

OM NAMO VENKATESAYA

08-12-2025

Total pilgrims: 71,142

Tonsures: 26,619

Hundi kanakalu: 4.13 CR

Waiting Compartments: 15

Approx. Darsan Time for Sarvadarshanam (with out SSD Tokens): 10 H

TO BOOK YOUR ADS CALL

99484 80279, 73307 78889



NATION | NEWS

Delhi court issues notice on plea seeking FIR against Sonia Gandhi over name inclusion in voter list

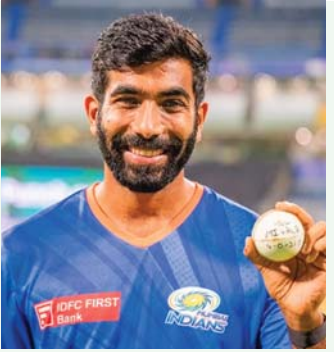


WORLD | NEWS

Congress ups pressure to release boat strike video with threat to Hegseth's travel budget

SPORTS | NEWS

Jasprit Bumrah One Wicket Away From Becoming First-Ever Indian To Achieve This Rare 'Century'



Lok Sabha to hold crucial debate on SIR today

New Delhi, Dec 9 : Lok Sabha is set for a high-stakes debate on the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls and wider electoral reforms today, following a prolonged impasse that stalled proceedings. The breakthrough came after intense negotiations between the government and Opposition, culminating in an all-party agreement on Tuesday to bring the matter to the floor of both Houses. According to the schedule finalised at the meeting chaired by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, the Lok Sabha will hold a full debate on electoral reforms on December 9, responding to the Opposition's persistent demand for a structured discussion on the SIR process.

Kerala: Actor Dileep's acquittal is not the final verdict, says artist Bhagyalakshmi

Kochi Dec 9 : In a deeply emotional and powerful outpouring following the verdict in the 2017 actress abduction and assault case, veteran dubbing artiste Bhagyalakshmi on Tuesday said that through the long and painful legal battle, it was only the media and society at large that truly stood by the survivor. Actor Dileep, who was the eighth accused in the charge sheet, was acquitted by the trial court on Monday. bhagyalakshmi said the public receptions and celebratory words organised in favour of the accused after the verdict shattered the survivor emotionally. "What we have now is not the final verdict. There are still higher courts. Dileep is still only an accused," she said, underscoring that the legal fight is far from over.

Vikram Bhatt sent to 7-day police custody in Rs 30 crore fraud

JAIPUR, DEC 9 : Bollywood filmmaker Vikram Bhatt and his wife Shwetambari have been remanded to seven days of police custody by the ACJM court in Udaipur in connection with an alleged Rs 30 crore fraud case. The couple was arrested from their Mumbai residence on December 7 and brought to Udaipur late Monday night. The duo was produced in court on Tuesday afternoon. DSP Chhagan Singh Rajpurohit is leading the investigation. Upon arrival in Udaipur, both attempted to avoid media cameras. Vikram Bhatt has already challenged the case in the Jodhpur High Court, where the hearing is scheduled. Earlier, the Udaipur Police had arrested co-producer Mehboob Ansari and vendor Sandeep from Mumbai on November 16.

Telangana Rising Global Summit clocks in investments worth Rs 5.75 lakh crore



HYDERABAD (TSIT): The Telangana government announced that it secured investment agreements worth Rs.3.24 lakh crore on the second day of the Telangana Rising Global Summit, generating 1,40,500 employment opportunities. This comes a day after the state signed MoUs worth Rs.2.43 lakh crore.

A wide spectrum of sectors—including food processing, agritech, data centres, pharmaceuticals, biotech, electronics, and clean energy—saw substantial investor response. In the FMCG segment, Reliance Consumer Products Limited (RCPL) will establish a multi-product manufacturing facility on 100 acres with an investment of

Rs.1,500 crore, creating 1,000 direct jobs. Godrej Industries Group will expand its dairy unit to 5 lakh litres per day with a Rs.150 crore investment, generating 300 jobs. Fertilis India Pvt. Ltd. proposed a Rs.2,000 crore food and agriculture R&D centre and rare sugars manufacturing facility, set to create 800 jobs in two phases. Vintage Coffee announced a Rs.1,100 crore freeze-dried coffee plant, while KJS India will invest Rs.650 crore in F&B expansion. The data centre and technology sector saw massive commitments. JCK Infra Projects will invest Rs.9,000 crore, while Infraki DC Parks has proposed a game-changing Rs.70,000 crore 1 GW data park. AGP

Group plans a Rs.6,750 crore investment, and Purview Group aims to set up an AI-driven 50 MW data centre creating 3,000 jobs. Clean-energy-based data centres are also in the pipeline, including Aquellon Nexus Ltd's net-zero 50 MW facility. The pharma, biotech and life sciences industries emerged as major contributors. Hetero Group announced Rs.1,800 crore to expand pharma manufacturing, creating more than 9,000 jobs. Aurobindo Pharma will invest Rs.2,000 crore, while Granules India proposed a Rs.1,200 crore peptide and oncology CDMO unit. Biological E Ltd committed an additional Rs.3,500 crore, taking its total investment to Rs.4,000 crore and creating 3,000 jobs. Bharat Biotech will set up a Rs.1,000 crore CRDMO facility, and BioVaraum confirmed a Rs.250 crore regenerative medicine centre. In electronics and green energy, Kane's Technology will invest Rs.1,000 crore to expand electronics manufacturing, while Altmin is exploring a battery raw material facility.

The state also presented future opportunities at Bharat Future City, positioning Telangana as a potential gateway for UAE-Africa-India collaborations in tourism, wellness, logistics, and hospitality.

2,501 new confirmed mpox cases, 12 deaths reported from 44 countries in Oct: WHO

NEW DELHI (TSIT): A total of 2,501 new confirmed cases, including 12 deaths due to mpox, were reported from 44 countries in October, said the World Health Organization (WHO) on Tuesday. The latest situation report for the multi-country outbreak of mpox showed that all clades of the monkeypox virus (MPXV) continue to circulate. When mpox outbreaks are not rapidly contained, and human-to-human transmission is not interrupted, there is a risk of sustained community transmission. "In October 2025, 44 countries, across all WHO regions, reported a total of 2,501 new confirmed mpox cases, including 12 deaths (case fatality ratio [CFR] 0.5 per cent)," the WHO report said. Twenty-one countries in Africa reported active transmission of mpox in the last six weeks (from October 12 to November 23), with 1,734 confirmed cases, including 10 deaths. Democratic Republic of Congo, Liberia, Ghana, Kenya, and Uganda reported the highest number of cases, with Mali reporting mpox for the first time. New imported cases of mpox due to clade 1b MPXV

were reported among travellers in Belgium, Germany, Greece, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

A total of 43 new confirmed cases of mpox due to clade 1b MPXV have been reported across six WHO regions, between September 5 and November 24, outside areas where sustained community transmission of this virus strain has been occurring. In four of these regions (the Americas, Southeast Asia, Europe, and the Western Pacific), 24 cases reported no recent international travel, suggesting local transmission. Based on this, Italy, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, and the US are now considered to be experiencing community transmission of clade 1b MPXV. In addition, travel-related cases continue to be reported in many countries. Among the 43 cases, half (22) were documented among men who have sex with men, while other cases were linked to travel to countries with known community transmission of clade 1b MPXV, or secondary to travel-related cases (household contacts and/or sexual partners).



'Will always stand with Puducherry, our flag will fly here': Vijay

PUDUCHERRY, (TSIT): Actor-politician Vijay on Tuesday said that he will always stand with the people of Puducherry and his party will make strides in the union territory's politics. "I will always stand with the people of Puducherry, and in the coming Assembly elections, the flag of our party will surely fly here," he declared as he addressed his first major public rally in Puducherry.

Stressing emotional unity over political boundaries, he said Tamil Nadu and Puducherry may be separate states on paper, but "we are all one family".

The rally was held under tight

IT WILL BE GOOD IF TN'S DMK REGIME LEARNS FROM IMPARTIAL PUDUCHERRY GOVERNMENT. THEY WILL HOWEVER, NOT LEARN NOW," VIJAY SAID

security in the aftermath of the Karur tragedy that claimed 41 lives. The meeting took place at the Uppalam Harbour Complex, where only 5,000 people were allowed entry after rigorous scanning and verification. Police



deployment began in the early hours, and every attendee underwent strict security checks before entering the venue. As Vijay arrived on stage, he greeted supporters with waves and gestures, triggering thunderous

cheers from the crowd. Referring to the political legacy of M.G. Ramachandran (MGR), Vijay said it was Puducherry that once reminded Tamil Nadu not to forget MGR.

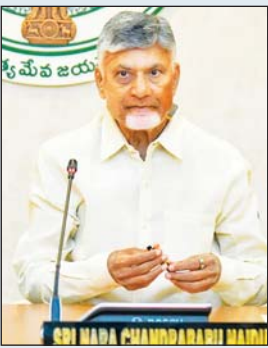
Rejecting suggestions that his political voice would be confined only to Tamil Nadu, he said he would fight just as strongly for the rights and concerns of Puducherry. He praised the Puducherry administration for the elaborate security arrangements at the venue and took a sharp swipe at the Tamil Nadu government, saying it should learn from these measures.

CM Naidu asks NDA leaders to participate in Atal Sandesh yatra

AMARAVATI (TSIT) : Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Tuesday asked leaders of the ruling National Democratic Alliance (NDA) to participate in 'Atal Sandesh-Modi Suparipalana' (good governance) Yatra to be organised in the state from December 11 to 25.

In a teleconference with NDA ministers, MPs, MLAs and MLCs, Chandrababu Naidu asked them to actively participate in the programme and make it a success. He asked the leaders of TDP, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and Jana Sena to participate in the yatra aimed at spreading former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee's message of good governance as part of his birth centenary celebrations.

He congratulated the BJP state executive for its decision to conduct the yatra across the state so that the youth are inspired by the late Prime Minister. Stating that Atal Bihari Vajpayee was considered "political Bhishma", the TDP chief said organising the programme as part of his centenary birth celebrations is a matter of plea-



sure. Chandrababu Naidu stated that Vajpayee laid the foundation for good governance in the country and that the policies he implemented sowed the seeds of development in the country. "Mr Vajpayee was a leader with no enemies and gave the country a leadership that every Indian is proud of," he said. The Chief Minister noted that Vajpayee was born in an ordinary family and achieved the pinnacle of success in life with hard work. He was elected to the Lok Sabha nine times and to the Rajya Sabha twice, which shows his greatness.

"He participated in the Quit India movement at the age of 18. In 1998, he conducted the Pokhran-2 nuclear tests to demonstrate India's power.

He gave a decisive reply to the enemy in the Kargil War," he said.

CM Naidu recalled that the Golden Quadrilateral Highway project, which came up during Vajpayee's tenure, changed the country's direction. "I had a personal association with him. He helped a lot in the development of the state. He was not one to say no to anything asked for by the state. He did whatever was useful for the people. He took quick decisions in drafting the policies," the Chief Minister said.

The TDP leader also mentioned that Vajpayee initiated reforms in the telecommunications and aviation sectors. "If you look at NTR and Vajpayee, you can understand what good governance should be like. NTR was also a leader with a unique personality. He used to always think of doing good for the people," he said. CM Naidu said that "whether it was a nuclear test then, or Sindoor operation now, Chaturbhuj (Golden Quadrilateral yesterday or Sagarmala today, they are all successful programmes under the NDA regime".

Investigation (CBI) have been compromised, with bureaucrats appointed to target opposition voices. In a dramatic moment, Gandhi invoked history, recalling Mahatma Gandhi's assassination on January 30, 1948. He argued that the RSS project began after the Father of the Nation was killed, with the aim of dismantling his vision of an equal India where institutions belonged to the people. "These are uncomfortable truths, but they have to be spoken," Gandhi said when treasury benches raised objections to his statements against RSS.

His remarks drew sharp objections from Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju, who insisted Gandhi was straying from the subject of electoral reforms. "He is not speaking anything related to electoral reforms," Rijiju said, urging the Speaker to direct Gandhi to remain relevant to the debate.

IndiGo is back on its feet, says CEO Pieter Elbers

NEW DELHI (TSIT) : IndiGo CEO Pieter Elbers said on Tuesday that the airline's operations have stabilised after days of widespread flight disruptions that left passengers stranded at major airports nationwide, as the low-cost carriers planes were grounded due to an acute shortage of pilots under the new flight duty limitation norms. Elbers claimed in a statement on X that "IndiGo is back on its feet," with efforts to restore the network progressing on a "war footing." He said the airline is now flying more than 1,800 flights a day, restoring its full network of 138 destinations. "As of December 9, our operations are fully stabilised," the CEO remarked. Elbers further stated that IndiGo has "started to focus internally on what led to the issue," indicating a deeper review of processes and resource planning.

Prez Murmu presents National Handicrafts Awards for 2023, 2024

NEW DELHI (TSIT): President Droupadi Murmu presented National Handicrafts Awards for the years 2023 and 2024 on Tuesday, highlighting that handicrafts are not only a part of our cultural identity but are also an important source of livelihood. Speaking on the occasion, the President said, "This sector employs over 3.2 million people. Most of the people who derive employment and income from handicrafts



live in rural or remote areas. This sector promotes inclusive development by decentralising employment and income." She said art reflects our memories of the past, experiences of the present, and aspirations for the future.

Akhilesh’s remarks for Muslim appeasement; TMC will be wiped out 'like Babri': UP Dy CM



BALLIA (UP): Uttar Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Brajesh Pathak on Monday accused Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav of being “misguided” and making baseless statements for the sake of Muslim appeasement and vote-bank politics.

Talking to reporters after inaugurating a school wrestling championship at the Veer Lorik Stadium in Ballia, Pathak also targeted the Trinamool Congress and said it will be “wiped out like Babari Masjid”.

He asserted that the BJP will score sweeping victories in assembly elec-

tions in Uttar Pradesh in 2027 and, more imminently, in West Bengal.

“Just as the people of Bihar have completely rejected the jungle raj of the RJD and given a massive mandate to the NDA, the Congress and the Samajwadi Party (SP) will face a similar outcome in Uttar Pradesh,” he said.

Pathak claimed that the BJP would repeat its 2017 performance in the 2027 assembly elections, winning more than 325 seats with a “thumping majority”.

Claiming a sweeping political change similarly in West Bengal, Pathak said, “In the 2026 assembly elections,

they (the Trinamool Congress) will be wiped out like the Babri Masjid and the BJP will form the government.”

The deputy chief minister further asked Yadav and Congress to “look within before commenting on others”.

He, however, did not mention any specific comments by the SP chief.

Participating in a discussion on the 150th anniversary of “Vande Mataram” in the Lok Sabha on Monday, Yadav hit out at the BJP, claiming that those who did not participate in the freedom struggle were now talking of the values of the national song.

SIR deliberately timed to stall development work in Bengal: Mamata Mamata

KOLKATA: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday alleged that the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls was “deliberately timed” to stall development projects in the state.

During an administrative review meeting in Cooch Behar, Banerjee said officials associated with the exercise were under “immense pressure”, but urged them to not ignore development work due to the SIR.

The revision of electoral rolls began in the state on November 4 with the distribution of enumeration forms, which will continue till December 11.

“I know there is immense pressure on the booth-level officers (BLOs), sub-divisional officers (SDOs) and booth-level agents (BLAs). But, development projects and work on the SIR, both have to continue,” the chief minister said.

“This SIR is deliberately timed now to stall development projects of the state government. Why this hurriedness to complete this exercise in two months? Last time, it took two years. But, development work is a continuous process, and there should not be any neglect in it,” she said.

Banerjee maintained that the SIR was aimed at “snatching away the voting rights” of the common people and help the BJP in elections.

The CM also asked district magistrates to assist the BLOs in the SIR exercise.

Banerjee urged people to attend the hearings of the Election Commission following the SIR, adding that ‘May I Help You’ booths will be set up in every ward from December 12 to assist voters.

The TMC supremo also likened the ongoing crisis in the aviation sector with the SIR process, alleging that both were a result of poor planning.

Centre sanctions 1.11 cr houses under two schemes of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana

NEW DELHI: The Centre has sanctioned 1.11 crore houses under two schemes of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, with 95.54 lakh of those houses having already been completed and handed over to beneficiaries, Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs Manohar Lal informed the Rajya Sabha on Monday.

Replying to supplementaries during the question hour, the minister said that, according to a 2020 slum survey, as many as 6.5 crore people, comprising 1.39 crore households, were living in slums across the country. “Under both schemes, the Centre has sanctioned 1.11 crore houses and 1.10 crore have been grounded, of which 95.54 lakh houses have been ready and handed over,” the minister told the house.

He said land and colonisation are State subjects and policies and programmes related to slum rehabilitation rest with respective states/Union Territories (UTs). Hence, data related to slum rehabilitation or relocation is not maintained by the ministry, he added.

“However, as regards the National Capital Territory of Delhi (NCTD), the slum rehabilitation and/or demolitions are done by various land owning agencies like Delhi Development Authority (DDA), Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board (DUSIB), etc., under the provisions of various applicable Acts.

“As per the information received from DDA, as part of the Slum Rehabilitation/ Relocation programme, DDA has carried out demolition after properly rehabilitating eligible slum

dwellers. It involves a total of 5,158 households, out of which a total of 3,414 were found eligible for alternative rehabilitation as per the DUSIB policy,” the minister said in his written reply.

The eligible dwellers have been provided with alternative rehabilitation with all modern facilities, he said.

Implementing agencies execute slum rehabilitation projects based on their own land management policies and the slum rehabilitation policy of States/UTs. During the slum rehabilitation or/and resettlement, land owning agencies/implementing agencies and affected families/beneficiaries may also seek assistance under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – Urban (PMAY-U) and PMAY-U 2.0, if beneficiaries are otherwise eligible, he said.

“Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) is supplementing the efforts of States/UTs by providing central assistance under PMAY-U since June 25, 2015, for the construction of houses for eligible families/beneficiaries, including slum dwellers. “Further, based on the learnings from the experiences of implementation of PMAY-U, MoHUA has revamped the scheme and launched PMAY-U 2.0 ‘Housing for All’ Mission with effect from September 1, 2024, to support 1 crore additional eligible beneficiaries in urban areas. PMAY-U 2.0 is implemented through four verticals, i.e., Beneficiary Led Construction (BLC), Affordable Housing in Partnership (AHP), Affordable Rental Housing (ARH) and Interest Subsidy Scheme (ISS),” he said.

Cong approaches CBI for probe into 'irregularities' at Tezpur University

TEZPUR: The Congress Legislature Party in Assam on Monday filed a complaint with the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) for initiating a probe against Tezpur University Vice Chancellor Shambhu Nath Singh for his alleged corruption and other forms of irregularities.

The opposition party's student wing NSUI has also lodged a police complaint in Hailakandi district against Singh, who has been absent from the central university since September 22 after a student-led agitation was initiated against him.

The varsity in Sonitpur district of Assam has been under a complete shutdown since November 29, as a joint forum of all stakeholders has

demanding removal of the VC and start of an enquiry against his actions.

“I write this letter in the interest of transparency, public accountability and protection of public funds, with a request that the Anti-Corruption Bureau/CBI conduct an independent enquiry into multiple allegations of financial, administrative and statutory irregularities that have arisen at Tezpur University over the past several years,” the Congress said in its letter to CBI's Guwahati head.

These concerns have been widely circulated in public forums, raised formally by students, faculty bodies and staff associations, and some have also emerged through official institutional mechanisms

such as replies to Right to Information applications, said the letter signed by Leader of Opposition Debabrata Saikia and MLAs Nurul Huda and Sibamoni Bora.

“Initiate a thorough, time-bound, impartial inquiry into the alleged financial and administrative irregularities at Tezpur University. Examine procurement records, tender documents, and financial transactions from the past several years,” the opposition party urged the CBI.

The Congress Legislature Party (CLP) also requested the central probe agency to verify the RTI-related claim that crucial documents pertaining to the VC's appointment and qualifications are ‘not available in the office’.

Election Commission appoints 5 senior IAS officers as Special Roll Observers for SIR in West Bengal



KOLKATA: The Election Commission on Monday appointed five senior IAS officers as Special Roll Observers (SRO) for various divisions of West Bengal to oversee the work relating to the SIR exercise, officials said.

Ministry of Defence Joint Secretary Kumar Ravi Kant Singh was appointed the SRO for the Presidency division, while MHA Joint Secretary Niraj Kumar Bansod was assigned the responsibility of the Medinipur division.

I&B Ministry Joint Secretary Krishna Kumar Nirala was named the SRO for the Burdwan division, Department of Economic Affairs Joint Secretary Alok

Tiwari has been made the SRO for the Malda division, and Department of Rural Development Joint Secretary Pankaj Yadav has been appointed the SRO for the Jalpaiguri division.

The EC had earlier appointed retired IAS officer Subrata Gupta as the Special Roll Observer in connection with the SIR, besides setting up a team of 12 IAS officers as Electoral Roll Observers to oversee the key aspects of preparation of the electoral roll and help the DEOs and EROs in taking corrective measures.

“The appointment of SROs ensures enhanced scrutiny and transparency

in the SIR process across all divisions. Their presence will strengthen monitoring and compliance with EC norms,” an official at the CEO's office said.

“The observers will supervise electoral roll-related activities and ensure adherence to EC guidelines in their respective jurisdictions,” he said.

Taking note of a plea alleging extreme work pressure faced by booth-level officers (BLOs) engaged in time-bound special revision of electoral rolls, the Supreme Court last Thursday directed the states and Union Territories to consider deputing additional employees to reduce their working hours.

SC wonders why all forest cases directly come to it

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Monday wondered why all the matters concerning forests and lakes are coming to the apex court bypassing the high courts that too in the form of interim applications in a pending PIL of 1995.

“Why are all forest matters coming to this court,” a bench comprising Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi wondered at the outset.

Referring to an application related to the Sukhna lake case, the CJ said apparently, it seemed a “friendly match” was going on at the behest of some private developers and others.

Punjab: Arms smuggling module linked to Pak-based handler busted: 6 held

CHANDIGARH: The Punjab Police on Monday claimed it has dismantled a cross-border arms smuggling module with links to a Pakistan-based handler and apprehended six persons, including a juvenile.

Police recovered six firearms -- five .30 bore pistols, and one 9mm PX5 pistol -- from the accused, Director General of Police (DGP) Gaurav Yadav said.

The accused have been identified as Gurbir Singh alias Sonu, resident of Kotli Vasava Singh village in Tarn Taran; Gurpreet Singh alias Gopa, Gorka Singh alias Gora, and Rajwinder Singh alias Raju -- all residents of Khem Karan in Tarn Taran; Jaspal Singh alias Jass, resident of Bachiwind in Amritsar, and a 16-year-old resident of Sultanpur Lodhi.

Preliminary investigation has revealed that the accused were in direct contact with a Pakistan-based handler through social media platforms, who shared coordinates to retrieve and further supply weapon consignments.

The organised gang had been supplying these weapon consignments to criminals operating in the Majha and Doaba regions of the state to carry out nefarious activities, he said.

The DGP said further investigation is in progress to establish the network's backward and forward linkages, and identify receivers and financial channels in the case.

Sharing operational details, Amritsar Police Commissioner Gurpreet Singh Bhullar said the first breakthrough came when a police team, in an intelligence-led operation, arrested suspects Gurbir and Gurpreet and recovered two .30 bore pistols.

Interrogation of the suspects revealed the entire network, he said, adding that follow-up raids led to the arrest of their associates Gorka with a .30 bore pistol, Jaspal with a .30 bore pistol, and Rajwinder with a 9MM PX5 pistol.

A juvenile associate was also detained with a .30 bore pistol, he added.

The commissioner said Gorka and Rajwinder have previous criminal cases registered against them, including Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act violations and charges related to rape and offences under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act.

Two accomplices from Kapurthala district have been identified as receivers of the illegal weapons, he said, adding that raids are being conducted to nab them.

Struggle to Strength A Man Born with Purpose. Shaping the Future of Telangana.

The Telangana Rising Global Summit at Bharat Future City stands as a high impact platform translating a forward looking development vision into meaningful investor engagement, policy alignment and an integrated roadmap for rapid progress. It aims to accelerate Telangana's journey toward the \$1T goal by 2034 and the \$3T aspiration for 2047, with far reaching economic and social benefits for the state and beyond. This momentum reflects the Chief Minister's strong commitment and purposeful leadership, shaped by years of perseverance, resilience and unwavering dedication to public service. In the evolving political and developmental landscape of Telangana, one leader stands out for his grit, vision, and groundedness, Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy. His journey from humble beginnings to the helm of leadership reflects the timeless truth that struggle shapes strength. What follows is not just a

chronicle of his governance, but a portrait of conviction transforming into collective progress.

The Making of a Leader:

From early on, it was evident that Revanth Reddy aspired for more than personal advancement. He envisioned a life rooted in public service, one that would leave tangible, transformative imprints on his land and its people. His resolve was forged not in comfort, but in challenge, each setback became a stepping stone, each failure, a lesson. These trials shaped the resilience and conviction that would later define his leadership ethos. His success is no mystery. It is the cumulative result of long days, sleepless nights, and an unwavering belief that social change emerges from consistent effort and fearless conviction. As he leads, his life becomes an exemplar of how passion, discipline, and purpose driven vision can truly move mountains.

Landmark Projects & Signature



Deeds:

1. Musi River Rejuvenation / Beautification.

Among his boldest environmental initiatives stands the Musi River Rejuvenation Project, often mischaracterized as mere “beautification” but envisioned as a complete ecological and urban revival. The plan seeks to restore the Musi's health, clear encroachments, rechannel its flow, and transform it

into a sustainable urban waterway.

The Chief Minister defends the project as a structural necessity for Hyderabad's future, preventing floods, reclaiming ecology, improving livelihoods, and positioning the city globally.

Critics allege mismanagement or inflated costs, yet supporters note that transformation inevitably disturbs the status quo. For Revanth Reddy, reviving the Musi is not cosmetic, it is symbolic of cleansing the city's developmental conscience.

2. Young India Integrated Residential Schools (YIIRS)

To rebuild the foundation of Telangana's education system, Revanth Reddy launched the Young India Integrated Residential Schools (YIIRS) initiative, one in every constituency, each on 25 acres.

Over Rs.11,600 crore has been earmarked for this mission.

The goal is to provide quality, holistic education to rural and underprivileged children, bridging access gaps and nurturing future leaders. Simultaneously, junior colleges and digital infrastructure are being upgraded for systemic improvement. While lauded for vision, critics argue that resources should first strengthen existing public schools. Yet, the initiative underscores Revanth Reddy's belief that transformative reform

demands new architecture, not patchwork repairs.

3. Young India Skills University (YISU)

Recognizing the employability gap, the government established Young India Skills University (YISU), a forward looking public-private partnership integrating academia, industry, and state effort. YISU provides industry aligned skill training in logistics, healthcare, pharma, BFSI, and communication. Its permanent campus is rising within Bharat Future City, a visionary 30,000 acre masterplan. YISU embodies Telangana's focus on bridging learning with livelihood, preparing its youth for the knowledge economy.

4. Reassuring the Youth: Campus Engagement

Revanth Reddy's personal interactions with students, particularly at Osmania University and other campuses, reflect his effort to reconnect government with the youth.

Massive investments flow into Telangana on day 2 of Rising Global Summit 2025

CONTINUED FROM PAGE-1

Food Link F&B Holdings alone committed Rs.3,000 crore. Dream Valley Golf and Resorts (Rs.1,000 crore), Saras Infrastructure (Rs.1,000 crore), Atmosphere Core Hotels Maldives (Rs.800 crore), KEI Group (Rs.200 crore), Polin Group Turkey (Rs.300 crore), Multiverse Hotels (Rs.300 crore), Fludra India Spain (Rs.300 crore), Sri Havisha Hospitality (Rs.300 crore), Ridhira Group (Rs.120 crore) and others finalized major hospitality and recreation projects. The investments are expected to create 10,000 direct and 30,000 indirect jobs. In the industrial sector, TWI Group announced the world's first plug-in hybrid motorbike manufacturing facility in Telangana with a Rs.1,100 crore investment, generating 500 jobs. Mahindra & Mahindra will invest over Rs.500 crore to expand its Zaheerabad unit. India Extreme Adventure is developing a 20-acre extreme sports and e-sports arena with Rs.500 crore. The summit also attracted global service sector investments. Juric Insurance selected Hyderabad for its first Global Capability Center in India, to be expanded over three years. With unprecedented interest across sectors, officials said the summit reaffirmed Telangana's position as a leading destination for global investment and innovation.

Northeast central to India's growth story: Union minister Chandra Sekhar

KOHIMA: Union Minister Pemmasani Chandra Sekhar on Monday underscored the transformative role of culture, connectivity and water conservation in shaping the country's future.

Addressing the Nagaland State-Level Launching Programme of Watershed Mahotsav 2025 at Naga Solidarity Park, here, Sekhar highlighted the Centre's renewed focus on the Northeast, stating that before the Modi government, the region was largely viewed as a frontier.

“Modiji brought the Northeast to the centre of India's growth story,” he said, citing rapid improvements in railways, highways and digital connectivity that are opening

new opportunities in agriculture, tourism and employment.

Pointing to Nagaland's natural resources—cobalt, crude oil, spices—and its English-language advantage, the Union minister of state for communications and rural development said identifying such strengths became possible due to Modi's vision.

He added that his remarks were heartfelt and not political rhetoric, noting that he serves in the NDA as a minister from the Telugu Desam Party.

Sekhar stressed that water security is now national security, warning that India's declining per capita water availability places it in the “water-stressed” category. He

highlighted the outcomes of watershed development under PM Krishi Sanchayi Vajra (PMKSY), noting six-fold economic returns, a 70 per cent rise in farmers' income, 40 per cent increase in milk production and a threefold rise in groundwater levels in project areas.

The minister emphasised the Centre's preferential funding pattern for the Northeast, where 90 per cent of project costs are borne by the government of India, compared to 60 per cent in other states. He urged the state government and communities to make optimal use of this support.

Commending Nagaland's progress, he said 14 watershed projects worth Rs 140 crore



'Let everything be good': Shivakumar on Yathindra Siddaramaiah's remarks on K'taka CM post



Bengaluru/Belagavi, Dec 9 : Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister and state Congress President D.K. Shivakumar has reacted to the remarks made by MLC Yathindra Siddaramaiah on the CM post issue, saying that he was very happy and wished for everything to be good. Yathindra Siddaramaiah stated on Monday that Chief Minister Siddaramaiah would complete his full term and that the high command had turned down D.K. Shivakumar's claims to the post. Speaking in Bengaluru before leaving for Belagavi on Tuesday, Shivakumar said, "Very happy. Let everything be good, let it be good for the state," when asked about Yathindra's remarks.

After his arrival at the Sambra Airport in Belagavi to participate in the winter session of the state legislature, his supporters raised slogans in his favour, shouting

"Shivakumar next CM".Party sources said the development was a response to Yathindra's statement made in Belagavi on Monday, asserting that Siddaramaiah would complete his five-year tenure as Chief Minister.

Meanwhile, Congress MLC Channaraj Hattiholi posted a message on social media welcoming the Deputy Chief Minister to Belagavi, referring to him as "Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar", which drew public attention. Channaraj is the brother of Minister Laxmi Hebbalkar, a close associate of Shivakumar.Speaking to the media on Tuesday, MLC Channaraj said that at a time when both Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister Shivakumar have stated that they will abide by the high command's decisions, and senior leaders have echoed the same, Yathindra's statement was

unnecessary.

"When the high command has said it will take an appropriate decision, we need to wait until then," he added.

Reacting to the developments, Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy said there was no confusion within the party and that the high command's decisions would be final. When asked why no action was being taken against Yathindra for repeatedly commenting on leadership matters, the minister said leaders must be cautious and responsible when making public statements.It can be recalled, responding to questions about an alleged leadership tussle within the ruling Congress, Yathindra Siddaramaiah said on Monday that those predicting a change in the Chief Minister's position were "dreaming". He said the Congress high command has made it clear that there will be no change in leadership in the state.

Yathindra said, "Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar has said he is an aspirant for the CM's post. In response, the high command has clarified that this is not the appropriate time and also made it clear that there will be no change in the Chief Minister."

He added, "The matter ends there. Hence, there is no tussle anymore. Opposition parties are unnecessarily spreading rumours and creating perceptions." When asked about speculation that CM Siddaramaiah would be asked to resign after the Belagavi session, Yathindra said.

Siddaramaiah seeks PM's nod for immediate Toor Dal MSP procurement

BENGALURU: Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Tuesday urged the union Government to immediately approve Minimum Support Price (MSP) procurement of Toor Dal, warning that procedural delays at the Centre were pushing lakhs of farmers towards distress sales ahead of peak market arrivals.

In a detailed letter addressed to the union Government, Siddaramaiah said he was writing with "grave urgency and rising alarm" on behalf of Toor Dal growers whose economic stability was coming under "avoidable and unjustifiable risk" due to delayed approval for procurement.He noted that during the current Kharif season (2025-26), Toor Dal had been sown across nearly 16.80 lakh hectares in Karnataka, with an estimated output of over 12.60 lakh metric tonnes. The crop forms the primary income source for farmers across Kalaburagi, Yadgir, Bidar, Raichur, Vijayapura, Koppal, Belagavi, Ballari, Vijayanagara, Bagalkote, Kolar, Chikkaballapura and Chitradurga.

Siddaramaiah said modal market prices were currently between Rs 5,830 and Rs 6,700 per quintal, significantly below the MSP of about Rs 8,000 per quintal for 2025-26.

While peak arrivals are expected between December 2025 and January 2026, the union Government is scheduled to open procurement centres only in February and March, he said, adding that such delays would



infect a severe income shock on farmers."When the market price falls below MSP, it is not merely a question of economics, it is a question of trust between the farmer and the State," the Chief Minister said.He added that farmers had sown Toor Dal believing in the MSP guarantee of the Government of India, and each day of delay was pushing them closer to debt and distress sales.

Siddaramaiah pointed out that the Karnataka Government had already submitted a formal proposal on November 6, 2025, seeking immediate approval for MSP procurement through NAFED and NCCF.

"However, we are still awaiting a response from the union Government, even as market arrivals are approaching rapid-

ly," he said. He warned that any further postponement would inevitably lead to farmer unrest, price collapse and a loss of trust in MSP as a credible policy instrument. Karnataka farmers were seeking only the rightful enforcement of a price already declared by the Centre, he said. Calling the issue a "moral test" of the nation's commitment to those who ensure food security, Siddaramaiah appealed to the union Government to approve procurement without delay and ensure operational deployment across major procurement centres before peak arrivals begin.

"Karnataka's farmers have never failed the nation, even during droughts, floods and economic shocks. The nation must now stand firmly with them in return," he said.

National Leader Sonia Gandhi's 78th Birthday Celebrated Meaningfully at Karnataka Blind School



Bengaluru: KPCC General Secretary S Manohar celebrated the 78th birthday of Smt. Sonia Gandhi with the blind children at Karnataka Blind School with an emotional and service spirit.

On this occasion, breakfast was arranged with the children of the blind school and the children were also provided with the necessary financial assistance. The children wished Smt. Sonia Gandhi ji a happy birthday.

Speaking on the occasion, he said that Smt. Sonia Gandhi ji is a unique leader who put into practice the Mahatma's sentiment that the welfare and development of the people of the country is more important than the power of the country and sacrificed the post of Prime Minister and appointed Dr. Manmohan Singh as the Prime

Minister. He said that she remains an inspiration to the citizens of the country even today, with her unwavering concern for the poor, the weak and the common people.We are still following his ideals, which always energize Congress workers, guide the youth, and give confidence to women. He said that the commitment to work for the bright future of the country under his leadership and guidance was reaffirmed through this program. On this occasion, he said that may God give more strength to Smt. Sonia Gandhiji, and may she continuously work for the development of the country. Many party workers including Anand, Prakash, Chandrashekhara, Umesh, Kushal Haruvegowda, Naveen, Praveen Rao, Hemraj were present in this program.

Students must dream big, says Uplokayukta K.N. Phanindra at Soundarya Central School annual day



Bengaluru : Soundarya Central School grandly celebrated its Annual Day, organizing the event into three distinct segments: Preparatory, Foundational, and Main Annual Day, each featuring diverse concepts.

Speaking at the function, Upalokayukta Shri K.N. Phanindra emphasized the importance of childhood education, "The time of childhood does not return. The lessons learned during these days are never forgotten. Students must dream big in life, and parents must encourage their children's dreams. Schools should give equal priority to co-curricular activities alongside the prescribed curriculum."

Pediatrician Dr. Supraja Chandrashekhara discussed the role of diet in children's development. She stressed that "Healthy eating habits are foundational for children's physical growth, sharp learning abilities, and emotional balance," and appreciated the school's commitment to holistic development.

Kirtan Kumar, CEO of the Central School, expressed his delight, saying, "We are providing high-quality education to our students. We are not just limiting ourselves to textbooks but are also prioritizing co-curricular activities. It is a pleasure to see the students participate with such great enthusiasm."

KARNATAKA DECLARES PERMANENT SPECIAL AGRICULTURAL ZONE NEAR DEVANAHALLI, CLARIFIES NO LAND SALE RESTRICTIONS

Bengaluru: The Karnataka Government has officially declared 1,777 acres across 13 villages in Channarayana hobi, Devanahalli taluk, as a Permanent Special Agricultural Zone, reaffirming that farmers retain complete freedom to sell their land without any restrictions.Dr. S. Selvakumar, Principal Secretary, Department of Industries, issued a strong clarification following rumours suggesting that farmers' rights to sell their land had been curtailed. "Any claim that this decision causes hardship to farmers is untrue. We are preventing real-estate misuse, not limiting farmers' freedom," he said.

The region was earlier notified for an Aerospace Park, but after farmers expressed their desire to continue agricultural activities, the Government withdrew the acquisition and reserved the area exclusively for farming. Farmers may still voluntarily sell their land to the Government and will be compensated as per the Land Price Determination Committee's

decision, but they are not obligated to do so.In a meeting chaired by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, the Government decided not only to denotify the land but also to grant it enhanced protection as a Permanent Special Agricultural Zone. Officials assured that the region will receive modern agricultural infrastructure and development support.

Farmers in the zone will benefit from high-yield seeds, cold storage, organic farming support, hydroponics, improved water and soil systems, direct market access, e-trading platforms, tax exemptions for agri-startups, faster approvals, and opportunities for agro-industrial investment and exports. Plans also include training centres, labs, food-processing units, and expanded banking and credit access.

The Government noted that similar agricultural zones exist in Tamil Nadu, Chhattisgarh, Uttarakhand, Maharashtra, and abroad. A committee will study these models to extend the best benefits to Karnataka's farmers.

Kidwai Performs Complex Bone Marrow Transplant on Child with Single Kidney



Bangalore : The State-run Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology (KMIO) has achieved a significant milestone by successfully performing a stem cell / bone marrow transplantation (BMT) on a 9-year-old boy with relapsed Wilms' tumor, a type of kidney cancer, who has a single functioning kidney. This complex procedure further strengthens Kidwai's position as a leading public-sector cancer care centre in the country. The child, Yuvraj (name changed), was diagnosed with Wilms' tumor in December 2022 and underwent chemotherapy, complete removal of the left kidney (nephrectomy), followed by radiation therapy. His cancer unfortunately recurred in April 2025, and with his mother working as a domestic help and his father as a daily-wage labourer, the family faced severe financial constraints in accessing advanced treatment.The transplant was successfully performed recently by Dr. Vasundhara Kailasnath, Associate Professor - BMT and her team at Kidwai. They concluded that patient's best chance of survival despite the relapse was high-dose chemotherapy followed by BMT.During the child's discharge on Saturday evening, Dr. Sharan Prakash Patil, Minister for Medical Education and Skill Development congratulated the medical team for their exemplary work and dedication.

Advanced Robotic Technology Enables Complex Double Valve Replacement for 53-Year-Old Woman at Apollo Bengaluru

Bengaluru : Doctors at Apollo Hospitals, Bengaluru, have achieved a major medical milestone by successfully performing a rare and highly complex robotic double valve replacement using the latest-generation Da Vinci Xi Surgical System . This achievement places Apollo among the very few centres in India to execute this procedure in the modern era of advanced robotic cardiac surgery.

The procedure was led by Dr. Sathyaki Nambala , renowned cardiac surgeon and Chief of Robotic Cardiac Surgery at Apollo Hospitals, Bengaluru. This landmark surgery marks a significant advancement in bringing complex multi-valve replacement into the domain of minimally invasive, robotic-assisted cardiac care in India.

Although robotic double valve replacement was reported in India over a decade ago, those early attempts were limited to first-generation robotic systems. With breakthroughs in robotic technology, high-definition visualization, advanced instrumentation, and refined surgical

workflow, Apollo Bengaluru has now re-established and significantly advanced this demanding procedure using today's most sophisticated robotic platform.

The patient, a 53-year-old woman, presented with severe destruction of both the aortic and mitral valves due to infective endocarditis. She also suffered from multiple comorbidities, including rheumatoid arthritis, obesity, thyroid dysfunction, and a prior stroke, making her a high-risk candidate for conventional open-heart surgery.

Given the complexity, the surgical team opted for a minimally invasive robotic approach using the Da Vinci Xi Surgical System. A simultaneous aortic and mitral valve replacement with bioprosthetic valves was successfully performed under transesophageal echocardiographic (TEE) guidance. The entire surgery was completed through small keyhole incisions, without the need for a midline sternotomy. The patient was extubated and mobilised within 12 hours, transferred to the ward shortly thereafter, and discharged on the third



postoperative day. At her one-week follow-up, she remained asymptomatic and in good health, highlighting the safety, precision, and patient-centric advantages of robotic cardiac surgery even in high-risk cases. Dr. Sathyaki Nambala, National Director, Robotic Cardiac Surgery, Apollo Hospitals said: "This achievement represents a major milestone not only for Apollo,

but for the cardiac surgery community in Asia. While robotic double valve replacement has been attempted in the past, performing it today with next-generation robotic platforms introduces an entirely new level of precision, control, and safety. This evolution has allowed us to reinvent what is possible in complex multi-valve surgery through a truly minimally inva-

sive approach."Dr. Girish B. Navasundi, Director Cath Lab & Senior Consultant – Cardiology, Apollo Hospitals *, Bengaluru, added: "The success of this procedure highlights how advanced robotic technology is redefining the landscape of cardiac surgery. It demonstrates the immense potential of minimally invasive, robotic-assisted interventions in managing complex valvular heart disease safely and effectively—ensuring reduced surgical trauma, minimal blood loss, and faster recovery for patients."



IndoStar Capital Finance Limited

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NOTICE
Notice is hereby given that as per Chapter II Para B, Reserve Bank of India (Non-Banking Financial Company - Branch Authorisation) Directions, 2025, the branch office of the Company located at **KMA Tower, 3rd Floor, Room No.26 & 27, Near Christuraj Church, Kannamkulangara, Thrissur, Kerala - 680007** will be closed with effect from close of business hours of 10-03-2026 as operations are being shifted to a nearby branch office located at **1st Floor, Door No. 354/C, PK Towers, near Amala Hospital, Choorakkattukara, Amalanagar, Amalanagar PO, Dist: Thrissur, Kerala - 680555**. In case any assistance is required, you may contact the nearest branch office as mentioned above or send an email to contact@indostarcapital.com. This notice may be accessed on the Company's website (www.indostarcapital.com).
For IndoStar Capital Finance Limited
Date : 10.12.2025
Authorised Signatory



MANAPPURAM HOME FINANCE LIMITED

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POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)
Whereas, the undersigned being the authorised officer of Manappuram Home Finance Ltd ("MAHOFIN") under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest ("SARFESI") Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 9 of the security interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice calling upon the borrowers and co-borrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the notice and interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken 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 9 of the said rules. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Manappuram Home Finance Ltd as mentioned below for each of the respective properties:

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower and Co-borrower / Loan account number/ Branch	Description Of Secured Asset In Respect Of Which Interest Has Been Created	Date of Demand Notice sent & Outstanding Amount	Date of Possession
1	Vinod B George, Soumya S, Vijayamma D, NML0015003321/ Kottayam	All That is Part And Parcel of Property Having An Extent of 1.41 Acres In Sy. No. 544-5, Block No 12 Re. Sy. No. 109/4-3, Eraviperor Village, Thiruvalla Taluk, Pathanamthitta, District Kerala, Pin: 689542, East-Property of Sathananthan, West-Property of Rajamma, South-Road, North-Vazhi	13-09-2025 Rs.56861/-	06-12-2025

Date: 10th December 2025 | Place: KERALA | Sd/- Authorised Officer Manappuram Home Finance Ltd

EDITORIAL

The Little-Known Story Of How Russia Gave Sonia Gandhi Her Name - And Changed Her Family's Fate

The inability of the Gandhis to meet Russian president Vladimir Putin during his recent visit to New Delhi would likely have upset Sonia Gandhi, too, though for reasons non-political as well. For she, in particular, shares special ties with a country that her husband's family befriended and where her father was once a prisoner of war. Sonia, who turns 79 today, received a special birthday message fourteen years ago from the then Russian President, Dmitry Medvedev (currently Deputy Chairperson of the Security Council of Russia and Putin's foremost champion). "You [Sonia] carry on the Gandhi family's legacy, working consistently to strengthen democracy, further India's social and economic development, and improve the international security system and global order, and these efforts have won you great confidence from your people and much respect and influence around the world," Medvedev wrote in the letter, adding, "Russia values highly your contribution to preserving and building on the longstanding traditions of friendship between our countries and your efforts in taking us to a new level in our relations - that of a privileged strategic partnership." A Letter For A 'Personal Loss' The goodwill went both ways. In 2017, in an unusual gesture, Sonia, as the longest serving president of the Indian National Congress, penned a personal condolence letter grieving the death of ambassador Alexander Kadakin. Describing it as a "personal loss", she wrote, "For me and my family, the passing away of Alexander Kadakin's death is a personal loss. Prime Ministers Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi held him in high esteem and valued his friendship." The letter was addressed to the then Russian minister-counsellor Anatoly V Kargapolov at the New Delhi-based Russian embassy. Both diplomatic and political sources in the national capital noticed this unusual gesture by a political party in opposition. "It shows her high personal regard for ambassador Kadakin, who was a personal friend of Rajiv Gandhi," recalled an old-timer in the Congress. Sonia said she remembered Kadakin for his "large-hearted personality, his deep love for India" and "his ability to strike up a real rapport with a wide cross-section of Indians [which] won him countless friends in our country". "He embodied all the warmth, generosity and steadfastness of the Russian soul," she said, adding, "For him India, where he breathed his last, was truly a second home."

The War Years Sonia's love for Russia, however, was forged in childhood itself. Her father, Stephano Maino, had been a young man when, during World War II, he slung a rifle on his shoulder and marched into Russia with the invading Italian forces. He was detained in the towns of Vladimir and Suzdal for several years, until three Russian women helped him escape. A grateful Stephano named his daughters after the three benefactors: Sonia, Nadia and Anushka. In his book, diplomat-turned-politician Natwar Singh recounted a trip to Russia he undertook with Sonia in 2005. According to Singh, who was the External Affairs Minister then, they went to a town called Vladimir by helicopter after official meetings concluded. He was amused by the decision to visit this little-known town. "We [Sonia and Natwar] left for Vladimir town in the afternoon by helicopter. I was at a loss why Sonia Gandhi was visiting an obscure medieval town. Soon, we arrived at an unkempt courtyard, the main building had been a church, now converted into a museum. Inside, we came to an octagonal room. One of the walls were stuck with paper slips. Sonia was much interested in these. She reads Russian and obviously was looking for something. 'Natwar, my father was a prisoner of war here during the World War II. He [Stefano Maino] escaped, walking all the way to Italy'. She was deeply moved. This was for her a very special moment, I listened. Any comment would have been banal and inappropriate," Singh wrote in Walking With Lions - Tales From A Diplomatic Past, which came out in early 2013.

The Beauty of Solitude and the Journey Within: The Need for Spiritual Discipline in Changing Times



PRIYANKA SAURABH

Maintaining the inner world amidst the glamor of the outer world is the greatest balance in life. Today's human being is constantly in a race—a race to achieve goals, a race to show off, and a race to meet the expectations of others. In this rush, what is most often missed is one's own inner world. Modern lifestyles have connected us so much to the outside world that we have lost time to be in touch with ourselves. In such times, "solitude" is no longer a luxury but a necessity for mental and spiritual health. This is the moment when life gently tells us—be inwardly alone, don't live aimlessly, meditate, and read good books. Life's direction becomes clear only when there is peace within. Aimless wandering only tires, not inspires. For the spiritual journey, solitude is the lamp that illuminates the depths of the mind. Meditation and study are two strong pillars that guide those depths. Meditation gives stability, and study provides breadth. Together, they instill purpose, discipline, and creativity in life. It's

not necessary for humans to isolate themselves from society. Humans are social creatures—intermingling with others is a natural part of life. But the real problem arises when we become so immersed in others that we lose the opportunity to truly connect with ourselves. Therefore, taking an hour or two for ourselves every day is not only a key to mental health, but also a key to life management. This time awakens us, washes away fatigue, and replenishes our inner energy. Stay separate, but stay grounded within—this is the ideal balance. Enjoying solitude isn't an escape. It's a process of self-regeneration. It's the peace that comes from sitting in a corner and bringing the mind back to its original rhythm. It's the space where life's unanswered questions begin to answer themselves. Thoughts are purified, emotions are controlled, and goals become clear. Despite so many benefits, people fear solitude because they haven't practiced sitting with themselves. But the truth is—only a person who is happy with themselves can bring happiness to others. But enjoying solitude doesn't mean turning away from society. A person's personality is complete when they maintain a balance between solitude and interaction. When you meet others, do so with complete love and friendship. Let your presence fill people's hearts with positivity; this is a spiritual practice; and solitude is the foundation of this practice. A person who is stable within becomes an inspiration to others. People never forget see-

ing such a person; they remember that they met a soul who sowed the seeds of joy and love within them. The biggest challenge today is that despite living among people, people are lonely within, and even when alone, they are disconnected from themselves. The glare of social media, the constant flow of information, and the burden of external expectations keep the mind so busy that a moment of peace becomes rare. In such an environment, solitude protects us just as the shore protects a sailor at sea. It becomes our anchor in life's strong winds. Solitude gives life balance. Meditation gives it depth. Study gives it direction. And love—that's what makes life meaningful. When these four elements come together, life is no longer just a game of external achievements; it becomes a meaningful journey. Society needs such individuals—those who are calm within and compassionate without; those who strengthen the soul in their lonely mornings and bring a smile to the world in their crowded afternoons; those whose presence does not belittle people but elevates them; those who have humility in their words, compassion in their hearts, and perseverance in their lives. The message is clear—return within yourself. Give direction to your life. Sit alone for a while, but when you meet the world, do so with love and friendship. May people remember you for lighting a small lamp of joy and hope in their hearts. This is the purpose of solitude—to first illuminate yourself and then gently touch the world with that light.

he Warner Bros Drama With Netflix, Paramount Is About to Get Spicier

It was about time the resurgent deal boom threw up a really watchable hostile bid. Just days after Hollywood studio Warner Bros Discovery Inc. agreed to be bought by Netflix Inc., Paramount Skydance Corp has made a \$108 billion offer straight to the iconic Hollywood studio's shareholders. The counterbid has many attractions. It puts Warner on the spot to explain precisely why it didn't engage with the interloper, backed by the billionaire Ellison family, more assiduously when a friendly deal was being attempted. Things were already getting ugly before Monday's dramatic twist, with Paramount complaining to Warner last week about being shut out of the sale process. You can see why Paramount didn't give up: A combination with Warner would produce the world's largest studio with a franchise list that goes on and on - Harry Potter, Barbie, Top Gun... Crucially, the bids aren't directly comparable. Netflix is offering shareholders \$27.75 per share for Warner's studio and streaming assets. That will be paid mostly in cash but also in \$4.50 per share of Netflix stock. Warner's shareholders would also be left stuck with the cable television assets that are soon to be spun off. So in sum, they end up with some cash and two stocks, one of which is yet to be valued by the public markets. Analysts at Barclays Plc reckon the cable business is worth around \$4.20 per share. On their math, the Netflix offer overall is worth around \$32 per Warner share. By contrast, Paramount is offering \$30 a share in cash for the whole of Warner. Chief Executive Officer David Ellison - son of Oracle Corp. founder Larry Ellison - reckons this pitch is worth more than Netflix's. That's because he values Warner's cable stub at just \$1 per share. That seems pretty harsh, but the gloves are off now and bad-mouthing in hostile deals can get a good deal worse. Where Paramount is making a clearly superior



proposal is in terms of a speedier and more certain path to completion. Netflix's offer needs heavy discounting for likely antitrust scrutiny, given the sheer scale of the combined streaming platform marrying Netflix with Warner's HBO. President Donald Trump had already sounded caution on Netflix's enlarged market share. All in all, the Netflix payout looks less certain and further away - and so is worth less in real terms. Ellison's pitch doesn't just pose less serious antitrust concerns. It comes wrapped in a Trumplan bow with financing partly from Affinity Partners, the finance boutique led by the president's son-in-law, Jared Kushner. Combine that with backing from Middle East sovereign wealth funds, and Paramount is mimicking the successful playbook evidenced in the leveraged buyout of Electronic Arts Inc., which involved Silver Lake Management partnering with Affinity and the Saudi Public Investment Fund. As analysts at TD Cowen say, it's very hard to argue that Netflix's offer is better. Time to run the credits? Not so fast. There may be more drama to come. Paramount would surely prefer to reach

an agreed deal with Warner. There's always value in the less conflictual option. It has already indicated it's ready to sit down and talk. Getting to a handshake would perhaps need a sweetener, providing a pretext for Warner to switch sides - and contribute to the break fee due to Netflix. But having come so far, it would be surprising if Netflix were ready to abandon such a strategic transaction without a fight. With a \$400 billion market value and prodigious cash flow, it surely has the financial capacity to sweeten or simplify its more fiddly proposal. The continued slide in Netflix stock in response to Paramount's intervention suggests investors are bracing for a costly auction. Paramount looks capable of justifying more stretch. It has indicated higher cost-saving potential, at \$6 billion per annum versus Netflix's \$2.5 billion (likely due to the extra opportunity from keeping Warner's legacy television business). Bloomberg Intelligence reckons a deal at \$35 a share would still stack up for Paramount. Moreover, David Ellison may just want this more. The onus now is as much on Warner boss David Zaslav as it is on Netflix to respond.



tive, a great defence deal with Russia always seemed a bit improbable.

The Real Issue Of Trade Fortunately, the longest section is on trade. A country that accounts for only 2% of its trade volume is not the healthiest of relationships. This section lists one significant commitment, "to continue their consultations on enabling the interoperability of the national payment systems, financial messaging systems, as well as central bank digital currency platforms". That's something, given that neither side wants to pile up their currencies with each other. This need to bone up trade is a direct factor driving the discussions with the Eurasian Economic Union on a Free Trade Agreement. All that is nice. But remember that Russia's own bilateral trade with Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan is in the low millions. Indian companies would thus much rather target Europe, if they turn to actual manufacturing there. Meanwhile, ventures in consumer goods will benefit from an impressive internet penetration of 92% in Russia and the exit of prominent brands. Meanwhile, the Russian enterprise software sector is growing fast, with domestic solutions falling short of meeting demand. This opens up an opportunity for vendors from friendly countries, especially India, to fill this promising niche. And the beauty of it is that it doesn't need a physical trade route.

Telangana Government and Ridhira Group Sign MoU for Premium Hospitality Project at Rising Global Summit 2025

Hyderabad, 09th December, 2025: The Government of Telangana (GoT) and Ridhira Group formalised a Memorandum of Understanding at the Telangana Rising Global Summit 2025 for the development of a premium branded hospitality project in Yacharam, which will serve as a key anchor within the State's flagship Bharat Future City vision. The project carries a proposed investment of Rs 117 crore and reflects the State's focus on attracting high value hospitality and tourism investments. Bharat Future City is envisioned as a smart, future-ready urban hub near Hyderabad, integrating residential, commercial, industrial, educational, healthcare, and recreational zones. It aims to be a sustainable, net-zero city that combines modern infrastructure, global connectivity, and high-quality urban planning. The Yacharam hospitality project forms an integral part of this frame-



work, contributing to the city's vision of creating a vibrant hub for business, leisure, tourism, and wellness. The development will feature a 150 key premium hotel supported by two Food and Beverage outlets and a dedicated Wellness Centre of 18,500 sq. ft. It also includes 20 branded luxury villas with sale and lease-back options.

The integrated project is designed to align with international hospitality standards and is expected to generate more than 300 direct and indirect employment opportunities over the next two years, strengthening Yacharam's emergence as a high potential hospitality and wellness destination. Expressing gratitude, Ritesh Mastipuram,

Founder and Managing Director, Ridhira Group, said, "We are honoured to formalise this commitment with the State and to reinforce our long-term vision. This MoU marks a significant milestone in our journey to redefine luxury wellness hospitality in Telangana. With the Government's proactive support and a structured roadmap for implementa-

tion, we are committed to building a landmark destination that will enhance Telangana's position on the global tourism and wellness map." The Government of Telangana will facilitate all necessary project clearances through the Single Window Mechanism, ensuring expeditious approvals and seamless execution. The State, through this mechanism, will support timely execution, and Ridhira Group will now pursue formal agreements and prepare a Detailed Project Report, detailing phased development and operational frameworks to ensure timely and structured delivery. The project aligns with the Bharat Future City framework, the Telangana Tourism Policy 2025 to 2030 and the State's long-term Vision 2047. It is positioned to contribute to regional economic activity and strengthen Telangana's positioning in luxury hospitality and wellness tourism.

Prime Minister Felicitates HT@100 'My Country, My Lens' Photography Contest Winners



New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi felicitated the Top 12 winners of HT@100 My Country, My Lens, a nationwide photography contest launched as part of the Hindustan Times' centenary. The ceremony took place at Hindustan Times Leadership Summit 2025, where the Prime Minister presented citations to the winning photographers in the presence of Hindustan Times Chairperson and Editorial Director Shobhana Bhartia. The HT@100 My Country My Lens contest invited citizens to share how they see their country. The response was overwhelming, with over 10,000 entries from more

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■ The ceremony took place at Hindustan Times Leadership Summit 2025, where the Prime Minister presented citations to the winning photographers in the presence of Hindustan Times Chairperson and Editorial Director Shobhana Bhartia. The HT@100 My Country My Lens contest invited citizens to share how they see their country.

than 30 cities across four themes — Borders, Rivers, Monuments, and Communities of My Country.

"I believe it can become a source of great strength for photography in the country," Prime Minister Narendra Modi said. Shobhana Bhartia, Chairperson and Editorial Director of Hindustan Times, said, "As Hindustan Times marks 100 years, we wanted to celebrate not just our own milestone, but the collective stories of India and its people." A jury comprising noted photographers Rohit Chawla, Dhritiman Mukherjee and Ajay Aggarwal evaluated each submission and selected the Top 100 photographs.

IMF APPROVES \$1.2 BN FOR PAKISTAN AS STABILITY EFFORTS ADVANCE

Washington: The International Monetary Fund (IMF) approved nearly \$1.2 billion in new financing for Pakistan, giving the country a critical infusion of support as it struggles to maintain macroeconomic stability amid severe flooding, rising inflation, and persistent fiscal pressures. According to an official release, the IMF Executive Board completed the second review of Pakistan's Extended Fund Facility (EFF) and the first review of its Resilience and Sustainability Facility (RSF), unlocking "about US\$1 billion" under the EFF and "about US\$200 million" under the RSF. Total disbursements under the two arrangements now stand at "about \$3.3 billion." Despite "recent devastating floods," the Fund said Pakistan's "strong program implementation" had helped "maintain stability and improve financing and external conditions." The 37-month EFF,

approved in September 2024, aims to entrench stability, rebuild reserves, broaden the tax base, improve competitiveness, reform state-owned enterprises, and restore energy-sector viability. Fiscal consolidation has been a key anchor. Pakistan recorded a primary surplus of "1.3 percent of GDP" in FY25, while gross reserves climbed to "\$14.5 billion at end-FY25, up from \$9.4 billion" the previous year. Inflation remains elevated, driven partly by flood-related food price spikes, it said. Nigel Clarke, IMF Deputy Managing Director and Acting Chair, said Pakistan must maintain "prudent policies" to strengthen stability and support "stronger, private sector-led, and sustainable medium-term growth." He called the government's adherence to its FY2026 primary balance target, even while responding to flood relief, "a strong signal of their commitment to build fiscal policy credibility."

SEBI Chairman Shri Tuhin Kanta Pandey inaugurates PaRRVA pilot launch, a standard framework for investment performance verification by CareEdge Ratings in collaboration with NSE

Mumbai, December 9, 2025: CARE Ratings Limited, in collaboration with the National Stock Exchange of India Limited (NSE), today announced the pilot launch of Past Risk and Return Verification Agency (PaRRVA), a first-of-its-kind global initiative conceptualised by SEBI. The pilot was inaugurated by SEBI Chairman Shri Tuhin Kanta Pandey today. This unique framework validates risk-return metrics for Investment Advisors, Research Analysts, and Trading Members, thereby ensuring greater credibility, compliance, and investor trust. As India's investor base continues to grow, PaRRVA is well-positioned to become a key enabler of transparent communication of performance verification in the securities market. By subjecting every performance claim to independent verification, this unique framework helps investors make more informed decisions and builds greater trust across the entire investment ecosystem. PaRRVA is designed to

bring transparency and standardisation to performance claims made by financial intermediaries. It ensures that all risk-return metrics presented to investors are independently verified and compliant with the verification methodologies developed in line with recommendations from Industry participants. Intermediaries can submit their recommendations through secure API-based integration or file uploads, following which PaRRVA – PDC conducts a comprehensive validation and generates risk and return metrics. Close to 50 different risk and return matrices are computed based on transaction data directly sourced from the stock exchanges and clearing corporations, which will be disseminated to investors via the PaRRVA platform. Investors can also view the reports by scanning QR code or using a link directing investors to the official PaRRVA portal. Shri Tuhin Kanta Pandey, Chairman, Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), addressing the event men-

tioned that for investors, PaRRVA gives clarity and confidence. PaRRVA, in due course, will provide investors with credible performance data related to investment services offered to them. For regulated entities, PaRRVA will provide a platform to showcase genuine performance to clients. Investor transparency is the cornerstone of sustainable market development. PaRRVA reaffirms SEBI's unwavering commitment to keep India's securities markets fair, transparent, orderly and resilient. Sharing his view on the PaRRVA launch, Shri Ashishkumar Chauhan, MD & CEO, National Stock Exchange (NSE) said, "PaRRVA is an important SEBI-led step towards strengthening transparency, standardisation and investor confidence in performance-related disclosures. NSE is pleased to support this initiative by providing the PaRRVA Data Centre (PDC), enabling the framework to leverage authenticated market data for robust risk and return

verification. We believe this will enhance trust in the ecosystem and help investors make more informed decisions." Speaking at the event, Shri Mehul Pandya, MD & Group CEO, CARE Ratings Limited said, "PaRRVA brings a new level of trust, discipline and transparency to the financial advisory space. Investors today demand credibility, and PaRRVA's independent validation framework ensures they receive accurate, standardised and unbiased performance information. This initiative reinforces our commitment to strengthening market integrity and empowering investors with reliable data." PaRRVA strengthens compliance by preventing selective presentation of returns, avoiding client-specific claims and ensuring that every metric is backed by the required disclosures. The platform's secure data architecture, along with T+1 validation for portfolios and end-of-day checks for intraday strategies, helps maintain both accuracy and speed.

Hello Mahindra XUV 7XO: The New Trendsetter Ready to Build On the XUV700 Legacy



Mumbai, December 9, 2025: Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd., India's leading SUV manufacturer, today announced the name of its next major offering in the premium SUV segment — the XUV 7XO. Built on the legacy of the XUV700, which disrupted the SUV segment in India with over 300,000 proud owners in just over four years, the XUV 7XO elevates everything that made the XUV700 a gamechanger. Crafted to inspire and engineered to excite, it combines the proven strengths of the XUV700 with superior design, technology, com-

fort and performance — delivering an SUV that's not just evolved, but truly extraordinary.

Designed to reinforce Mahindra's leadership in the premium SUV space, the XUV 7XO is set to lead the way again for the SUVs of tomorrow. Name Reveal Film: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9nBRLGfUmzI> Social Media Addresses for Mahindra XUV 7XO: · Brand Website: Mahindra XUV 7XO · Twitter: Mahindra XUV 7XO · YouTube: Mahindra XUV 7XO · Facebook: Mahindra XUV 7XO ·

redBus launches first in industry personalised discount creation feature

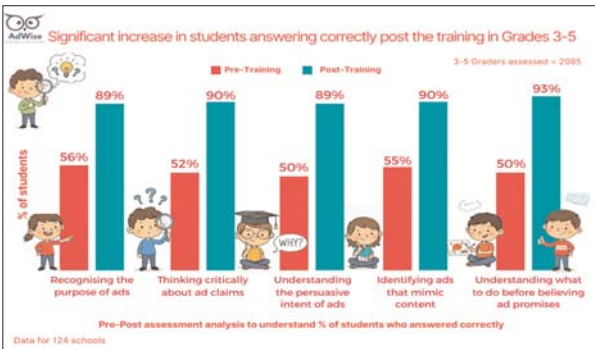
December 9, 2025: redBus, the world's largest online bus ticketing platform, has launched 'Coupon Creator', a first-of-its-kind personalized digital feature that allows users to create and share their own personalised redBus coupons, turning travel into a new way to celebrate special occasions. For example, brides, grooms or their friends can create coupons for guests, matching their wedding hashtags helping them travel easily; or students can invite friends to travel for college fests. ? Available exclusively on the redBus Android app, the feature lets any user create a custom coupon code and share it with multiple recipients. Each coupon is created at no cost to the sender and offers attractive discounts for recipients - 15% off (up to ₹400) for new users and 2% off (up to ₹400) for repeat users. With Coupon Creator, redBus introduces a simple yet thoughtful way to share life's celebrations through travel Users can easily create a personalized coupon in just a few steps by selecting a theme based on the occasion for travel - from birthdays and weddings to college fests or general celebrations - creating a unique coupon code, and sharing it instantly with friends or family to help them save on their bus journeys. Each user can create only one coupon per month, ensuring exclusivity and meaningful use, while the created



coupon remains valid for 30 days from the date of creation. How to Create a Coupon on redBus Follow these simple steps to create and share your personalized travel coupon: Open the redBus Android app. Go to the "Coupon Creator" feature on the home page Choose an occasion theme, customising offer cards— select from options like Birthday, Wedding, College Fest, and Celebrations. Create your unique offer code (for example, TRAVELHOME) and give your contact number.

ASCI launches AdWise, a school programme aimed at building advertising literacy among 1 mn kids

Mumbai, December 09, 2025: The Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI) has rolled out AdWise, a national consumer education programme for school children launched in September, that is set to improve advertising literacy amongst children from Grades 3 to 8 across several cities in India over 15 to 18 months. Under the aegis of ASCI Academy, the programme aims to cover 1 million students in 2,000 schools across India via classroom sessions by the end of 2026. It has already covered more than 1,14,000 students across seven states and 240 schools. It is designed to equip school children with the critical thinking skills needed to identify, question and evaluate advertising messages in an increasingly digital world. ASCI Academy tracks improvement in advertising literacy by measuring the increase in the percentage of students recognising and comprehending ads, differentiating ads from content,



and engagement metrics and feedback quality of students, teachers and parents. The students were assessed before and after the sessions to understand the programme's impact. The program shows significant impact with a 59%-86% increase in students correctly answering questions around advertising literacy in the case of Grades 3-5 and a 57%-95% for grades 6-8. With the tagline 'Smart Kids. Smart Choices', AdWise addresses a crucial gap in digital literacy education. While today's children are digital natives, they often

lack the critical awareness needed to navigate the seamless, subtle and immersive advertising that permeates their online and offline worlds. The programme aims to reduce their vulnerability to misleading and potentially harmful advertisements. Children, an important audience for advertisers, are a key focus area for ASCI. It is currently working on an ethnographic report that examines the relationship that children aged 7 to 15 (Gen Alpha) have with media and advertising, including how they identify, classify and interpret com-

mercial messaging. Manisha Kapoor, CEO and Secretary General of ASCI, said: "Children today are exposed to advertising in ways that are fundamentally different from previous generations. They don't possess critical cognitive abilities to navigate advertising but they are increasingly being exposed online and in the real world to marketing messages in various forms. With children being an important focus of ASCI, we are equipping them, parents and teachers to critically analyse and understand advertising's influence. Enabling children this way fosters responsible media consumption and creates an informed audience." Following a successful pilot phase, AdWise is being rolled out across Delhi NCR, Mumbai, Pune, Nagpur, Lucknow, Varanasi, Indore, Bhopal, Patna, Jaipur, Jodhpur and Kolkata. The NGO School Health Annual Report Programme (SHARP) is ASCI's execution partner.

Building on Phase 1, ASCI plans to expand AdWise to additional states in Phase 2 – Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Punjab, Assam and Karnataka – while deepening penetration in existing markets. The one-hour interactive workshops are for two groups: grades 3-5 and 6-8, with age-appropriate content designed by ASCI Academy. ? Grades 3-5: Decoding marketing messages in the media they consume through an understanding of what is an ad, understand that ads are meant to persuade, identify where and how they appear, distinguish between ads and content, think critically about what ads promise, understand the idea of choice and influence. ? Grades 6-8: Deep diving into persuasive techniques, influencer ads and online safety with different forms of ads, persuasive tactics, case studies. The programme features a wide variety of classroom materials and gamified content.

Australia's world-first social media ban for under-16s comes into effect

Ezra Sholl, 15, from Melbourne, is quadriplegic and says social media has given him access to a community of like-minded people. Ezra was diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma, which triggered a rare nerve condition that has paralysed him. "I follow the NBA, Australian rules football, I follow movie accounts and music accounts," he says ahead of the ban coming into effect. "Banning social media will make my world smaller," he tells me via Facebook messenger. (Facebook is one of the platforms affected by the new rules.) Social media accounts connect him with his friends, he says. "As a young person with a disability, taking away access to social media has the potential to cause harm as well." He agrees that social media can cause harm to young



people, but "social media companies owe a duty to make their platforms safe. The ban itself is a band aid solution that doesn't actually fix the issues". Two 15-year-olds, Noah Jones and Macy Neyland, backed by a rights group, are arguing at Australia's highest court

that the legislation robs them of their right to free communication. The Digital Freedom Project (DFP) announced the case had been filed in the High Court late last month. The advocacy group argues teenagers rely on social media for information and associa-

tion, and a ban could hurt the nation's most vulnerable kids - young people with disability, First Nations youth, rural and remote kids, and LGBTQ+ teenagers. After news of the case broke, A u s t r a l i a ' s Communications Minister Anika Wells told parliament

the government would not be swayed. "We will not be intimidated by threats. We will not be intimidated by legal challenges. We will not be intimidated by big tech. On behalf of Australian parents, we will stand firm," she said. I've been speaking to 12-year-old Paloma, who lives in Sydney and says she is "sad" about the ban. She spends between 30 minutes and two hours a day on social media. "I'm upset... because I am part of several communities on Snapchat and TikTok," she tells me. "I've developed good friendships on the apps, with people in the US and New Zealand, who have common interests like gaming, and it makes me feel more connected to the world." Paloma says she regularly talks about the ups and downs of her life with a boy of the same age in New Jersey, in

the US, who she knows through gaming and TikTok. "I feel like I can explore my creativity when I am in a community online with people of similar ages," she says. Everyone Paloma knows is "a bit annoyed" about the ban. By stopping them from using social media, she says "the government is taking away a part of ourselves". It's the moment most teens have not been waiting for - the day they're kicked off their social media platform of choice. Australia's government is proud of leading the world with this legislation - making it clear it's siding with parents, not platforms, by trying to ensure kids are kept safe online. People here call it a ban - the government prefers to use the word delay, giving children more time to grow up before being let loose on social media.

Sudan air force bombing of towns, markets and schools has killed hundreds, report says



Sudan's air force has carried out bombings in which at least 1,700 civilians have died in attacks on residential neighbourhoods, markets, schools and camps for displaced people, according to an investigation into air raids in the country's civil war. The Sudan Witness Project says it has compiled the largest known dataset of military airstrikes in the conflict, which began in April 2023. Its analysis indicates that the air force has used unguided bombs in populated

areas. The data focuses on attacks by war-planes, which only the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) is capable of operating. Its rival, the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) does not have aircraft. It launches drone strikes, but drones were excluded from the research. The RSF has been internationally condemned for allegedly carrying out ethnic massacres in Sudan's western Darfur region, triggering charges of genocide by the United States.

Congress ups pressure to release boat strike video with threat to Hegseth's travel budget



US lawmakers are trying to pressure the Trump administration to release video of a controversial "double-tap" military strike by limiting Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth's travel budget. The incident on 2 September, in which the US carried out a second deadly strike on a boat in the Caribbean, has raised fresh questions about the legality of Trump's campaign targeting alleged drug-carrying vessels. A provision buried in a lengthy defence spending policy would restrict travel funds for Hegseth's office until the Pentagon hands over unedited footage. The bill is expected to pass with support from both parties. US President Donald Trump says release of the video is something for Hegseth to decide. Trump denied that he had previously said he would have "no problem" with the footage being made public - despite that comment being made on camera as recently as Wednesday. The threat from Congress to withhold

money from Hegseth's travel budget has emerged amid a clamour for information from lawmakers on both sides of the political aisle. It is buried within a 3,000-page draft bill that is focused on approving next year's defence spending. The annual bill authorises nearly \$901bn in funding (£687m). The bill's final wording, which was first reported by Politico, states that Hegseth's office may spend no more than three-quarters of the funds made available for travel for the year 2026 until it meets certain requirements. These include an obligation to give the House and Senate armed service committees all "unedited video of strikes conducted against designated terrorist organisations in the area of responsibility of the United States Southern Command". The wording nods to the way Trump has characterised his strikes on boats in the Caribbean and Pacific. He says they are a matter of targeting designated terrorist organisations.

UN environment report 'hijacked' by US and others over fossil fuels, top scientist says



A key UN report on the state of the global environment has been "hijacked" by the United States and other countries who were unwilling to go along with the scientific findings, the co-chair has told the BBC. The Global Environment Outlook, the result of six years' work, connects climate change, nature loss

and pollution to unsustainable consumption by people living in wealthy and emerging economies. It warns of a "dire future" for millions unless there's a rapid move away from coal, oil and gas and fossil fuel subsidies. But at a meeting with government representatives to agree the findings.

Ukraine prepares new peace plan as Zelensky rules out giving up land

Ukraine is preparing to present a revised peace plan to the White House, as it seeks to avoid making territorial concessions to Russia. Kyiv is set to propose alternatives after President Volodymyr Zelensky again ruled out surrendering land, saying he had "no right" to do so under Ukrainian or international law. He made the comments after meeting European and Nato leaders on Monday, part of a push to deter the US from backing a peace deal which includes major concessions for Ukraine, and which allies fear would leave it vulnerable to a future invasion. The Ukrainian president told a news conference his team could send a new proposal to the Americans as soon as Tuesday, AFP news agency



reported. Zelensky's ongoing diplomatic tour of Europe follows intensive talks between US and Ukrainian negotiators over the weekend which failed to produce a deal to which Kyiv could agree. On Sunday, Trump indicated that he viewed Zelensky as the main obstacle to securing a peace deal, something he has made a key foreign policy goal and

which the president claimed he would be able to achieve rapidly during the 2024 presidential election campaign. He told reporters that Russia was "fine" with the peace plan outlined to both sides by the US, but that he was a "little disappointed that Zelensky hasn't read it". Almost simultaneously, Zelensky said he was waiting to be briefed by his chief

negotiator Rustem Umerov following three days of discussions with his US counterparts in Miami. "Some issues can only be discussed in person," said Zelensky, ahead of a meeting in London attended by UK Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer, French President Emmanuel Macron and German Chancellor Friedrich Merz. The summit was widely viewed as a show of support for Ukraine as it seeks to resist White House pressure. Trump called Europe's leaders "weak" in an interview with Politico published on Tuesday. On whether Europe could help end Russia's war with Ukraine, the US president said: "They talk, but they don't produce, and the war just keeps going on and on."

EU investigates Google over AI-generated summaries in search results

The EU has opened an investigation into Google over its artificial intelligence (AI) summaries which appear above search results. The European Commission said it would examine whether the firm used data from websites to provide this service - and if it failed to offer "appropriate compensation" to publishers. It is also investigating how YouTube videos may have been used to improve its broader AI systems, and whether content creators were able to opt-out. A Google spokesperson said the probe "risks stifling innovation in a market that is more competitive than ever". "Europeans deserve to benefit from the latest tech-



nologies and we will continue to work closely with the news and creative industries as they transition to the AI era," they said. The EU's investigation will also cover Google's AI Mode, which gives people an answer in a conversational style with some links to other pages.

It is in addition to the tech giant's existing search platform - providing an experience similar to its rivals such as ChatGPT. What is AI and how does it work? Google's introduction of its AI Overview summaries was met with concerns it could result in fewer visitors to websites. Without

people clicking on web pages, sites generate less money from advertising. The Daily Mail previously claimed the number of people who clicked its links from Google search results fell by around 50% since Google introduced its AI Overview feature. The Commission said it was concerned both web publishers and YouTube video creators were not being compensated or given the opportunity to opt-out of their content being used to train the company's AI models. Ed Newton-Rex from AI fairness campaigners Fairly Trained said it was "career suicide" for people to not publish their work on YouTube or online.

Tanzania crackdown on planned protest leaves streets deserted

Security has been tightened across Tanzania with police and military seen patrolling major cities ahead of anticipated anti-government protests called to coincide with independence day. By midday local time (09:00 GMT), however, no demonstrations had begun. Residents in Dar es Salaam, Arusha, Mbeya, Mwanza and several other urban centres reported an unusually slow start to the day, with many people choosing to remain indoors amid uncertainty over whether protests would happen. The demonstrations were called to demand political reforms in the wake of October's

post-election unrest which left an unknown number of people dead. The authorities have admitted using force against protesters, claiming that some groups were attempting to overthrow the regime. On Tuesday, BBC reporters observed nearly empty streets in the commercial capital, Dar es Salaam. This was a stark contrast to the city's usual week-day bustle. Although quiet, the atmosphere remained tense. In a statement, police spokesperson David Misime assured the public of their safety and the protection of their property, saying the situation remained calm nationwide.

SriLankan Airlines All Set to Welcome Indian Travellers This Winter Season



09 December 2025 New Delhi—Sri Lanka remains a welcoming and easily accessible holiday destination for Indian travellers, and there is perhaps no better time to experience the island than this upcoming holiday season. SriLankan Airlines, working closely with tourism stakeholders, continues to ensure reliable access from India, enabling visitors to enjoy the island's warmth, hospitality and rich diversity this Winter. Sri Lanka's diversity is best experienced first-hand, as words alone cannot capture the vibrancy of its famed coastal hotspots from Colombo, Galle and Negombo to Mirissa and Weligama. Equally captivating are the awe-inspiring historical marvels across the Cultural Triangle, including the Sigiriya Rock Fortress, Dambulla, Polonnaruwa and Anuradhapura. SriLankan Airlines, together with hotels, tour operators and essential travel services, is operating steadily with strong

support from tourism authorities, offering exceptional connectivity, convenience and unforgettable experiences for every traveller. The airline operates regular services from the nine Indian cities of Chennai, Mumbai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Kochi, Trivandrum, Madurai and Tiruchirappalli, with nearly 90-weekly flights. This year, Indian tourists accounted for 22% of all inbound traffic to Sri Lanka, with nearly 500,000 visitors arriving between January and the first week of December. SriLankan's overall network covers 120 destinations worldwide through online and codeshare operations, ensuring smooth onward travel from Colombo to the Maldives, the Far East, Europe, Australia and the Middle East for leisure trips, family visits, weddings, MICE travel and short-break holidays. Dimuthu Tennakoon, Head of Commercial at SriLankan Airlines.

'DRANK FOR 24 HOURS, SHOULD'VE DIED':

Tendulkar's Ex-Teammate And Sanjay Dutt's Co-Actor, Who Became BCCI Selector, Relives Tough Phase

Mumbai cricket has given the Indian national team several top cricketers. From Sunil Gavaskar to Sachin Tendulkar to Rohit Sharma, many of them went on to become global cricket icons. There were, however, some who, despite being supremely talented, could not play for a long duration for the national team. Salil Ankola is among those players. The tall pacer made his Test debut in 1989 against Pakistan in Karachi, in the same Test match as Tendulkar. He went on to play 20 ODIs and also became a BCCI selector. However, he could not feature for the team on a consistent basis after injuries hampered his career. Ankola, who has acted in nine movies, including two with Sanjay Dutt, said that in 1997 he was in despair. "I started drinking quite a bit in despair. Despair means your whole life you want something, when you're in the best form of your life... In 1997, I was in the best form of my life



and suddenly I was injured. Srinath was injured, Manoj Prabhakar had gone, Kapil Paji had retired. So, I was there in the front and suddenly everything just disappears in a flash," Salil said on Vicky Lalwani's YouTube channel. "And you won't believe, from 1999 or 2000 till 2011, I didn't watch a single match. I've not seen Virender Sehwag playing. I've not seen Virat Kohli debuting. I've not watched Zaheer Khan bowling. I've not seen Ajit Agarkar bowl-

ing. My own friends have not seen them playing. Why? I just didn't want to see cricket anymore."

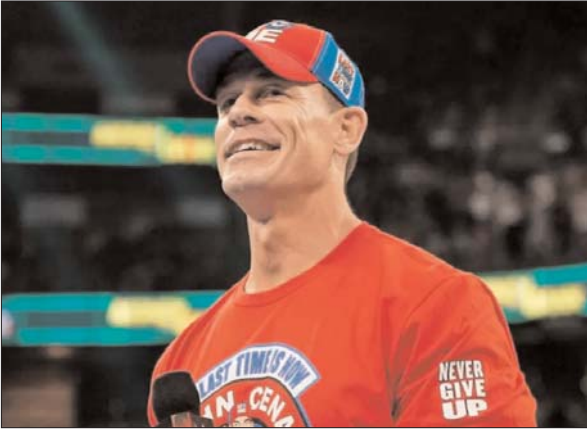
He went on to elaborate on that phase of his life: "I didn't choose to drink how much I drank; it happened over the years. If I was up for 24 hours, then I would be drinking for 24 hours. That was my way of escapism. They tried to stop me, but then it's up to an individual. Maybe I was not ready to stop then. I have been to many rehabs, tried to

give up alcohol many times, but it wasn't happening, despite my wanting to," said Salil. "God has been kind. I shouldn't have been alive. I would have been dead in 2014 itself. I was in ICU, three times given up for dead." He went on to say how his family and wife Ria supported him and helped him return to normal life. Sachin Tendulkar on Tuesday recalled former India player Gursharan Singh's gesture of walking out at No. 10 with a broken hand only to help him score a valiant 103 for the Rest of India in their Irani Cup match against Delhi in 1989-90. A rampant Delhi crushed the Rest of India by 309 runs in the contest played at the Wankhede Stadium, where Tendulkar waged a lone battle, scoring 103, with former India opener WV Raman's 41 being the other noticeable performance. Struggling at 209 for nine in pursuit of a mammoth target of 554, the former India, Delhi, and

Punjab player Gursharan walked out at No. 10 with a broken hand to support Tendulkar as the two added another 36 runs for the final wicket. ROI were bowled out for 245. "As they say, promises are meant to be kept. I feel I'll go a step further and say that promises are meant to be kept, but also meant to be delivered... and that is what is our DNA," Tendulkar recalled. "I can recall an incident... a long way back in 1989 when I was playing the Irani Trophy. This was a trial match before one got selected for India. I was batting in the 90s, and my partner, Gursharan Singh, had an injury — a broken hand — and he wasn't supposed to bat. "But he was asked by the chairman of the selection committee, Raj Singh Dungarpur, to go out and bat and support his teammate. Gursharan came and helped me reach my hundred, and I got selected to play for India after that.

"I'm Going To Break Your Spirit": John Cena's Opponent Ahead Of Farewell Match

WWE icon John Cena will take on Gunther in his retirement match, scheduled to take place at Saturday Night's Main Event XLII on December 14, 2025 (IST). "The Ring General" warned the 16-time World Champion of their clash at the Capital One Arena in Washington D.C. Gunther earned his opportunity last week, beating LA Knight in the final of the 'Last Time is Now' tournament on SmackDown on Saturday. On Tuesday, the former two-time world champion talked about his match on Sunday during the latest episode of WWE Raw. While he acknowledged that Cena was the biggest sports entertainer in history, Gunther asserted that he is the best wrestler of all time, adding that he's not only going to beat the 48-year-old, but also break his spirit. "So John, beating you on Saturday is not enough for me. I'm going to do something that nobody ever managed before. I'm going to



break your spirit. I'm going to push you around. I'm going to bully you. I'm going to drop you on your head and then I'm going to wrap my arms around your neck and I'm going to squeeze. I'm going to squeeze with everything I have until the last bit of hustle, loyalty, and respect has left your body. Until there's only one way out. Until I force you to do the one thing that you said you'd never do. I'm going to force you to give up," said Gunther after kicking off WWE Raw on Tuesday (IST).

After a year-long farewell tour, with stops at WrestleMania 41 and SummerSlam along the way, Cena's career-highlighted by 16 World Championships, five U.S. Championship title reigns, and two Royal Rumble victories—will come to an emotional close. Cena, 48, has enjoyed a wonderful year so far. He is known for his in-ring technique, charity work outside the ring, and his longevity. He began his retirement tour, finishing as runner-up to Jey Uso at the 'Royal Rumble' in February.

Jasprit Bumrah One Wicket Away From Becoming First-Ever Indian To Achieve This Rare 'Century'

Jasprit Bumrah will be back in India colours for the T20I series against South Africa starting Tuesday. Beginning with the first T20I against South Africa, India will play 10 T20Is before the T20 World Cup in February-March. Bumrah's role will be crucial in the marquee event. He not only brings experience but also knows what it takes to win a World Cup. Bumrah stands on the cusp of some historical milestones. First up, Bumrah is in line to become India's second bowler after left-arm pacer Arshdeep Singh to claim a century of T20I wickets for India. In 80 T20Is, he has taken 99 scalps at an average of



18.11, with best figures of 3/7. At the top is Arshdeep (105 in 68 matches). With this, he will become the first-ever Indian bowler to have at least 100 wickets in all formats of the game. Also, he is 18 wickets away from becoming the eighth Indian bowler to reach 500 wickets across all formats.

In 221 matches, Bumrah has taken 482 wickets at an average of 20.60, with best figures of 6/19, 13 four-fors and 18 five-wicket hauls to his name. After a humiliating 0-2 whitewash loss in the Test series—their second in back-to-back years at home after the defeat against New Zealand—and

following it up with a 2-1 series win in an exciting trilogy of ODIs, Team India under Suryakumar Yadav and Gautam Gambhir, who have been unstoppable and are yet to drop a series in T20s, will be aiming to ramp up preparations for the home T20 World Cup with a massive series win over the Proteas, a side filled with experience and youthful excitement in equal measure. Former Indian cricketer Parthiv Patel highlighted Bumrah's impact, Hardik Pandya's role, and Abhishek Sharma's form ahead of the five-match T20I leg between India and South Africa starting December 9.

Robin Uthappa, Dale Steyn And Eoin Morgan Join SA20S All-Star Commentary Team For Season 4

SA20 is set to elevate its world-class broadcast experience for Season 4, unveiling a star-studded commentary team featuring some of the biggest names in global cricket. Robin Uthappa, one of India's most respected T20 voices, returns to the panel alongside global icons Dale Steyn and Eoin Morgan. Fans in India can catch every moment of SA20 Season 4 live on JioHotstar and Star Sports Network, with the action kicking off on 26th December. As SA20 gears up for another blockbuster season, viewers can look forward to expert analysis, high-quality storytelling, and in-depth insights from a powerhouse group of analysts who bring decades of international experience to the commentary box. The addition of Steyn—the great-



est fast bowler of his generation—and Morgan—the visionary captain behind England's white-ball revolution—significantly strengthens the analysis across all 34 matches. Their presence will give fans an unparalleled view into fast-bowling tactics, leadership decisions, team strategy, and match-defining moments. Robin Uthappa,

who was part of the broadcast panel in the previous edition, continues his association with SA20. His insights, shaped by extensive experience across the IPL, international cricket, and global T20 leagues, add a valuable layer of perspective during key batting phases, pressure situations, and momentum shifts. Leading

the international charge are big hitters like former England captain Kevin Pietersen, the masterful Indian batsman Robin Uthappa, and the renowned global voice of cricket, Mark Nicholas. And adding their invaluable expertise to the mix is a legendary panel of Proteas icons who know these local conditions better than anyone. Leading this vital home-ground insight is none other than AB de Villiers, universally acknowledged as one of the best, most destructive hitters T20 cricket has ever seen. He is backed by the strategic genius of JP Duminy, the proven batting prowess of Ashwell Prince, the all-round firepower of Chris Morris, and the pinpoint bowling expertise of Vernon Philander.

Smriti Mandhana's Remarks On "Feeling Low" Resurface After Wedding Setback



A superstar in Indian women's cricket, Smriti Mandhana announced the heartbreaking news of her wedding being called off on Sunday, confirming that she and Palash Muchhal have gone their separate ways, after nearly tying the knot on November 23. As Mandhana resumes crick- etting practice, ahead of Team India's T20I series against Sri Lanka later this month, an old interview of hers has resurfaced in which the cricketer talked about moving on from low times. Mandhana has crick- et to thank for the way she went on to nurture her per- sonality. Just like in crick- et, where there's always the next game to look forward to, Mandhana tries to focus on the next task at hand whenever she feels low. Speaking to Humans of Bombay three years ago, she had said: "It's pretty

easy for me. I have short-term goals. Say if I feel low today, I will just start writing what I have to work on for the next six days or for the next seven days, in my batting or in my fitness. So once I start doing that, I just forget what's happening. I just focus on what I have to do." "So when I change my heads-pace into what I have to do in the next 6-7 days, I don't know, I just feel like there's so much to look forward to," she added. After being made to face arguably the biggest setback in her personal life, Mandhana is trying to muster up the courage to start from scratch again. "You have to always start your day as a new day because you start your innings on zero, even if you score a hundred," she had said in the video. "So that's the biggest takeaway from what I have learnt.

Hardik Pandya Blasts Paparazzi For Mahieka Sharma Video: "Private Moment Turned Cheap"

Indian cricket team all-rounder Hardik Pandya expressed his anger on social media after seeing paparazzi 'cross the line' while taking pictures and videos of his girlfriend, Mahieka Sharma. In a powerful statement, Hardik hit out at the paparazzi for what he described as disrespectful and intrusive photography of his partner. The India all-rounder, whose relationship with Mahieka has been under intense public scrutiny, acknowledged that living in the public eye comes with attention, stating, "it's part of the life I've chosen." However, he asserted that a recent incident "crossed a line." "I understand that living in the public eye comes with attention and scrutiny, it's part of the life I've chosen. But today something happened that



crossed a line," Hardik wrote in an Instagram story. "Mahieka was simply walking down a staircase at a Bandra restaurant when paps decided to capture her from an angle that no woman deserves to be photographed from. A private moment was turned into cheap sensationalism." In his post further, Hardik asked for certain

boundaries to be respected as every woman deserves dignity. "This isn't about headlines or who clicked what, it's about basic respect. Women deserve dignity. Everyone deserves boundaries. To the media brothers who work hard every day: I respect your hustle, and I always cooperate. But I'm requesting you all please be a little more mind-

ful. Not everything needs to be captured. Not every angle needs to be taken. Let's keep some humanity in this game. Thank you," he concluded. Hardik Pandya and Mahieka Sharma Relationship: Hardik recently confirmed his new relationship with model and yoga trainer Mahieka. After initial speculation sparked by social media interactions and shared travel sightings, Pandya made the relationship official in October 2025, just before his 32nd birthday, by posting intimate photos and videos of the couple enjoying a private beach get-away and celebrating a puja together. Mahieka Sharma, a 24-year-old award-winning model who has worked with top designers and holds a degree in Economics and Finance.

R ASHWIN SHARES SUNNY LEONE'S PICTURE ON X. EPIC REACTIONS FOLLOW

Former India all-rounder Ravichandran Ashwin puzzled fans on social media after he posted a picture of Bollywood actress Sunny Leone on his official X (formerly Twitter) handle. On Tuesday, the veteran crick- eter shared a two-image collage which featured a picture of Sunny Leone on one side, while the other show- cased a view of Chennai's Sadhu Street. While Ashwin's post had some fans scratching their heads, a few managed to decipher the logic behind the 37-year-old's latest activity. For context, Ashwin's post was a cheeky shoutout to Tamil Nadu all-rounder Sunny Sandhu, who recently made



his T20 debut in the ongoing Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy. On Monday, Sandhu delivered a match-winning cameo in the match against Saurashtra at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad. Playing just his second match for Tamil

Nadu, Sunny smashed 30 runs off just 9 balls in a crucial 37-run partnership with Sai Sudharsan (101* off 55), helping his side to seal the win. As pointed out by the fans, Ashwin's post was a shoutout to the 22-year-old uncapped all-rounder.

Sunny Sandhu has registered for the IPL 2026 mini auction, and the all-rounder could be in demand following Ashwin's post. He has base price for Rs 30 lakh. Earlier in the match, Jaydev Unadkat and Chetan Sakariya had left TN reeling at 29 for 3, chasing 183, with Sai Sudharsan left to mount a one-man rescue mission. With partners drying up, he unleashed a blistering 28-ball fifty, ripping the ball to all corners with his trademark flicks, pulls, cuts, and drives. The league stage of the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy concluded on Monday, with teams confirming their slots in the Super League.

ENGLAND FAST BOWLER WOOD OUT OF ASHES TOUR



Fast bowler Mark Wood has been ruled out of England's Ashes tour and replaced in the squad by Matthew Fisher. Wood only returned to action in the first Test in Perth after eight months out following knee surgery. The 35-year-old subsequently suffered swelling in the same left knee and was forced to miss the second Test. England were initially hopeful he could play a part in the remaining three Tests, but the Durham man is now due to go home at the week- end. "Gutted to be out the remainder of the Ashes," wrote Wood in a post on Instagram. "After extensive surgery and months of work and rehab to get back into the Test arena, my knee just hasn't held up. "None of us expected

this. I came here with high expectations about making a big impact. I'm desperately disappointed that despite yet more injections and intensive medical treatment it has become clear that the flare up in my knee is worse than feared. "I'm really sorry that has left me unable to perform as expected but it is not for want of trying." However, he said he will attempt to make another comeback. "Whatever happens I will continue to push the lim- its to get back again," Wood added. "It has been a tough road these past few months but I remain determined to give it another proper go. "I still believe we can turn things around. Never give in. Come on England."

Actor Dr. Rajasekhar Suffers Leg Injury on Sets of Upcoming Film, Undergoes Surgery

Dr. Rajasekhar, who recently returned to the silver screen after a long hiatus, has reportedly sustained a serious leg injury while shooting for his upcoming film. The incident occurred on November 25th during an action-related sequence in Medchal, resulting in multiple fractures to his ankle. According to unit sources, the actor suffered a right ankle bimalleolar dislocation with a compound fracture, a severe injury typically associated with high-impact trauma. He was immediately taken for medical evaluation, where doctors recommended urgent surgical intervention to prevent further complications. Rajasekhar subsequently underwent a major surgery lasting nearly three hours. The procedure involved: Right ankle open reduction and internal fixation (ORIF) with K-wires for the lateral malleolus. Open reduction and internal fixation using cannulated cancellous screws and a semi-tubular plate for the medial malleolus. Trans-fixation of the tibia using a wire passed through



the calcaneum and talus. Despite the complexity of the procedure and the intense pain he endured, the surgery was successful, and the actor is currently in recovery. Doctors have advised three to four weeks of strict rest, stressing that his injured leg must remain immobile during the crucial initial healing phase. Consequently, Dr. Rajasekhar will stay away from film shoots for some

time and is expected to resume work in January 2026, depending on his recovery progress. Interestingly, this is not the first time Dr. Rajasekhar has faced such a setback. On November 15, 1989, he suffered a similar left-leg injury during the shooting of his film Magadu, once again highlighting his long-standing dedication to performing demanding action sequences.

ZEE5 Unveils the Trailer of 'Nayanam', heralding a New Era for Telugu Originals with a High-Concept Sci-Fi Psychological Thriller Streaming from December 19

ZEE5, a platform that has steadily redefined the landscape of Telugu storytelling with bold and original voices, has unveiled the trailer of Nayanam, a daring new series that fuses psychological tension with an inventive sci-fi edge. Headlined by Varun Sandesh and Priyanka Jain, the series is set to stream from December 19. The trailer was launched at a packed Hyderabad event where the team spoke about the ambition behind bringing such a unique concept to Telugu OTT. “Meet Nayan - the man who can watch you present like a lens-feed,” sets the central hook of the series, hinting at a world where perception becomes dangerous and human curiosity spirals into unsettling territory. Directed by Swathi Prakash Mantripragada, Nayanam marks Telugu OTT's first attempt at merging a psychological thriller with a sci-fi premise. The trailer launch event brought the entire team together, each sharing their journey and emotional connection with the series. Music director Ajay Arasada ; recalled the



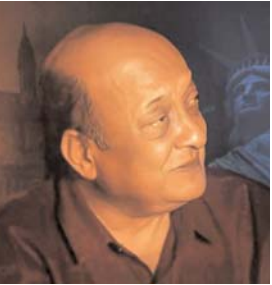
moment he first heard the storyline, “Swathi narrated something I had never encountered in Telugu OTT. The moment I heard it, I knew the music needed to carry a sense of mystery and unease. I didn't want to 'compose' as much as 'respond' to the psychology of the characters. Every cue was shaped with that intention.” Editor Venkat; described the project as deeply satisfying.

“Stories like this don't come often. The rhythm had to feel like slipping into someone's mind. Each cut had to push the story deeper into psychological territory, and working on that felt beautiful.” Cinematographer Shoaib Siddiqui ; spoke about capturing the series' unsettling visual language. “Swathi had a very clear idea of how the world of Nayan should look - grounded, eerie, yet

emotionally readable. The entire SRT team supported us so much. Viewers will feel pulled in from the first frame.” Actor Ali Reza ;opened up with emotional honesty about his career phase. “There was a time when films weren't coming, and even the ones that came weren't moving forward. I went back to my family business. Life was stable but something inside felt unfin-

ished. Then, within one month, two offers came. One of them was Nayanam. Playing a police officer here was refreshing. Swathi stood by me throughout. Anuradha garu has supported me for years, whenever I asked for a chance, she never hesitated. This series reminded me why I became an actor twenty years ago.” Senior Vice President of OAP & Commissioning Zee Telugu & Telugu Zee5 Jayanth Raghavan ,expressed confidence saying “Swathi narrated the story to us and we instantly knew this was a quality project. ZEE5 is committed to setting new benchmarks, and Nayanam is one of those rare scripts that immediately signals its potential.” Vice President of Telugu Original Content for Telugu ZEE. placed the series within ZEE5's 2025 slate, “We are closing the year with two strong originals, The Great Pre-Wedding Show and Nayanam. This series brings a point Telugu audiences haven't experienced on OTT. When Swathi narrated it last year, we knew it was something new.

Biography of the First Overseas Citizen of India Iftekhar Sharif Zindagi in Two Shades



Omsheel Productions, led by Dollye Tomar in Mumbai and Khurram Syed in the USA, believes that some stories are not just told ,they are felt. Their latest documentary, “Ziindaagi in Two Shades,” is one such journey that doesn't stay on the screen; it settles quietly in the heart. “Ziindaagi in Two Shades” will premiere on 14th December 2025 at 5:00 PM, LV Prasad Film Lab, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad. At the centre of this film is Iftekhar Sharif, the first

Overseas Citizen of India (OCD). His life is not just about travelling from India to America, it is about carrying two homes in one soul. It is about leaving behind streets that shaped you and stepping into a land that tests you. His story reminds us that distance can separate bodies, but it can never divide memories, identity, or love for one's roots. The film is directed by Rajneeshh Dubey, whose sensitive vision brings truth and texture to every frame.It is produced by Khurram Syed, Kalpana Rajput, and Dollye Tomar, and edited by Devu Namdev, giving the documentary its emotional rhythm and voice. Every moment feels lived and real the joy of achievement, the ache of leaving home, and the silent pride of being Indian no matter where life takes you.

A Fresh Dark Comedy Thriller Where Every Character Has Importance – ‘Gurram Papireddy’ Will Totally Entertain You,” movie team at the ‘Paisa Dum Dum’ Song Launch

Naresh Agastya and Faria Abdullah are playing the lead pair in the upcoming film “Gurram Papireddy.” Presented by Dr. Sandhya Goli, the film is produced by Venu Saddy, Amar Bura, and Jayakanth (Bobby). Director Murali Manohar has crafted this film with a unique concept in the dark-comedy genre — something Telugu cinema hasn't witnessed before. With all production formalities completed, Gurram Papireddy is gearing up for a worldwide theatrical release on December 19. The team launched the ‘Paisa Dum Dum’ song in Hyderabad today. Speaking at the event: Actor Jeevan Kumar “I've always tried to take up different roles in my career. In this film, I played a key character designed with



very unique costumes and attitude. When the director narrated the story, I immediately felt it would be a new milestone in my career. The film has come out exceptionally well. We are arriving in theatres on December 19 — I request everyone to watch and support us.” Actor Rajkumar Kasireddy

“Gurram Papireddy is a completely fresh experience for audiences. With very little time left for release, we request media friends to help us take this film to the masses. The movie has turned out far better than we expected. The song you've seen today is just 20%; the full song is even better. We will soon be bring-

ing you the official trailer.” Producer Jayakanth (Bobby) “Media friends are the true guests of this event. We strongly believe that Telugu audiences always support good content. Along with me, Sandhya, Venu, and Amar have produced this film, but since they are in the US, they couldn't attend.

Aadi Pinishetty’s engaging thriller “Drive” Trailer Out Now; All set for a grand theatrical release on December 12th

“Drive” stars Aadi Pinishetty in the lead, with Madonna Sebastian playing the female lead. The film is produced by V. Anand Prasad under the Bhavya Creations banner and directed by Jenuse Mohammed. The promotional material impressed everyone and today makers unveiled the trailer. The trailer introduces Praja Media Corporation, a well-known media house in South India. Its head, Jay played Aadi Pinishetty, is preparing to move to London with his fiancée played by Madonna Sebastian. At this point, a hacker infiltrates the company's accounts. He keeps track of Jay's every move and threatens to kill him. The hacker starts exposing all confidential matters of Praja Media Corporation online, dragging the company's image and honour into chaos. Jay decides to put an end to the hacker who is playing with both his personal and professional life. The trailer raises intriguing questions—who is the hacker, and did Jay manage to catch



him? The cut is gripping, filled with action, emotion, and thrilling elements. Cast: Aadi Pinishetty, Madonna

Sebastian, Chembolu, Kamaraju, Yohannan and others. Raja Kamal, Aneesh Kuruville,

“Oh!” releasing grandly in the highest number of theatres on December 19

Under the presentation of Jeevitha Badugu, on the banner of Ekari Films, the film “Ohh!” is being made with Raghu Ram as the hero and Shruti Shetty, Naina Pathak as the heroines. The film is directed by Satyanarayana Ekari, who has previously directed several movies. It has been produced with high ambition. The shooting took place in beautiful locations like Kashmir, Kullu-Manali, Agra, Delhi, Goa, Hyderabad, and Warangal. All production work has been completed, and the film is set for release on December 19. On this occasion: Film presenter and BRR Groups head, Mrs. Jeevitha Badugu, said: “In our business, we deliver excellent quality to our customers. In the same way, we are now bringing the Ohh movie to the audience with that same level of quality.” Director-producer Satyanarayana Ekari said: “With the experience of producing five films, we created this movie in a completely new genre, taking chromophobia as the central theme. We shot the entire film in the Kashmir region. We are releasing the film on the 19th of this month.” Hero Raghu Ram said: “I'm coming before you all with Ohh.



Highlights

■ UNDER THE PRESENTATION OF JEEVITHA BADUGU, ON THE BANNER OF EKARI FILMS, THE FILM “OHh!” IS BEING MADE WITH RAGHU RAM AS THE HERO AND SHRUTI SHETTY, NAINA PATHAK AS THE HEROINES.

This film presents a beautiful love story never before seen on the silver screen. I personally did a lot of research to write the story, screenplay, and dialogues for my first film. I will definitely make you all say ‘Ohh Ohh.’ This film is as pure as the Himalayas where Lord Shiva Himself resides.” Heroine Shruti Shetty said:

“The title is impressive, and the film is equally good. The Kashmir snow mountains, especially the camera work and the story, are excellent. It naturally makes you want to watch the film.” Heroine Naina Pathak said: “The film has everything today's youth look for, including romance. You will definitely enjoy it.”

100 Days to Go: Yash’s Toxic: A Fairytale for grown-ups Unveils New Poster and Announces Key Technicians for the Film



The makers of Toxic: A Fairy Tale for Grown-Ups have officially kicked off the countdown to its grand release on March 19, 2026, with exactly 100 days remaining. The film, already one of the most anticipated releases of 2026, continues to generate buzz with each update. To heighten the excitement, the team has revealed a powerful new poster showcasing Rocking Star Yash in an intense avatar. In the poster, Yash presents a sexy, rugged look while posing in a bloody bathtub, flexing his chiselled biceps. Although his face is not visible, he gazes outside, illuminated by a streak of light. His body is adorned with tattoos, delivering a perfect badass vibe that hints at his character. Fans have been eagerly praising this striking image. Toxic is set to release during a significant festive period, overlapping with Gudi Padwa, Ugadi, and Eid, which offers a strong four-day holiday box-office window. Along with the poster, the team

spotlighted the accomplished technicians shaping the film's ambitious vision. The cinematography is led by National Award winner Rajeev Ravi, while the music is composed by Ravi Basrur, known for his previous collaborations with Yash on KGF. Ujwal Kulkarni oversees the editing, and TP Abid is in charge of production design. Bringing an international touch, Hollywood action director JJ Perry—celebrated for his work on John Wick along with National award winning action director Anbariv have crafted some of the film's most significant action sequences. Written by Yash and Geetu Mohandas and Directed by Geetu Mohandas, Toxic has been filmed simultaneously in English and Kannada and will also be dubbed in Hindi, Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, and more. The film is being produced by Venkat K. Narayana and Yash under KVN Productions and Monster Mind Creations.