitical allies. Oman and India prioritize their economic statecraft as the key strategic policy in this process, which is relevant to the comparison of propositions of Baldwin and Hirschman. In

general, signing new trade deals became the vital pillar of India's economic statecraft strategy — either to overcome negative forms of economic instruments, following Baldwin's argument, or to indirectly influence other countries, adopting the argument of Hirschman. Signing the agreement comes at a vital time when the US government applies "sticks" against India by imposing a 50 percent tariff on Indian goods. At the same time, by signing over

15 trade agreements and with ongoing talks with the EU, Chile, and New Zealand, India's policy helps to boost its influence across the world. Oman is also taking advantage of the economic statecraft policy as it allows it to diversify its international partners. According to a 2025 report by the World Bank, entitled "Global Economic Prospects," the economies of Oman and the GCC countries are undergoing deep transformations amid fluctuating oil reve-

nues, shifting global economic dynamics, and climate change. Qasim Al-Maashani focuses on the current Oman economic landscape, and argues that the sultanate has conducted important fiscal reforms aimed at reducing the public deficit and managing debt. To attract foreign direct investment and boost non-oil industries, the sultanate launched privatization initiatives and public investment programs. Oman has free trade agreements with the US, Singapore, and Australia. Oman has developed a Vision "Oman 2040" program that targets foreign direct investment net inflow percentage of gross domestic product (10 percent), non-oil share of GDP (more than 90 percent), real GDP growth (5 percent), and real GDP per capita (increase by 90 percent).

INDIA'S POLICY HELPS TO BOOST ITS INFLUENCE

The UAE also concluded a trade agreement with India in February, 2022. There are already positive signs of this pact: Since signing the deal, India-UAE bilateral trade has grown from \$72.8 billion to \$100 billion. The UAE adopts the economic statecraft policy primarily by using "carrots." For example, the UAE has many CEPAs in force, including with Indonesia, Israel, Turkey, Cambodia, Malaysia, New Zealand, and Kenya. It aims to strengthen

its economic ties by signing trade agreements with Chile, the Philippines, and Ukraine, which means it will continue adopting the policy of economic statecraft in the future. Meanwhile, India will maintain its interests in building the strategic dialogue with the Gulf, while evaluating benefits of this policy; it is in negotiations with Qatar to conclude an agreement soon. India and Oman are prioritizing "economy" rather than relying on "military" power resources. As Baldwin explains: "Military techniques, of course, usually entail higher costs and even more credibility, but their costs may be too high." He further writes that "compared to other techniques of statecraft, economic measures are likely to exert more pressure than either diplomacy or propaganda and are less likely to evoke a violent response than military instruments." He concludes: "They are not merely inferior substitutes for force but first-best policy alternatives." Indeed, it seems the winning policy within the current realities of international affairs is reliance on economic statecraft, primarily on "carrots." The most effective way to find the absolute "win-win" is to sign trade deals, as it allows the economy to diversify and gives international partners the opportunity to indirectly influence each other.



Contemplated retirement after 2023 World Cup final defeat: Rohit

NEW DELHI: In a stunning revelation, former India captain Rohit Sharma has said that he contemplated retirement after the heartbreaking loss to Australia in the 2023 ODI World Cup final as he "felt that the sport had taken everything out of me."

Under the captaincy of Rohit, the Indian team enjoyed a dream run in that tournament at home and marched into the final with nine consecutive wins. However, Australia dashed its hopes in the game that mattered the most, with Travis Head scoring a match-winning hundred.

"After 2023 World Cup final, I was completely distraught and felt like I didn't want to play

this sport anymore because it had taken everything out of me and I felt I had nothing left," Rohit said during a Masters Union event in Gurugram on Sunday.

"It took some time and I kept reminding myself that this is something I truly love, that it was right in front of me, and I couldn't let it go so easily."

Slowly, I found my way back, regaining the energy and getting myself moving again on the field. "Everybody was extremely disappointed, and we just couldn't believe what had happened. It was a very tough time for me personally because I had put everything into that World Cup not just two or three months before it,



Rohit, who has retired from T20Is and Tests and was removed from ODI captaincy earlier this year, continues to play the 50-over format and would like to end his career with one final attempt at the 2027 World Cup.

but ever since I took over the captaincy in 2022," he added. Rohit, who has retired from T20Is and Tests and was removed from ODI captaincy earlier this year, continues to play the 50-over format and would like to end his career with one final attempt at the

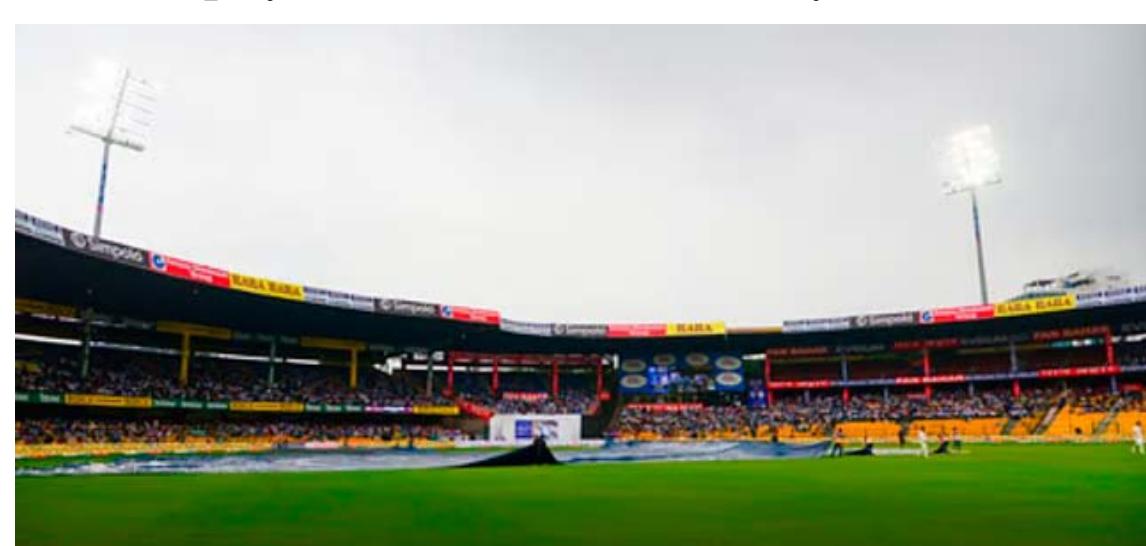
2027 World Cup. "My only goal was to win the World Cup, whether it was the T20 World Cup or the 2023 World Cup. So when it didn't happen, I was completely devastated. There was no energy left in my body. It took me a couple of months to recover and bring myself

back," said Rohit.

Less than a year after that loss to Australia in Ahmedabad, Rohit led the Indian team to the T20 World Cup title in the Americas, but overcoming the pain of the defeat in November 2023 was extremely difficult.

"I guess when you invest so much into something and don't achieve the result, it's a very natural reaction. That's exactly what happened with me. But I also knew that life doesn't end there. It was a big lesson for me how to deal with disappointment, reset, and start fresh. I knew that something else was coming the 2024 T20 World Cup in the USA and West Indies and I had to shift all my focus towards that."

Karnataka Police deny permission for Vijay Hazare Trophy match at Chinnaswamy Stadium



BENGALURU: Karnataka Police have denied permission for the Vijay Hazare Trophy match between Delhi and Andhra Pradesh at Chinnaswamy Stadium, citing serious safety and crowd control concerns.

The decision was taken after a thorough inspection by Bengaluru Police Commissioner Seemant Kumar, officials from the Greater Bengaluru Authority, and the Fire Department, who raised critical gaps in venue infrastructure and emergency preparedness.

Bengaluru Police Commissioner Seemant Kumar Singh made the statement in this regard on Tuesday, while addressing media persons. "The committee had gone to the stadium on Monday, on the instructions of the Home Department. Officers from various departments, including fire, Bengaluru Electricity Supply Company (Bescom), Greater Bengaluru Authority

(GBA) and police, had inspected the stadium. As per the report from the officers, permission has not been granted for the match on Wednesday at the Chinnaswamy Stadium. The committee has also given a detailed report," Commissioner Singh stated. The Bengaluru City Police Commissioner had already issued a 17-point advisory outlining mandatory safety measures. The committee verified whether these points have been compiled with and submitted its findings to the government.

Police sources stated the stadium gates were too narrow to handle large crowds, especially with Virat Kohli expected to attend. Sources further revealed that in a last-ditch effort, Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) and senior police officers to discuss arrangements for the upcoming match.

KSCA has requested permission to hold the Vijay Hazare Trophy match without allowing public spectators. Only the match will be conducted, and no audience will be permitted," Parameshwara had said. Notably, 11 people were killed in a stampede near the Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru during the Royal Challengers Bengaluru's (RCB) victory celebrations on June 4.

The minister chaired a meeting at the Vidhana Soudha with officials from the Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) and senior police officers to discuss arrangements for the upcoming match.

"We were taking on some risk and people that reported on that would understand the risk associated with that rebuild. We've now won the series and that was the goal.

"So, to position him for further risk and jeopardise him long-term is not something that we want to do and Pat's really comfortable with that," he added. The T20 World Cup is scheduled to begin on February 7 across India and Sri Lanka with the summit clash set for March 8.

Australia's first match is on February 11 against Ireland at Colombo. Although Cummins captains the Test and ODI teams, all-rounder Mitch Marsh leads Australia in the shortest format.

T20 WC

Cummins doubtful for T20 World Cup? It's quite grey right now, says Aus head coach



MELBOURNE: Australia skipper Pat Cummins' chances of playing at next year's T20 World Cup in India and Sri Lanka are "quite grey at the moment" as he battles a back stress issue that has affected his participation in the ongoing Ashes series against England.

Cummins returned to play the third Ashes Test in Adelaide after missing the opening two matches, picking up six wickets to help Australia clinch the series 3-0.

ther part in the series and even his participation at the T20 World Cup is also uncertain. All-rounder Mitch Marsh is Australia's T20I captain.

"Looking forward to the World Cup, whether he will be there or not, I can't

really say. It's quite grey at the moment. We're hopeful," head coach Andrew McDonald was quoted as saying by ESPNCricinfo.

The fast bowler was diagnosed with a lumbar stress reaction during

Australia's tour of the West Indies in July. He underwent rehabilitation before being cleared for a carefully managed return in Adelaide.

"He's pulled up fine. He won't play any part in the rest of the series and that was a discussion that we had a long time out around his return," McDonald said.

"We were taking on some risk and people that reported on that would understand the risk associated with that rebuild. We've now won the series and that was the goal.

"So, to position him for further risk and jeopardise him long-term is not something that we want to do and Pat's really comfortable with that," he added. The T20 World Cup is scheduled to begin on February 7 across India and Sri Lanka with the summit clash set for March 8.

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Gill, Arshdeep named in Punjab squad

The league-stage fixtures conclude on January 8, three days before India's first ODI.

India openers Shubman Gill and Abhishek Sharma, along with pacer Arshdeep Singh, have been named in Punjab's 18-man Vijay Hazare Trophy squad. Alongside the trio, the squad also includes Prabhsimran Singh, Naman Dhir, Anmolpreet Singh, Ramandeep Singh, Sanvir Singh, Harpreet Brar, Gurnoor Brar and Krish Bhagat. Punjab, who were last season's quarter-finalist, are slotted in Elite Group C and will begin their campaign against Maharashtra on December 24, playing all seven league matches in Jaipur. The league-stage fixtures conclude on January 8.

three days before India's first ODI. Gill, Abhishek and Arshdeep's availability, however, remains unclear, as India are scheduled to play three ODIs against New Zealand starting January 11, followed by five T20Is from January 21.

Gill, who was dropped from the T20I squad for the T20 World Cup and the New Zealand T20Is, will captain the ODI side, while Abhishek and Arshdeep are part of the T20I squad.

Earlier, Virat Kohli and Rishabh Pant had already been included in Delhi's probables list, and the duo will be available for Delhi till India's ODI series



Suryakumar to play two Vijay Hazare matches in Jan

NEW DELHI: India T20I captain Suryakumar Yadav and all-rounder Shivam Dube have informed the Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA) of their availability for two Vijay Hazare Trophy matches. The board has reiterated its push for senior and contracted players to turn out regularly in domestic competitions when international commitments allow. Earlier this year, chairman of selectors Ajit Agarkar underlined the importance of domestic cricket for international players, stressing that it helps them stay sharp during breaks from international action. He had said that whenever players are free, they should be playing domestic cricket, as it remains a vital pathway to maintaining form and match fitness.

games. The move follows a directive from the BCCI asking players who were part of India's recent 3-1 T20I series win over South Africa to participate in at least two Vijay Hazare Trophy matches. The board has reiterated its push for senior and contracted players to turn out regularly in domestic competitions when international commitments allow. Earlier this year, chairman of selectors Ajit Agarkar underlined the importance of domestic cricket for international players, stressing that it helps them stay sharp during breaks from international action. He had said that whenever players are free, they should be playing domestic cricket, as it remains a vital pathway to maintaining form and match fitness.

Team official to investigate drinking habits of England cricketers during Ashes tour



MELBOURNE: England's managing director of men's cricket Rob Key says he will investigate the drinking habits of the England team following reports that their mid-Ashes beach resort break may have involved over-indulging of alcohol.

England lost each of the first three tests to allow Australia to retain the Ashes in just 11 days of on-field action.

The England squad visited the resort town of Noosa on the Sunshine Coast north of Brisbane between the second and third tests, a long-planned part of the itinerary designed to help players relax and unwind on the long tour.

Key, who did not join the players in Noosa, said he had no problem with the break, but would not be happy if he found evidence of over-indulging.

"If there's things where people are saying that our players went out and drank excessively, then of course we'll be looking into that," he said Tuesday in Melbourne, where the fourth test begins Friday.

Drinking excessive amounts of alcohol for an international cricket team is not something that I'd expect to see at any stage and it would be a fault not to look into what happened there. From everything that I've heard so far, they actually were pretty well behaved. Very well behaved."

He added: "We've got enough ways of finding out exactly what happened and everything that I've heard so far that they sat down, had lunch, had dinner, didn't go out late, all of that, had the odd drink. I don't mind players having a glass of wine over dinner. Anything more than that, I think is ridiculous, really."

Key also said he had previously looked into reports that players had been spotted drinking the night before a match in New Zealand shortly before the Ashes.

A short clip of white-ball captain Harry Brook and Jacob Bethell was shared by a member of the public on social media, said to have been taken while they were out in Wellington before the third one-day international on Nov. 1. "I didn't feel like that was worthy of formal warnings, but it was probably worthy of informal ones," he said. "I think that was a bit of a wake-up call actually for what they're going into. I don't mind players having a glass of wine over dinner. Anything more than that, I think is ridiculous, really."

Anil Ravipudi wishes grand success to content-driven film 'Dhandoraa' ahead of December 25 release

Successful director Anil Ravipudi extended his best wishes for the grand success of the film 'Dhandoraa', which is gearing up for a theatrical release on December 25. He attended the film's pre-release event as the chief guest and praised the team for bringing a bold, content-driven cinema to audiences. Produced by Ravindra Banerjee Muppaneni of Loukya Entertainments, known for acclaimed films Color Photo and Bedurulanka 2012, Dhandoraa is directed by Muralikanth. The film stars Shivaji, Navdeep, Nandu, Ravi Krishna, Manika Chikkala, Mounika Reddy, Bindu

Madhavi, Radhya, and Aditi Bhavaraju in key roles. Speaking at the event, Anil Ravipudi said he greatly admired producer Banerjee's passion and taste in cinema. He lauded the film's title and expressed hope that lyricist Kasarla Shyam would receive a National Award for the title song. Praising the teaser and trailer, he said Dhandoraa would be remembered for a long time for its courage in exposing societal flaws. He also appreciated director Muralikanth's conviction and said that while promotions may attract attention, strong content alone brings audiences to the theatres. He wished the team a big success on December 25. Actor Shivaji said Anil



Ravipudi's presence would help the film reach wider audiences. He praised producer Banerjee's story selection and director Muralikanth's passion, stating that he chose Dhandoraa as part of his return to meaningful cinema. He asserted that the film had uncompromising content and would grow from a small film into a big success by release day. Actor Navdeep said the film's uniqueness had already reached audiences through premieres held since December 23, adding that the teaser and trailer surprised even those familiar with the story. He praised Kasarla Shyam for capturing the soul of the film through the title song. Producer Ravindra

Banerjee Muppaneni said the journey began three years ago and emphasized that in Dhandoraa, the story is the hero and content is the heroine. Director Muralikanth thanked Anil Ravipudi and the producer for believing in good cinema, stating that he already considers the film a success. Actors Bindu Madhavi, Ravi Krishna, and distributor Shashidhar Reddy, along with DOP Venkat R. Sakamuri and executive producer Edward Stevenson Perez, expressed strong confidence in the film's content, performances, and music, urging audiences to watch Dhandoraa in theatres on December 25.

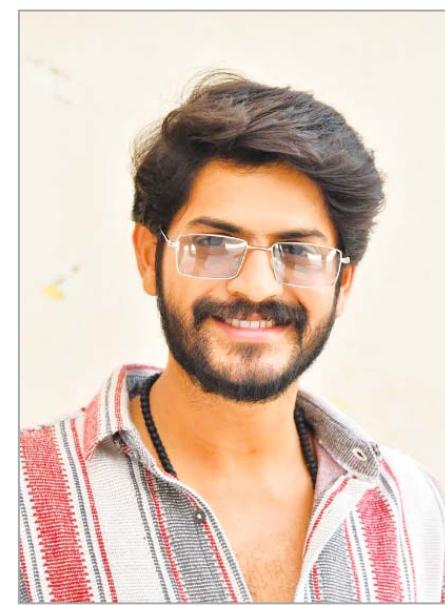
Shambhala best experienced in theatres, Hindi version planned: Aadi Saikumar



Actor Aadi Saikumar said that films like Shambhala are best enjoyed in theatres for a complete cinematic experience and revealed that the team is also planning to release the film in Hindi after its Telugu release. The film, which has generated strong buzz with its teasers, trailers, posters, and songs, is set for a grand theatrical release on December 25. Interacting with the media on December 23, coinciding with his birthday, Aadi expressed confidence in the film's success. He said Shambhala has turned out extremely well and that audiences would enjoy the experience. Speaking about the competition on December 25, he stated that it is a festive season for films and wished success to Srikanth garu's son Roshan's film Champion, highlighting their close family bonding. Aadi noted that the buzz began right from the release of the first still, with teasers and trailers launched by Dulquer Salmaan, Prabhas, and Nani receiving an overwhelming response. He highlighted the importance of action sequences and costumes in the film, revealing that special care was taken as the story is set in the 1980s, and that the climax action episode would be a major highlight. Talking about the technical aspects, Aadi said the film has limited but carefully executed VFX, while Sricharan Pakala's background score would elevate the film to another level, with strong themes for every

Actor Akhil Raj said that the upcoming horror thriller 'Eesha' promises both edge-of-the-seat thrills and a powerful theatrical experience for audiences. The film, produced by Bunny Vaas and Vamsi Nandipati under the banners of Vamsi Nandipati Entertainments and Bunny Vaas Works, is set for a grand theatrical release on December 25. Directed by Srinivas Manne, Eesha features Akhil Raj and Trigun in lead roles, with Hebah Patel as the female lead. Siri Hammanthu, Babloo, and Prithviraj play key supporting roles. The film is presented by noted producer K. L. Damodar Prasad and produced by Hem Venkateswara Rao under the banner of HVR Productions.

Interacting with the media, Akhil Raj said he had signed Eesha even before



the success of Raju Weds Rambayi and was selected through an audition. He expressed confidence that audiences would embrace the film. Describing his first reaction to the script, he said he was shocked and instantly hooked, adding that the film offers superb twists, striking visuals, and impressive sound design that elevate it into a true theatrical experience. Akhil Raj noted that the lighting patterns, visuals, and sound design play a crucial role in creating fear and suspense. "The sound design is terrifying and crafted to genuinely scare people," he said, adding with a smile that those with weak hearts might find it difficult to watch. Speaking about his role, he said he plays Vinay, one of four childhood friends, and described working with actors Trigun, Hebah Patel, Siri, and Mime Madhu as a valuable learning experience. He

praised director Srinivas Manne for his clarity and conviction, particularly in handling thrilling elements. Recalling challenges during the shoot, Akhil Raj shared that he suffered from a month-long fever after being bitten by an insect during the Araku schedule. He also stated that he chose the horror genre to showcase his versatility, moving away from roles similar to his character Raju. He believes Eesha will earn him wider recognition. Reflecting on the impact of Raju Weds Rambayi, Akhil Raj said the film completely changed his life and gave him recognition in the industry. Talking about future projects, he revealed that four to five films are currently in discussion and that he is working on a project directed by Bhadri, featuring Tarun Bhascker and Anupama. Eesha is slated to hit theatres on December 25.

Romantic melody 'Yedo Yedo' from The Rise of Ashoka released



The makers of The Rise of Ashoka have released a soulful romantic melody titled "Yedo Yedo", adding another musical highlight to this ambitious project. The film features Sathish Ninam as a powerful dual role as both lead actor and producer, marking a significant milestone in his career. The Rise of Ashoka is jointly produced by Vardhan Hari, Jaishnavi, and Sathish Ninam under the banners Vriddhi Creation and Sathish Picture House, and is directed by Vinod V. Dhondale. The film stars Sapthami Gowda, widely appreciated for her performances in Kantara and Thammudu, as the female lead oppo-

site Sathish Ninam. Earlier, the film's striking posters and the powerful song "Vinar Maadeva" received an encouraging response from audiences, creating strong anticipation around the project. Continuing this momentum, the team has now unveiled "Yedo Yedo", a soothing duet that beautifully captures the romance, emotional bonding, and chemistry between the lead pair.

With the complete video song now released, viewers are treated to picturesque visuals, nuanced character moments, and glimpses into the emotional journey of the protagonists. Sathish Ninam and Sapthami Gowda look charming together, with their on-

Second single 'Labore Labore' from Vanara released

Vanara marks the debut of Avinash Thiruveedhula as both hero and director. Simran Choudhary plays the female lead, while Nandu will be seen in the role of the antagonist. The film is presented by Shantanu Patti and produced under the Silver Screen Cinemas banner by Avinash Buyani, Alapati Raja, and C. Anitha Reddy. Sai Madhav Burra's dialogues and Vivek Sagar's music are set to be major highlights of the film. Made as a mythological rural drama, Vanara is all set for a New Year



special worldwide grand theatrical release on January 1. Today, the makers released the film's second single titled "Labore Labore". Music director Vivek Sagar has composed the song with an engaging and energetic beat. Bharadwaj Gali has penned apt lyrics that perfectly suit the situation. The song has been powerfully sung by Rahul Sipligunj and Sai Madhav. The lyrics narrate the valor and legend of Vanara, drawing inspiration from mythological elements, and the song stands out with its vibrant energy and catchy rhythm.