

TO WHOM SOEVER CONCERNED

Smt. Chakilam @ Nookala Sree Laxmi Pavani and Ms. Amrutha Varshini Nookala have applied for loan to the Canara Bank, Nayeem Nagar Branch by creating mortgage ever the schedule property which was gifted to them by Chakilam Rajeswari. They have represented that the original sale deed No. 1864/1972 which is link document to the schedule property was eaten away by the white ants and not available. If anybody having any objection to grant loan by accepting the schedule property as security, they may inform to the undersigned Bank within 7 days from the date of this publication. If no objection is received, the Bank will sanction the loan by accepting the schedule property towards the security.

SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY
All that the Open Plot No. 86, admeasuring 267 Sq. yards or 223.24 sq. mtrs forming part of Sy. No. 18/B, situated at laskkar singaram Hanamkonda, Bounded by: East: H.No. 2-12-33/5 of R. Vishwanath, West: H.No. 2-12-34 of Ch. Srinivas Reddy, North: Open Plot of others, South: 20'-0" Wide Road. Date : 29-12-2025

Manager, Canara Bank, Nayeem Nagar Branch

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is informed to the general public that my client, **Sri. Mohd. Zaheeruddin, S/o. Mohammed Mazheruddin & Mrs. Syed Rubia Farheen, W/o. Mohd. Zaheeruddin** who are the absolute owners of the below mentioned scheduled property, propose to create mortgage over the scheduled property and wants to avail loan from Banks/Financial Institutions, if any person/s has any objections/claim/interest/dispute over the said property, the same may be intimated to the undersigned within 7 days from the date of this publication, failing which no further claims/objections will be entertained and my client will proceed with the mortgage of the scheduled property in favour of Banks/Financial Institutions and will complete the transaction.

SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY
All that the Plot No. 20, admeasuring 300.0 Sq. yards, or 250.8 Sq.Mtrs., in Survey Nos. 20, 21, 22 & 33/Part, situated at Mehdi Garden, Shamshabad Village and Municipality, Shamshabad Mandal, Ranga Reddy District, covered by Ward and Block No. 6, and Bounded by: North: 33'-0 Ft Wide Road, South: Plot No. 36, East: Plot No. 21, West: Plot No. 19.

P. Santosh Kumar, Advocate
1-8-506/2/A/1,
Adnan Chambers,
Prakashnagar, Begumpet,
Secunderabad - 500016.
Cell : 09440067560

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby informed to the general public that my client by name **Kothidigi Anitha, W/o. K Raju Goud** has become the absolute owner and possessor of the property bearing Residential House H. No. 47/2 (part) Built up area RCC 175.00 Sq.ft.s admeasuring 568.00 sq.yards Situated at Peddapur Village & G.P. Tahasil Office Mandal, Mandal parished Sadasivpet District Sangareddy by virtue of a Registered Sale Deed vide Doct. No. 2730/2022 dated 17-03-2022 executed by Muthkani Anjaiah, if any persons or legal heirs of Muthkani Anjaiah having any claim or objection over the said property, they shall contact the undersigned in person within (7) days from the date of publication with all relevant documents in support of their claim, if no objections are not received within the stipulated period, it will be presumed that there are no claims or objections.

LAKKA CHANDRA SHEKAR ADVOCATE
Flat No. 203/A, 2nd Floor,
D.No. 6-3-850/9203/A,
Sirisha Plaza, Ameerpet,
Hyderabad-16.
PH- 9951931764

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby informed that my client **Smt. Gujja Tejasree, D/o. Sri. Gujja Ramesh, W/o. Sri. Singasani Satish Kumar**, in respect of the property of the Plot No. 140 in Survey Nos. 10 Part & 14, admeasuring 200 Sq. Yards or 167.2 Sq. Mtrs., situated at Aushapur Village and Gram Panchayat, Ghateskar Mandal, Medchal-Malkajgiri District, in the documents produced before me there are Certified copy of link Document, i.e., 1) Sale Deed bearing Document No. 1336/1987 dated 05.02.1987, Registered at SRO: Uppal, upon enquiry it has been informed that Original was lost and that the same not traceable. The General Public is hereby cautioned not to deal with the person/persons who are in illegal possession of the documents. If any person/persons entering into any transaction with respect to the above mentioned property basing on the lost document shall be doing so at their risk and such transactions shall not be honoured.

If anyone has any claim/interest/ dispute over the said property, the same may be reported to the undersigned within 7 days from the publication of the notice, failing which no further claim over the said property will be entertained and shall be deemed there is no Encumbrance pending against this Document.

Meredydas Narasimha Reddy (Advocate)
House No. 11-13-194/14,
Plot No. 5, Road No. 3,
Green Hills Colony, Kothapet,
Ranga Reddy District-034,
Phone No. 6301426732

www.thesouthindiatimes.com

Violation of rules will result in strict action: Goush Alam

Karimnagar, December 30, TSIT: To maintain law and order in Karimnagar Police Commissionerate in the wake of New Year celebrations and Police Commissioner Goush Alam said that security of the people is given utmost priority and strong security arrangements are being made.

In this regard, clear instructions were issued to all the officers of the Commissionerate. Special patrols, pickets and check-posts have been set up across the

district. Additional forces have been deployed in troubled and congested areas. Extensive checks are carried out with breathalysers to detect drunk drivers.

In case of drunk driving, the vehicle will be impounded, the driver will be taken to the hospital for medical examination and strict action will



be taken. Speeding, dangerous driving, and the police have kept a special vigil on the actions of three people traveling on bikes (triple riding). Those who misbehave with women and create quarrels in public places the civil and crime police were ordered to take immediate custody in the name of celebrations, a complete ban has been imposed on the use of DJ sound systems and the use of firecrackers in public places. Hotels, restaurants and bars to close strictly at the prescribed time,

he warned that action will be taken against the owners who violate the rules. "Celebrate the New Year celebrations with family members happily and responsibly. People are requested to cooperate fully with the police on duty not to act in a way that disturbs the law and order.

Union Minister Bandi Sanjay inquires into tiger migration in Karimnagar

Karimnagar, December 30 (TSIT): Union Minister of State Bandi Sanjay on Tuesday inquired about reports of a tiger roaming in several villages of Karimnagar Rural Mandal,

creating concern among local residents and farmers. Following the reports, the Union Minister spoke over the phone with Karimnagar District Forest Officer (DFO) Balamani and direct-

ed forest officials to take all necessary precautionary measures to ensure that farmers and villagers do not panic. He also advised people in rural areas to remain vigilant.

TUWJ Seeks Amendments to GO 252 on Journalist Accreditation

Hyderabad TSIT: The Telangana state Union of Working Journalists (TUWJ) has urged the State government to make certain amendments to Government Order (GO) 252, which

lays down new guidelines for the issuance of accreditation cards to journalists.

A delegation of TUWJ, led by its State President K. Virahath Ali, met State Revenue, Information & Public Relations, and Housing Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy at the Secretariat on Tuesday and submitted a memorandum detailing the union's concerns and suggestions.

Explaining the issue, Virahath Ali said the union had conducted an in-depth study of GO 252 following feedback from journalists across the State and found several gaps that need correction. He pointed out that in the past, desk journalists were not treated on par with reporters in the matter of accreditation cards. He demanded that under the revised GO, all welfare schemes extended to journalists including bus passes should be made



applicable uniformly to reporters and desk journalists without any discrimination.

The TUWJ also sought clarity on provisions related to cable television channels, stating that certain clauses in GO 252 were ambiguous and required clear definitions. For Greater Hyderabad and other major cities, the union proposed that accreditation cards should be issued based on recognised major datelines within a mandal, rather than restricting them to one journalist per mandal. The delegation further requested that accreditation cards be issued in districts to journalists working for small newspapers based on circulation norms. They cautioned the government against reducing the number of

accreditation cards allotted to major newspapers and satellite news channels.

The union also appealed for accreditation cards to be issued, based on office recommendations, to print and electronic media journalists working from Delhi, as well as to video journalists and camera persons.

Highlighting the special status of Urdu, the TUWJ said that since Urdu is an official language of the State, Urdu newspapers should not be compared with other languages purely on circulation and grading. Instead, areas where Urdu publications are circulated should be identified and a special category should be created to issue accreditation cards to Urdu journalists at district and mandal levels.

Minister Konda Surekha who had darshan through the north gate

WARANGAL, December 30, TSIT: Celebrating Mukkoti Vaikuntha Ekadashi on Tuesday at Sri Venkateswara Swamy Temple in Battala Bazaar, Warangal city State Devadaya Forest Environment Minister Konda Surekha visited the Swami through the north gate and performed special poojas. On this occasion, the priests who reached the temple welcomed the minister with Poorna Kumbha according to the temple tradition.



CM Revanth Offers Prayers at Tirupati on Vaikuntha Ekadashi

Hyderabad: Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy visited Tirupati along with his family on the auspicious occasion of Vaikuntha Ekadashi and offered prayers to Lord Venkateswara.

Chief Minister had darshan of the presiding deity at the Venkateswara Temple, where he participated in special rituals associated with Vaikuntha Ekadashi. He prayed for



the well-being of the people of Telangana and the continued progress and prosperity of the state.

Temple officials extended customary honours to the Chief Minister during his visit. The occasion witnessed the arrival of a large number of devotees from across the country, marking one of the most significant religious days in the Hindu calendar.

DCB Bank Limited,
Jyothi Majestic, Banjara Hills,
Hyderabad, Telangana 500 034

DCB BANK

DEMAND NOTICE
UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002

You the below mentioned borrower(s), co-borrower(s) have availed loan/s facility(ies) from **DCB Bank Limited** by mortgaging your immovable properties (securities). Consequent to your defaults your loans were classified as non-performing assets. **DCB Bank Limited** For the recovery of the outstanding dues, issued demand notice under Section 13(2) of The Securitization And Reconstruction Of Financial Assets And Enforcement Of Security Interest Act, 2002 (the Act), 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 service upon you. Details of the borrowers, co-borrowers, properties mortgaged, outstanding dues, demand notices sent under Section 13(2) and amount claimed there under are given as under:

Sr. No.	Name And Address Of The Borrower, Co-borrower/guarantor, Loan Account No., Loan Amount	Secured Property Address	1) Demand notice date 2) Outstanding dues 3) NPA Date
1	1. MIS. UMA MAHESHWARI SAW MILL AND TIMBER DEPOT THROUGH ITS PROPRIETOR MR. RAVINDRACHARY THADOUJI, 2. MR. RAVINDRACHARY THADOUJI, 3. MRS. UMA THADOUJI. All Address-At: SY NO.483 Jangoan X Road Suryapet, Telangana-508213 Loan Account Number- 22642600000082 Loan Amount Sanctioned: Rs.26,00,000/-	All Piece And Parcel Of Property Bearing House No.4-108 Admeasuring Area 295 Sq. Yards In Sy.No.483 Of Pillalamarri Revenue Village Situated At Grampanchayat Board Pillalamarri Suryapet Mandal Suryapet District Bounded By North- House Of China Appa Road And Beeravolu Sudarshan Reddy, South- Place Of Toudouju Upendra Chary, East- Place Of Toudouju Sheshaiah, West- 100 Ft Janagaon Road. (The Secured Assets)	1)01-12-2025 2)Rs.13,21,539.50/- (Rupees Thirteen Lakh Twenty One Thousand Five Hundred Thirty Nine and Fifty Paise Only) as on 01st December 2025 3)NPA Date - 06-05-2025

You the borrower/s or co-borrowers/guarantors are therefore called upon to make payment of the above mentioned demanded amount with further interest as mentioned hereinabove in full within 60 days of this notice failing which the undersigned shall be constrained to take action under the Act to enforce the above-mentioned securities. Your attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the act by virtue of which you are at liberty to redeem the secured asset within period stipulated in the aforesaid provision. Please note that as per section 13(13) of the said act, you are restrained from transferring the above-referred securities by way of sale, lease or otherwise without our consent.

Date: 31-12-2025
Place: Suryapet, Nalgonda

for DCB Bank Ltd, Authorized Officer

SHIRAM Finance

SHIRAM FINANCE LIMITED
Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Gundy, Chennai-600032
Administrative office: 6th Floor(level 2), Building No.Q2, Aurum Q parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Ghansoli, Navi Mumbai-400710, Brach at #12-02-18 To 20, 1st, S V N Road, Battala Bazar, Warangal-506002.

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE
Whereas, as the undersigned being the authorised officer M/s. Shiram Finance Limited, (Shiram City Union Finance Limited, amalgamated with Shiram Transport Finance Company Limited, subsequently Shiram Transport Company Limited name Changed as Shiram Finance Limited, by it's Incorporation Certificate dt.30-11-2022) a corporate body registered and incorporated as a company under the Indian companies Act 1956, is doing Non-Banking financial activities, having its Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Gundy, Chennai - 600 032 and having its administrative office at 6th Floor (level 2), Building No.Q2, Aurum Q Parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Ghansoli, Navi Mumbai-400710 and branch office at Warangal II (hereinafter referred as Company/ Lender), under the provisions of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (said Act) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (said Rules) issued demand notices to the Borrowers details of which are mentioned in the table below to repay the amount mentioned in the said demand notices. The Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said Rules, on this 29th day of December, 2025.

Borrower Name and Address	Amount due as per Demand Notice
1) Ravi Kumar Budde S/O Sammaiah, Age: 55 Years, Occ: Nilambeshwari Vegitable Commission Merchant, R/O.H.No.6-4/1, Arepally, Kothapet, Hanamkonda - 508 006. Cell: 98496300912, And Also At: Ravi Kumar Budde S/O Sammaiah, Age: 55 Years, Occ: Business, # Open Plot H.No.11-29-6, 242.00 Sq.Yards, 202.33 Sq.Mts, Sy.No.185/2, Deshapet Village, Ward Seven Hundred And Warangal Mandal, Warangal District., 2) Budde Nagendra Kumar S/O Ravi Kumar, Age: 30 Years, Occ: Vegetable Stand Five Hundred Business, R/O.H.No.6-4, Arepally, Kothapet, Hanamkonda - 508 006. Cell: 7780450308, 3) Allavula Raji Kumar S/O Jogulu, Age: 40 Years, Occ: Business, R/O.H.No.1-59, Arepally, Padipally, Hanamkonda - 508 006. Cell: 9949781775.	Rs.25,47,514/- (Twenty Five Lakhs Forty Seven Hundred and Fourteen Rupees Only)

Description of Property
WARN1TF2205130001- DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY: (Property holder Name is BUDDERAVI KUMAR Mortgage deed dated 17.05.2022 Registered as Document No.13315/2022 on the file of the office of Sub-Registrar at WARANGAL (R.O))
Open plot admeasuring nearest H.No.11-29-6 to an extent of 242.00 Sq.Yards equivalent to 202.33 Sq.Mts in and out of Sy.No.185/2 without any structures and not pertaining to any House in the said Plot situated at deshapet Revenue village and Warangal Mandal of Warangal District, within the limits of GWMW, Warangal, is bounded as follows: EAST: 80 Ft wide Road, WEST: Plot of Poorna Chander, NORTH: Plot of Rami Reddy, SOUTH: 20 Ft wide Road.

This notice is also hereby to caution the general public at large that the authorized officer of SFL is in the lawful Symbolic Possession of the immovable property mentioned herein above and the Borrowers or any person shall not after receipt of this notice transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise deal with/ alienate any of the above mentioned secured assets referred to in this notice, without prior written consent of SFL.

Place: Warangal
Date : 29-12-2025

Sd/-
Authorised Officer
Shriram Finance Limited

LIC HFL
LIC HOUSING FINANCE LTD
We look for your dream home

LIC HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED
Back Office, 201, 2 nd FLOOR, KRISHNA SAPPHIRE, MADHAPUR,
HITECH CITY MAIN ROAD, HYDERABAD 500081, Phone No. 040-4005 2223

DEMAND NOTICE
NOTICE ISSUED UNDER SEC 13 (2) OF "THE SECURITIZATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002.
Whereas at the request of you (below mentioned persons in Col. No.2) LIC Housing Finance Ltd., had granted the Housing Loan against the schedule property whose particulars are mentioned in Col. No. 3. As you have failed to discharge the debt due to LIC Housing Finance Ltd., your loan account has been classified as Non-performing Assets as per the guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India. As the some of the envelopes containing the Demand Notices sent to you by Registered Post calling upon you to discharge the debt, were returned unopened/ unacknowledged and hence we are issuing this notice through paper publication.
If you (below mentioned persons in Col. No.2) fail to repay the amount due mentioned in Col. No.4 with future interest and incidental expenses, costs as stated below in terms of this notice under Section 13(2) of SARFA & ESI Act, 2002 with in 60 days from the date of this notice, LIC Housing Finance Ltd., will exercise all or any of the rights detailed under Section 13(4) of SARFAESI Act and other applicable provisions. This notice is without prejudice to the LIC Housing Finance Limited right to initiate such other actions or legal proceedings, as it deem necessary under any other provisions of law.

S. No.	Name & Addresses of the borrowers	Properties under Mortgage	Outstanding amount due (in Rs.)
1	NARAYANAN (APPLICANT) H No. 8-10-29, Indra Nagar Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad - 500033 NARAYANAN Voice Gate Technologies I Pvt Ltd #10-3-298/2/B, Humayun Nagar, Hyderabad 500028. NARAYANAN L-78, T.N.B. Modasur Gachchepally, Erode Tamilnadu - 638001 NARAYANAN H No.6-296/C504, Flat No C-504 Silver Springs Apartment, Modibulders Quthbullapur, Hyderabad 500055 A/c No: 71030003743 DN Date : 09.12.2025	All that the Flat No.504, bearing G.H.M.C. No.6-296/C504 on the fifth floor in Block 'C' comprising 470 Square feet, of super built up area together with proportionate undivided share of land to the extent of 16.8 Square Yards and a reserved scooter parking space of 16.58 in Block 'C' forming part of the group of residential apartments collectively named as "SILVER SPRINGS" situated in Survey Nos. 12, 13 & 14 situated at Quthbullapur Village, Quthbullapur Mandal & Municipality, Ranga Reddy District, A.P., and bounded as under: NORTH : Open to Sky, SOUTH: Flat No.503, EAST: Open to Sk. WEST: By Corridor	Rs. 4,21,549.93 as detailed below as on 06/12/2025 + Interest + All other charges payable till the receipt of payment.
2	P KUMARASWAMY (APPLICANT) H NO.4-32-775/18, GRFL Alwyn Colony, Kukatapally, Hyderabad - 500072 P KUMARASWAMY SRI HARSHA CONSULTING ENGINEERS, Plot No 13, Vishnu Acharya Nivas, Hyderabad, Telangana - 500034 P KUMARASWAMY Plot No 20 Middle Part, Sy No 156, Cheeryala Village Keesara Mandal, MM District, Telangana 501301 A/c No : 7001220001734 DN Date: 09.12.2025	All that the Residential Independent House on Plot bearing H.NO. 8-202/G2 Flat No G2, Medhavi Apartment, Prasanna Nagar, Chintal, Hyderabad- 500054 BUDDALINGI NAGESH KRUSHI ELECTRICALS #5-104, Nagandole, Nagarkurnool 509209 BUDDALINGI NAGESH 401 4th Floor, Sujatha Residency, H No 8 -199/2, Nr Ramalayam Padma Nagar Colony 1, Extension Quthbullapur Hyderabad - 500054 A/c No: 7001040001204 DN Date: 09.12.2025	Rs. 50,61,182.89 as detailed below as on 06/12/2025 +Interest + All other charges payable till the receipt of payment.
3	BUDDALINGI NAGESH (APPLICANT) H.NO. 8-202/G2 Flat No G2, Medhavi Apartment, Prasanna Nagar, Chintal, Hyderabad- 500054 BUDDALINGI NAGESH KRUSHI ELECTRICALS #5-104, Nagandole, Nagarkurnool 509209 BUDDALINGI NAGESH 401 4th Floor, Sujatha Residency, H No 8 -199/2, Nr Ramalayam Padma Nagar Colony 1, Extension Quthbullapur Hyderabad - 500054 A/c No: 7001040001204 DN Date: 09.12.2025	All that the Flat No. 401, in Fourth Floor, with a plinth area of 1100.0 Sq.ft (Including Common area) & Car Parking area of 80.0 Sft., with an undivided share of land admeasuring 30.50 Sq.yards, (Out of 450.0 Sq.yards), the Building known as "SUJATHA RESIDENCY" on OPEN LAND in the dismantled premises House bearing No. 08-199/2 (PTN. 1150801572) on Plot No. 36/1 in Survey No. 08, situated at PADMA NAGAR COLONY (EXTENSION), QUTHBULLAPUR VILLAGE, Quthbullapur Mandal, Medchal-Malkajgiri District, under GHMC Limits, Telangana State., and bounded By: NORTH: OPEN TO SKY, SOUTH: CORRIDOR AND FLAT NO. 402, EAST: OPEN TO SKY, WEST: OPEN TO SKY.	Rs. 40,67,366.28 as detailed below as on 06/12/2025 + Interest + All other charges payable till the receipt of Payment.
4	MIRIYALA VIJAYA NIRMALA (APPLICANT) H No. 20-2-206/A, Ganesh Nagar, Uppal, Hyderabad 500039 Mob 8121135380 MIRIYALA VIJAYA NIRMALA Sree Harsha Consulting Engineering Pvt Ltd Plot No 13, 3rd Floor, Road No 3, Journalist Colony Banjara Hills, Hyderabad 500034 MIRIYALA VIJAYA NIRMALA Plot No 20 Middle Part, Cheeryala Village Keesara, MM Dist 501301. A/c No: 7001220001573 DN Date 16.12.2025	All that the Residential Independent House on Plot bearing H NO. 20 MIDDLE PART, admeasuring 125 Sqyds or 104.5 Sq.mts, with Built-up area 703 Sq. Feet, R.C.C., in Survey No.156, situated at CHEERYALA Village and Grampanchayat, Keesara Mandal, Medchal-Malkajgiri District, and bounded by: -NORTH : PLOT NO.20 NORTH PART, SOUTH : PLOT NO.20 MIDDLE PART, E A S T : NEIGHBOURS LAND, WEST : 30' WIDE ROAD	Rs. 49,41,029.71 as detailed below as on 16/12/2025 + Interest + All other charges payable till the receipt of Payment.

Date: 30.12.2025, Place: Hyderabad
Sd/- Authorised Officer, LIC Housing Finance Limited.

Telangana Irrigation Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy Rejects Harish Rao's Allegations

Hyderabad: Telangana Irrigation Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on Tuesday strongly refuted allegations made by former minister T. Harish Rao on irrigation issues, terming them a “continued tirade of lies” and misleading claims against the state government.

Responding to Harish Rao's charge that the Telangana government had failed to act against the proposed Polavaram-Banakacherla link project, Uttam Kumar Reddy asserted that the Congress government had taken decisive legal steps to safeguard Telangana's water interests. He pointed out that the state government has filed a writ petition in the Supreme Court of India chal-



lenging what it considers illegal diversion of Godavari waters by Andhra Pradesh.

“This is for the information of all that the writ petition filed by the Telangana government is WP No. 1258, and it is listed on

Monday, January 5, before the Chief Justice of India in Court No. 1 as Item No. 11,” the minister said, adding that the move clearly demonstrates the government's proactive approach, contrary to allegations of inaction.

The minister was responding to Harish Rao's claim that the Central Water Commission (CWC) had allegedly granted permission for diversion of 200 TMC of Godavari waters, which, he said, would severely affect Telangana.Rejecting the allegation, Uttam Kumar Reddy clarified that the Union Ministry of Jal Shakti has neither accorded permission for construction of the Polavaram-Banakacherla link project nor allowed the Andhra Pradesh government to prepare a Detailed Project Report (DPR). He said the ministry has categorically informed Andhra Pradesh that preparation of the DPR cannot proceed without in-principle approval.

Nirmal mandal surveyor in Telangana ACB's net over Rs 15K bribe

Hyderabad: The Telangana Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Tuesday, December 30, arrested a Mandal Surveyor from Nirmal district for allegedly demanding a Rs 15,000 bribe.According to the ACB officials, the accused officer, N Bala Krishna Varma, had demanded the bribe for demarcating land belonging to the complainant's father-in-law and handing over the Panchanama. The officer had previously accepted Rs 5,000 as part of the bribe and was caught accepting the remaining Rs 7,500 (reduced on the complainant's request) through his private assistant Pola Nagaraju, who was also arrested by the ACB.

FOR ADVERTISEMENT PLEASE CONTACT:

9948480279, 7330778889

Protium
(Formerly known as Growth Source Financial Technologies Ltd.)
Registered & Corporate Office Address: 7th Floor, Block B2, Phase - I Nirlon Knowledge Park, Patna Village, Off. Western Express Highway, Camas Industrial Estate, Goregaon(E), Mumbai - 400063, Maharashtra.

PROTIUM FINANCE LIMITED
(Formerly known as Growth Source Financial Technologies Ltd.)
PUBLIC NOTICE (Under Rule 3 (1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002) SUBSTITUTED SERVICE OF NOTICE U/s 13 (2) OF SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002.
Notice is hereby given to the Borrowers as mentioned below that since they have defaulted in repayment of the Credit facility availed by them from Protium Finance Limited (Formerly known as Growth Source Financial Technologies Ltd. and before that known as Growth Source Financial Technologies Pvt. Ltd.), their loan credit facility has been classified as Non-Performing Assets in the books of Protium Finance Limited. Thereafter, NBFC has issued demand notices to below mentioned respective borrower under section 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI Act) on the last known addresses of the said borrowers thereby calling upon and demanding from them to pay the amounts mentioned in the respective Demand Notice/s within 60 days from the date of the respective Notice/s, as per details given below together with further interest at the contractual rate on the below mentioned amount and incidental expenses, cost, charges etc. as stated in the said demand notices. However, the same is also being given in this publication as per Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (SARFAESI Rules).

S. N.	Loan Account No./ Name and address of Borrower and Co Borrower/s	Date of NPA	Demand Notice Date
1.	Loan Account No. AFL6822000006702, Borrower - Harshadhi Bottles Private Limited, Address:- Plot No. 8, 9 Near Nrl ch H No. 3/4/9, Narappally, Chan Gicherla, Ghatkesar, Medchal Malkajgiri, Secunderabad, Telangana 500015, Co-Borrower, 1. Ranga Kurakula, 2. Yathu Reddy, 3. Yadaiah Address:- (Ramesh Kurakula) Plot No. 22, Chengicherla, Ghatkesar, Mandla, Suseela Township, Medchal, Hyderabad, Rangareddy, Telangana 500028, K Narendar Kamat House H No. 1-9-92/B, Ram Nagar, Hyderabad, Telangana 500020 & Adecco India Private Limited, C/o Bay Area Bioscience Private Limited, Sy No. P 64/2, Software Layout, Hyderabad	03.10.2024	22.12.2025

DESCRIPTION OF THE SECURED ASSETS/MORTGAGED PROPERTIES:- All that the Flat No. 101, in the First Floor, bearing Municipal No. 35-26/7/101 (PTIN No. 1170907416), in the building known as 'S. S. Shyls Homes' with plinth area of 950 sq. ft. including common area along with undivided share of land measuring 41.5 sq. yds. (out of 332.00 sq. yds.) on Plot No. 108, in Survey No. 237, situated at Saphagiri Colony, under Malkajgiri GHMC Municipality and Mandal, Ranga Reddy District now Medchal Malkajgiri District, and bounded as follows: North: Open space, South: Staircase & Flat No. 103, East: Flat No. 102 and Corridor, West: Open space
We hereby call upon the borrower stated herein to pay us within 60 days from the date of this notice, the outstanding amount of more particularly stated in respective Demand Notices issued, together with further interest thereon plus cost, charges, expenses, etc. thereto falling which we shall be at liberty to Sale, proceed against the above Secured Asset(s)/Immovable Property (ies) under Section 13(4) of the said Act and the applicable Rules not limited to taking possession and selling the secured asset entirely at the risk of the said borrower(s)/co-borrower (s)/Legal Heir(s)/Legal Representative(s) at your own cost and consequences.
Please note that as per section 13(13) of the SARFAESI Act, all of you are prohibited from transferring by way of sale, lease or otherwise, the aforesaid secured assets without prior written consent of the Bank. Any contravention of the said section by you shall invoke the penal provisions as laid down under section 24 of the SARFAESI Act and / or any other legal provision in this regard.
We hereby call upon the borrower stated (8) of section 13 of the Act, if the dues of Protium Finance Limited (Formerly known as Growth Source Financial Technologies Ltd together with all costs, charges and expenses incurred by Protium Finance Limited (Formerly known as Growth Source Financial Technologies Ltd. and before that known as Growth Source Financial Technologies Pvt. Ltd.) to Protium Finance Limited (Formerly known as Growth Source Financial Technologies Ltd at any time before the date fixed for sale or transfer, the secured asset shall not be sold or transferred by Protium Finance Limited (Formerly known as Growth Source Financial Technologies Ltd and no further step shall be taken by Protium Finance Limited (Formerly known as Growth Source Financial Technologies Ltd for transfer or sale of that secured asset.
Date: 31.12.2025, Place: Telangana Sd/- For Protium Finance Limited, Authorised Officer

SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY
Follow us on @SCRailwaysIndia
Details of the Tender Notices of S.C. Railway can be seen on our website : www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

TENDER NOTICE No. CEE/P/SC-2x25KV-PSI-GDR-TPTY-2025-26-01 Date: 29.12.2025

For and on behalf of the President of the Union of India, Chief Electrical Engineer (Projects), Secunderabad invites (online) e-tender for the following works:

SI. No.: 1, Tender No.: 2x25-EPC-PSI-GDR-TPTY-08, dt. 27/12/2025., **Description of work:** "Design, supply, erection, testing and commissioning of Traction Sub-Station (TSSs), Sectioning Post (SPs) and Sub-sectioning and Paralleling Posts (SSPs) in 2x25kV AT system with SCOTT-Connected transformers in KAZIPET (KZJ) -DORNAKAL (DKJ) section of SECUNDERABAD DIVISION.", **Approx. Value:** Rs.103,09,00,000.00., **Earnest Money should be pay through online:** Rs.53,04,500.00, **Cost of Tender form in Rs:** Nil, **Completion period:** 24 Months (Twenty Four Months), **Place of tender opening:** Secunderabad.

Closing of Tender through e-tender (online): Time: 15.00 Hrs, **Date:** 05.03.2026, **Opening of Tender through e-tender (online):** Time: 16.00 Hrs, **Date:** 10.03.2026

If the date of opening of tender happens to be declared holiday at a later date, the tenders will be opened on the next working day at stipulated time.

For further tender conditions/ details and for submission of Tenders, please visit our website www.ireps.gov.in

Note: Any modification to the tender documents/corrigendum/ addendum if required will be posted on the above website.

Chief Electrical Engineer (Projects), Secunderabad

TENDER NOTICE No. CEE/P/SC-2x25KV-PSI-KZJ-DKJ-2025-26-01 Date: 29.12.2025

For and on behalf of the President of the Union of India, Chief Electrical Engineer (Projects), Secunderabad invites (online) e-tender for the following works:

SI. No.: 1, Tender No.: 2x25kV-EPC-PSI-KZJ-DKJ-07, dt. 27/12/2025., **Description of work:** "Design, supply, erection, testing and commissioning of Traction Sub-Station (TSSs), Sectioning Post (SPs) and Sub-sectioning and Paralleling Posts (SSPs) in 2x25kV AT system with SCOTT-Connected transformers in KAZIPET (KZJ) -DORNAKAL (DKJ) section of SECUNDERABAD DIVISION.", **Approx. Value:** Rs.111,09,00,000.00., **Earnest Money should be pay through online:** Rs.57,04,500.00, **Cost of Tender form in Rs:** Nil, **Completion period:** 24 Months (Twenty Four Months), **Place of tender opening:** Secunderabad.

Closing of Tender through e-tender (online): Time: 15.00 Hrs, **Date:** 27.02.2026, **Opening of Tender through e-tender (online):** Time: 16.00 Hrs, **Date:** 04.03.2026

If the date of opening of tender happens to be declared holiday at a later date, the tenders will be opened on the next working day at stipulated time.

For further tender conditions/ details and for submission of Tenders, please visit our website www.ireps.gov.in

Note: Any modification to the tender documents/corrigendum/ addendum if required will be posted on the above website.

Chief Electrical Engineer (Projects), Secunderabad

Tender Notice Inviting e-Tender Nos. Dy.CE-GS-BZA-09, 10, 11 & 12-2025-26, Dt.29.12.2025

Dy.Chief Engineer, Gati Shakti, South Central Railway, Vijayawada invites e-tender on behalf of the President of India for the following works in Open tender/Single Packet/Two packet system of tendering:

SI. No. 1, Tender No. and date: Dy.CE-GS-BZA-09-2025-26, dt.25.12.2025, **Description of the work:** Name of work:- Vijayawada Division-Conducting feasibility, Study Investigation, Detailed Survey with Total Station/GDPS, marking of approved alignment, Soil Investigation, Design and submission of DPR for Construction of ROB in lieu of Replacement of existing KL Rao - 6B at Km 569/31-33 ROB between KI-BZA, BZAVSKP & BZA-GDV sections., **Tender value (₹):** 41,97,395.60, **E.M.D. (₹):** 84,000.00, **Completion Period:** 03 Months, **Cost of Tender form (₹):** Nil, **Date of Closing & time:** 19.01.2026@15.00Hrs

SI. No. 2, Tender No. and date: Dy.CE-GS-BZA-10-2025-26, dt.25.12.2025, **Description of the work:** Name of work : BZA Division ABSS - Proposed Construction of NS Station Left

over works of Cable trench, Watering arrangements and PF Surface, COP Shelter, PF Extension, Existing Old Station Building Dismantling, Track Extension works, Construction of parcel Office and Portico, Circulating area and Roads, GLR, Water Tank and Pump house, Modular Toilets., **Tender value (₹):** 14,05,50,688.39, **E.M.D. (₹):** 8,52,800.00, **Completion Period:** 18 Months, **Cost of Tender form (₹):** Nil, **Date of Closing & time:** 19.01.2026@15.00Hrs

SI. No. 3, Tender No. and date: Dy.CE-GS-BZA-11-2025-26, dt.25.12.2025, **Description of the work:** Name of Work: BZA - Division: Kovvuru Station - Improvements to Platform shelters on PF No.1, 2&3 and PF Flooring at KVR Station, **Tender value (₹):** 9,64,58,503.37, **E.M.D. (₹):** 6,32,300.00, **Completion Period:** 12 Months, **Cost of Tender form (₹):** Nil, **Date of Closing & time:** 19.01.2026@15.00Hrs

SI. No. 4, Tender No. and date: Dy.CE-GS-BZA-12-2025-26, dt.29.12.2025, **Description of the work:** Name of Work: BZA - Division: Kovvur Station - SW-1:- Proposed Construction of New station building and Proposal for developments of Circulating area at KVR Station, SW-2 :- Proposed Construction of Tensile Roof Sheet /RCC Retaining wall , Extension of RCC Box bridge , Granite Flooring work at KVR station, **Tender value (₹):** 6,68,87,326.27, **E.M.D. (₹):** 4,84,400.00, **Completion Period:** 12 Months, **Cost of Tender form (₹):** Nil, **Date of Closing & time:** 21.01.2026@15.00Hrs

1. For bid document and other details, please login to website <https://ireps.gov.in>.

2. Tenderers can submit their offers online during tender Submission/ Bidding period which is fifteen days period prior to closing of Tender.

3. Tenderers should watch for any corrigenda (issued online only) up to the date of commencement of the Tender Submission/Bidding period.

Deputy Chief Engineer, Gati Shakti, Vijayawada

Open e-Tender Notice No. B/E.EGS/17/2025-26 Dt. 30.12.2025

For and on behalf of the President of India, the undersigned invites e-Tender for the following works up to 15-00 hours on the date mentioned below:

SI. No. 1, Tender Number and Date: B/E. 29/11/EGS/29/25-26 Dt.26.12.2025, **Name of work:** BZA-VSKP SECTION:- 1) RVD development of goods shed at RVD station in ADEN/ SLO sub division under DEN/ North/BZA jurisdiction; 2)Bhimavaram Jn:- Development of Goods shed at BVRM station in SSEE/WBVRM section; 3) NZD:- Development of Goods shed at NZD station in ADEN/ EE sub Division under DEN/C/BZA jurisdiction; 4) BZA-GDR section : CLX:- Development of Goods shed at CLX station in ADEN/ BPP sub Division under DEN/C/BZA jurisdiction; 5)MANUBOLU:- Development of Goods shed at MBL station in SSEE/WGDR section; 6) SDM:- Development of Goods shed at SDM station in SSEE/WOGL section-Electrical arrangements., **Period of completion:** 12 months., **Tender value (₹):** 7,52,04,615.14, **E.M.D./ Bid Security (₹):** 5,26,000.00, **Cost of Tender document:** Nil, **Date of closing:** 19.01.2026

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

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

3) The Tender Notice is also displayed in the Notice Board located in the office of Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer, Maintenance, S. C. Railway, Vijayawada, which can be seen.

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

Divisional Railway Manager A2131 (Electrical), Vijayawada.

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

Telangana: Drug cases up by over 30 pc during 2025

Hyderabad, Dec 30 : Drug cases in Telangana increased by 30.36 per cent during 2025, though the overall crime rate in the state dipped by 2.33 per cent.

A total of 2,542 cases under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act were registered during 2025. The state had reported 1,950 cases during the pre-

vious year.Elite Action Group for Drug Law Enforcement (EAGLE), the new name given in June to the Telangana Anti-Narcotic Bureau, seized drugs worth Rs 172.93 crores during 2025.Director General of Police B. Shivadhar Reddy on Tuesday released the annual report of Telangana police.The police chief revealed that 20 foreign nationals

were arrested in NDPS cases. A total of 76 foreign nationals were deported during the year.EAGLE Force conducted major inter-state operations in Goa, Delhi, Maharashtra, Ranchi and other states. Joint operations with NCB and Delhi Police busted Nigerian drug cartels, froze 107 bank accounts and dismantled nationwide networks.

MUDHIRAJ SARPANCH FELICITATION PROGRAMME LAUNCHED



Hyderabad: The Mudhiraj Sarpanch Felicitation Programme commenced at Ravindra Bharathi on Tuesday, marking the celebration of Mudhiraj community representatives elected in the recent Panchayat elections across Telangana. The programme was formally inaugurated with the unfurling of the party flag by State Minister Vakhti Srihari. Addressing the gathering, the minister congratulated the newly elected sarpanches and underscored the importance of grassroots leadership in strengthening rural governance and inclusive development.

The event was attended by Telangana Legislative Council Deputy Chairman Banda Prakash, Mudhiraj Corporation Chairman Borra Gnaneshwar, former MLC Kasani Gnaneshwar, along with senior Mudiraj community leaders from across the state.During the programme, sarpanches who secured victories in Panchayat elections statewide will be felicitated in recognition of their public service and leadership at the village level.

NIMS Employees Express Gratitude to Minister Damodar Raja narasimha for Issuing GO 230

Hyderabad:Employees of the Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences (NIMS) on Tuesday expressed happiness and gratitude to State Medical and Health Minister Damodar Raja narasimha following the issuance of Government Order No. 230, which allows earned leave encashment for NIMS employees.



NIMS employees met the minister at the Aarogyasri Health Care Trust office and felicitated him by presenting a bouquet, thanking him for fulfilling a long-pending demand of the staff.

Until now, regular NIMS employees drawing AIIMS pay scales did not have the provision to encash earned leave. Recently, representatives of the hospital nursing association and employee unions brought the issue to the minister's notice. Responding positively, Minister Damodar Raja narasimha held discussions with officials and directed them to take necessary action.

Telangana Police Registers Notable Achievements Across Sectors in 2025



Hyderabad : Telangana Police recorded significant achievements during the year 2025 in maintaining law and order, reducing crime, strengthening disaster response, enhancing training infrastructure and extending welfare measures to personnel, according to the annual performance review.

Law and order remained stable throughout the year with effective control over violent crimes, Maoist activities, communal disturbances and extremist threats. All major religious festivals and public events were conducted peacefully with elaborate bandobust arrangements. The police also ensured incident-free security for major national and international events, including Miss World 2025, the Global Summit “Telangana Rising 2047” and an international exhibition football match in Hyderabad. In the area of training

and capacity building, the Greyhounds Regional Training Centre trained 1,213 police personnel, including officers from Telangana and other states. Advanced training programmes, refresher courses and infrastructure upgrades were undertaken to enhance operational readiness.

Disaster response capabilities were strengthened under the Telangana Special Police (TGSP) with the raising of 12 State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) companies comprising 1,200 trained personnel. SDRF teams carried out large-scale rescue and evacuation operations during floods, drowning incidents and industrial accidents across the state.Crime statistics showed a positive trend, with overall crime reducing by 2.33 per cent and IPC cases declining by 1.45 per cent compared to the previous year. Cybercrime reduced by 3 per cent, while financial

losses due to cyber fraud dropped by 21 per cent. Telangana continued to rank first in the country in recovery of stolen mobile phones through the CEIR portal.

The police secured strong convictions in crimes against women, children and SC/ST cases, including several life imprisonment sentences. Over 7.22 lakh cases were disposed of through National and Special Lok Adalats during the year.

Police welfare remained a priority, with 20.10 crore sanctioned to 2,010 beneficiaries under various schemes. Under the Bhadratha and Arogya Bhadratha medical schemes, more than 20,800 beneficiaries received treatment through empanelled hospitals. With strong public service delivery, effective crime control and national recognition, 2025 emerged as a landmark year for the Telangana Police.

ICICI Home Finance Corporate Office: ICICI ICICI Home Finance Company Limited ICICI HFC Tower, Andheri - Kurla Road, Andheri (East), Mumbai - 400059, India
Branch Office: Ground floor, Usha Kiran Complex, S.D.Road, Secunderabad- 500003
Branch Office: 2nd Floor, Plot No.141, VDO Colony, Gattaiach Cheru, Khammam- 507001.

[See proviso to rule 8(6)] Notice for sale of immovable assets

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 Possession(s) which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of ICICI Home Finance Company Ltd., will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is", as per the brief particulars given hereunder:

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s)/ Co Borrowers/ Legal Heirs. Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured Asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Reserve Price	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of Auction	One Day Before Auction Date	SARFAESI Stage
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)	(I)
1.	Nayan Chandra Nayak (Borrower) Sunanda Nayak (Co-Borrower) Loan No. LHSEC00001518062 LHSEC00001518191	House Bearing No. 6- 2-573/A Old, 6-2-573/A/1 Vide Ptn No. 1180611020, At New Bhaiguda Slum, Secunderabad Hyderabad Telangana 500003	Rs. 25,37,588.00/- December 22, 2025	Rs. 25,37,588/- December 22, 2025	January 09, 2026 11:00 AM - 03:00 PM	January 15, 2026 02:00 PM - 05:00 PM	January 15, 2026 05:00 PM	Symbolic Possession
2.	Bachali Nagaiah (Borrower) Bashaboyina Sridevi (Co-Borrower) Loan No. LKHKA00001547696	H No 1-155/13E, Janglignonda Village Mahabubabad (Co-Borrower) Lan No. Mandal, Khammam, LKHKA00001547696	Rs. 17,80,272.12/- December 27, 2025	Rs. 33,80,580/- December 27, 2025	January 27, 2026 11:00 AM - 03:00 PM	February 03, 2026 02:00 PM - 05:00 PM	February 03, 2026 05:00 PM	Symbolic Possession Before

The online auction will be conducted on website (URL Link-<https://BidDeal.in>) of our auction agency Value Trust Capital Services Private Limited. The Mortgagors/ notice are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest till January 15, 2026, February 02, 2026 before 05:00 PM else these secured assets will be sold as per above schedule.

The Prospective Bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) RTGS/ Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) of ICICI Home Finance Company Limited Branch Office Address Mentioned on top of the article on or before January 15, 2026, February 02, 2026 before 04:00 PM. The Prospective Bidder(s) must also submit signed copy of Registration Form & Bid Terms and Conditions form at ICICI Home Finance Company Limited Branch Office Address Mentioned on top of the article on or before January 15, 2026, February 02, 2026 before 05:00 PM. Earnest Money Deposit Demand Draft (DD) should be from a Nationalized/Scheduled Bank in favor of "ICICI Home Finance Company Ltd.- Auction" payable at the branch office address mentioned on top of the article.

For any further clarifications with regards to inspection, terms and conditions of the auction or submission of documents kindly contact ICICI Home Finance Company Limited on 9920807300.

The Authorized Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any further reasons. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please visit <https://www.icicifhc.com/>

Date: December 31, 2025
Place: Hyderabad, Khammam

Authorized Officer, "ICICI Home Finance Company Limited",
CIN Number: U65922MH1999PLC120106

DCB Bank Limited,
Jyothi Majestic, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad, Telangana 500 034

DCB BANK

DEMAND NOTICE
UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002

You the below mentioned borrower(s), co-borrower(s) have availed loan(s)/facility(ies) from **DCB Bank Limited** by mortgaging your immovable properties (securities). Consequent to your defaults your loans were classified as non-performing assets. **DCB Bank Limited** For the recovery of the outstanding dues, issued demand notice under Section 13(2) of The Securitization And Reconstruction Of Financial Asset And Enforcement Of Security Interest Act, 2002 (the Act), 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 and by way of service upon you. Details of the borrowers, co-borrowers, properties mortgaged, outstanding dues, demand notice sent under Section 13(2) and amount claimed there under are given as under:

Sr. No.	Name And Address Of The Borrower, Co-borrower/guarantor, Loan Account No., Loan Amount	Secured Property Address	1) Demand notice date 2) Outstanding dues 3) NPA Date
1	1. MR. MAHESH KUMAR GOEL, 2.MRS. RADHAKRISHNA TRADERS IT'S AUTHORIZED SIGNATORY, 3. MRS. HANSA DEVI GOEL. All Address At:- 1-2-597/6 Prasanna Nilayam Barfi Bagh Colony Domalguda Hyderabad- 500029 Loan Account Number:- DRHLBAJ00556859/DRBLBAJ00556874 Loan Amount Sanctioned:- Rs.1,50,00,000/-	All That The Part And Parcel Open Land Measuring 242.0 Sq. Yards Or 202.31 Sq.Mtrs.In Survey No.471/A, Situated At Bachupally Village, Quthbullapur Mandal, Ranga Reddy District, Telangana State And Bounded As Follows: North- Land Of K. Jeethaiah. South- 12-0' Wide Road. East- Land Belongs To K.Bhupal. West- 12' Wide Road. (The Secured Assets)	1)01-12-2025 2)Rs.1,48,49,540/- (Rupees One Crore Forty Eight Lakh Forty Nine Thousand Five Hundred Forty Nine Rupees Only) as on 01st December 2025 3) NPA Date -02-09-2025
2	1. MR. SADURLA SRIVANI, 2.MRS. DHARMIK ENTERPRISES IT'S AUTHORIZED SIGNATORY, 3. MRS. SAADURA SURESH. All Address At:- Premises No.06, In Survey No.4, Situated At Press Colony, Mansoorabad, Village, Saroomagar Mandal, R.R. Dist. Hyderabad- 500068 Loan Account Number:- DRHLBAJ00490894/DRBLBAJ00490899/DRBLBAJ00518001 Loan Amount Sanctioned:- Rs.27,00,000/-	All That Premises Bearing House No.3-7-200/59 (Consist Of Ground Floor Of 600 Sq. Ft. With R.C.C Roof) On Plot No.108 Measuring 78 Sq. Yards In Survey No.4, Situated At Press Colony Mansoorabad Village, Saroomagar Mandal Rangareddy District Within The Limits Of L.B. Nagar Circle Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation Registration Sub District Saroomagar Bounded By: North- House Of Mallikarjun, South- House Of Padma, East- Southern Park, West- Road. (The Secured Assets)	1)29-11-2025 2)Rs.23,14,444.55/- (Rupees Twenty Three Lakh Fourteen Thousand Four Hundred Forty Four And Fifty Five Paise Only) as on 29th November 2025 3) NPA Date -02-11-2025
3	1. MR. VAIKOLI KAMLESH RAO, 2.MRS. SHAIK RAZIYA, 3. MRS. VAIKOLI RAJABAI. All Address At:- HNO -7223 Sy No 327/A Phase 2 Sana Estate Chitkul Muthangi Patancheru Hyderabad- 502307 Loan Account Number:- DRHLSEC00520922 Loan Amount Sanctioned:- Rs.30,00,000/-	All That The Independent House Bearing No.7-223, Constructed On Plot Bearing No.108 Part In An Approved Layout "Ramaneyana Enclave Phase-I" Measuring An Area Of 200 Sq. Yards Or 167.2 Sq. Meters, With A Plinth Area Of 998 Sq. Feet, Ground Floor Only, Roof Covered With Rcc, Situated In Sy. Nos.327/A & 327/Aa, Located At Chitkul Village, Patancheru Mandal, Sangareddy District, Telangana State, Registration Sub-District Sangareddy, Registration District Sangareddy And Bounded By: North: Part Of Plot No. 109, South: Part Of Plot No. 108, East: Plot No. 104, West: 25 Wide Road. (The Secured Assets)	1)29-11-2025 2)Rs.31,19,761/- (Rupees Thirty One Lakh Nineteen Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty One Only) as on 29th November 2025 3) NPA Date -02-11-2025
4	1. MR. SB DASTAGIRI, 2. MRS. SHAIK RAZIYA, All Address At:- Plot No.24 Chilaika Nagar Boduppal Hyderabad Telangana - 500039 Loan Account Number:- DRHLBAJ00537803 Loan Amount Sanctioned:- Rs.28,00,000/-	All That The Piece And Parcel Of Plot No.24 Northern Part, In Survey No.40, Admeasuring 50 Sq.Yds. Or 41.8 Sq. Mtrs. Situated At Block No.22, Chikanagar, Uppal Kalan, Under G.H.M.C., Uppal Circle, Uppal Mandal, Medchal-Malkajgiri District., And Bounded By: North - 20'wide Road, South - Plot No.24 Middle Part, East - Plot No.25, West - 25' Wide Road. (The Secured Assets)	1)29-11-2025 2)Rs.29,60,427/- (Rupees Twenty Nine Lakh Sixty Thousand Four Hundred Twenty Seven Only) as on 29th November 2025 3) NPA Date -02-11-2025

You the borrower(s) or co-borrowers/guarantors are therefore called upon to make payment of the above mentioned demanded amount with further interest as mentioned hereinabove in full within 60 days of this notice failing which the undersigned shall be constrained to take action under the Act to enforce the above-mentioned securities. Your attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the act by virtue

South Central Railway urges people not to fly kites near railway traction lines

Hyderabad, Dec 30 : South Central Railway has appealed to people to avoid flying kites near railway traction lines during the upcoming Sankranti festival.

The South Central Railway (SCR) observed with serious concern that several incidents of electrocution have occurred due to kite flying in the vicinity of railway premises, including yards, tracks and nearby civil localities.

During the previous Sankranti festival sea-



son, multiple cases were reported across various zones of Indian Railways, wherein individuals suffered severe electric shocks

or fatal injuries after coming into contact with kite threads entangled with 25 kV Overhead Electric Traction (OHE)

lines. "Use of Chinese-imported kite threads, which are often metallic or chemically treated and act as conductors of electricity. When such threads come in contact with live overhead traction equipment, they pose a grave threat not only to human life but also to critical railway electrical infrastructure, potentially leading to service disruptions and safety hazards for passengers and Railway staff," the SCR said in a statement.

Speed Up Development Works, Voter List Preparation: Collector Kumar Deepak.



Mancherla: District Collector Kumar Deepak has directed officials to expedite ongoing development works across the district. On Tuesday, the Collector visited the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya at Nennel mandal and inspected the construction of additional classrooms. He said the government's objective is to provide essential infrastructure facilities such as drinking water, electricity, toilets, kitchen facilities and compound walls for students. He emphasised the need to ensure quality education along with maintaining hygiene and providing nutritious food under the mid-day meal scheme. Later, in his capacity as District Election Officer, the Collector held a review meeting at the Collectorate office in Naspur with Municipal Commissioners, Town Planning Officers and other officials. He instructed them to speed up the preparation of voter lists ward-wise within municipal limits. The Collector directed officials to submit proposals to ensure that no polling station has more than 800 voters. He also instructed that works related to roads, drainage and drinking water supply in urban areas should be completed within the stipulated time.

Temporary relaxation in liquor sale timings for New Year

Mancherla, Dec 29, TSIT: The Telangana government has announced a temporary relaxation in restrictions on liquor sale and service timings in view of New Year celebrations. Prohibition and Excise Commissioner C. Hari Kiran issued orders to this effect on Tuesday. As per the orders, bars holding 2B licences, in-



house licence holders (C1 and TD1), and venues operating under event permits (EP1) issued by the Telangana State Tourism Development Corporation (TSTDTC) will be allowed to serve liquor up to 1 a.m. on the night of December 31. In addition, retail liquor outlets holding E4 licences have been granted special permission to

remain open until midnight on December 31. Officials clarified that the relaxation would be applicable only for the New Year period and would not alter existing regulations. The Commissioner directed Prohibition and Excise officials in all districts to take necessary steps to ensure effective implementation of the orders.

Indian Railways completes electrification of Sakleshpur-Subramanya Road ghat section

New Delhi: Indian Railways has achieved a major engineering milestone with the completion of electrification of the Sakleshpur-Subramanya Road Ghat Section, one of the most difficult and technically challenging terrains on its network. The milestone was marked by the successful electric locomotive trial conducted on December 28, 2025, making the section fully ready for electric train operations.

With the electrification of this ghat stretch, the entire Bengaluru-Mangaluru rail route is now fully electrified. This is expected to significantly improve rail connectivity, operational efficiency and environmental sustainability in the region. The project will also enable the operation of Vande Bharat and other fast electric trains, providing faster, cleaner and more reli-

able travel to the coastal belt.

The electrified ghat section spans 55 km between Sakleshpur and Subramanya Road and passes through extremely complex terrain. The stretch has no approach road to the railway track and features a steep ruling gradient of 1 in 50, along with 57 tunnels, 226 bridges and 108 sharp curves. The area is also highly prone to landslides, particularly during the monsoon, making electrification a formidable challenge.

The electrification work began in December 2023 and included the construction of five switching stations and complete overhead equipment installation. To ensure safety and reliability, the maximum distance between traction poles was restricted to 67.5 metres. Tunnel electrification required special measures, with



427 main brackets and 427 spare brackets installed across 57 tunnels. Detailed geological studies were conducted with the support of the National Institute of Rock Mechanics and Bangalore University, and pull-out tests were

carried out at every bracket location to ensure anchoring strength.

Work on the steep gradients required specialised equipment and careful planning. The project faced frequent disruptions due to heavy rainfall, landslides, soil erosion and rockfalls, while materials had to be transported by rail to reach remote and inaccessible locations. Strict safety protocols were followed to ensure uninterrupted train operations throughout the construction period.

With electrification now complete, the section will see reduced fuel consumption, lower emissions and more efficient train operations. It will also strengthen economic and commercial linkages between Bengaluru and the port city of Mangaluru, as well as other coastal commercial centres,

facilitating smoother passenger and business travel.

Highlighting the significance of the achievement, Union Minister for Railways, Information and Broadcasting, and Electronics and Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnaw said that Vande Bharat trains would now be able to operate on this route up to Mangaluru.

Indian Railways has already electrified more than 99 per cent of its broad-gauge network. Since 2014, over 46,900 route kilometres have been electrified, compared to 21,801 route kilometres in the nearly six decades prior. Once the remaining small sections are completed, India will have one of the largest fully electrified railway networks in the world, reinforcing Indian Railways' commitment to clean energy and sustainable transportation.

Sudheer Babu Assumes Charge as Commissioner of Future City Police Commissionerate



RANGAREDDY (TSIT) Sudheer Babu on Tuesday evening assumed charge as the newly appointed Commissioner of the Future City Police Commissionerate on Tuesday. He noted that the State recently hosted a Global Summit to showcase its development to the world. As part of the State's development initiatives, four new police commissionerates have been estab-

lished, and under this process, he has been entrusted with the responsibility of leading the Future City Police Commissionerate. He assured that the police department would discharge its duties responsibly in line with the State's development goals. Emphasizing coordinated functioning, he said all departments would work in close cooperation. He informed that 22 police stations fall under the jurisdiction of the Future City Police Commissionerate and stated that he would work efficiently with officers of all these police stations through strong teamwork. Sudheer Babu expressed his gratitude to the State Government for giving him the opportunity to serve as the Commissioner of the Future City Police Commissionerate.

Actress Nidhhi Agerwal inaugurates Ekadhi Silver Jewellery store in Narasaraopet

NARASARAOPET: Actress Nidhhi Agerwal on Tuesday inaugurated the Ekadhi Silver Jewellery store in Narasaraopet along with local MLA Chadalavada Aravind Babu. Ekadhi directors Venu Rachakonda and Shiva Charan, franchisee owners Srinivasa Rao, Ranga Krishnamurthy and Chandra were also present on the occasion.

Ekadhi Silver Jewellery is known for its fine craftsmanship, purity and elegant detailing. The brand offers an extensive range of silver jewellery collections featuring traditional, antique and contemporary designs suitable for weddings, festive occasions and everyday wear. During the launch, Nidhhi Agerwal expressed her appreciation for the stylish and diverse collections that blend heritage with modern fashion sensibilities.

Speaking at the event, the actress said she was delighted to visit Narasaraopet and inaugurate Ekadhi's sixth store. She congratulated the team and said the brand's silver jewellery



stands out for its luxurious, gold-like finish while perfectly balancing tradition and modern design, making Ekadhi a one-stop destination for silver jewellery lovers.

Addressing the gathering, MLA Chadalavada Aravind Babu said the expansion of Ekadhi Silver Jewellery into towns like Narasaraopet was commendable. He noted that customers no longer need to travel to larger cities to buy premium silver jewellery, as the brand has made high-quality ornaments accessible locally while also generating employment.

Highlighting the inaugural celebrations, director Venu Rachakonda announced

special launch offers, including jewellery worth Rs 50,000 free on purchases of Rs 1 lakh, a gold coin on purchases of Rs 10,000 and above, and a spin-and-win offer for shoppers spending Rs 5,000. He added that exclusive Sankranti festival deals would be available for a limited period.

Director Shiva Charan said Ekadhi is one of India's fastest-growing luxury silver jewellery brands and expressed pride in opening the sixth showroom in Narasaraopet. The launch witnessed a large turnout of customers, fans and jewellery enthusiasts, marking another milestone in Ekadhi Silver Jewellery's expansion across South India.

Google speaker session held at GITAM University, Hyderabad



HYDERABAD (TSIT): GITAM Deemed to be University, Hyderabad, hosted an invited talk titled "Google Speaker Session: List, Map, and the O(1) Magic!" on December 30, 2025. The session was organised by the Google Developer Group on Campus (GDGC), GITAM. The event featured Rohit Kirtankar, ADS Solutions Engineer at Google, Hyderabad, as the keynote speaker. He shared valuable insights into performance-driven engineering, with a focus on time and space complexity, the importance of collections, and the efficient use of data structures such as Lists, Maps and Sets to achieve optimal performance. Emphasising Big-O

notation, the speaker highlighted the need for strong fundamentals in data structures to build scalable applications and succeed in technical interviews. He also shared practical interview strategies, advising students to begin with brute-force solutions, progressively optimise them, and clearly explain their thought process.

The session concluded with guidance on interview preparation, effective use of coding practice platforms, and learning from failures. Aashwika Khurana, President of GDGC, introduced the speaker and coordinated the event with the support of the GDGC team.

Divine Vaikunta Ekadashi celebrations held at Hare Krishna Golden Temple

Hyderabad: The Hare Krishna Golden Temple at Banjara Hills witnessed a spiritually uplifting atmosphere as Vaikunta Ekadashi was celebrated with devotion and grandeur on December 30, 2025. The auspicious occasion marks the transcendental event when Lord Sri Vishnu welcomed His dear devotee Sri Nammalwar into Vaikunta, a significant milestone in the Sri Vaishnava tradition.

On this holy day, the temple opened its doors in the early hours, allowing thousands of devotees to experience the rare and sacred Vaikunta Dwara Darshan. The celebrations began at 5.15 a.m. with the ceremonial Vaikunta Dwara Pratishtha, after which devotees entered through the Uttara Dwara (North Gate), traditionally believed to bestow liberation and divine blessings.

The first Vaikunta Dwara darshan was offered to Vishwaguru



Srila Prabhupada, followed by darshan of Swayambhu Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy and Sri Radha Govinda, adorned in a special Lakshmi Narayana Alankara. A special attraction was the beautifully crafted form of "Sri Srinivasa Govinda" installed at the Uttara Dwara, symbolising the Lord welcoming devotees into Vaikunta.

Throughout the day, the temple resonated with bhajans, Harinama Sankirtana and devotional chanting. Addressing the gathering, Sri Satya Gaura Chandra Dasa Prabhuji, President of the Hare

Krishna Movement, Hyderabad, highlighted the spiritual significance of Vaikunta Ekadashi and the Lord's boundless love for His devotees.

The festivities concluded in the evening with a grand Maha Arati and Shayana Arati to Sri Radha Govinda and Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy. Sumptuous prasadam was served throughout the day, with meticulous arrangements made for smooth darshan and devotee convenience. Devotees from all walks of life participated wholeheartedly, seeking divine blessings on the auspicious occasion.

TPUS New Year calendar released at Medchal Malkajgiri

Medchal Malkajgiri, Dec 30 (TSIT): The Telangana Padmashali Udyogula Sangham (TPUS) New Year calendar was released on Tuesday at the Sri Venkateshwara Swamy Temple premises in Uddemmarri village of Muduchinthalapalli mandal, Medchal district. The calendar was released by TPUS State President Eaga Venkateshwarlu along with the Chairman of the Sri Venkateshwara Swamy Temple. The event was held in a devotional atmosphere



at the temple. TPUS State General Secretary Tiramdas Yadagiri, State Organisational Secretary

Shiramdas Yadagirender, Joint Secretaries Kadaveru Lakshmiapathi and Devulapalli Sairaj, and other state executive members were present on the occasion. Hyderabad District President Punna Srinivasulu, District General Secretary Chiluca Madhu, Warangal District General Secretary Gurrappu Rajamouli, Treasurer Burra Thirupataiah, and several other office-bearers and members also attended the programme.

INDIA'S FIRST AI-BASED DIGITAL CARE PLATFORM FOR JOINT REPLACEMENT

Landmark Hospitals, Hyderabad, under the leadership of Dr. K. Sudhir Reddy, Senior Joint Replacement & Orthopaedic Surgeon, proudly introduces MyMobility, an Artificial Intelligence (AI)-enabled digital care platform for Total Knee, Hip, and Shoulder Joint Replacement patients — launched for the first time in India. Developed by Zimmer Biomet International and widely used across the United States and Europe, MyMobility has now



been implemented in India at Landmark Hospitals by Dr. K. Sudhir Reddy and his expert orthopaedic team, bringing global standards of digital and robotic joint care to Indian patients.

What MyMobility Offers End-to-end digital care from pre-surgery to full recovery

AI-based monitoring and prediction of patient recovery Early identification of patients needing additional support Reduced hospital visits with accurate home-based assessments Improved outcomes through global and regional data comparison This advanced platform integrates seamlessly with robotic joint replacement technology, enabling safer surgeries, faster recovery, and consistently better results.

EDITORIAL

How A Pak-Friendly BNP Is Now In Pole Position In Bangladesh

The baton has passed. Bangladesh's first woman Prime Minister, Begum Khaleda Zia, breathed her last this morning in Dhaka. Her legacy includes keeping the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) firmly together, even strengthening it, after the death of her husband, President Ziaur Rahman. She will be remembered for joining hands with Sheikh Hasina in bringing a peaceful end to President Hussain Muhammad Ershad's dictatorship and ensuring Bangladesh's return to democracy through the 1991 elections, which she won. Relations with India under the BNP rule have never been comfortable, and the legacy of BNP's strong links with Pakistan and with Jamaat-e-Islami has a lot to do with this.

On the face of it, Tarique Rahman's return to Dhaka on Christmas Day 2025, and now the passing away of his mother, Begum Khaleda Zia, have placed the BNP in pole position to win the forthcoming general elections in Bangladesh, scheduled for February next year. However, it is important not to get carried away by the media hype generated by print, electronic and social media outlets, most of which are thoroughly controlled and managed by the Yunus regime.

The BNP And the Jamaat

The BNP and the Jamaat-e-Islami have been political allies for a quarter century, since 2001. Their ideological alliance is far older, going back to their shared support for the tenets and values that sided with Pakistan and opposed everything that the 1971 Liberation War stood for. The constitution of Bangladesh, adopted in 1972 under Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, had, as its four pillars, the principles of democracy, secularism, socialism and nationalism. In addition, Sheikh Mujib banned religion-based political parties and revoked the citizenship of Ghulam Azam, the Ameer of Jamaat-e-Islami during the Liberation War, responsible for untold war crimes against the minorities, against women, against intellectuals and all those supporting the Awami League. Under President Zia (who seized control after the assassination of Sheikh Mujib and later founded the BNP), all these provisions were reversed. Ghulam Azam returned to Dhaka on a Pakistani passport in August 1978, during the military rule of General Zia. The ban on religion-based political parties was reversed, and a special "Citizenship Act" enacted in 1978 provided the legal framework for Ghulam Azam to eventually regain his Bangladeshi citizenship through a court order in 1994 (when Begum Khaleda Zia was Prime Minister) after a long legal battle. It was under President Zia (father of Tarique Rahman) that the Constitution of Bangladesh was amended to replace the word secularism with the phrase that "absolute trust and faith in the Almighty Allah shall be the basis for all actions", thereby legitimising political Islam. Today, the BNP does have a moderate faction. This group has fought hard for early elections in Bangladesh, resulting in the Yunus regime being forced to declare the dates of February 2026 after their initially declared plan (supported by Jamaat-e-Islami) of no elections for four years, and elections only after completion of the so-called "reform process". The moderate group within the BNP also opposed the ban on the activities of the Awami League (imposed by the Yunus regime in May 2025) and supported the Awami League's participation in the February 2026 elections. However, this faction's position within the BNP is weak, and they are inevitably overruled by the much stronger pro-Jamaat-e-Islami faction. It is estimated that more than half the BNP membership is pro-Jamaat.

Tarique's Closeness To The Jamaat

Tarique Rahman has almost always been associated with the pro-Jamaat faction of the BNP. He has been politically active since the late 1980s but came into prominence during his mother Begum Khaleda Zia's second term as Prime Minister, from 2001 to 2006, when the Jamaat-e-Islami was the principal alliance partner. During these years, Tarique ran Hawa Bhaban, the power centre recognised as the de facto PMO. His involvement in directing/coordinating the Chittagong Arms Haul (April 2004), and equally in the grenade attack on Sheikh Hasina's political rally in Dhaka (August 2004), has been written about extensively. However, what often escapes attention is the close involvement of Pakistan in the planning of each of these incidents, including participation in meetings with Tarique Rahman in Dhaka and overseas. These were highlighted during the separate hearings (for each of these two incidents) in the legal trials held in Dhaka after 2009.

Will Haryana CM Dare to Order High-Level Probe into Rs.1,500-Crore Scam?



A major scam worth Rs. 1500 crore in Haryana's labour department has unearthed the fraudulent working in the Haryana government, which publicizes itself as the government having its motto 'Zero Tolerance Against Corruption' and claims that there is no difference between its words and actions. Political observers analyse that it may shake or even uproot the BJP led state government, if a proper investigation is ordered pertaining to the last ten-year period, the scam may go onto sky height as this amount of Rs. 1500 crore is being reported for the small duration between August 2023 and March 2025. Former Union Minister and present Member of Parliament, Kumari Selja, has commented that the scam of nearly ₹1,500 crore in the Haryana Labour Welfare Board, along with the detection of 91 percent fake work slips and 87 percent fake labour registrations across 13 districts, is the biggest proof of the BJP government's corrupt governance. These figures clearly show that the BJP government has turned schemes meant for the welfare of workers into a means of loot. The schemes that were intended to provide dignity, security, and support to hardworking labourers have been sacrificed to corruption under political patronage. This is not merely negligence, but a well-planned and organised act of corruption, amounting to a direct attack on the rights of the poor and the working class. The Congress party demands a high-level investigation into the entire scam and strict action against those responsible. Former Haryana Chief Minister and presently Leader of the Opposition, Bhupinder Singh Hooda, said that the BJP government is setting a new record in cor-

ruption every day. A recent report reveals that there has been a 186 percent increase in corruption cases between 2021 and 2023. This revelation is based on the NCRB report, which mentions cases registered under the Prevention of Corruption Act and relevant sections of the IPC. This situation exists even though the government suppresses major corruption cases and prevents their investigation. Despite this, a new scam surfaces almost daily, which the government cannot hide despite its best efforts. Bhupinder Singh Hooda said that the BJP has hollowed out Haryana's economy through a series of scams. Today, the common people, as well as economists and intellectuals, have lost faith in the government because Haryana's economic situation has become extremely worrying. From 1966 to 2014, the state had a debt of approximately 60,000 crore rupees, which has now increased to more than 5 lakh crore rupees. This reflects the state's dire economic condition. In the NITI Aayog's Fiscal Health Index, Haryana has slipped to 14th position among 18 states. A debt-to-GSDP ratio of over 31% indicates that the state is trapped in a deep debt crisis. Indirectly indicating through another example that the scam in question is not limited to a particular department, Hooda highlights the recent paddy procurement scam and alleges that this is a case in point, which occurs every harvest season. The revelations in this scam are shocking. In the Asandh mandi (grain market), 570 trips by 112 vehicles were shown on paper, but no actual paddy was transported. The paddy was only bought and transported on paper. This resulted in a scam of Rs 39.24 crore. In the Gharaunda mandi, the revelations regarding paddy procurement were so shocking that everyone was left stunned. Here, 11,628 quintals of paddy were shown as purchased through fake gate passes without any actual arrival of paddy. Not only that, even motorcycles and auto-rickshaws were shown as being used for paddy transportation, resulting in a scam of Rs 2.56 crore. This entire paddy scam amounts to hundreds of crores of rupees, but the government is trying to suppress it by tak-

ing action only against small employees, while the big culprits, the real perpetrators, are being protected. While exposing Rs.1,500-Crore Work Slip Scam in his own department and further recommending for a High-Level Probe to the Chief Minister, Haryana Labour Minister Anil Vij has landed the CM Nayab Singh Saini in hot waters, who always claims a corruption-free Haryana. A press release, on 29th December, by Haryana's Labour Minister Anil Vij, reportedly claims that due to the vigilant and stringent oversight serious irregularities related to work slips (work receipts) prevailing for a long time in the Haryana Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board, functioning under the Labour Department, have come to light. Preliminary investigations suggest that the scam could amount to approximately Rs.1,500 crore. Considering the gravity of the matter, minister Vij has written to the Chief Minister, recommending a thorough investigation by a reputed agency. Sharing details, the Labour Minister said that recently he chaired a meeting of the Board, during which irregularities were found not only in the appointment of Board members but also in the distribution of benefits under welfare schemes meant for construction workers. Following this, he ordered an immediate inquiry.

MODUS OPERANDI

Minister Vij stated that initial investigations were conducted in Hisar, Kaithal, Jind, Sirsa, Faridabad and Bhiwani districts, where large-scale irregularities were detected. Subsequently, instructions were issued to Deputy Commissioners of all districts to constitute district-level committees comprising a Labour Department officer along with three other officers. These committees are carrying out physical verification of online work slips issued between August 2023 and March 2025. The verification process began around four months ago, and 100 percent verification has been completed in 13 districts so far. The Labour Minister informed that in the 13 districts—Karnal, Rewari, Nuh (Mewat), Mahendragarh, Gurugram, Jhajjar, Palwal, Panipat,

Rohtak, Sonapat, Panchkula, Sirsa and Kaithal—a total of 5,99,758 work slips were issued. Of these, only 53,249 were found to be valid, while 5,46,509 were declared invalid. Similarly, out of 2,21,517 labour registrations, only 14,240 workers were found eligible after verification, whereas 1,93,756 registrations were found to be invalid. Mr. Vij said it has become clear that in many places entire villages were fraudulently registered and work slips were generated so that ineligible persons could avail benefits of government schemes. On an average, a worker receives benefits worth around Rs.2.5 lakh under various schemes, which could result in a massive financial loss to the government. He said that "Those who are not eligible are availing benefits. This is outright loot, causing the government a financial loss running into hundreds of crores." He further said that the verification committees are examining all aspects, including authenticity of workplaces, actual participation in construction activities, employer details, local inquiries and field inspections. During the verification period, RTS timelines were stopped, SARAL Centres were instructed not to accept new applications, and necessary information was issued to all grievance redressal platforms including CM Window, Jan Samvad, CPGRAMS, HHRC, HRTSC etc. Vij clarified that already approved pension schemes have not been stopped, while benefits under death, accident and funeral assistance schemes are being released on priority. Minister Vij added that the Haryana Government implements several welfare schemes for construction workers, including maternity and paternity benefits, education assistance, scholarships, reimbursement for technical education, pensions, marriage assistance, medical aid, housing loans and accident compensation, aimed at empowering genuine workers. These benefits should reach only those workers who are duly registered after verification of at least 90 days of work. The Labour Minister reiterated that there will be no compromise on corruption at any level and strict action will be ensured against those found guilty.

The Truth Drowned in the Noise of Achievements: An Introspection for 2025

- Dr. Satyavan Saurabh

History isn't just a collection of dates and events; it's also a mirror of society's collective consciousness. The past few years, and especially the year 2025, have served as such a mirror for India—one in which we have seen both our achievements and our uncomfortable truths. This year has witnessed hope and despair, progress and backwardness, pride and guilt—all of these emotions simultaneously. In 2025, India captured global attention on many fronts. Digital payment systems simplified the lives of ordinary citizens. Technologies like UPI demonstrated that technology can reach the masses if intended. Startup culture instilled entrepreneurial confidence in young people, India demonstrated extraordinary capabilities in space research with limited resources, and the expansion of infrastructure—roads, railways, and airports—bolstered the image of a "fast-growing India." These achievements are undeniable, but this also calls for introspection, as the question is not just about development, but

about its social impact. Parallel to the dazzling growth figures, the reality of unemployment and inflation in 2025 remained equally stark. Educated youth had degrees, but no jobs. The uncertainty of recruitment exams, delayed results, and instability in the private sector put an entire generation under psychological pressure. Inflation robbed the common man of balance in his kitchen. Pulses, vegetables, gas, education, and health—everything became more expensive, but incomes did not rise in the same proportion. This economic imbalance gradually transformed into social discontent. In 2025, the plight of farmers and laborers remained undisclosed. Weather vagaries, lack of fair crop prices, mounting debt, and policy-level neglect kept farmers in constant insecurity. At times, dialogue was stalled, and at others, attempts were made to suppress movements. Ironically, those who feed the nation face the most uncertain future. The plight of laborers was no different. Millions of people working in the unorganized sector remained deprived of social security,

stable employment, and a dignified life. The hands that build the edifice of development are often the most tired and least secure. The deplorable state of public education and healthcare systems was further exposed in 2025. The poor condition of government schools and hospitals is no longer a state problem, but a national challenge. Teachers continue to work under resource constraints and administrative pressure, while health workers continue to perform their duties in an environment of excessive workload, limited facilities, and insecurity. Privatization has provided choice, but not equality. Education and healthcare have gradually become commodities rather than rights, and those who were already socio-economically disadvantaged have suffered the most. 2025 was also a disturbing year for democracy. The tendency to equate dissent with anti-national sentiment narrowed public discourse. Growing pressure on writers, journalists, and social activists signaled that questioning power was becoming increasingly risky. Arrests based on social media posts,

attempts to restrict expression, and questions raised about the autonomy of constitutional institutions reminded us that democracy doesn't survive solely on the electoral process. It thrives on a free press, fearless citizens, and accountable institutions. The politics of religion and identity repeatedly divided society in 2025. Religious fanaticism, mob mentality, and moral policing challenged the fundamental concepts of equality, fraternity, and secularism enshrined in the Constitution. Religion, which should have been a personal sphere of faith, became a tool of power and politics. The result was increased distrust in society, a breakdown in communication, and a deepening of fissures in human relationships. Amidst all this gloom, 2025 also offered some tangible glimmers of hope. Youth asked questions, students raised their voices, farmers and workers organized and demanded their rights. Civil society organizations and independent journalism proved that Indian democracy had not been completely silenced. This resistance was not just

against power, but also against the social apathy that slowly erodes us from within. 2025 made it clear that development cannot be measured solely by GDP figures. Unless villages are safe, farmers are confident, laborers live with dignity, teachers and health workers are protected, and students are free from fear about the future, 'Developed India' will remain just a catchy slogan. Technology is meaningful only when it is connected to human emotions, and governance can be considered successful only when its impact reaches the last person in line. The biggest lesson of the past year, and especially of 2025, is that the responsibility to save India lies not only with governments but also with conscious citizens. In a democracy, silence is not neutrality; it often becomes injustice's strongest ally. When we remain silent in the face of injustice, we unwittingly stand in its favor. 2025 made us realize that silence is no longer an option. Questioning, expressing disagreement, and maintaining dialogue are the greatest acts of patriotism today.

2025: The Year India Boarded The 'Reform Express'



In the recent past, India has demonstrated an ability to act decisively and boldly in moments of crisis - and 2025 was no exception. Confronted by a fresh geo-economic shock triggered by Trumpnomics, New Delhi returned to a familiar playbook, using the pressure of external disruption to push through a fresh wave of long-pending economic reforms. However, what makes this moment stand out is the politically sensitive nature of some of these measures. Reforms such as changes to labour laws have long been acknowledged as necessary, yet avoided by successive governments - precisely because they are politically sensitive. The crisis triggered by Trumpnomics created the

space, and a spate of key electoral wins in assembly elections provided political momentum to finally convert intent to execution. And clearly, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) is not done. A few weeks ago, finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman told a public gathering that the upcoming Union Budget will press ahead with more reforms, including effecting a complete overhaul of the customs duty structure - bringing it on par with the soft touch employed by regulators while randomly scrutinising direct tax filings. And then this weekend, Prime Minister Narendra Modi took to X to renew his government's commitment

to economic reforms. The context was the conclusion of the annual meeting of chief secretaries convened in New Delhi and addressed by the Prime Minister. "This conference of Chief Secretaries," the PM posted on X, "has taken place at a time when India is witnessing next-generation reforms. India has boarded the Reform Express. And, the primary engine of this Reform Express is India's youth, our demography. That is why, it is our endeavour to empower this demography." The obvious question then: has India, under NDA, pivoted from reforms of stealth to one of conviction? The Reforms Playbook India's previous approach to reforms followed a pattern.



We are not ready to gift anything to encroachers: Shivakumar



Bengaluru: Stating that encroachments were not acceptable, Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar today said there was no question gifting anything to the encroachers.

Speaking to reporters at his Sadashivanagar residence, he said, “There is no appease-ment politics. We will take action against those who facilitated the encroachment. The evictees have given state-ments that some people collected money and allowed them to set up their sheds there. We will

give housing through Pradhan Mantri Awas scheme to the eligible evictees on humanitari-an ground.”

“They have said that land rights were issued sometime back and I have asked officials to review these claims. Some outsiders have also encroached the land more recently. We will check the original set-tlers and rehabilitate them,” he said.Asked about criticism by Kerala MPs of his statement that it was an internal matter of the state, he said, “We

are running our govern-ment well. They can give whatever statement they want, we will not allow encroachments. They have not even delivered on their promises during previous floods and they don’t have any rights to talk about our state. We know how to govern our state.”

National leaders will respond to Pak comments Asked about Pakistan’s External Affairs Minister’s comments on Kogilu encroachments, the DCM said, “Senior national leaders will respond to this.” Asked about evictees having ID cards from two states, he said the officials would investigate that. Asked if all evictees would be given accommodation, he said, “We will rehabili-tate only the genuine eli-gible evictees. We are not regularizing it but will provide housing only to eligible locals.”

Bengaluru demolition row: Karnataka govt to allot alternative houses from Jan 1 after AICC intervention

Bengaluru, Dec 29 : After the intervention of the All India Congress Committee (AICC), the Congress-led Karnataka government, on Monday, announced alternative houses for those who lost shelter during the demo-lition drive carried out at the government land in Kogilu Layout in Bengaluru.

Addressing a joint press conference, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah along with State Congress President and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, made the announcement in Bengaluru after holding a high-level meeting in this regard.

“Though the people were living in illegally constructed houses, alternative housing is being provided on humanitarian grounds,” the Karnataka govern-



ment said. The Chief Minister said that the state government has constructed one lakh houses precisely with the objective of providing shelter to the poor.

CM Siddaramaiah also added, “New houses will be provided to those who lost sheds on January 1, New Year’s Day. The decision has been taken to provide alternative

houses within a 7-km radius of Kogilu.”

He also warned that strict action will be initi-ated against the State Revenue Department and civic body officials if gov-ernment land is illegally encroached upon in future. Siddaramaiah said that the decision was made after discussions with Deputy Chief Minister Shivakumar,

Housing Minister Zameer Ahmad Khan, Revenue Minister and local MLA Krishna Byregowda regarding alternative arrangements, it was decided to allot houses at Baiyappanahalli.

“At Baiyappanahalli, in Survey No. 23, there are about 1,087 houses. After receiving the veri-fied list from officials, houses will be allotted to the beneficiaries in the multi-storey buildings there. Baiyappanahalli is only about seven km from Kogilu,” the Chief Minister added.

“Each house has been constructed at a cost of nearly Rs 11.20 lakh. Subsidies from the state and Central governments are available for general category beneficiaries as well as Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes,” he said. “In addition, he has instructed that Rs 5

lakh per house be pro-vided by the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA). For general cate-gory beneficiaries, the total subsidy comes to Rs 8.70 lakh, while for SC/ ST beneficiaries it comes to Rs 9.50 lakh. The remaining amount will be provided as a loan – Rs 2.5 lakh for general cate-gory beneficiaries and Rs 1.70 lakh for SC/ST bene-ficiaries.

Housing Minister Zameer Ahmed Khan has agreed to facili-tate the loans after veri-fication,” the Chief Minister added.

“Verification will be car-ried out over the next two days. The responsibility of ensuring that houses are provided for occupa-tion on January 1, mark-ing the beginning of the New Year, has been entrusted to Housing Minister Zameer Ahmad Khan,” he said.

Bengaluru: Govt schools to hold mandatory PTMs once every two months after mega meet’s success

Bengaluru, Dec 30: Encouraged by the over-whelming response to the state’s first-ever mega Parent Teacher Meeting (PTM), the Department of School Education and Literacy has decided to make PTMs mandatory once every two months in all government schools across Karnataka.

In a circular issued to schools, the department has outlined a structured sched-ule under which parents must be invited compulso-ri-ly every two months. During these meetings, parents will be briefed on their chil-dren’s academic perfor-mance, progress in extra-curricular activities and any shortcomings or nega-tive remarks, officials said.

The decision follows the mega PTM organised state-wide on Children’s Day, which witnessed enthusias-tic participation from par-ents.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah had inaug-urated the initiative, mark-ing the first such large-scale PTM held in government schools.

A senior department offi-cial said the move aims to strengthen parental involve-ment in government educa-tion. “Such meetings will help parents understand their responsibility in their child’s progress. It will also foster a healthy relationship between teachers and par-ents and improve the over-all learning environment,” the official explained.

Teachers, however, point-

ed out that PTMs are a rela-tively new concept in gov-ernment schools. “Earlier, even convincing parents to visit schools, especially in rural areas, was difficult. But after the mega PTM, many parents are now happy and willing to inter-act with teachers,” said Chandrakala, a head teach-er at a government high school. Unlike private schools, where PTMs are routine, this was the first time state-run schools adopted the practice on such a scale. The depart-ment has said that an annual PTM calendar will be issued, and all schools must strictly adhere to it, with a minimum of five PTMs planned in an aca-demic year.

DK Shivakumar clarifies remarks were against Kerala government, not Keralites

Bengaluru: Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on Tuesday clarified that his recent comments were directed at the alleged interference of the Kerala government in Karnataka’s affairs and not against the people of Kerala. He accused BJP leader Rajeev Chandrashekar of misleading the public by twisting his state-ments.

Speaking to reporters at Vidhana Soudha, Shivakumar said he shared a cordial relation-ship with the people of Kerala and held them in high regard. He stated that the BJP was attempt-ing to create unnecessary confu-sion for political reasons. He also noted that party leaders had offered suggestions on the issue,



which he had accepted.

Referring to development ini-tiatives, the Deputy Chief Minister said works worth Rs

5,000 crore would be taken up under the Krishna Bhagya Jal Nigam. He added that priority was being given to land acqui-si-

tion for the Upper Krishna Project, for which an estimated Rs 70,000 crore would be required.

On his resolutions for 2026, Shivakumar said good gov-ernance remained the Congress government’s primary goal. He expressed hope for good rainfall next year, said the government’s guarantee schemes would con-tinue to empower people, and confirmed that local body elec-tions would be held.

Responding to questions on leadership and power transfer, he said good governance would continue under the Congress government for the next several years and declined to comment further, stating such discussions could wait until 2026.

Bengaluru court acquits former minister, JD (S) MLA Revanna in sexual assault case

Bengaluru, Dec 29 : A court in Bengaluru on Monday acquitted former minister and sitting JD(S) MLA H.D. Revanna in an alleged sexual assault case. Revanna is the son of former Prime Minister and Rajya Sabha Member H.D. Deve Gowda and the father of former MP Prajwal Revanna, who has been convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment in a rape and sex video case.

Judge K.N. Shivakumar ruled in his favour, dis-missing the case under Section 354A (sexual harassment) of the IPC and declaring Revanna not guilty. The court observed that the com-plaint was filed after a considerable delay and noted that on that ground alone, Revanna was enti-tled to be cleared of the charges in the sexual assault matter.

Joint foot patrol and security inspection held in Koramangala ahead of New Year celebrations

Bengaluru: In view of the New Year’s (December 31) celebrations, a joint foot patrol and security inspec-tion was conducted in Koramangala to ensure public safety and smooth arrangements. The inspec-tion was led by the Commissioner of Bengaluru South City Corporation, K. N. Ramesh, along with the Additional Com-missioner (Development), Naveen Kumar Raju, and the Deputy Commissioner of Police, South East Division, Sara Fatima.

The officials inspected key roads and strategic locations in and around 1st Cross, 5th Block, Koramangala (Empire Hotel Road). During the inspection, the following aspects were reviewed:

Women’s Safety and High Lands: of specially designated women’s safety “High Lands” centres and police surveillance towers. Technological



Surveillance: Review of the CCTV camera network cov-ering the entire area and its connectivity with the central control room. Barricading and Traffic Management: Assessment of barricade placements in high-footfall areas to ensure smooth pedestrian movement and verification of footpath cleanliness.

Lighting Arrangements: Verification of the func-

tionality of additional streetlights and high-mast lights to ensure adequate illumination for public convenience.

During the inspection, Commissioner K. N. Ramesh stated that the city corporation and the police department are working in close coordination to ensure that citizens can celebrate the New Year without any inconve-nience. Deputy

Commissioner of Police Sara Fatima emphasized that women’s safety has been accorded top priority and that the entire area will be under compre-hensive CCTV surveillance.

Officials from City Corporation’s Health Department, Executive Engineers, and senior police officers from the South East Division also participated in the foot patrol and inspection.

18,496 voters in final electoral roll for Bengaluru Teachers’ Constituency: Maheshwar Rao

Bengaluru: Chief Commissioner of the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) and District Election Officer Maheshwar Rao on Tuesday said that a total of 18,496 voters have been included in the final elec-toral roll for the Bengaluru Teachers’ Constituency election.

Addressing a meeting with representatives of various political parties at Hall-01 of the GBA Head Office, Rao shared details of the final elec-toral roll and discussed election-related matters with the participants.

He said that, as per the instructions of the Election Commission of India (ECI), November 1 was fixed as the qualify-ing date for the prepara-tion of the electoral roll for the Bengaluru Teachers’ Constituency of the Karnataka Legislative Council. Accordingly, the draft electoral roll was pub-



lished on November 25.

The period from November 25 to December 10 was provided for filing claims and objections. After scrutinising the applications received during this period, the final electoral rolls for 28 Assembly constituencies under the GBA jurisdic-tion were published.

Rao informed that the final roll for the Bengaluru Teachers’ Constituency comprises 18,496 voters.

Speaking on the occa-sion, Special Com-missioner

(Elections) R. Ramachandran said that eligible teachers who were left out during the final revision could apply for inclusion up to the last date for filing nomi-nations. He added that voter registration and updation would continue on an ongoing basis.

The meeting was attended by Additional District Election Officers from Bengaluru Central, South, North and Urban divisions, representa-tives of various political parties, and concerned officials.

Building houses for encroachers sets a bad precedent, says opposition leader R. Ashok

Bengaluru: Leader of the Opposition R. Ashok on Tuesday alleged that the Congress government had set a wrong prece-dent by building houses for land encroachers, claiming it would encourage land mafia activities. He said the move marked the begin-ning of a “bad tradition” and questioned the gov-ernment’s intent and procedure. Addressing a press conference, Ashok referred to the clearance of alleged encroachments on government land near

Kogilu Cross, where a solid waste management unit project costing Rs 100 crore is proposed. He claimed that temporary houses had been con-structed on the land and alleged irregularities in the process, stating that the prescribed proce-dures under the Ashraya housing scheme were not followed.

Ashok questioned claims that people had been residing in the area for two decades, citing satel-lite imagery to assert that the land was vacant



until recently. He alleged that certain Congress leaders were involved in facilitating the construc-tion of temporary houses and accused the govern-ment of allotting land worth hundreds of crores to encroachers.The Opposition leader said encroachments had been cleared in several parts of Bengaluru and argued that if humanitarian grounds were being cited, similar treatment should be extended uni-formly. He questioned under which scheme the

houses were being sanc-tioned and alleged that such actions would encourage illegal encroachments. Highlighting the housing shortage in the state, Ashok said lakhs of eli-gible beneficiaries were still waiting for sites and houses, while priority was allegedly being given to people from out-side the state. He claimed the speed with which the houses were approved was unprece-dented.Demanding a high-level inquiry,

TN needs bus safety commission, says plea; Madras HC asks State, Centre to respond



CHENNAI: The Madras High Court directed the Union and State governments to file their counter in a plea seeking the formation of a commission to inspect the fitness of all buses across Tamil Nadu to prevent road accidents.S Devadoss Gandhi Wilson of Valasaravakkam filed a petition before the High Court seeking the strict enforcement of traffic rules to reduce accidents. He pointed out that according to World Health Organisation statistics, Tamil Nadu had the highest number of road accident deaths in South India.The petitioner stressed that the stringent enforcement of traffic regulations was essential to curb fatalities. It further submitted that under the Motor Vehicles Act, government bus drivers must be trained by approved institutions, buses should not exceed permitted passenger capacity, sleeper buses should have both emergency exits and easily removable windows, and all buses must be fire-resistant and equipped with firefighting devices. The plea also urged the court to order the creation of a separate commission, similar to bodies in the aviation and railway sectors, to inspect and certify the quality and safety of buses operating in the State.

TN has drawn national attention for its governance, says Udhayanidhi Stalin

COIMBATORE: Deputy Chief Minister on Tuesday said with 11.19 per cent growth, Tamil Nadu has emerged as India's top-performing state because of the schemes implemented by the Dravidian model of government. "Tamil Nadu has drawn national attention for its Dravidian model of governance," he said after inaugurating a hockey stadium constructed in international standards at Rs 9.67 crore in Coimbatore.

Earlier, Udhayanidhi Stalin inaugurated an elephant camp and unveiled modernisation initiatives for the forest department aimed at improving wildlife care and conservation efforts. He also laid the foundation stone for new projects, unveiled completed projects and



"Tamil Nadu has drawn national attention for its Dravidian model of governance," he said after inaugurating a hockey stadium constructed in international standards at Rs 9.67 crore in Coimbatore.

distributed welfare aid to beneficiaries. Stating that former Chief Minister M

Karunanidhi and current Chief Minister MK Stalin always had a special

focus on Coimbatore, Udhayanidhi Stalin said from the day of assuming office, the Chief Minister has insisted that welfare schemes should be inclusive and benefit all sections of society.

"Not only those who voted, but our model of governance should make even those who didn't vote regret their decision," he said. Listing out various women-oriented schemes like free bus travel under 'vidiyal payanam', 'pudhumai penn' scheme, 'mahalir urimai thogai' scheme, the Deputy Chief Minister said the government is focused on delivering welfare schemes towards empowerment of women. He also announced that ten lakh laptops will be given to college students in a few days.

Sri Lankan Navy arrests three more Indian fishermen; tension escalates in TN's Rameswaram

CHENNAI: Rameswaram in Tamil Nadu witnessed renewed anxiety among the fishing community after the Sri Lankan Navy arrested three Indian fishermen in the early hours of Tuesday and seized their fishing trawler on charges of poaching in its waters.

The incident has once again brought to the fore the long-standing and unresolved issue of fishermen from Tamil Nadu being detained while fishing in the Palk Strait region. According to officials from the Fisheries Department in Rameswaram, the arrested fishermen have been identified as Rooban,



Nagarajan and Prabhu. The trio had set out to sea from the Rameswaram fishing harbour late on Monday night after receiving clearance from the authorities. While fishing near the waters off Neduntheevu

(Delft Island), they were intercepted by a Sri Lankan Navy patrol team and taken into custody. Their mechanised trawler was also seized and later taken to the Karainagar Naval Base in northern Sri Lanka.

TN needs bus safety commission, says plea; Madras HC asks State, Centre to respond

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accidents.S Devadoss Gandhi Wilson of Valasaravakkam filed a petition before the High Court seeking the strict enforcement of traffic rules to reduce accidents. He pointed out that according to World

Health Organisation statistics, Tamil Nadu had the highest number of road accident deaths in South India.The petitioner stressed that the stringent enforcement of traffic regulations was essential to curb fatalities.

Green Energy Revolution: Breakthrough in Hydrogen Fuel Ce

As the global shift towards renewable energy sources gains momentum, there arises a crucial challenge: how to store energy effectively for periods when solar and wind power aren't available. One leading contender, the hydrogen fuel cell, just got a big boost, thanks to fundamental research stemming from the Department of Energy's SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory, Stanford University, and the Toyota Research Institute (TRI), that was recently translated to practice in a fuel cell device via a collaboration between Stanford and Technion Israel Institute of Technology.

Hydrogen fuel cells have really great potential for energy storage and conversion, using hydrogen as an alternative fuel to, say, gasoline," said Michaela Burke Stevens, an associate scientist with SLAC and Stanford University's joint SUNCAT Center for Interface Science and Catalysis and one of the senior authors on the study. "But it's still fairly expensive to run a fuel cell."

The Cost Dilemma of Fuel Cells

The problem, Burke Stevens said, is that fuel cells typically rely on a catalyst – packed with expensive platinum group metals (PGM) – that boosts the chemical reaction that makes the system work.



That led Burke Stevens and her colleagues to search for ways to make the catalyst cheaper, but making such a fundamental change to a fuel cell's chemistry is a daunting challenge: Scientists often find a catalyst that works in their small lab setup doesn't work out so well when a company tries it in a real-world fuel cell. This time, the researchers balanced costs, by partially replacing PGMs with a cheaper alternative, silver; but the real key was to simplify the chemical recipe for getting the catalyst onto the cell's electrodes.Scientists typically mix the catalyst into a liquid and then spread it

onto the mesh electrode, but these catalyst recipes don't always play out the same way in different lab environments with different tools – making it difficult to translate the work into real-world applications. "Wet chemical processes are not particularly resilient with respect to laboratory conditions," said Tom Jaramillo, director of SUNCAT, which made the collaboration possible.

To get around that issue, the SLAC team instead used a vacuum chamber for more controlled depositions of their new catalyst onto electrodes. "This high-vacuum tool is a very 'what you see is what you

get' type of method," said Jaramillo. "As long as your system is calibrated well, in principle, people can reproduce it readily."

Collaborative Efforts and Practical Application

To ensure that others could reproduce their approach and apply it directly to full-scale fuel cells, the team worked with experts at Technion, who showed that the method worked in a practical fuel cell.

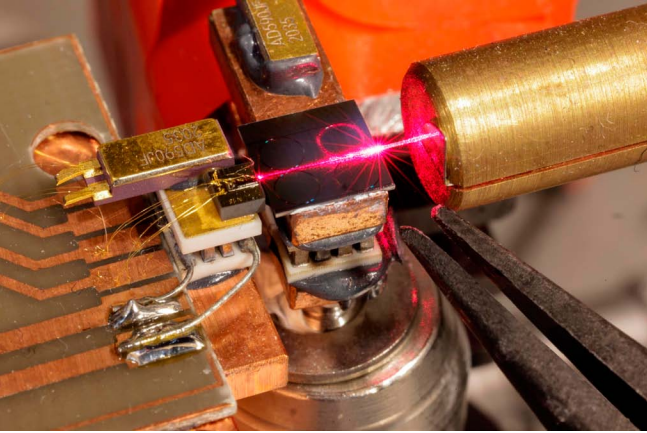
This project was not set up to do the fuel cell testing here, so we were really fortunate that the lead Stanford graduate student on the project, José Zamora Zeled n,

formed a connection with Dario Dekel and his PhD student John Douglin at Technion. They were set up to test the actual fuel cells, so it was a really nice combination of resources to put together," said Burke Stevens.

Together, the two teams found that by substituting cheaper silver for some of the PGMs used in previous catalysts, they could achieve an equally effective fuel cell with a much lower price tag – and now that they have a proven method of developing catalysts, they can start testing more ambitious ideas.

"We could try going entirely PGM-free," said Jaramillo. Dekel, a chemical engineering professor and director of the Grand Technion Energy Program at Technion, was equally excited by the partnership's potential. "This has great benefits for the research of fuel cells in the academy as well as for practical catalyst development in the fuel cell industry," he said. Looking forward, Jaramillo said, research like this will decide whether fuel cells can fulfill their potential. "Fuel cells are really looking exciting and interesting for heavy-duty transportation and clean energy storage," said Jaramillo, "but it's ultimately going to come down to lowering cost, which is what this collaborative work is all about."

Micro-Ring Resonators: Advancing Laser Technology



EPFL researchers have developed a hybrid device that significantly improves existing, ubiquitous laser technology. The team at EPFL's Photonic Systems Laboratory (PHOSL) has developed a chip-scale laser source that enhances the performance of semiconductor lasers while enabling the generation of shorter wavelengths. This pioneering work, led by Professor Camille Brès and postdoctoral researcher Marco Clementi from EPFL's School of Engineering represents a significant advance in the field of photonics, with implications for telecommunications, metrology, and other high-precision applications. Innovative Integration for Improved Coherence and Visibility The study, published in the journal Light: Science & Applications, reveals how the PHOSL researchers, in collaboration with the Laboratory of Photonics and Quantum Measurements, have successfully integrated semiconductor lasers with silicon nitride photonic circuits containing microresonators. This integration results in a hybrid device capable of emitting highly uniform and precise light in both near-infrared and visible ranges, filling a technological gap that has long challenged the industry. Semiconductor lasers are ubiquitous in modern technology, found in everything from smartphones to fiber optic communications. However, their potential has been limited by a lack of coherence and the inability to generate visible light efficiently," explains Professor Brès. "Our work not only improves the coherence of these lasers but also shifts their output towards the visible spectrum, opening up new avenues for their use." Coherence, in this context, refers to the uniformity of the phases of the light waves emitted by the laser. High coherence means the light waves are synchronized, leading to a beam with a very precise color or frequency. This property is crucial for applications where precision and stability of the laser beam are paramount, such as timekeeping and precision sensing.The team's approach involves coupling commercially available semiconductor lasers with a silicon nitride chip. This tiny chip is created with industry-standard, cost-efficient CMOS technology. Thanks to the material's exceptional low-loss properties, there is little to no light that is absorbed or escapes. The light from the semiconductor laser flows through microscopic waveguides into extremely small cavities, where the beam is trapped. These cavities, called micro-ring resonators, are intricately designed to resonate at specific frequencies, selectively amplifying the desired wavelengths while attenuating others, thereby achieving enhanced coherence in the emitted light.The other significant achievement is the hybrid system's ability to double the frequency of the light coming from the commercial semiconductor laser—enabling a shift from the near-infrared spectrum to the visible light spectrum. The relationship between frequency and wavelength is inversely proportional, meaning that if the frequency is doubled, the wavelength is reduced by half. While the near infrared spectrum is exploited for telecommunications, higher frequencies are essential for building smaller, more efficient devices where shorter wavelengths are needed, such as in atomic clocks and medical devices.These shorter wavelengths are achieved when the trapped light in the cavity undergoes a process called all-optical poling, which induces what is known as second-order nonlinearity in the silicon nitride. Nonlinearity in this context means that there is a significant shift, a jump in magnitude, in the light's behavior that is not directly proportional to its frequency, arising from its interaction with the material. Silicon nitride does not normally incur this specific second order nonlinear effect, and the team performed an elegant engineering feat to induce it: The system takes advantage of the light's capacity, when resonating within the cavity, to produce an electromagnetic wave that provokes the nonlinear properties in the material."We are not just improving existing technology but also pushing the boundaries of what's possible with semiconductor lasers," says Marco Clementi, who played a key role in the project. "By bridging the gap between telecom and visible wavelengths, we're opening the door to new applications in fields like biomedical imaging and precision timekeeping.

Neuroscience Revolution: AI Precision in Tracking Moving Neurons

EPFL and Harvard scientists develop an AI-based method for tracking neurons in moving animals, enhancing brain research efficiency with minimal manual annotation. Recent advances allow imaging of neurons inside freely moving animals. However, to decode circuit activity, these imaged neurons must be computationally identified and tracked. This becomes particularly challenging when the brain itself moves and deforms inside an organism's flexible body, e.g. in a worm. Until now, the scientific community has lacked the tools to address the problem.

Development of AI Method for Neuron Tracking

Now, a team of scientists from EPFL and Harvard have developed a pioneering AI method to track neurons inside moving and deforming animals. The study, now published in Nature Methods, was led by Sahand Jamal Rahi at EPFL's School of Basic Sciences. The new method is based on a convolutional neural network (CNN), which is a type of AI that has been trained to recognize and under-



stand patterns in images. The team has made their CNN accessible, providing a user-friendly graphical user interface that integrates targeted augmentation, streamlining the process into a comprehensive pipeline, from manual annotation to final proofreading. By significantly reducing the manual effort required for neuron

segmentation and tracking, the new method increases analysis throughput three times compared to full manual annotation," says Sahand Jamal Rahi. "The breakthrough has the potential to accelerate research in brain imaging and deepen our understanding of neural circuits and behaviors." This involves a process called

"convolution," which looks at small parts of the picture – like edges, colors, or shapes – at a time and then combines all that information together to make sense of it and to identify objects or patterns. The problem is that to identify and track neurons during a movie of an animal's brain, many images have to be labeled by hand because the animal appears very differently across time due to the many different body deformations. Given the diversity of the animal's postures, generating a sufficient number of annotations manually to train a CNN can be daunting.

Targeted Augmentation To address this, the researchers developed an enhanced CNN featuring 'targeted augmentation'. The innovative technique automatically synthesizes reliable annotations for reference out of only a limited set of manual annotations. The result is that the CNN effectively learns the internal deformations of the brain and then uses them to create annotations for new postures, drastically reducing the need for manual annotation and double-checking.

iPhone 16 becomes highest selling phone in India: Report



Mumbai, US-based tech giant Apple sold about 6.5 million iPhone 16 units in the first 11 months of 2025, making it the country's highest-selling smartphone, according to a new report.

The report from Counterpoint Research said that Apple outpaced Android rivals in the same period. The research firm's data found the gap is striking as iPhone 15 also made to the top five best-selling list.

The research firm said Apple's performance reflects changing buyer behaviour in a market, historically dominated by entry-level and mid-range devices.

Further, the change is underpinned by a strategic push by Apple to expand local manufacturing and reduce reliance on China. Apple recently opened three new Apple Stores in Bengaluru, Pune, and Noida, taking its total retail presence in India to five stores.

Financing options such as no-cost EMIs, cashbacks and bank schemes have made high-end phones more attainable to more consumers. Apple Inc clocked the highest value of exports from India in November, shipping iPhones worth \$2 billion, as per latest industry data.

Apple clocked the highest value of exports from India in November, shipping iPhones worth \$2 billion. In November, a company filing showed that Apple India posted a record high domestic sales of \$9 billion in FY25, and one in every five iPhones made globally in FY25 was manufactured/assembled in India.

The company's manufacturing in India contributed 12 per cent of Apple's global production value. The iPhone maker also began local assembly of high-end Pro and Pro Max models of iPhones in India for the first time.

The company filings showed that the Americas brought in \$178.4 billion in FY25 – nearly 43 per cent of Apple's global revenue – and a growing share of those iPhones were shipped from India..

India poised to become 3rd-largest economy with GDP of \$7.3 trillion by 2030



New Delhi, With GDP valued at \$4.18 trillion, India has surpassed Japan to become the world's fourth-largest economy and is poised to displace Germany from the third rank in the next 2.5 to 3 years with projected GDP of \$7.3 trillion by 2030, an official statement said on Monday.

The growth momentum further surprised on the upside, with GDP expanding to a six-quarter high in Q2 of 2025-26, reflecting India's resilience amid persistent global trade uncertainties.

Domestic drivers led by robust private consumption played a central role in supporting this expansion, according to the statement.

India's real GDP grew 8.2 per cent in Q2 FY2025-26, up from 7.8 per cent in the previous

quarter and 7.4 per cent in Q4 of 2024-25, led by resilient domestic demand amidst global trade and policy uncertainties. Real gross value added (GVA) expanded by 8.1 per cent, catalysed by buoyant industrial and services sectors.

High-frequency indicators point to sustained economic activity: inflation remains below the lower tolerance threshold,

unemployment is on a declining trajectory, and export performance continues to improve. Furthermore, financial conditions have stayed benign, with strong credit flows to the commercial sector, while demand conditions remain firm, supported by a further strengthening of urban consumption.

"India is among the world's fastest-growing major

economies and is well-positioned to sustain this momentum. With the ambition of attaining high middle-income status by 2047 – the centenary year of its independence – the country is building on strong foundations of economic growth, structural reforms, and social progress," according to the statement.

The RBI revised India's GDP growth forecast for FY 2025-26 upwards to 7.3 per cent from the earlier estimate of 6.8 per cent.

India's domestic growth is on an upward trajectory owing to multiple factors such as robust domestic demand, income tax and goods and services tax (GST) rationalisation, softer crude oil prices, frontloading of Government capital expenditure (CAPEX), along with facilitative monetary and financial con-

ditions, supported by benign inflation.

Looking ahead, domestic drivers like favourable agricultural prospects, the sustained effects of GST rationalisation, benign inflation, and the strong balance sheets of corporates and financial institutions – coupled with supportive monetary and financial conditions – are expected to continue bolstering the economic activity.

External factors such as services exports are projected to remain robust, while the swift conclusion of current trade and investment negotiations offers additional upside potential. Ongoing reforms are likely to further enable growth prospects. Present macro-economic situation presents a rare "goldilocks period" of high growth and low inflation, said the statement.

Trade pact with Australia anchors India's economic engagement in Indo-Pacific: Piyush Goyal

New Delhi, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Monday said that as the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) negotiations advance with other nations, India-Australia trade pact continues to anchor the country's economic engagement in the Indo-Pacific, aligned with 'Make in India' and the vision of 'Viksit Bharat 2047'. From January 1, 2026, 100 per cent Australian tariff lines will be zero-duty for Indian exports, unlocking fresh opportunities for labour-intensive sec-

tors, Goyal informed.

On the third anniversary of the India-Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (Indo-Aus ECTA), the minister said that we are celebrating a partnership that has translated intent into impact. "Together, India and Australia are building a future of shared prosperity and trusted trade," Goyal posted on X social media platform.

Over the past three years, the agreement has delivered sustained export growth, deeper market access, and stronger supply-chain resilience, benefiting Indian exporters, MSMEs,

farmers, and workers alike, according to Goyal. India's exports to Australia grew by 8 per cent in FY 2024-25, improving India's trade balance. Strong gains were witnessed across manufacturing, chemicals, textiles, plastics, pharmaceuticals, petroleum products, and gems and jewellery.

"Agri-exports recorded broad-based growth, with sharp increases in fruits and vegetables, marine products, spices, and exceptional growth in coffee. Gems & Jewellery exports rose 16 per cent in April-November 2025," said the minister.

Lifestyle by PNG, appoints Sara Tendulkar as brand ambassador

Pune, Lifestyle by PNG, the contemporary lightweight fine jewellery brand from PNG Jewellers, has announced Sara Tendulkar as its brand ambassador, marking a key step in strengthening the brand's connection with India's future jewellery consumers. The association reinforces Lifestyle's role as a strategic bridge between PNG Jewellers' legacy customers and its future customers. While PNG has been a trusted name across generations for nearly two centuries, Lifestyle has been consciously created to remain relevant to the next generation through a modern retail format, contemporary design language, and an omnichannel experience. Speaking on the larger vision behind Lifestyle, Dr. Saurabh Gadgil, Chairman and Managing Director, PNG Jewellers, said, "Lifestyle by PNG is a conscious and long-term effort to bridge our existing customers with future customers. While PNG has earned trust across generations, it is equally important for us to stay relevant to the way younger consumers think, shop and express themselves today. Lifestyle has been created as a modern retail format with a strong omnichannel presence, designed around everyday moments rather than only traditional occasions. This is not a short-term style initiative, but a serious business vertical under the PNG umbrella, with dedicated focus on merchandising, planning, marketing and digital platforms. The encouraging response to our pilot stores has given us confidence to scale the brand in a structured manner across key markets."

Govt offers 50 new blocks to investors to step up hunt for oil & gas

New Delhi, Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said on Monday that with the offering of 50 new blocks to investors for exploration and production of oil and gas, India's energy sector has reached "a transformative milestone".

The minister further stated that while 25 of these blocks are being offered under the 10th round of the oil exploration and licensing policy (OALP-X), another 55 fields across 9 contract blocks are being offered under the fourth



bidding round for discovered small fields (DSF-IV).

Besides, 16 blocks are being put on offer as part of Special CBM Bid Rounds 2025 and 2026. While 3 blocks are in the 2025 category, the other 13 blocks are for 2026.

"The quest to unlock the potential of India's sedimentary basins has gained a new thrust and momentum," the minister remarked in a post on X.

Puri said that India has now introduced a unified regulatory framework enabled by the Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Amendment

Act, 2025, which delinks petroleum operations from mining, and the PNG Rules 2025. The revenue-sharing contract model has been adopted to facilitate the ease of doing business.

He said that to make things easier for investors, a single license has been introduced for conventional and unconventional hydrocarbons. Exploration is allowed throughout the contract duration, while reduced royalty rates have been rolled out as an incentive. The norms also build in stabilisation for changes in law.

Sensex, Nifty extend losses for 4th day

Mumbai, Indian stock markets extended their losing streak for the fourth consecutive session on Monday, dragged down by heavy selling in information technology, realty, pharma and auto stocks.

The benchmark Sensex ended the day at 84,695.54, falling 345.91 points, or 0.41 per cent.

The Nifty also closed lower at 25,942.10, down 100.20 points, or 0.38 per cent, as selling pressure continued across key sectors. Analysts said that the Nifty slipped below the psychological 26,000 mark and its 20-day EMA, extending losses by nearly 100 points amid heightened volatility ahead of the monthly F&O expiry.

"The index formed bearish candlestick structures, reflecting near-term selling pressure, although it continues to hover around key short-term moving averages for now," they added.

A sustained break below the 25,900 zone could expose the index to further downside toward 25,800-25,700, as per experts. On the Sensex, stocks such as PowerGrid, Trent, HCL Tech and BEL were among the top losers, weighing on the index. However, some buying interest was seen in select counters, with Tata Steel, Asian Paints, Hindustan Unilever, Eternal, NTPC and Axis Bank ending the session with gains.

The broader market also remained under pressure. The Nifty Midcap 100 index declined 0.52 per cent, while the Nifty Smallcap 100 slipped 0.72 per cent.

India's industrial growth surges to 6.7 per cent in November

New Delhi, The growth rate of India's industrial production surged to 6.7 per cent in November this year compared to the same month of the previous year after having slowed to 0.4 per cent in October due to the long holiday season in the festive month, according to figures released by the Ministry of Statistics on Monday.

The strong industrial growth was driven by an 8 per cent surge in the manufacturing sector, led by a robust performance in basic metals and fabricated metal products, pharmaceuticals, and motor vehicles.

Growth in the mining sector at 5.4 per cent has also rebounded due to the closure of the monsoon season and strong growth in metallic minerals such as iron ore. However, the



electricity sector remained a laggard with a negative growth of 1.5 per cent during the month.

Within the manufacturing sector, 20 out of 23 industry groups have recorded a positive growth in November. The top three positive contributors for the month of November are "Manufacture of basic metals" (10.2 per cent), "Manufacture of pharmaceuticals, medicinal chemicals and botanical products" (10.5 per cent), and

"Manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers, and semi-trailers" (11.9 per cent).

In the industry group "Manufacture of basic metals", which includes steel, products have shown a significant contribution in growth.

The figures on use-based classification show that the production of capital goods, which comprise machines used in factories, shot up by a double-digit 10.4 per cent over the same month of

the previous year. This segment reflects the real investment taking place in the economy, which has a multiplier effect on the creation of jobs and incomes going ahead. The consumer durables sector, comprising white goods such as refrigerators, TV sets and washing machines, also recorded a strong growth of 10.3 per cent, while non-durable goods such as soaps, cosmetics and processed foods clocked a 7.3 per cent growth during the month.

The infrastructure and construction sector clocked a strong 12.1 per cent growth during the month compared to the same month of the previous year on the back of big-ticket government projects being implemented in the highways, railways and ports sectors.

India adds highest-ever 44.5 GW renewable energy in 2025: Govt

New Delhi, India saw highest-ever renewable energy capacity addition in 2025 at 44.51 GW (till November) which is nearly double as compared to the 24.72 GW during the same period last year, the government said on Monday.

The total renewable energy installed capacity reached 253.96 GW in November 2025, which is an increase of over 23 per cent as compared to the 205.52 GW in November 2024.

Solar capacity addition is 34.98 GW, compared to the 20.85 GW during the same period last year. Solar energy installed capacity crossed 100 GW mark in January, 2025. The solar energy installed capacity has reached



132.85 GW in November, 2025 which is an increase of over 41 per cent as compared to the 94.17 GW in November 2024, according to Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.

Wind capacity also registered a substantial growth with capacity addition of 5.82 GW compared to 3.2 GW during the same period last year.

Wind energy's installed

capacity crossed 50 GW mark in March 2025. The wind energy installed capacity has reached 53.99 GW in November, 2025 which is an increase of over 12.5 per cent as compared to the 47.96 GW in November 2024.

In line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision outlined at COP26, the government is working to reach 500 GW Non-fossil energy capacity by 2030.

IIT Bombay, NTPC complete drilling India's 1st CO2 storage well; second underway

Mumbai, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay and NTPC have successfully completed the drilling of India's first well for testing the viability of geological carbon dioxide (CO2) storage in sedimentary formations such as coal and sandstone, the institute said on Monday.

The collaboration, launched under the aegis of NITI Aayog in November 2022, brought together NETRA – the R&D wing of NTPC, and the Department of Earth Sciences, IIT Bombay, in building India's first geological storage atlas for coalbed methane-rich coalfields.

The atlas provided layer-by-layer simulation results with experimentally validated inputs for quantifying the potential for geological CO2 storage in four major coalfields.

The country achieved its first dedicated well, reaching a depth of 1200m in September, for potential CO2 storage. The drilling site in Pakri Barwadhi, in the vicinity of a coal mining area in Jharkhand's Hazaribagh, was completed



on November 15.

Notably, a second well drilling was initiated on December 21. Both CO2 injection and plume monitoring using these wells will be implemented, the institute said.

"As India stands at the cusp of honouring net-zero commitments in line with the 'Panchamrit' climate goals announced by the Prime Minister, accelerating indigenous science and technology outcomes for commercialisation of Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage (CCUS) technologies will be crucial to the journey towards 'Atmanirbhar' and 'Viksit' Bharat commitments," said Dr. V.K. Saraswat, Member, NITI Aayog.

Kabul/New Delhi, India has delivered a consignment of six ambulances to Afghanistan, amid growing healthcare cooperation between the two countries, according to a media report.

The ambulances are equipped with advanced medical equipment and can aid in transporting emergency patients and provide emergency health services, Sharafat Zaman Amarkhel, the Taliban spokesman for the Health ministry, was quoted as saying by Afghan media outlet AMU TV.

India's assistance can improve health services, especially emergency responses in Afghanistan, Amarkhel added.

The consignment is part of a commitment made during high-level talks between External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Afghan Foreign Minister Mawlawi Amir Khan Muttaqi in New Delhi in October.

During the meeting, Jaishankar described the gift as "20 ambulances, a gesture of goodwill". "India will also provide MRI and CT scan machines to Afghan hospitals and deliver vaccines for immunisation and cancer medicines. We have also supplied drug rehabilitation materials through UNODC and are open to doing more," the foreign minister had said.

Earlier this month, Afghanistan's Minister of Public Health, Mawlawi Noor Jalal Jalali, held a meeting with Minister of Health and Family Welfare JP Nadda in the national capital and discussed ways to enhance bilateral cooperation in the healthcare sector.

Russia's losses in Ukraine rise faster than ever as US pushes for peace deal

Over the past 10 months, Russian losses in the war with Ukraine have been growing faster than any time since the start of the full-scale invasion in 2022, BBC analysis suggests. As peace efforts intensified in 2025 under pressure from US President Donald Trump's administration, 40% more obituaries of soldiers were published in Russian sources compared with the previous year. Overall, the BBC has confirmed the names of almost 160,000 people killed fighting on Russia's side in Ukraine. BBC News Russian has been counting Russian war losses together with independent outlet Mediazona and a group of volunteers since February 2022. We keep a list of named individuals whose deaths we were able to confirm using official reports, newspapers, social media, and new memorials and graves. The real death toll is believed to be much higher, and military experts we have consulted



believe our analysis of cemeteries, war memorials and obituaries might represent 45-65% of the total. That would put the number of Russian deaths at between 243,000 and 352,000. The number of obituaries for any given period is a preliminary estimate of the confirmed losses, as some need additional verification and will eventually be discarded. But it can indicate

how the intensity of fighting is changing over time. 2025 starts with a relatively low number of published obituaries in January, compared with the previous months. Then the number rises in February, when Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin talked directly for the first time about ending the war in Ukraine. The next peak in August coincides

with the two presidents meeting each other in Alaska, a diplomatic coup for Putin that was widely seen as an end to his international isolation. In October, when a planned second Russia-US summit was eventually shelved, and then in November, when the US presented a 28-point peace proposal, an average of 322 obituaries were published per day -

twice the average in 2024. It is difficult to put increased Russian losses down to any one factor, but the Kremlin sees territorial gains as a way of influencing negotiations with the US in its favour: Putin aide Yuri Ushakov stressed recently that "recent successes" had had a positive impact. Murat Mukashev was among those who gambled on a quick peace deal, and it cost him his life. Mukashev was an activist who had never supported Putin's policies. Over the years, he had taken part in demonstrations against police violence and torture, and joined rallies for LGBT rights and the release of Alexei Navalny, the Kremlin's main opponent who died in prison in 2024. He had repeatedly condemned Russia's invasion of Ukraine on social media from 2022. Then, in early 2024, Mukashev was detained near his home in Moscow and charged with large-scale drug dealing. While his case was being tried he was offered a

contract with the defence ministry, according to his friends and family. They saw the heavy charges levelled against him as a typical ploy to get people to sign up. A 2024 law allows the accused a way out of a criminal conviction if they join up - an attractive option in a country with an acquittal rate of less than 1%. Mukashev refused the offer, and the court sentenced him to 10 years in a high-security penal colony. In prison in November 2024, he changed his mind. Friends said he was encouraged by Trump's promises to end the war quickly and decided he needed to sign up as soon as possible to secure his release before a peace deal was reached. "He saw this as a chance to be released instead of being imprisoned for 10 years of strict regime," reads a statement from his support group. There was no explanation of how he reconciled taking part in the war with his reluctance to kill.

K-POP BAND MEMBER SUED FOR \$30M AFTER BITTER RECORD LABEL FEUD



Chart-topping K-pop band NewJeans' record label, Ador, is suing one of the band's members in what is yet another twist in their bitter year-long feud. Hybe, the record label's parent company, confirmed to the BBC that it is suing Danielle Marsh, one of her family members, and ex-boss Min Hee-jin for \$30m (£22m) in damages and as part of a contract break penalty. The band has been plunged into further turmoil as the return of Minji, another of its stars, remains uncertain, leaving the band with three members. Coming less than two months after reports that

NewJeans would return to the label as a band of five, this news dashes fans' hopes of a comeback. Many took to social media with the slogan: "NewJeans is five or nothing, while others questioned why Danielle was singled out. "Does this make any sense??? NewJeans without Danielle isn't NewJeans. Do you think you can just erase a member this easily? Give us back Danielle," one wrote in an X post. "It's not fair at all. Free NewJeans [all 5 members]," another wrote on Instagram. "All they wanted to do was to be [artists] and make their fans happy."

French right pushes for national tribute to film star Brigitte Bardot



French right-wing figure Éric Ciotti has called for a national tribute to honour film legend Brigitte Bardot, prompting objections from political opponents on the left. "France has a duty to honour its Marianne," said Ciotti, referring to the emblem of French liberty whose face Bardot was chosen to represent in the 1960s. Bardot died on Sunday aged 91. A petition launched by Ciotti since has attracted more than 23,000 signatures, and has the backing of some allies on the far right. But Socialist leader Olivier Faure has pointed out that national honours are for "exceptional services to the nation". Bardot was an iconic actress but she also "turned her back on republican values", Faure argued. Bardot has been hailed by President Emmanuel Macron as a "legend of the century" who embodied a life of freedom, and Ciotti, who leads the right-wing UDR party, has appealed to him to organise a national send-off. Ciotti said France should recognise

a woman who brought her country an extraordinary level of international recognition and actively helped in the fight for women's liberty and abortion rights. Meanwhile, the mayor of Nice, Christian Estrosi, has announced that his city will name an "iconic site" in Bardot's honour. But Bardot is destined to remain controversial in death as she was during her life. Faure pointed out that she had been convicted five times for inciting racial hatred. Bardot starred in some 50 films, after bursting on to the scene in And God Created Woman in 1956. She then left the world of cinema in 1973 for a life devoted to animal welfare, and lived for decades in Saint-Tropez on the French Riviera, at her home called La Madrague. But she became as well known for her far-right sympathies as she was for her love of animals. Some of her remarks targeted Muslims, and others insulted the people of the French Indian Ocean island of Réunion.

Great white sharks face extinction in Mediterranean, say researchers



Great white sharks in the Mediterranean Sea are in danger of disappearing, with illegal fishing contributing to their decline. This is according to research by US scientists, working in partnership with UK charity Blue Marine Foundation. They say some of the most threatened species - including

great white sharks - are being sold in North African fish markets. Great whites are one of more than 20 Mediterranean shark species protected under international law, meaning it is illegal to fish for them or to sell them. By monitoring fishing ports on the Mediterranean coast of North Africa.

Eurostar cancels all trains out of London as power outage hits Channel Tunnel

Eurostar has cancelled all trains out of London towards Paris, Amsterdam and Brussels until further notice after a power outage in the Channel Tunnel caused a Le Shuttle train to fail. Staff at London St Pancras International station have told Eurostar passengers to postpone their travel plans and re-book for a later date. By midday, at least a dozen Eurostar services between the UK, France, Belgium and the Netherlands had been cancelled - many more had also been delayed or altered. Train traffic will "gradually resume" this afternoon, according to the company which operates the Channel Tunnel. Elsewhere, Eurotunnel service Le Shuttle - which



carries road vehicles and passengers through the tunnel - has also suspended trains between Folkestone and Calais due to what it described as a "power supply issue" which occurred overnight. National Rail said the major disruption is expected to last until further notice. Eurostar said: "Services to and from London are suspended

until further notice due to overhead power supply issues in the Channel Tunnel, followed by a failed Le Shuttle train. "We advise our customers to re-book their journey for another day, with free exchanges available. "We apologise for the disruption and will continue to keep customers updated with the latest information."

According to Eurostar, passengers can rearrange their plans free of charge or can cancel their booking and get a refund or an e-voucher. The broken Le Shuttle train has been moved out of the Channel Tunnel and Eurotunnel expects to resume services around 15:00 CET (14:00 GMT). "Our teams are working to restore the situation as quickly as possible," Le Shuttle said in a statement. "Waiting times will be adjusted throughout the day. Eurotunnel apologises for the inconvenience and thanks its customers for their patience and understanding." On its website Le Shuttle says check-in and border control services are experiencing lengthy delays.

Saudi Arabia backs call for UAE to leave Yemen after strike on separatist-held port

Saudi Arabia has backed a demand from Yemen's presidential council for the United Arab Emirates to withdraw within 24 hours, after a Saudi-led coalition bombed what it said was a weapons shipment for UAE-backed separatists at the port of Mukalla. The Saudi foreign ministry accused the UAE of "pressuring" the Southern Transitional Council (STC), which seeks independence for southern Yemen, to launch recent offensives in the eastern provinces of Hadramawt and al-Mahra. The kingdom would take measures to confront what it considered such "highly dangerous" actions, it warned. The UAE's foreign ministry



denied that the shipment contained weapons and expressed "deep regret" at the Saudi statement. It strongly condemned "the allegations that it exerted pressure on, or directed, any Yemeni party to carry out military operations that would undermine the security of the sisterly king-

dom of Saudi Arabia or target its borders". The STC's leaders also said the ultimatum for the withdrawal of the UAE's forces had no legal basis, and insisted it would remain a "main partner" in the battle against the Iran-backed Houthi movement, which controls much of

north-western Yemen. Earlier on Monday, the head of the eight-member presidential council - which includes STC representatives - announced that he was cancelling a joint defence pact with the UAE and ordering its forces to leave "in the interest of safeguarding the security of all citizens, affirming commitment to Yemen's unity, sovereignty, stability, and territorial integrity". Rashad al-Alimi also declared a state of emergency for a period of 90 days, which he said was necessary to confront the Houthis and what he described as "the internal strife led by mutinous military elements that received orders from the United Arab Emirates".

Bangladesh's first female prime minister Khaleda Zia dies aged 80



Khaleda Zia, Bangladesh's first female prime minister and an arch-rival of ousted leader Sheikh Hasina, has died from a prolonged illness. She was 80 years old. Zia intended to run for parliament in February, when the country will vote for the first time since a popular revolution in late 2024 unseated Hasina. Thrust into the political limelight following the assassination of her husband, then-president Ziaur Rahman, she went on to become Bangladesh's first female PM in 1991. Her career, which included spells in prison and house arrest, was defined by a bitter feud with Hasina. She was acquitted of corruption and allowed to travel to London for treatment only after Hasina lost power. Physicians said on Monday that Zia's condition was "extremely critical". She was put on life support, but it was not possible to provide multiple treatments at the same

time given her age and overall poor health, they added. "Our favourite leader is no longer with us. She left us at 6am this morning," Zia's Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) announced on Facebook on Tuesday. When news of her death broke, crowds gathered outside Evercare Hospital in Dhaka where Zia had been admitted. As the wife of Bangladesh's former president Rahman, Zia was a reserved presence alongside her famous husband. When he was killed in a military coup in 1981, Zia entered politics and went on to lead the BNP in the country's first elections in 20 years. Known as an "uncompromising leader" after refusing to take part in a controversial election under military ruler General Hussain Muhammad Ershad in the 1980s, Zia broke through a male-dominated political landscape and transformed into one of Bangladesh's most formidable political leaders.

Trump hopes to reach phase two of Gaza ceasefire 'very quickly'

Donald Trump said he hoped to reach phase two of the Gaza peace plan "very quickly", as he warned Hamas would have "hell to pay" if it did not disarm soon. The US president, whose 20-point peace plan requires the militant group to disarm, made the comments as he met Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in Florida for talks on Monday. During a press conference with Netanyahu after their meeting, Trump said Israel had "lived up to the plan 100%", despite continuing attacks by its military in Gaza. The US president also said his country could support another major strike on Iran were it to resume rebuilding its ballistic missile or nuclear weapons programmes. In response to

Trump's threat, Iran's supreme leader's top political adviser, Ali Shamkhani, said on X that any aggression towards Iran would be met with an "immediate harsh response". Asked how quickly Hamas and Israel should move to phase two of the peace plan, Trump said: "As quickly as we can. But there has to be disarmament." Speaking about Hamas, he said: "If they don't disarm as, as they agreed to do, they agreed to it, and then there will be hell to pay for them. "They have to disarm in a fairly short period of time". Trump also said reconstruction in Gaza could "begin pretty soon". The Gaza peace plan came into effect in October. Under the second phase, a technocratic government would be estab-



lished in the devastated territory, Hamas would disarm and Israeli troops would withdraw. The reconstruction of Gaza would then begin. But critics have suggested Netanyahu could seek to delay the process of the plan and instead push for Hamas to disarm before Israeli troops withdraw. The Israeli prime minister has been accused of not wanting to engage seriously

with the issue of a political future for Palestinians. Hamas officials have said a full disarmament should take place alongside progress towards an independent Palestinian state. Asked if he was concerned Israel was not moving fast enough to phase two of the plan, Trump said it had "lived up to the plan". "I'm not concerned about anything that Israel's doing, I'm

concerned about what other people are doing or maybe aren't doing," he added. Since the ceasefire came into effect, at least 414 Palestinians have been killed by the Israeli military in Gaza, according to the Hamas-run health ministry. The Israeli military, which controls more than half of Gaza, has said it has only opened fire in response to ceasefire violations. It has blamed Hamas for the killings of three Israeli soldiers over the same period. During the press briefing, Trump also warned that the US would launch further attacks on Iran if it was found to be using different sites to develop nuclear weapons. In June, Trump claimed US air and missile strikes "obliterated" Iran's nuclear

facilities. Iran has denied seeking to develop nuclear weapons. "I hope they're not trying to build up again, because if they are we're going to have no choice but to eradicate that build up," he said. Trump said he "had been reading" that the country was using "possibly different sites" to those targeted in summer. Iran, which fought a 12-day war with Israel in June, on Monday denounced the reports as a "psychological operation" against Tehran. It said it was fully prepared to defend itself, and warned renewed aggression would "result in harsher consequences" for Israel. Trump and Netanyahu's talks also focused on other regional tension points, including Syria and the Hezbollah militant group in Lebanon.

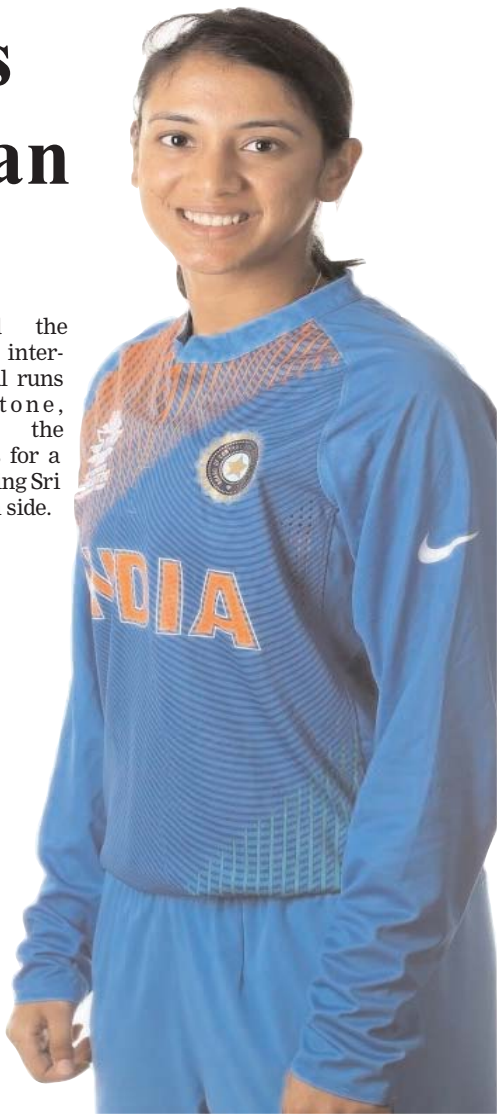
Smriti Mandhana Misses Chance To Surpass Shubman Gill's World Record

Smriti Mandhana needed 62 runs in the fifth T20I against Sri Lanka on Tuesday to surpass Shubman Gill for a momentous world record. It was not to be. The India opener had already amassed 1,703 runs across formats (ODIs + T20Is) this calendar year - the most by any woman in a single year. With just 62 more runs, Mandhana would have become the leading run-scorer of 2025 across both men's and women's international cricket, surpassing Shubman Gill's tally of 1,764 (Tests + ODIs + T20Is). Mandhana scored 1,362 runs in ODIs and 341 in T20Is in 2025. However, Mandhana was not included in the playing XI for the fifth T20I in Thiruvananthapuram, as the team management decided to rest the star batter. "Yeah, I mean, we were okay battling also, so yeah, it's an important match, so let's play well and win. Yeah, def-

initely. As I mentioned, it's an important match for us. How we started this series, that's how we wanted to finish. Hopefully, again, we'll continue the same momentum and give our best. Yes, we have two changes today, Smriti and Renuka are resting. Kamalini is going to debut and Sneha Rana is back," India captain Harmanpreet Kaur said. Sri Lanka captain Chamari Athapaththu won the toss and elected to field against India in the fifth and final women's T20I in Thiruvananthapuram on Tuesday. India hold a commanding 4-0 lead and are looking for a series white-wash. The hosts made two changes, bringing in G Kamalini, who is making her debut, and Sneha Rana in place of Smriti Mandhana and Renuka Singh Thakur. Sri Lanka also made a couple of changes, bringing back Inoka Ranaweera and

Malki Madara for Malsha Shehani and Kawya Kavindi. Teams: India: Shafali Verma, G Kamalini, Harleen Deol, Harmanpreet Kaur (c), Richa Ghosh (wk), Deepti Sharma, Amanjot Kaur, Sneha Rana, Arundhati Reddy, N Shree Charani, Vaishnavi Sharma. India will eye a clinical 5-0 white-wash as they face Sri Lanka in the fifth and final Women's T20I in Thiruvananthapuram this Tuesday. The Harmanpreet Kaur-led side maintained their vice-like grip on the visitors this past Sunday, securing an unassailable 4-0 lead with a 30-run victory. While India's bowlers were the early architects of this run, the batters stole the show in the fourth game, posting a record-shattering 221/2-India's highest-ever T20I total. Shafali Verma, having struck three consecutive fifties, and Smriti Mandhana, who recently

crossed the 10,000 international runs milestone, remain the hurdles for a struggling Sri Lankan side.



D Gukesh Stunned By 12-Year-Old Prodigy After 'Fatal' Blunder

In a result that has sent shockwaves through the chess world, reigning world champion D Gukesh suffered a stunning defeat at the hands of 12-year-old Sergey Sklokin at the FIDE World Blitz Championship 2025. The high-stakes clash in Doha saw the teenage Indian grandmaster succumb to a costly blunder under severe time pressure, proving that in the lightning-fast world of blitz chess, even the greatest can falter. Despite his world title, Gukesh found himself outmanoeuvred by the young FIDE Master in a tense third-round encounter. The match reached its breaking point on move 70. Playing with the black pieces, Gukesh was down a pawn and racing against the clock with just eight seconds left. His opponent, the Russian prodigy Sklokin, offered a rook exchange, a move that likely would have steered the game toward a draw. However, Gukesh, known for his aggressive "play-to-win" spirit, declined the trade and moved his rook to f4. The



gamble backfired almost instantly. Within moves, Gukesh lost his bishop and his final pawn. Facing an impossible position, the world champion was forced to resign just ten moves later. Commentators described the move as the "blunder of the round." Grandmaster Maurice Ashley noted that while Gukesh's fighting spirit is his greatest strength in classical chess, his refusal to settle for a draw proved fatal in this format. He said: "This blunder, we can all agree,

was pretty bad," said Ashley before going on to explain: "We know Gukesh is a tremendous fighter and he hates draws. Literally hates them and will do crazy things to avoid them. But this was a little bit too much. Obviously it was time to trade rooks. He was the one who was down a pawn! He should be happy to trade rooks and go for the drawish position. It's perfect (for him) because he's not going to lose! But he's playing for what? Unbelievable! That was absolutely insane.

ICC Verdict Out On Eden Gardens Pitch Where India Failed To Chase 124 vs South Africa

The Eden Gardens pitch that hosted the first India vs South Africa Test from November 14-16 drew a lot of flak after the hosts failed to chase a 124-run target. South African spinner Simon Harmer scalped eight wickets in the match as the Gautam Gambhir-coached Indian cricket team slumped to a 30-run loss. While several experts criticised the pitch, Gambhir did not agree. "It was not an unplayable wicket, there were no demons," he said. "This is exactly the pitch we were looking for. The curator was very, very helpful and supportive. This is exactly what we wanted, and this is exactly what we got. When you don't play well, this is what happens." While most former players did not agree



with the comment, the ICC seemed happy with the pitch on offer. It rated the pitch as "satisfactory," according to a report by TOI. This came a few days after the ICC rated the Melbourne Cricket Ground pitch, which hosted the Australia vs England Boxing Day Test, "unsatisfactory." The venue was handed

one merit point as well. Coming back to Eden Gardens, Anil Kumble, a legendary spinner and former coach of the Indian team, expressed shock at some of Gambhir's remarks on the pitch. "If you look back at the legacy of Eden Gardens, there have been so many Test matches played here. I've

been coming here since I was an Under-19 kid, and I've never seen a pitch behave like this over three days in a Test match," Kumble said on JioHotstar after the match. "I did listen to what Gautam said; he mentioned that the team wanted something like this. Then I'm a bit confused because I know this is a young side." Dale Steyn, one of the finest South African pacers to have played the game, directly countered Gambhir's "no demons" statement. "He said there weren't demons in the pitch? I certainly saw quite a lot," Steyn, who was part of the same panel, said. "You know, as Anil was saying, some balls were spinning two feet past the bat, hitting the keeper on the shoulder.

SA20: Sunrisers Eastern Cape Thrill Home Crowd With Bonus Point Win Over Pretoria Capitals

Quinton de Kock treated "The Orange Army" to a batting masterclass in the Sunrisers' Eastern Cape's 48-run bonus point win over Pretoria Capitals at a rousing St George's Park on Monday evening. The victory propelled the Sunrisers to top of the Betway SA20 table with 10 points, while the Capitals remain winless after two matches. The Gqeberha locals came out in their thousands to deck South Africa's oldest Test venue in a sea of orange for the first home game of Season 4 with the iconic brass band getting everyone in the festive spirit to deliver yet another memorable Betway SA20 night. De



Kock certainly gave them plenty to cheer for with the left-hander blazing 77 off just 47 balls (5x4, 6x6). The left-hander struck the ball sweetly from the outset with a couple of rasping lofted cover drives interspersed with powerful pull shots. Matthew Breetzke (52 off 33 balls, 7x4, 1x6) was

the perfect partner for De Kock after the early demise of Jonny Bairstow with the pair putting together an electrifying 116-run partnership off just 70 balls. This laid the platform for the in-form Jordan Hermann (37 off 20 balls, 5x4, 1x6) to unleash a series of conventional and

reverse sweeps that pushed Sunrisers to an impressive 188/6. The four Player of the Match candidates were Matthew Breetzke, Quinton de Kock, Shai Hope and Adam Milne with the 'QDK' winning 69.3% of the fan vote. The total proved way beyond the reach of the Capitals with the Sunrisers unleashing their three-pronged pace arsenal of Marco Jansen, Adam Milne and Anrich Nortje. Jansen required just six balls to strike the first blow when he removed Capitals opener Bryce Parsons with a rasping delivery that the left-hander could only fend off to De Kock behind the stumps.

How South Africa conquered Test cricket in 2025



From a certain vantage point, the health of Test cricket in South Africa appears terminal. For the first time since sporting isolation during apartheid, there will be no red-ball action in the country this summer. Instead, fans must make do watching Indian-owned T20 franchises compete in the SA20. The next time the Proteas take the field in whites on home soil will be October 2026, 21 months after hosting Pakistan in January this year. And yet the Test team itself has rarely looked in better shape, with 2025 proving a watershed year. Ryan Rickelton registered his country's first double century for nine years as Pakistan were swept 2-0. In June, a sublime fourth-innings 136 from Aiden Markram, allied to a nine-wicket match haul from Kagiso Rabada, carried South Africa to a five-wicket victory over Australia in the World Test Championship (WTC) final at Lord's. And with the choker's tag finally dislodged, and momentum behind them, South Africa are on track to qualify for another WTC final. Wiaan Mulder threatened Brian Lara's record for the

highest Test score when he declared himself on 367 against Zimbabwe in July. In October, Keshav Maharaj bagged a seven-for in Rawalpindi to square the series with Pakistan. A month later, Simon Harmer claimed 17 wickets in two Tests as South Africa beat India 2-0 in their own backyard, becoming the first South African team to win away in India since 2000. "It's been a remarkable period for us," says Sunuran Muthusamy, the spin-bowling all-rounder who scored his maiden century in the 408-run win in the second Test against India. "We're straight into the SA20 so it's hard to really take stock. But in the small moments when we've had a chance to reflect, we know that we've found a great formula. It feels like things are really clicking." How a 'winning machine' was built The year began with uncertainty but also hope. In the afterglow of a nerve-jangling two-wicket win against Pakistan in the 2024 Boxing Day Test - a result that secured South Africa's place in the WTC final - there was a sense the group had reached a crossroads.

"Suryakumar Yadav Used To Message Me A Lot": Bollywood Actress Drops Bombshell

Bollywood actress Khushi Mukherjee, who also appeared in the reality show MTV Splitsvilla, made a striking claim about Indian cricket team T20I captain Suryakumar Yadav. At a recent event, Khushi stated that Suryakumar used to message her frequently in the past, but they no longer communicate. When asked by a reporter whether she wanted to date any cricketer, Khushi replied that she does not like link-ups. "I don't want to date any cricketer. There are so many cricketers after me. Suryakumar Yadav used to message me a lot. Now we don't talk much, and I don't even want to be associated. I



don't like any link-ups involving me," she said in a video posted by Kiddaan Entertainment. Suryakumar has not yet responded to these claims. Meanwhile, Suryakumar Yadav and his

wife Devisha Shetty paid a visit to the Sri Venkateswara Swamy Temple, Tirumala, in Andhra Pradesh and offered their prayers on the occasion of Vaikuntha Ekadashi. They prayed to Lord Venkateswara

and passed through the Vaikuntha Dwaram (celestial gate) as the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) officials made arrangements for their darshan and facilitated their visit to the temple on the hill. Their visit received a warm reception from both devotees and temple staff. Wearing traditional clothing, they engaged in the rituals humbly, showcasing the strong cultural and spiritual bonds that many Indian athletes uphold despite their busy professional lives. This morning, they had darshan of the Lord. Following the darshan, the priests blessed them in the Ranganayakulavari Mandapam inside the temple.

'Home Has Been Broken': Ex-Pakistan Star's Wife Makes Explosive 'Divorce' Allegations

Former Pakistan cricketer Imad Wasim's wife, Sannia Ashfaq, took to social media to post an emotional message following the couple's divorce. Ashfaq alleged that there was "involvement of a third party" and said that "her home has been broken." The couple married on August 26, 2019, in Islamabad and have three children together. She stated that she remained committed to their relationship-both as a wife and mother-in order to preserve her family, but alleged that someone who wishes to marry Imad indirectly caused the breakdown of their marriage. "I am writing this from a place of deep pain. My home has been broken, and my children have been left without their father. I



am a mother of three, including a five-month-old infant who has yet to be held by his father. This is not a story I wished to share, but silence should never be mistaken for weakness," she wrote on Instagram. "Like many marriages, ours had diffi-

culties, yet it continued to exist. I remained committed as a wife and mother and made sincere efforts to preserve our family. What ultimately ended this marriage was the involvement of a third party, whose intention was to marry my husband. That became the

final blow to an already struggling union," she added. Imad Wasim also took to social media to announce their divorce, stating that it ended due to "repeated conflicts." "After much thought, and due to repeated conflicts that could not be resolved over the past few years, I have filed for divorce. Regarding the children, I remain their father and will continue to care for them fully and responsibly. Thank you for your understanding and respect. I request everyone not to engage in or believe any misleading narratives. Any attempt to defame or involve others in this personal matter will be addressed through the proper legal channels if necessary," he wrote on Instagram.

JOHNSON TO DECIDE FUTURE AFTER PALACE DEAL AGREED



Brennan Johnson is set to decide whether he wants to join Crystal Palace after the south London club agreed a £35m deal to sign the Tottenham attacker. BBC Sport revealed on 18 December that the Eagles were advanced in their efforts to land the Wales international but decided not to make a formal move until after the two clubs faced each other in the Premier League on Sunday. There is now an agreement between the clubs for Johnson to move across London. However, the 24-year-old is yet to agree to join the Selhurst Park club. Johnson is set for talks over his future in the next 48 hours, amid interest from other Premier League sides. Bournemouth are among the clubs who rate him highly and see him as a potential replacement for Antoine Semenyo, should the Ghanaian leave in January. Tottenham man-

ager Thomas Frank said the Wales international was available to face Brentford on New Year's Day. He said: "Brennan has been a top professional. He has trained well today and is ready in two days' time [for the game against Brentford]." Tottenham are in the market for a new attacker this January which would limit Johnson's opportunities even more. It is understood that they have an interest in RB Leipzig winger Yan Diomande, 19, and Manchester City attacker Savinho, 21. BBC Sport disclosed earlier this month that Tottenham were open to selling Johnson, who was the club's leading scorer last season with 18 goals. He etched his name in Spurs folklore by scoring the winner in their Europa League final over Manchester United in Bilbao in May, ending the club's 17-year wait for a trophy.

“All the credit for Nuvvu Naaku Nachav goes to Venkatesh garu!”

“Nuvvu Naaku Nachav was a collective miracle. It brought money and respect.”
— Trivikram Srinivas
Producer Sravanthi Ravi Kishore and writer-director Trivikram Srinivas reminisce during the re-release of Nuvvu Naaku Nachav. It has been 25 years since the release of Nuvvu Naaku Nachav, produced by Sravanthi Ravi Kishore under Sri Sravanthi Movies, directed by K. Vijayabhaskar, starring Victory Venkatesh and Aarthi Agarwal. Trivikram Srinivas provided the story and dialogues, while Koti composed the music. The film, which became a cult classic, is being re-released on January 1 as a New Year special. On this occasion, producer Sravanthi Ravi Kishore and writer-director Trivikram shared memories of the film and its journey. Sravanthi Ravi Kishore: Revisiting the wonderful memories and the incredible journey of Nuvvu Naaku Nachav after so many years makes me very happy.



Trivikram: Me too.
Sravanthi Ravi Kishore: You used to come to the shooting sets quite often, right?
Trivikram: I was writing Nuvve Kavali and Chirunavvutho simultaneously, so I couldn't visit those sets much. I went to Nuvve Kavali during the “Shukriya” song shoot and the climax. But I was pres-

ent for most of Nuvvu Naaku Nachav shoots. We even went to New Zealand together. I was there during dubbing as well.
Sravanthi Ravi Kishore: You were supposed to direct Nuvve Nuvve next, right?
Trivikram: Yes. That's why I was involved in everything for Nuvvu Naaku Nachav.
Sravanthi Ravi Kishore: Back then, you'd write a script version and narrate the dialogue version to the director and producer. We didn't just hear what you wrote—we saw it.
Trivikram: There was another room next to my writing room. We all used to sit there together.
Sravanthi Ravi Kishore: We couldn't imagine anyone other than Prakash Raj for the heroine's father. Once you narrated the dialogues with diction, it was fixed.
Trivikram: Yes. Those 22 scenes—I remember them clearly. The house set was in Nankramguda. On the first day Prakash Raj came to the set, he didn't know Telugu then. He wrote all his scenes and dialogues in Kannada.
When Suhasini garu entered and asked, “Is he a good man or a bad man?”, you replied, “Maniratnam!” (laughs). What I wrote was, “Good man or bad man? A husband is just that.” But you said, “Good man or bad man? Maniratnam.” I burst out laughing and had to step outside.
Sravanthi Ravi Kishore: It was an amazing

journey. No matter how much we talk about Sirivennala Seetharama Sastry garu, it's never enough.
Trivikram: I clearly remember—you called me from Madras about the song O Navvu Chalu. “Can anyone see night in broad daylight?”—those lines.
Sravanthi Ravi Kishore: That's how he wrote everything. We had to shoot the song in Ooty. We had just returned from New Zealand and were working non-stop. Shankar Mahadevan was at Koti's studio. I couldn't pressure anyone. We didn't want just a song—we wanted a good song. Then suddenly—“Wait! The song is here!”—and we rushed in the car. He wrote the pallavi while traveling. That's why the pallavi isn't fully seen in his files.
Trivikram: Yes—“Those curls stuck in the darkness...” He later completed it as “Will you die if I don't show those curls?”
Sravanthi Ravi Kishore: The best part is—we followed every single line he wrote.

STAR BOY SIDDHU - SITHARA ENTERTAINMENTS UNITE AGAIN!

Star Boy Siddhu Jonnalagadda, renowned for his unique choices and powerful performances, is set to headline his sixth film. This exciting pre-announcement comes with a striking poster that has captured everyone's attention.
This marks the third time actor Siddhu Jonnalagadda and production team collaborated. Their previous outings, DJ Tillu and Tillu Square, were massive blockbusters.
Now, they're gearing up for a hat-trick. The film is produced by Naga Vamsi and Sai Soujanya under Sithara Entertainment and Fortune four Cinemas and presented by Sri Kara Studios.
This significant collaboration sees Swaroop RSJ, known for his unique narrative style is handling the story, screenplay and direction. With his realistic treatment and layered storytelling, Swaroop RSJ brings a compelling new world to life.
This project marks Siddhu Jonnalagadda in a new, intense and fun avatar. Known for con-



stantly reinventing himself, Siddhu Jonnalagadda once again proves his commitment to choosing stories that challenge him as an actor while engaging audiences on a deeper level. With high expectations riding on this collaboration, further details will be announced soon.

Beauty Set for Exclusive Digital Premiere on ZEE5 Telugu on January 2

After winning audience attention with its emotionally rich storytelling on the big screen, the Telugu film *Beauty* is all set to reach an even wider audience with its *exclusive digital premiere on ZEE5 Telugu from January 2. Directed by J S S Vardhan, “Beauty” stars Ankith Koyya and Nilakshi Patra in the lead roles, with senior actor Naresh delivering a deeply impactful performance in a pivotal role. The film is produced by Adidhala Vijaypal Reddy and Umesh Kumar Bansal under the banners of Vanara Celluloid and Zee Studios, and is presented by A Maruthi Team Product. ‘Beauty’ unfolds as an engaging blend of romance, emotion, and suspense. What begins as a tender love story gradually evolves into an emotionally gripping narrative driven by strong character arcs and heartfelt moments. The film’s emotional core, centred around



love, family bonds, and a father's unwavering determination, gives the story both intimacy and scale, striking a chord with audiences across age groups. The ensemble cast, including Prasad Behara, Nithin Prasanna, Murali Goud, Vasuki Anand, Nanda Gopal, and Nagendra Medida, adds depth and

authenticity to the narrative, ensuring every character leaves a lasting impression. Music composed by Vijai Bulganin has emerged as a major highlight of Beauty, striking a strong chord with audiences across platforms. The soundtrack has delivered multiple viral successes, with the peppy Pretty Pretty racing past 2.2 million views and the soulful Kannamma crossing the million plus mark on YouTube, firmly establishing both tracks as fan favourites and significantly boosting the film's youth connect and digital buzz. Complementing the music, Shrie Saikumaar Daara's cinematography lends the film a visually rich texture, capturing youthful romance with elegance while grounding the emotional stakes with realism. S B Uddhav's crisp editing ensures a smooth, engaging narrative flow across the film's 139 minute runtime.

Mohan Vadlapatla Unanimously Elected as Joint Secretary of Telugu Film Chamber of Commerce



Hyderabad: In the recently held elections for key positions in the Telugu Film Chamber of Commerce, a key governing body of the Telugu film industry, producer Mohan Vadlapatla has once again secured an important role. Contesting from the “Mana Panel,” he won as an Executive Committee Member representing the Producers Sector and was later unanimously elected as Joint

Secretary for the 2025-2027 term. Expressing his gratitude, Mohan Vadlapatla thanked all the members and the newly elected committee, assuring that he would serve responsibly. “Earlier, I had the opportunity to work as Joint Secretary when Dil Raju was President. This term, I am happy to serve as Joint Secretary in the committee led by President Daggubati Suresh Babu,” he said. In

the new committee, Daggubati Suresh Babu has been elected as President, while Nagavamsi and Bharat Chowdhary were elected as Vice Presidents. Ashok Kumar won as Secretary and Mutyala Randas as Treasurer. This executive body will continue in office until 2027. As the Film Chamber continues to play a pivotal role as a guiding force for the film production, distribu-

tion, and exhibition sectors, the unanimous election of Mohan Vadlapatla is being seen as a positive development that will further strengthen support for producers and contribute towards industry growth. Many producers have extended their congratulations, stating that his experience and commitment will be highly beneficial for the Chamber in the future.

GHANTASALA THE GREAT MUSICAL CONCERT: A STAR-STUDDED SHOW

Renowned music director Ghantasala, who captured the hearts of millions with his unparalleled voice, is being celebrated on the big screen through the film ‘Ghantasala The Great’, directed by C.H. Rama Rao. Produced by Smt. C.H. Phani under the Anyukth Ram Pictures banner, the film brings Ghantasala's life and musical journey to life. Singer Krishna Chaitanya portrays Ghantasala, while Suman plays a key supporting role. The movie is scheduled for a grand release on January 2nd. In line with this, Swaravahini and Sri Bharati Music Academy hosted the “Ghantasala The Great Special Musical Night” event, celebrating the legacy of the legendary singer. *Speaking at the event, director C.H. Rama Rao said: “We don't need to introduce Ghantasala's songs—they speak for themselves. But I wanted to showcase his personality and life story, which is why I made



‘Ghantasala The Great’. Once, I accompanied poet Sri Sri to meet Ghantasala. After hearing one of his songs sung by Ghantasala, Sri Sri was spellbound and said, ‘I feel like the song I wrote has come alive in your voice.’ That was the greatness of Ghantasala. That's why we named the film ‘Ghantasala The Great’. I thank Shobha Garu for stepping forward to

release the movie. The film has already crossed regional boundaries; we even showcased it in Australia. I hope Telugu audiences embrace it and make it a grand success.” *Prominent producer C. Kalyan stated: “Ghantasala was a remarkable personality. This movie, based on his life, deserves to be a huge success. No matter the challenges, it must reach its full

potential.” *Producer Shobha Rani shared: “My life wouldn't be enough to describe Ghantasala's greatness. I've released nearly 76 films before, but none compare to this one. I personally requested Rama Rao Garu to let me release this film. He worked tirelessly to make it happen. I am confident it will be a massive success. The film releases on January 2.”

*Producer T.S. Rao said: “Hearing Ghantasala's name instantly brings to mind countless memorable songs for Telugu audiences. We must applaud the director and producers for bringing such an icon's life to the screen. This is a remarkable experiment. The film releases on January 2, and Shobha Garu is ensuring a grand release. I hope everyone watches it and makes it a huge hit.” Vakulabharanam Krishna Mohan stated: “As long as the sun and moon exist, Ghantasala's music will endure. When Bala Kameshwar sings, it feels like Ghantasala himself. Shobha Garu has taken a bold step in releasing this film. Every Telugu person should watch and make it a hit. This is our collective life story, showcasing the greatness of the Telugu people, language, and music. Rama Rao Garu's life is a testament to an extraordinary musical legacy, and this film will endure forever.”

Priyanka Gandhi's bahu Aviva Baig's age, photos, Insta profile

Mumbai: Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra and businessman Robert Vadra's son, Raihan Vadra, has gotten engaged to his long-time partner Aviva Baig. According to reports, the 25-year-old proposed to Aviva on Tuesday in the presence of both families, and she said yes. Both families have given their approval to the union and the couple's wedding is reportedly planned for the coming months. Ever since the engagement news surfaced, Aviva Baig has been trending widely on the internet, with people keen to know more about her personal and professional life. Aviva Baig Instagram and Photos Aviva Baig's Instagram profile and photos have been going viral online. She currently has around 13.8K followers on Instagram, and her bio describes her as a “photographer & producer.” Her feed offers glimpses of her artistic work and everyday moments captured through her lens. About Aviva Baig



Aviva Baig is 25 years old. According to details available on her LinkedIn profile, Aviva studied Journalism and Communication at OP Jindal Global University and completed her schooling in

Humanities from Modern School, Delhi. She is the co-founder of Atelier 11, a photography studio and production company that works with agencies, brands, and clients across India.