

OM NAMO VENKATESAYA

11-01-2026

Total pilgrims: 76,447

Tonsures: 21,708

Hundi kanukulu: 3.42 CR

Waiting Compartments... 04

Approx. Darsan Time for Sarvadarshanam (with out SSD Tokens) - 04 H

TO BOOK YOUR ADS CALL

99484 80279, 73307 78889



NATION | NEWS

Attack on Tamil culture: LoP Gandhi criticizes Centre over Vijay's 'Jana Nayagan' certification delay



WORLD | NEWS

Prosecutors seek death penalty for ex-South Korean president Yoon

CM Revanth Greet Telugu People on Sankranti

Hyderabad (TSIT): Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy extended warm greetings to Telugu people across the State and around the world on the auspicious occasion of Sankranti. In his message, the Chief Minister expressed hope that the festivities of Bhogi, Sankranti, and Kanuma would usher in prosperity, happiness, and well-being in everyone's lives. He wished that people celebrate the harvest festival with joy, unity, and renewed optimism.



INBRIF

Gold, silver prices ease amid profit booking at record levels

Mumbai (TSIT): Gold and silver prices eased on Tuesday amid profit booking, after they surged to record high levels over worries of the US Justice Department's action against the Federal Reserve Chair. MCX gold February futures eased 0.44 per cent to Rs 1,41,400 per 10 grams around 1.15 pm, while MCX silver March futures traded flat with a negative bias down 0.01 per cent at Rs 2,68,926 per kg. The price of 10 grams of 24-carat gold was at Rs 1,40,482 down from Rs 1,40,499 of previous day's close, according to data published by the India Bullion and Jewellers Association (IBJA).

‘Telangana Rising’ event planned at Davos

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy to Present State’s 2047 Vision at WEF 2026

Hyderabad (TSIT): Telangana is set to showcase its long-term growth vision, investor-friendly ecosystem, and transformative development agenda on the global stage at the World Economic Forum (WEF) 2026 in Davos. Under the leadership of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, the State Government will host a special and exclusive ‘Telangana Rising’ event, engaging CEOs of leading global companies, industry leaders, and eminent personalities from across sectors.

Following the launch of the Telangana Rising 2047 Vision Document in December and the significant investments secured during the recent Global Summit, the State Government aims to further promote its development roadmap at WEF 2026, scheduled to be held from January 19

to 23. Telangana will highlight investment opportunities across key sectors including IT, life sciences, renewable energy, manufacturing, and innovation-driven industries.

The special event, to be held on the evening of January 20, is designed to position Telangana as a premier global investment destination. The delegation will present the State’s 2047 vision, along with the CURE, PURE, and RARE framework, and outline several game-changer projects such as Bharat Future City, Musi River Rejuvenation, Regional Ring Road (RRR), Regional Ring Railway, and the development of large-scale manufacturing zones.

LIFE SCIENCES POLICY AND AI HUB LAUNCH

During the event, the State Government will formally unveil the Telangana Life Sciences Policy 2026-2030 and announce the launch of the Telangana AI Hub, reinforcing the government’s commitment to innovation-led and future-ready growth aligned with the Telangana Rising 2047 vision.

The programme will also provide an overview of Hyderabad’s rapid emergence as a global hub for Global Capability Centers (GCCs), with major multinational companies such as Vanguard, Netflix, McDonald’s, and L’Oréal establishing or expanding their operations in the city.

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has directed officials to meticulously organise the event to effectively present Telangana’s rapid GSDP growth, progressive industrial policies, robust infrastructure, and the long-term development roadmap envisioned under Telangana Rising 2047, which outlines the State’s strategic plans for the next two decades.

States to pay heavy compensation for every stray dog-bite incident: SC

Senior advocate Arvind Datar argued that stray dogs have no legal right to occupy institutional premises or other public spaces to which people have access.

New Delhi (TSIT): The Supreme Court on Tuesday, January 13, said it will ask states to pay a “heavy compensation” for dog-bite incidents and hold dog feeders accountable as it flagged its concern over the lack of implementation of norms on stray animals for the past five years.

A bench of Justices Vikram Nath, Sandeep Mehta, and NV Anjaria said that even dog lovers and feeders will be held “responsible” and “accountable” for dog-bite incidents.

“For every dog bite, death or injury caused to children or the elderly, we are going to ask the state governments to pay heavy compensation, as they did not do anything on the implementation of norms in the past five years. Also, responsibility and accountability will be fixed on those who feed these stray dogs. If you love these animals so much, then why don’t you take them to your house? Why should these dogs loiter around, bite and scare people?” Justice Nath said.

Justice Mehta concurred with the views of Justice Nath and said,



FOR EVERY DOG BITE, DEATH OR INJURY CAUSED TO CHILDREN OR THE ELDERLY, WE ARE GOING TO ASK THE STATE GOVERNMENTS TO PAY HEAVY COMPENSATION, AS THEY DID NOT DO ANYTHING ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NORMS IN THE PAST FIVE YEARS. ALSO, RESPONSIBILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY WILL BE FIXED ON THOSE WHO FEED THESE STRAY DOGS.

“Who should be held accountable when dogs attack a 9-year-old? The organisation that is feeding them? You want us to shut our eyes to the problem.” The top court was hearing several petitions seeking modification of its November 7, 2025, order directing the authorities to remove these stray animals from the institutional areas and roads.

The top court said the

worst part is that a lawyer from Gujarat was bitten in a park, and when civic authorities went to catch that animal, the lawyers, who claimed to be dog lovers, attacked the civic officials. MS Admissions 2026-27

The top court also lamented that for four days, it has been hearing arguments on the issue and was not allowed to proceed further in the matters

by activists and NGOs and was not able to hear the views of the Centre and the states. “Our request to all the lawyers is to allow us to take to task the union, the state authorities and other bodies...”

Allow us to pass an order. We need to spend half a day with the States and Union. To see whether they have a plan of action or not. The problem has multiplied a thousand times. We just want the implementation of the statutory provision. Allow us to do that. Allow us to work. Allow us to proceed further,” the top court observed during the hearing. At the outset, senior advocate Arvind Datar, appearing for an NGO, defended the apex court’s November 7, 2025, order dealing with institutional areas, arguing that it was fully justified and supported by statutory rules. He contended that there was no need to constitute any new expert committee since reports of the existing committees were already on record.

Justice Mehta remarked that Datar was “the first who has come to the rescue of the order.”

Chinese Communist Party, BJP meet same day Beijing restates Shaksgam valley claim

Opposition parties slammed the BJP, even as it defended meeting.

New Delhi (TSIT): A delegation from the Communist Party of China, led by its international department’s vice minister Sun Haiyan, visited the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) headquarters in Delhi on Monday, January 13, the same day Beijing reaffirmed its territorial claims over the contested Shaksgam valley.

During the meeting, a BJP delegation headed by party general secretary Arun Singh discussed at length “the means to advance inter-party communications between the BJP and the Communist Party of China”, BJP’s foreign affairs department in-charge Vijay Chauthaiwale said in a

post on X. The Chinese Ambassador to India, Xu Feihong, also joined the CPC delegation, he added. “A delegation from the Communist Party of China, under the leadership of Sun Haiyan, Vice Minister, IDCPC, visited the BJP head

office today,” Chauthaiwale said. Later in the day, the Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson, Mao Ning, told a media briefing in Beijing that the Shaksgam valley “belongs to China.” She was reacting to India’s statement criticising China’s infrastructure development projects in the Shaksgam Valley, saying it reserves the right to take necessary measures to safeguard its interests as it is an Indian territory.

Pakistan illegally ceded 5,180 sq km of Indian territory in the Shaksgam Valley to China in 1963 from areas illegally occupied by it. “It’s fully justified for China to conduct infrastructure construction on its own territory. China and Pakistan in the 1960s signed a boundary agreement and delimited the boundary between the two countries, which is the right of China and Pakistan as sovereign countries,” Mao said.

Andhra CID gives clean chit for CM Naidu in skill development scam case

Amaravati (TSIT): The Andhra Pradesh Criminal Investigation Department (CID) has given a clean chit to Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu in the alleged skill development scam case. After a detailed investigation, the CID concluded that there was no evidence linking the Chief Minister to any wrongdoing in the implementation of the skill development project. According to officials, the probe examined financial transactions, administrative decisions, and project approvals related to the scheme.

BJP has weakened MGNREGA, says DCM DK Shivakumar

Will remove those party leaders who don't take part in the protest

Bengaluru (TSIT) Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on Tuesday accused the BJP-led Centre of weakening the MGNREGA scheme, which he said played a crucial role in rural development. Addressing a preparatory meeting of the ‘MGNREGA Bachao Sangram’ at Palace Grounds in Bengaluru, the DCM said the employment scheme introduced during the UPA government under Sonia Gandhi had empowered panchayats and generated large-scale rural works.

He alleged that changes made by the Centre, including altering the funding ratio from 90:10 to 60:40 and limiting the decision-making powers of panchayats,

have put financial pressure on states and diluted the scheme’s intent. Shivakumar said even BJP-ruled states were finding it difficult to implement the new model.

Announcing statewide protests as per AICC directions, he warned that party

leaders who fail to participate would be removed from responsibilities. He also said padayatras, public meetings, and memoranda submissions would be organised across constituencies, while preparations should begin for upcoming local body elections.

We express gratitude towards nature: President Murmu on harvest festivals

NEW DELHI (TSIT): President Droupadi Murmu on Tuesday extended greetings to the countrymen on the occasion of Lohri, Makar Sankranti, Pongal, and Magh Bihu, and expressed her gratitude towards the farmers. In a post on X, President Murmu said, “Heartfelt greetings to all Indians living in the country and abroad on the occasion of Lohri, Makar Sankranti, Pongal, and Magh Bihu. These festivals are symbols of India’s rich agricultural

traditions and national unity.”

“On this occasion, we also express our gratitude towards nature. Through these festivals, we convey our thanks to the farmer benefactors. My best wishes are that these festivals bring happiness and prosperity into everyone’s lives,” she added. Lohri, Makar Sankranti, Pongal, and Magh Bihu are the harvest festivals of India and showcase the richness of the traditions.

Through these festivals, people celebrate nature, cultural diversity and community harmony. These festivals are rooted in farming culture and also signify seasonal change. Union Home Minister Amit Shah also took to social media and extended Lohri greetings to the countrymen. “Heartfelt greetings on the festival of Lohri, a symbol of enthusiasm, zeal, and new energy.

“May this festival be a means of happiness and prosperity for all,” Shah posted on

In a post on X, President Murmu said, “Heartfelt greetings to all Indians living in the country and abroad on the occasion of Lohri, Makar Sankranti, Pongal, and Magh Bihu.

X. External Affairs Minister (EAM) S. Jaishankar, extending best wishes, said, “Festive greetings on the auspicious occasion of Lohri and Bhogi. May the festivals fill everyone’s lives with happiness, harmony and prosperity.” Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta also took to X and extended heartfelt greetings to the countrymen on the festival of Lohri.

“Lohri is a symbol of our rich cultural tradition, which strengthens the spirit of coexistence, collective joy,

and mutual harmony. This auspicious sign of the Sun’s northward journey and the arrival of new harvests is a sacred opportunity to express gratitude to our farmers for their hard work and dedication,” she said. “In the witness of the sacred fire, let us renounce negativities and embrace the values of goodwill, harmony, and cooperation. May this sacred light illuminate every family in Delhi with happiness, prosperity, and good health,” CM Gupta added.

Telangana Election Commission publishes voter list for 118 municipalities, 5 corporations

Hyderabad, Jan 13 : There are 52.43 lakh voters in 118 municipalities and five municipal corporations in Telangana, reveals the final voter list published by the State Election Commission on Tuesday.

The municipalities and corporations have 2,996 wards. The total number of voters is 52,43,023, comprising 25,62,369 men, 26,80,014 women and 640 others. Stepping up the arrangements for the upcoming municipal elections, the Election Commission has mapped and confirmed municipality-wise voters. The five municipal corporations are Karimnagar, Nizamabad, Mahabubnagar, Mancherial and Ramagundam. Nizamabad



Municipal Corporation has the highest number of voters (3,48,051) with 60 wards. Karimnagar Municipal Corporation, comprising 66 wards, has 3,40,580 voters, while Mahabubnagar Municipal Corporation has 1,97,841 voters in 60 wards. There are 1,81,778 voters in

Mancherial Municipal Corporation, while Ramagundam Municipal Corporation has 1,83,049 voters in 60 wards. Adilabad municipality has the highest number of voters at 1,43,655, while Amarachinta municipality in Wanaparthy district is the smallest municipality with just 9,147

voters. The elections for the urban local bodies are likely to be held next month. The process has been taken up for those municipalities and corporations whose term ended in July 2025. The Election Commission has not mapped and confirmed voters in the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) and Khammam and Warangal corporations, as their terms will be completed later. GHMC's tenure ends in February, while the terms of Khammam and Warangal corporations end in April. State Election Commissioner Rani Kumudini recently held a meeting with representatives of recognised political parties as part of the preparations for the municipal polls.

Telangana forms SIT to probe defamatory content against CM, IAS officer

Hyderabad, Jan 12 : Telangana Police have formed a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to probe two cases booked for alleged defamatory and obscene content targeting Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, a minister and a woman IAS officer. The eight-member SIT will be headed by Hyderabad Police Commissioner V.C. Sajjanar.

Director General of Police B. Shivadhar Reddy has constituted the SIT to investigate the case booked against one Kavali Venkatesh



for posting a morphed photograph of the Chief Minister, and another case registered against some television channels and social media

handles for publishing fake news about a minister and an Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer. While the case relating

to the Chief Minister was registered in Narayanpet district, the other case was booked at the Central Crime Station (CCS) in Hyderabad.

The SIT members include North Range Joint Commissioner of Police Shwetha, Chevella DCP Yogesh Gautam, Hyderabad Admin DCP Venkata Lakshmi, Cyber Crime DCP Aravind Babu, Vigilance Additional SP Pratap, CCS ACP Guru Raghavendra, Cyber Cell CI Shankar Reddy, and Counter Intelligence Cell SI Harish.

SBI STATE BANK OF INDIA
CHIVEMULA BRANCH (20643)
SURYAPET DISTRICT.

PRIOR TO SALE NOTICE
Issued under the provisions of Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (for Immovable Property)
Borrower(s): (1) Mr. LINGALA GUMSHAVALI S/O LINGALA RAMULU, (2) Smt. LINGALA SHAILAJA W/O LINGALA GUMSHAVALI, H.No. 1-64, B.C. Colony, Mukkududepally Village, Athmakur Mandal, Suryapet Dist-508221.
NOTICE UNDER RULE 8(6) OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES 2002, UNDER THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002
Ac/No. 39600087448 MC-ASSET BACKED AGRI LOAN (OD).
Please take notice that the secured assets mortgaged / charged to the Bank more fully described in the schedule hereunder will be sold by public e-Auction at any date after the expiry of the 30 days period from the date of this notice. Separate public e-Auction notice will be sent to you as and when the Bank decides to auction the property through e-Auction.
DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY
All that the pice and parcel of the House with Sy. No. 157, Plot No. 8-B H.No. Not Allotted, admeasuring 180.00 Sq. Yds or 150.50 Sq. Mts, situated at Kuda Kuda Revenue Village of Suryapet Municipality, Chivemula Mandal, Suryapet Dist. Within the limits Zillaparishad Suryapet and Mandal Parishad Chivemula, Under the jurisdiction of District Registrar Nalgonda and Sub-Registrar Chivemula. List of Documents Deposited: 1. Regd. Sale Deed No. 1841/2019, Dated: 10.07.2019. Property Standing in the name of - Smt. Lingala Shailaja W/o.Lingala Gumshavali. Boundaries: North: Plot No.9-B, South: 30 Feet Road, East: 25 Feet Road, West: Land of Devireddy Ravinder Reddy.
Place : CHIVEMULA Sd/- Authorised Officer
Date : 05.01.2026 State Bank of India

Bank of India
Kalyanotsarg Beyond Banking
MALAKPET BRANCH
16-02-6772 & 2/1, Judges Colony, Malakpet, Hyderabad-500036, Phone: 040-24548897/443 Fax: 040-2454673

[Rule-8(1)]
POSSESSION NOTICE (for immovable property)
Whereas,
The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Bank of India, Malakpet Branch, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated 30-08-2025 calling upon the borrower 1. Mrs. SRI VIJAYA DURGA RESTAURANT AND BAR (Prop: BUSIREDDY BHAGYALAXMI) Door No. 7-313/1/D, Sy No. 348, Narayana Enclave, Ibrahimpatnam Mandal, Ranga Reddy dist.-501506 2. Mrs. BUSIREDDY BHAGYALAXMI W/o. B. Srinivas Reddy H.No. 12-1-169/541, Narayana Enclave, Nagole, Hayathnagar, Ranga Reddy. 500068 to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs. 24,82,282.89 plus interest from 21.04.2025 with further interest plus penal interest compounded with monthly rests, with costs, expenses etc., within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.
The borrowers/guarantors/mortgagor having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers/guarantors and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic possession of property mortgaged to the bank described herein below in exercise of powers conferred Under Sec.13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said rules on this 12th day of January of the year 2026.
The borrowers/Guarantors in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing with the property will be subject to the charge of the Bank of India, Malakpet Branch for an amount of Rs. 24,82,282.89 plus interest from 21.04.2025 with further interest plus penal interest compounded with monthly rests, with costs, expenses etc., till realization. The borrower attention is invited to provisions of sub-section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.
DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY
Equitable Mortgage of all that the Non-agriculture dry land in Sy No. 187 as for phani 187/A, Area AC-1-00 Gts., situated at Ankushapur Village and Gram panchayat, Ghatkesar Mandal, Medchal-Malkajigiri District, under SRO Ghatkesar, Telangana state in the name of Mr. Yella Narendar Reddy and bounded by:
Boundaries: North: Sy No. 187 Part; South: Sy No. 187 Part; East: 33' Wide Road Edulabad to Ankushapur Road; West: Sy No. 187 Part.
Date: 12-01-2026 Sd/- Authorised Officer,
Place: Hyderabad Bank of India.

LIC LIC HOUSING FINANCE LTD
201,2nd Floor, Krishi sapphire, South Block, Sy No:88, Madhapur, Hyderabad-81.

POSSESSION NOTICE
(Under Rule 8(1) Immovable Property)
WHEREAS, the undersigned being the authorized officer of the LIC Housing Finance Limited, Hyderabad under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13 (2) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notices calling upon the following Borrowers to repay the amount mentioned against their names with further interest / costs etc. within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notices.
1. Name of the Borrower(s):1) Mr. S. Karthik (Primary Applicant) A/c Nos: 7001050003894 /7001050003896
Demand Notice Date: 15.10.2025; **DNPP Date :** 01.11.2025 ; **Date of Symbolic Possession:** 09.01.2026.
Outstanding Loan Amount: Rs.1,04,34,320.92 (Rupees One Crore Four Lakhs Thirty Four Thousand Three Hundred and Twenty and Paise Ninety Two Only) as on 15.10.2025 together with applicable incidental charges, costs.
Description of immovable Property : All that part and parcel of the Flat bearing No. 102, in First Floor, in the building known as "AADVIKA INFRA DEVELOPERS" with a plinth area of 1220 Sq.ft (including common area) and Car parking along with an undivided share of land admeasuring 31 Sq.Yds out of total land of 347 Sq.Yds constructed on Plot No. 432, in Survey No. 136 Situated at Bachupally Village, Pragathi Nagar, Bachupally Mandal, Under Nizampet, Municipal Corporation, Medchal-Malkajigiri District, Telangana State belonging to: Mr. S. Karthik Vide Sale Deed Doc No. 25928/2024 dated 07.10.2024 and bounded by: Boundaries for Entire Land/Building: North : Plot No. 433, South : Plot No. 431, East : Plot No. 455, West : 33'-0" Wide Road, Boundaries for Flat: North : Open to Sky, South : Open to Sky, East : Open to Sky, West : Corridor, Staircase, Lift and Flat No. 101.
2. Name of the Borrower(s):1) Mr. Jadhav Prem (Primary Applicant) A/c Nos: 710500016815
Demand Notice Date: 15.10.2025 ; **DNPP Date :** 11.07.2025 ; **Date of Symbolic Possession:** 13.01.2026.
Outstanding Loan Amount: Rs.33,77,705.79 (Rupees Ninety Five Lakhs Forty Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy One and Paise Forty Three Only) as on 12.06.2025 together with applicable future interest from 12.06.2025.
Description of immovable Property : All that the Residential House on Plot No. 94 South Part (Block -4) admeasuring 120 Sq.Yards or 100.32 Sq.Mtrs in Survey Nos. 417, 418 and 419 with Built up area of 780 Sft R.C.C Ground Floor, Situated at "Sri Sai Colony", Rampally Village, under Nagaram Municipality, Keesara Mandal, Medchal Malkajigiri District, belonging to Mr. Jadhav Prem Regd. Vide Sale Deed Doc No. 2564/2021 dated 03.02.2021 and bounded by: North: Plot No. 94 Part, South : 30' Wide Road, East : 25' Wide Road, West : Plot No. 93.
As the above borrower has failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein above in exercise of powers conferred on him under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said ruled on the dates mentioned above.
The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the LIC Housing Finance Limited for the amounts mentioned against their names with further interest accrued interest thereon and costs.
The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.
Date: 13-01-2026 Sd/- Authorised Officer,
Place: Hyderabad. LIC Housing Finance Limited.

DGP Launches 'Call for Blood' Web Application

Hyderabad: Director General of Police B. Shivadhar Reddy on Tuesday launched the 'Call for Blood Foundation' web application, developed to ensure the immediate availability of blood donors for patients in need.

The web application has been designed to enable quick and efficient communication between blood donors and patients. It provides advanced technological support to identify suitable blood donors during emergency situations, ensuring timely assistance. Special emphasis has been placed on the privacy and security of blood donors.

The application has been developed using modern technology to keep donors' personal details confidential. It also includes features such as temporarily hiding donor information for a specified period after blood donation and a rapid donor identification system during emergencies. Developed under the aegis of the Call for Blood Foundation, the web application aims to simplify the blood donation process and ensure that patients receive blood at the right time.

Suda chairman who laid the foundation stone for the construction of CC road in Sitarampur



Karimnagar, January 13, TSIT: Suda Chairman Komatireddy Narendar Reddy laid the foundation stone for the construction of CC Road with 25 lakhs in Sitarampur 23rd Division. On this occasion, Narendar

Reddy said that we are granting funds for the development works in the areas which were previously merged in the Municipal Corporation.

भारतीय बैंक Indian Bank
Bhagyanagar Colony Branch Hyderabad

APPENDIX IV (Rule 8(1))
POSSESSION NOTICE (for immovable property)
Where As The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Indian Bank under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with rule 8 and 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated 23.10.2025 Calling upon the Borrower/Mortgagor: 1.Mr.Nagabathula Veera Venkata Subba Rao, S/o. N. Narasimha Temple, F.No.EWS-410, 4th Floor, Block No.11/A, Vaddepally Enclave, Near Chittaramma Temple, Kukatapally, Hyderabad - 500072. 2. Mrs. Nagabathula Lalitha (Co-Borrower) W/o. N. Veera Venkata Subba Rao, F.No. EWS-410, 1st Floor, Block No. 11/A, Vaddepally Enclave, Near Chittaramma Temple, Kukatapally, Hyderabad - 500072. with our Bhagyanagar Colony Branch to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs. 3,72,682/- (Rs. Three Lakh Seventy Two Thousand Six Hundred and Eighty Two Only) as on 23.10.2025 with further interest and cost within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.
The borrower/s having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him / her under Section 13 (4) of the said Act read with rule 8 and 9 of the said rules on this 12th day January of the year 2026.
The borrower in particular and the public in general is/are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Indian Bank for an amount Rs. 3,72,682/- (Rs. Three Lakh Seventy Two Thousand Six Hundred and Eighty Two Only) as on 23.10.2025 with further interest, cost and charges thereon.
"We draw attention to the provisions of Section 13 (8) of the SARFAESI Act and the Rules framed there under which deals with your rights of redemption over the securities."
DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY : All that Finished EWS Flat No.410 (in Fourth Floor), with a built up area of 288 Sq.ft (including common area), with an undivided share of land admeasuring 12 sq.yds (out of land of Ac.10-13 guntas), in Survey No.498, in Block-11/A, EWS constructed in the Gated community of 'Vaddepally Enclave' situated at Kukatapally Village, Balanagar Mandal, Hyderabad-500072, Colony. Owned By: Sri.Nagabathula Veera Venkata Subbarao. **Boundaries for Land :** North : Compound Wall/ Open Drain/ Nala, South : Survey No.499 (Balakrishna Nagar), East : Existing BT Road, West : Sai Baba Temple and Chittaramma Temple **Boundaries for Flat:** North: Flat No.409, South: Corridor, East: Corridor, West: Open to sky.
Date: 12.01.2026 Sd/-Authorised Officer,
Place: Hyderabad Indian Bank

SBI STATE BANK OF INDIA
SURYAPET MAIN BRANCH (06316)
SURYAPET DISTRICT.

PRIOR TO SALE NOTICE
Issued under the provisions of Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (for Immovable Property)
Borrower: KOLLU HARI KRISHNA, S/o.KOLLU GURUJI, D.No. 1-1-188/ C/2/1, JJ Nagar, Near Government Junior College, Surypet District- 508213.
NOTICE UNDER RULE 8(6) OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES 2002, UNDER THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002
Ac/No. 36116721175 (Education Loan)
Please take notice that the secured assets mortgaged / charged to the Bank more fully described in the schedule hereunder will be sold by public e-Auction at any date after the expiry of the 30 days period from the date of this notice. Separate public e-Auction notice will be sent to you as and when the Bank decides to auction the property through e-Auction.
DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY
All that Piece and parcel of house property bearing Hno. 1-1-188/C/2, admeasuring 176.00 Sq. Yds or 147.15 Sq. Mts in Survey No. 827 of Suryapet with construction area 1056 Sq ft RCC roof in ward 1, Block 1 of JJ Nagar within the limits of Suryapet dist. **Vide Document No. 1) Reg Sale Deed Doc No. 1216/1982, Dated: 21.07.1982. 2) Reg Sale Deed Doc No. 476/1997, Dated 06.03.1997. Property Standing in the name of Smt. Kollu Madhavi, W/o Kollu Gururji. Boundaries:** North: Land of Nandyalva Prabhavathi, South: Land of Ananthula Janardhan, East: House of Kuntla Ramakrishna Reddy, West: 30 Feet wide road.
Place : SURYAPET Sd/- Authorised Officer
Date : 05.01.2026 State Bank of India

Aggressive Rhetoric of Talasani Srinivas Yadav Reflects Political Insecurity Dr Rekha Boyalapalli



Hyderabad: The Telangana Pradesh Mahila Congress on Tuesday strongly condemned the aggressive and threatening remarks made by BRS leader Talasani Srinivas Yadav against Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, stating that such statements expose political insecurity rather than democratic opposition. Addressing the media, Dr. Rekha Boyalapalli, Vice President, Telangana Pradesh Mahila Congress, said that threats have no place in a democracy and warned that aggressive rhetoric cannot derail constitutional processes. She asserted that delimitation is a necessary democratic reform, aimed at correcting representational imbalances and ensuring that every citizen's vote carries equal value. Dr. Rekha further pointed out that women's reservation cannot be effectively implemented without delimitation, and opposing the process is equivalent to opposing women's political empowerment. She reiterated that the Indian National Congress, under the leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, remains firmly committed to democratic reforms, constitutional values, and expanding women's participation in politics.

TGIIC Chairperson Nirmala Jaggareddy Inaugurates Roads in Development Town



Hyderabad: TGIIC Chairperson Nirmala Jaggareddy inaugurated newly laid roads in Sangareddy Development Town on Tuesday by performing the traditional

coconut-breaking ceremony. Speaking on the occasion, Nirmala Jaggareddy said that the Congress government is committed to strengthening urban infrastructure and ensuring

quality road connectivity in developing towns. She stated that improved roads would enhance convenience for residents and contribute to the overall development of Sangareddy.

Local leaders, officials, and residents participated in the programme and expressed appreciation for the completion of the road works. The Chairperson assured that more developmental works would be taken up in a phased manner to improve civic amenities in the town.

Nearly 3 crore devotees expected at Medaram Jatara



Hyderabad (TSIT): With nearly three crore devotees expected to attend the Medaram Sammakka-Saralamma Jatara from January 28 to 31, the Telangana government has intensified preparations to ensure smooth conduct of the mega tribal festival. Tribal Welfare Minister Adhuri Laxman Kumar and Panchayat Raj and Women &

Child Welfare Minister Dansari Anasuya (Seethakka) said all departments have been directed to work in close coordination to avoid inconvenience to pilgrims.

At a high-level review meeting held at the Dr B R Ambedkar Secretariat, the ministers said the government has sanctioned the highest-ever funds for the Jatara, with over Rs.150

crore allocated for arrangements and additional funds for restoration of sacred platforms. The event is being treated on par with major national religious congregations, with focus on roads, transport, sanitation, healthcare, security and traffic management.

Special arrangements are being made for devotees arriving from other states, with preparations underway to handle up to 40 lakh pilgrims per day. The Chief Minister is personally monitoring the arrangements to ensure efficient and seamless management of the Jatara.

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE
Registered Office: ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai- 400051
Corporate Office: ICICI HFC Tower, JB Nagar, Andheri Kurla Road, Andheri East, Mumbai- 400059
Branch Office:1-9-388, 2nd Floor, Surya Arcade,Kushaiguda Main Road, ECIL, Hyderabad, Telangana- 500062

Whereas,
The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICICI Home Finance Company Limited under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (2) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notices upon the borrowers mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.
As the borrower failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/ her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. 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 ICICI Home Finance Company Limited.
The Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of property/ Date of Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Gajjaraju Nareish (Borrower), Gajjaraju Santhosha (Co-Borrower), 1.96 Chandupatla Bhongir Mandal Nalgonda Bhongir Telangana Nalgonda Telangana- 508117, LHHC00001604842.	All That The Part And Parcel Of House Bearing No. 1-96 Consist Of Ground Floor Admeasuring Of 1248 Sq.Fts. And First Floor Admeasuring Of 1248 Sq.Fts. Of Rcc Roofed House In Total 2496 Sq.Fts in 180 Sayds Or 150.48 Sq.mts Situated At Chandupatla Village & Gp, Bhongir Mandal, Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District, Nalgonda Telangana 508114. . Bounded By - North By - House Of Chinnu Pallaigha, South By - House Of Gajjaraju Etlaiah, East By- 20 Wide Road, West By - House Of Gurrum Pedda Pallaigha/ Date of Possession- 09/01/2026	24-10-2025 Rs. 22,39,263.36/-	ECIL - Hyderabad

The above-mentioned borrower(s)/ guarantors(s) are hereby given a 30 day notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.
Date : January 14, 2026 Place: Nalgonda
Authorized Office ICICI Home Finance Company Limited

Can Fin Homes Ltd
(Sponsor: CANARA BANK)
Plot No. 28 Brahmarambika Colony, Beeramguda, R C Puram, Hyderabad - 502032.
Ph. Nos.: 08455-280777, Email: ramachandrapuram@canfinhomes.com, Website: www.canfinhomes.com
CIN No. L85110KA1987PLC008699

POSSESSION NOTICE
(for immovable property) [(Rule 8(1))]
The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of Can Fin Homes Ltd, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of the powers under the said Act and Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a demand notice on the below mentioned dates calling upon the following borrower(s)/co-borrowers/guarantors to repay the amount mentioned in the notice with further interest at contractual rates till date of realization within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below, against each borrower, in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on dates mentioned hereinafter.

Sl. No.	Name of borrowers and guarantors	Description of the property	Date of Demand Notice	Outstanding Amount	Date of Possession
1	Borrowers: Mr.kanamariapudi Sai Nadh S/o Kanamarlapudi Suresh Babu & Mr. Kanamarlapudi Vijayalakshmi W/o: Kanamarlapudi Suresh Babu	All that the Residential Flat bearing No.302, in Third Floor, of Sai Nivas, Municipal H.No.4-36/302, (PTI No.1280109257), Premises bearing H.No.4-36, on Plot No.40, in Survey No.909, consisting super builtup area of 900.0 Sft., of RCC Roof (including all common areas, and one earmarked car parking at Stilt Floor), together with undivided share of land admeasuring 27.0 Sq. Yds. or 22.57 Sq.Mtrs., out of 216.0 Sq. Yds. or 180.57 Sq.Mtrs., situated at Maruthi Nagar, Malkajigiri, the then Malkajigiri Municipality, now under GHMC, Malkajigiri Circle & Mandal, the then Ranga Reddy District, now Medchal-Malkajigiri District, and bounded as follows: Boundaries for Land: NORTH: H.No.4-27 on Plot no.39, SOUTH: Neighbour's land, EAST: 25' 0" wide road, WEST: 20' 0" wide road, Boundaries for Flat: NORTH: Open To Sky, SOUTH: Open To Sky, EAST: Staircase, Corridor & Lift, WEST: Open To Sky	03-11-2025	Rs. 41,33,994/- (Rupees Forty One Lakhs Thirty Three Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety Four Only)	12-01-2026
3	Borrowers: Mr.radhharapu Ajith, S/o: Radharapu Rammurthy & Mr.radhharapu Rammurthy, S/o: Radharapu Yellaiah	All that the Flat No.G-1, bearing Municipal No.10-34-656/G-1 (PTI No.1071019728), on GROUND FLOOR, built-up area 1000 Square Feet (including common areas), and One Car Parking area of 125 Square Feet in Stilt Floor, along with undivided share of land area 38.50 Square Yards, (Out of 308 Square Yards), in the building known as "SRI SURYA RESIDENCY", in premises LIG House No. 133/3RT, bearing Municipal No.10-3-656, situated at VIJAYANAGAR COLONY, MALLEPALLY, HYDERABAD, T.S., and bounded by as under- Boundaries for Land: NORTH: House no 132-3RT, SOUTH: House no 134-3RT, EAST: House no 138-3RT, WEST: Road 30 feet Wide, Boundaries for Flat: NORTH: staircase and corridor, SOUTH: Open To Sky, EAST: Flat no.G-2, WEST: Open to sky/Road	03-11-2025	(Rs.41,91,281/-) (Rupees Forty One Lakhs Ninety One Thousand Two Hundred Eighty One Only)	12-01-2026

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets. The borrowers 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 CFHL for the amount mentioned against each property along with further interest thereon till the date of realisation.
Date: 13-01-2026 Place: Ramachandrapuram
Sd/- Authorised Officer Can Fin Homes Ltd.




Let Us Work Together
and Drive Development:
Shadnagar MLA
Veerlapalli Shankar



RANGAREDDY: Shadnagar MLA Veerlapalli Shankar on Tuesday called for unity beyond party lines to ensure development, stating that politics should be limited to election time while collective efforts should continue thereafter to develop villages and hamlets. He laid the foundation stone for BT road works worth Rs.2 crore between Kamsanpally and Girayi Gutta Thanda in Farooqnagar Mandal of Rangareddy district.

Speaking on the occasion, the MLA urged public cooperation and support to contractors for timely completion of development works. He said the Congress government is focused on rural development and informed that Shadnagar and Kothur municipalities are being developed ward-wise.



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

APPENDIX- IV-A
[See proviso to rule 8 (6)]
Public Notice For E-Auction Cum Sale (Appendix – IV A) (Rule 8(6))
Sale of Immovable property mortgaged **Hinduja Housing Finance Limited (HHF)** having its Corporate Office at 167-169, 2ND Floor, Little Mount, Saidapet, Chennai – 600 015 and Regional Office at - Hinduja Housing Finance Limited- ---Ashok Bhoopal Chambers, Unit No.101, Municipal No. 1-8-271, to 273 & 1-8-301 to 302, 1st Floor, Sardar Patel Road, Secunderabad – 500 003 under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (hereinafter "Act"). Whereas the Authorized Officer ("AO") of HHF had taken the possession of the following property/ies under Section 13(4) pursuant to the notice issued U/S 13(2) of the Act in the following loan accounts/prospect nos. with a right to sell the same on **"AS IS WHERE IS BASIS & AS IS WHAT IS BASIS"** for realization of dues amounting to **Rs.52,61,872/- as on 26-11-25** The Sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the website: www.bankeauctions.com

Sl No	Borrower(s) / Co-Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s)	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Description of the Immovable property/ Secured Asset	Date of Possession	Reserve Price	Date of Inspection of property
1	1.Mr.Anjaneyulu Belde.....Borrower 2. Mrs. Rani Belde....Co-borrower Both R/o.F no 101,door no 4-91/86/101(first floor) PRATHAM RESIDENCY on plot no 63,64,80,81&86 in survey no 111/112,11/3,11/4,11/5,1/4/14/2,14/3and14/situated at hydershakote village bandlaguda jagir municipality, gandipet mandal, RR Dist, Hyderabad, Telangana , India - 500091 LAN: AP/GAJ/GAJ/L/A000000220 & CO/CP/CP/POF/A000005394	29-04-2025 & Rs.49,20,987/- (Rupees Forty Nine Lacs Twenty Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty Seven Only) Bid Increase Amount Rs.10000 /-	All that the Semi Finished Flat No.101, on First Floor, having a plinth area of 1,053 Sq.ft, R.C.C., Including Balconies, common area and Parking, along with undivided share of land admeasuring 30.00 Sq.yards or 25.08 Sq. Meters, out of 810.6 Sq. Yards), the complex well known as "P R A T H A M RESIDENCY", on Plot Nos. 63, 64, 80, 81 & 86, in Sy.Nos. 111/1, 11/2, 11/3, 11/4, 11/5 and 14/1, 14/2, 14/3, 14/4, Situated at Hydershakote Village & G.P., Rajendranagar Mandal, R.R.Dist, A.P. and bounded by NORTH: Duct & Flat No. 102, SOUTH: Open to Sky, EAST: Staircase & 7' Wide Corridor, WEST: Open to Sky.	17/07/2025 Total Outstanding Rs. 52,61,872/- as on 26-11-25	Rs. 43,97,328/- Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Rs. 4,39,733/-	31-Jan-2026 1100 hrs - 1400 hrs EMD Last Date 02-Feb-2026 till 10AM. Date/ Time of E-Auction 02-Feb-2026 1100 hrs-1300 hrs.

Mode Of Payment:-
All payment shall be made by demand draft in favour of Hinduja Housing Finance Limited payable at Hyderabad or through RTGS/NEFT The accounts details are as follows: a) Name of the account: Hinduja Housing Finance Limited b) Name of the Bank:- HDFC BANK LTD., c) Account No: HHFLTDAPGAJGAJLA220 & A5394, d) IFSC Code:- HDFC0004989

TERMS & CONDITIONS OF ONLINE E- AUCTION SALE:-

- The Property is being sold on "AS IS WHERE IS, WHATEVER THERE & WITHOUT RECOURSE BASIS". As such sale is without any kind of warranties & indemnities.
- Particulars of the property / assts (viz. extent & measurements specified in the E-Auction Sale Notice has been stated to the best of information of the Secured Creditor and Secured Creditor shall not be answerable for any error, misstatement or omission. Actual extant & dimensions may differ.
- E-Auction Sale Notice issued by the Secured Creditor is an invitation to the general public to submit their bids and the same does not constitute and will not be deemed to constitute any commitment or may representation on the part of the Secured Creditor. Interested bidders are advised to peruse the copies of title deeds with the Secured Creditor and to conduct own independent enquiries /due diligence about the title & present condition of the property / assets and claims / dues affecting the property before submission of bid/s.
- Auction/bidding shall only be through "online electronic mode" through the website <https://www.bankeauctions.com> Or Auction provided by the service provider M/s C1 India Private Limited, who shall arrange & coordinate the entire process of auction through the e-auction platform.
- The bidders may participate in e-auction for bidding from their place of choice. Internet connectivity shall have to be ensured by bidder himself. Secured Creditor /service provider shall not be held responsible for the internet connectivity, network problems, system crash own, power failure etc.
- For details, help, procedure and online bidding on e-auction prospective bidders may contact the Service Provider M/S C1 India Pvt Ltd, Plot No- 68, 3rd floor Sector 44 Gurgaon Haryana -122003 (Contact no. 7291981124,25,26) Support Email – Support@bankeauctions.com , Ms. Dharani Mob.9948182222. Email: andhra@c1india.com
- For participating in the e-auction sale the intending bidders should register their name at <https://www.bankeauctions.com> well in advance and shall get the user id and password. Intending bidders are advised to change only the password immediately upon receiving it from the service provider.
- For participating in e-auction, intending bidders have to deposit a refundable EMD of 10% OF RESERVE PRICE (as mentioned above) shall be payable by interested bidders through Demand Draft/NEFT/RTGS in favor of "Hinduja Housing Finance Limited " on or before 02-Feb-2026, 10AM.
- The intending bidders should submit the duly filled in Bid Form (format available on <https://www.bankeauctions.com>) along with the Demand Draft remittance towards EMD in a sealed cover addressed to the Authorized Officer HHFL Branch Office Hinduja Housing Finance Limited- ---Ashok Bhoopal Chambers, Unit No.101, Municipal No. 1-8-271, to 273 & 1-8-301 to 302, 1st Floor, Sardar Patel Road, Secunderabad – 500 003 latest by 10:00 AM on 02-Feb-2026. The sealed cover should be super scribed with "Bid for participating in E-Auction Sale- in the Loan Account No. AP/GAJ/GAJ/L/A000000220 & CO/CP/CP/POF/A000005394 (as mentioned above) for property of Mr. Anjaneyulu Belde.
- After expiry of the last date of submission of bids with EMD, Authorised Officer shall examine the bids received by him and confirm the details of the qualified bidders (who have quoted their bids over and above the reserve price and paid the specified EMD with the Secured Creditor) to the service provider M/S C1 India Pvt Ltd to enable them to allow only those bidders to participate in the online inter-se bidding /auction proceedings at the date and time mentioned in E-Auction Sale Notice.
- Inter-se bidding among the qualified bidders shall start from the highest bid quoted by the qualified bidders. During the process of inter-se bidding, there will be unlimited extension of "10" minutes each, i.e., the end time of e- auction shall be automatically extended by 10 Minutes each time if bid is made within 10 minutes from the last extension.
- Bids once made shall not be cancelled or withdrawn. All bids made from the user id given to bidder will be deemed to have been made by him alone.
- Immediately upon closure of E-Auction proceedings, the highest bidder shall confirm the final amount of bid quoted by him BY E-Mail both to the Authorised Officer Mr. S.Bhaskar (CLM) A.Preetham Kishore (RRM), Branch Office at Hinduja Housing Finance Limited- ---Ashok Bhoopal Chambers, Unit No.101, Municipal No. 1-8-271, to 273 & 1-8-301 to 302, 1st Floor, Sardar Patel Road, Secunderabad – 500 003 and the Service Provider for getting declared as successful bidder in the E-Auction Sale proceedings.
- The successful bidder shall deposit 25% of the bid amount (including EMD) on the same day of the sale, being knocked down in his favour and balance 75% of bid amount within 15 days from the date of sale by DD/Pay order/NEFT/RTGS/Chq favoring Hinduja Housing Finance Limited.
- In case of default in payment of above stipulated amounts by the successful bidder / auction purchaser within the stipulated time, the sale will be cancelled and the amount already paid (including EMD) will be forfeited and the property will be again put to sale.
- At the request of the successful bidder, the Authorised Officer in his absolute discretion may grant further time in writing, for depositing the balance of the bid amount.
- The Successful Bidder shall pay 1% of Sale price towards TDS (out of Sale proceeds) and submit TDS certificate to the Authorised officer and the deposit the entire amount of sale price (after deduction of 1% towards TDS), adjusting the EMD within 15 working days of the acceptance of the offer by the authorized officer, or within such other extended time as deemed fit by the Authorised Officer, failing which the earnest deposit will be forfeited.
- Municipal / Panchayat Taxes, Electricity dues (if any) and any other authorities dues (if any) has to be paid by the successful bidder before issuance of the sale certificate. Bids shall be made taking into consideration of all the statutory dues pertaining to the property.
- Sale Certificate will be issued by the Authorised Officer in favour of the successful bidder only upon deposit of entire purchase price / bid amount and furnishing the necessary proof in respect of payment of all taxes / charges.
- Applicable legal charges for conveyance, stamp duty, registration charges and other incidental charges shall be borne by the auction purchaser.
- The Authorized officer may postpone / cancel the E-Auction Sale proceedings without assigning any reason whatsoever. In case the E-Auction Sale scheduled is postponed to a later date before 30 days from the scheduled date of sale, it will be displayed on the website of the service provider.
- The decision of the Authorised Officer is final, binding and unquestionable.
- All bidders who submitted the bids, shall be deemed to have read and understood the terms and conditions of the E-Auction Sale and be bound by them.
- For further details and queries, contact Authorised Officer, Hinduja Housing Finance Limited, S.Bhaskar (CLM) , A.Preetham Kishore (RRM) Cell No. 8247673058, 9963566656.
- This publication is also 30 (Thirty) days' notice to the Borrower / Mortgagor / Guarantors of the above said loan account pursuant to rule 8(6) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, about holding of auction sale on the above-mentioned date / place.

Place: Hyderabad
Date: 13-01-2026

Authorized officer
For Hinduja Housing Finance Limited

Special Instructions / Caution: Bidding in the last minutes/seconds should be avoided by the bidders in their own interest. Neither Hinduja Housing Finance Limited nor the Service Provider will be responsible for any lapses/failure (Internet failure, Power failure, etc.) on the part of the bidder in such cases. In order to ward off such contingent situation, bidders are requested to make all the necessary arrangements / alternatives such as back-up power supply and whatever else required so that they are able to circumvent such situation and are able to participate in the auction successfully.

Pongal Our Culture,
Our Joy Dr Rekha

Hyderabad: Expressing pride in India's rich cultural heritage, Dr. Rekha Boyalapalli said that Pongal (Sankranti) is a festival that truly reflects the soul of Telugu culture, symbolising joy, prosperity, and togetherness. In a message on the occasion of Pongal, Dr. Rekha Boyalapalli said she feels proud to be an Indian woman, and especially a Telugu woman, blessed with time-honoured traditions and vibrant festivals. She described Pongal as a unique celebration that fills homes with colourful rangolis, echoes the skies with children flying kites, and brings families together to share traditional festive delicacies. She said the festival marks the beginning of a new agricultural year, celebrating the hard work of farmers and the arrival of prosperity into households. Pongal, she noted, is also a time when people return to their native villages, reconnect with elders, relatives, and childhood friends, and relive the simple joys of life rooted in tradition. Dr. Rekha Boyalapalli emphasised that Pongal is not just a harvest festival but a reminder of our cultural roots, collective values, and social harmony. It strengthens family bonds and reinforces respect for nature, agriculture, and community living. Extending her greetings, she wished everyone a very Happy Pongal, hoping the festival brings peace, prosperity, happiness, and good health to all families and renewed pride in Telugu culture and heritage.



PRTU Telangana Appoints Jannu Rajamouli as
Mahabubabad District General Secretary

Warangal: The Progressive Recognised Teachers' Union (PRTU) Telangana appointed Jannu Rajamouli as the District General Secretary of Mahabubabad during an executive committee meeting held at the district office on Tuesday. The appointment letter was formally handed over by PRTU Telangana State General Secretary Puli Devender Mudhiraj, who attended the meeting as the chief guest. The meeting was presided over by District President Border Ramji Naik.

Addressing the gathering, Puli Devender Mudhiraj welcomed the release of the DA announced in July 2023 but urged the State Government to immediately clear the remaining four



pending Dearness Allowance (DA) arrears for the years 2024 and 2025. He stressed that teachers have been waiting for long and demanded that the government take a positive decision to resolve the issue at the earliest. Congratulating the newly appointed district general secretary, Mudhiraj expressed confidence that leaders like Jannu Rajamouli would continue to fight relentlessly for teachers' rights and issues. He assured that

Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy Consoles
Bereaved Families Assures Support



Hyderabad: A pall of gloom descended over Ghanpur village in Nangunur mandal of Siddipet district following the tragic deaths of natural farming farmer Rajireddy, who died by suicide, and Dalit youth Ramulu, who succumbed to a heart attack.

State Minister for Roads & Buildings and C i n e m a t o g r a p h y, Komatireddy Venkat

Reddy, visited the village on Monday and personally consoled the families of both the deceased. He was deeply moved by the grief of the family members and extended emotional support during the difficult time.

Speaking to the media, the Minister said farmer Rajireddy, who had taken up natural farming, had borrowed money to purchase cattle and ventured

into dairy farming. However, the cows brought from neighbouring states could not adapt to the local climate and died, resulting in heavy financial losses. Burdened by mounting debts, Rajireddy reportedly took the extreme step.

The Minister also expressed sorrow over the sudden demise of Ramulu, a Dalit youth from the same village, due to a heart attack.

The Minister, along with local leaders, visited both households, offered condolences, and assured the families of full support. Overcome by the emotional scenes, he comforted the bereaved members, wiped their tears, and encouraged them to stay strong, assuring that the government would stand firmly by them.

Centenarian freedom fighter Vannala
Lakshmi Mudhiraj passes away



H a n a m k o n d a : Centenarian Vannala Lakshmi Mudhiraj (101), a freedom fighter and resident of Girmajipet in Warangal town, passed away on Monday, leaving the Mudhiraj community in deep mourning. Following information shared by MEPA Telangana state leader Mandala Sammaiah Mudhiraj, leaders of the Mudhiraj community and members of MEPA Telangana paid rich tributes to the departed soul.

MEPA Telangana Founder State President Puli Devender Mudhiraj and State Vice President Ponnamm Raju Mudhiraj visited her residence and offered floral tributes to her mortal remains. Speaking on the occasion, Puli Devender Mudhiraj

recalled the contributions of her husband, late Vannala Veeranna Mudhiraj, a noted freedom fighter, and said the family's legacy inspired many to take up public service.

MEPA State Vice President Ponnamm Raju Mudhiraj and Mudhiraj Mahasabha State General Secretary Palloboina Ashok Mudhiraj expressed heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family, assuring continued support from the community.

Peetadhipathulu who
honored Rajanala Srihari



WARANGAL, January 13, TSIT : 470 Ursu Shareef in Warangal East Constituency Kareemabad Ursu Dargah Hazrat Syeduddin Jalauddin Shad Jamal Olu Bahir Mashiki a Rabbani Sani Baghdadi Ursu Zakir Warangal Dargah Sajjada Nashin (Chairman) Azrat Syed Shah Mohiddin Haimat Battar Qadri Saheb Kubla Rafiq Greater Warangal Congress Working President Rajanala Srihari, who was the chief guest of the programme, was felicitated by the prefects with shawls and flower bouquets.Later they prayed in the dargah and started the food donation programme.Nagavelli Suman, Warangal District Congress Secretary Polepaka Prasad and others participated in this programme.

Two Remanded for Killing,
Eating Pangolin in
Reserve Forest.



Mancherial TSIT: Forest officials arrested two individuals for illegally setting up electric traps in the Bhimaram Reserve Forest, killing a pangolin, and consuming its meat. They were remanded to judicial custody on Wednesday. Four others involved in the case were granted bail.The incident occurred on January 9 in Compartment No. 66 near Manthamma Temple in Pothanapalli Beat. Bhimaram residents Ajmeer Punna and Penkulula Ramesh rigged bending wires to create electric shocks, killing the pangolin.

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Branch Office: 3rd Floor, 3-903/10, Nagarguda Nagar colony, Yella Reddy Guda, Ameerpet, Punjagutta, Hyderabad, Telangana- 500073				
Branch Office: D: No: 16-11-20/6/1/1, 1st Floor, Opp. TV Tower, Malakpet, Near Musarambagh Metro station, Dilusknagar, Hyderabad, Telangana- 500036. Branch Office: Ground floor, Usha Kiran Complex, S.D.Road, Secunderabad - 500003				
Branch Office: Part A of 2nd floor, MIG, Dharmareddy Colony, Opposite Jntu, Kphb, Hyderabad- 500072				
Whereas				
The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICICI Home Finance Company Limited under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, do hereby give notice to the powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notices upon the borrowers mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.				
As the borrower failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. 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 ICICI Home Finance Company Limited.				
The Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.				
Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of property/ Date of Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Vemula Aravind Kumar (Borrower), Vemula Pratap Shetty (Co-Borrower), H No 1 11 110 80 Ground Floor Shyam Lal Building Hyderabad Telangana- 500016. LHNDH00001541819.	All That The Part And Parcel of Residential Flat No. 202 Second Floor, With Plinth Area of 800 Sq.ft, Including Common Area And One Car Parking Area, Along With Undivided Share of Land Admeasuring 30 Sq.yds or 25.08 Sq.mts out of 400 Sq.yds in Building Name Known As Raja Rajeshwari In The Premises of Municipal Bearing No. 1-8-52/1/202, Old No 1-8-52, Ptn No. 1270139956, on Plot No. 4,5 & 5/1 in S.No. 173 Situated At Temple Alwal, Alwal Village Under Ghmc Alwal Circle And Medchal- Malkajigiri Mandal Hyderabad Telangana- 500085, Bounded By- North By- Open To Sky, South By- Flat No. 201, East By- Corridor & Stair Case, West By- Open To Sky./ Date of Possession- 09-01-2026	24-10-2025 Rs. 30,47,613/-	Ameerpet Nidma
2.	Sadhu Ravikumar (Borrower), Sadhu Vso Raju (Co-Borrower), Flat No 310 Block No 13 Prajya City Block 4 Miyapur Cinesown Road Rangareddy Hyderabad Telangana 500049. LHKKY00001362261.	All That The Southern Part of Plot No. 5 Admeasuring 100 Sq.yds or 83.61 Sq.mts out of 226.66 Sq.yds in S.No. 12 & 17 Situated At Magtha Mahaboopet Village Under Ghmc Seelimgampally Circle And Mandal Hyderabad Telangana- 500049, Bounded By- North By- Northern Part of Plot No. 5, South By- Plot No. 6, East By- Plot No. 4., West By- 30 Feet Wide Road./ Date of Possession- 09-01-2026	24-10-2025 Rs. 38,62,498/-	Hyderabad- Kukatpally
3.	Gattu Shivani (Borrower), Mannen Sagar (Co-Borrower), Plot No 169 Sy 134 P 1st Floor Hyderabad Hyderabad Hyderabad Telangana- 500043. LHSEC00001525107.	All That The Part And Parcel of Residential Apartment Flat No. 404 In Fourth Floor In Block- G, Bearing Ghmc D.No. 05-516.G404 Ptn No. 1150403503, Admeasuring 630 Sq.yds of Super Built Up Area Together With Proportionate Undivided Share of Land Admeasuring 29.74 Sq.yds And Reserved Scooter Parking Space of 15 Sq.fts in Block- G, Forming Part of The Group of Residential Apartments Collectively Name As The Gardenia In S.No. 278/3 Covered Under Block No. 6 Situated At Apuroopa Colony Jeedimetla Village Under Ghmc Circle Quthbullapur Mandal Medchal Malkajigiri District Near Janpriya Hyderabad Telangana 500055, Bounded By- North By- Open To Sky, South By- Flat No.405, East By- Open To Sky, West By- Corridor./ Date of Possession- 09-01-2026	24-10-2025 Rs. 19,85,265.7/-	Hyderabad- Secunderabad
4.	Kamatham Gopal (Borrower), Kamatham Maheswari (Co-Borrower), Plot No 4N W P No 35 BL Nagar Boduppal Boduppal Hyderabad Telangana- 500092. LHDSK00001410187.	Schedule- C: All That The Part And Parcel of Semi Finished Shutter on Part of Plot No. 3 North West Part Admeasuring 15 Sq.yds out of 206 Sq.yds Plinth Area 85 Sq.fts With Rcc In S.No. 24 Part, 28 Part, 29 Part & 30 Situated At Boduppal Village And Municipaliall That Thepart And Parcel of Medipally Mandal Medchal Malkajigiri District Hyderabad Telangana 500039. Bounded By- North: 40 Wide Road & Part of Plot No. 3 North South Part. South: Part of Plot No. 4 South Part. East: Part of Plot No. 3 South Part & Part of Plot No. 4 North East Part. West: Plot No. 2 & Neighbours Plots. Schedule- D: All That The Part And Parcel of Semi Finished House on Part of Plot No. 4 North West Part Admeasuring 80 Sq.yds out of 200 Sq.yds And Part of Plot No. 4 South West Part Admeasuring 41 Sq.yds Total Admeasuring 121 Sq.yds Plinth Area 560 Sq.fts With Rcc In S.No. 24 Part, 28 Part, 29 Part & 30 Part Situated At Boduppal Village And Municipaliall That Thepart And Parcel of Medipally Mandal Medchal Malkajigiri District Hyderabad Telangana- 500039. Bounded By- North: 40 Wide Road & Part of Plot No. 3 North South Part. South: Part of Plot No. 4 South Part. East: Part of Plot No. 3 North East Part & Part of Plot No. 4 North East Part. West: Plot No. 2 & Neighbours Plots./ Date of Possession- 09-01-2026	24-10-2025 Rs. 22,79,367.74/-	Hyderabad- Diluskh-nagar
5.	Kamatham Gopal (Borrower), Kamatham Maheswari (Co-Borrower), Plot No 4N W P No 35 BL Nagar Boduppal Boduppal Hyderabad Telangana- 500092. LHDSK00001410188.	Schedule- C: All That The Part And Parcel of Semi Finished Shutter on Part of Plot No. 3 North West Part Admeasuring 15 Sq.yds out of 206 Sq.yds Plinth Area 85 Sq.fts With Rcc In S.No. 24 Part, 28 Part, 29 Part & 30 Situated At Boduppal Village And Municipaliall That Thepart And Parcel of Medipally Mandal Medchal Malkajigiri District Hyderabad Telangana 500039. Bounded By- North: 40 Wide Road & Part of Plot No. 3 North South Part. South: Part of Plot No. 4 South Part. East: Part of Plot No. 3 South Part & Part of Plot No. 4 North East Part. West: Plot No. 2 & Neighbours Plots. Schedule- D: All That The Part And Parcel of Semi Finished House on Part of Plot No. 4 North West Part Admeasuring 80 Sq.yds out of 200 Sq.yds And Part of Plot No. 4 South West Part Admeasuring 41 Sq.yds Total Admeasuring 121 Sq.yds Plinth Area 560 Sq.fts With Rcc In S.No. 24 Part, 28 Part, 29 Part & 30 Part Situated At Boduppal Village And Municipaliall That Thepart And Parcel of Medipally Mandal Medchal Malkajigiri District Hyderabad Telangana- 500039. Bounded By- North: 40 Wide Road & Part of Plot No. 3 North South Part. South: Part of Plot No. 4 South Part. East: Part of Plot No. 3 North East Part & Part of Plot No. 4 North East Part. West: Plot No. 2 & Neighbours Plots./ Date of Possession- 09-01-2026	24-10-2025 Rs. 28,05,412/-	Hyderabad- Diluskh-nagar
6.	Baneswar Pandit (Borrower), Pandit Krishna (Co-Borrower), Plot No 1 4 137 138 G Floor Kalsiguda Secunderabad Hyderabad Telangana- 500003. LHDSK00001469088.	All That The Part And Parcel of Flat No 201 on Second Floor Having on Built Up Area of 800 Sq.fts Including Common Area Together With Land Admeasuring 9 Sq.yds Uds out of 133.77 Sq.yds in Building Known As "raja Mansion" In Premises Bearing Municipal H No 7-1-789-791 Situated At Chitni Bazar (shanker Veedhi) Secunderabad, Telangana Hyderabad Telangana 500003. Bounded By- North By- Open To Sky, South By- Corridor And Stair Case & Lift, East By- H.No. 7-1-788 (Old: 32119), West By- Open To Sky./ Date of Possession- 09-01-2026	24-10-2025 Rs. 29,28,868/-	Hyderabad- Diluskh-nagar
7.	Baneswar Pandit (Borrower), Pandit Krishna (Co-Borrower), Plot No 1 4 137 138 G Floor Kalsiguda Secunderabad Hyderabad Telangana- 500003. LHDSK00001469089.	All That The Part And Parcel of Flat No 201 on Second Floor Having on Built Up Area of 800 Sq.fts Including Common Area Together With Land Admeasuring 9 Sq.yds Uds out of 133.77 Sq.yds in Building Known As "Raja Mansion" In Premises Bearing Municipal H No 7-1-789-791 Situated At Chitni Bazar (Shanker Veedhi) Secunderabad,telangana Hyderabad Telangana 500003. Bounded By- North By- Open To Sky, South By- Corridor And Stair Case & Lift, East By- H.No. 7-1-788 (Old: 32119), West By- Open To Sky./ Date of Possession- 09-01-2026	24-10-2025 Rs. 1,23,146/-	Hyderabad- Diluskh-nagar
The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/ guarantors(s) are hereby given a 30 day notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.				
Date: January 14, 2026, Place: Hyderabad				
Authorized Office, ICICI Home Finance Company Limited				



CM Naidu participates in Sankranti celebrations in native village

Amaravati, Jan 13 : Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and his family members on Tuesday participated in Sankranti celebrations in his native village Naravaripalle in Tirupati district.

The Chief Minister, along with his wife, Bhuvanewari, son Nara Lokesh, daughter-in-law Brahmini, grandson Devansh, Brahmini's mother and actor Balakrishna's wife Vasundhara, participated in the celebrations. Various competitions were organised as part of the Sankranti festivities. Bhuvanewari and Brahmini inspected the 'Muggulu' or Rangoli design competition. Devansh took part in various games organised as part of the festivities. CM Chandrababu Naidu and his family members watched the games. Earlier, the Chief Minister received representations from villagers and interacted with them about their problems.

The Chief Minister will inaugu-

rate and lay foundation stones for several development projects in Naravaripalle as well as in Tirupati.

He will inaugurate a road, an electricity sub-station, a Skill Building Centre constructed at a cost of Rs 1.4 crore to provide industry-oriented training to youth, and the Sanjeevani project. In Tirupati, the Chief Minister will inaugurate the patient attendant amenities complex built at a cost of Sri Venkateswara Ramnarayan Ruia Government Hospital, a Boys' Hostel constructed at a cost of Rs 7.5 crore at SV University, and a Girls' Hostel built at a cost of Rs 5 crore.

He will also lay the foundation stone for a project costing Rs 126 crore to transport water from the Neeva Branch Canal to the Kalyani Dam, Moolapalli tank, and four other tanks to ensure water supply in Moolapalli. Additionally, he will lay the foundation stone for an animal shelter complex to be construct-

ed at a cost of Rs 10 lakh.

At SV University, the Chief Minister will lay foundation stones for centralised advanced research laboratories costing Rs 6 crore to promote research and innovation, construction of the second floor of an academic building at a cost of Rs 5.03 crore as part of educational infrastructure development, and a compound wall to be built at a cost of Rs 2.91 crore.

The Chief Minister, along with his family members, reached Naravaripalle on Monday for a four-day stay to participate in Sankranti celebrations.

Every year, CM Chandrababu Naidu celebrates the festival in his native village along with his family.

Sankranti or Makara Sankranti is the biggest festival in Andhra Pradesh. The festival marks the end of the winter harvest season of rabi crops and the beginning of the next sowing season, kharif.

"VB-G Ram Ji" scheme is amazing : - Bandi Sanjay



Karimnagar, TSIT: Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar praised the 'VB-G Ramji' scheme introduced by the central government as wonderful. Speaking to the media in Karimnagar on Tuesday, he said that through this scheme, fixed assets will be created for the village and everyone will get 125 days of work. He said that relief is going to be provided to the farmers who are facing difficulties due to lack of labor during the agricultural sea-

Strict Adherence to Traffic Rules Key to Preventing Accidents: Shadnagar DCP Sirisha



RANGAREDDY : Stressing that road safety is everyone's responsibility, Shadnagar Deputy Commissioner of Police Sirisha said that many accidents can be avoided if traffic rules are followed in letter and spirit. She took part in the Road Safety Week programmes held on Tuesday at the Kondurg Mandal headquarters and later attended a similar awareness event at Raikal village in Farooqnagar Mandal, organised under the supervision of MVI Vasu.

Addressing motorists and students, the DCP urged the public to comply strictly with traffic regulations and warned that no leniency would be shown towards violations. She made it clear that parents would face legal action if they allow minors to drive vehicles. She advised two-wheeler riders to wear helmets without fail and directed drivers of cars and other vehicles to use seat belts at all times.

DCP Sirisha emphasised the need for motorists to remain cautious throughout their journey and reminded them of their responsibility towards their families. She warned that driving under the influence of alcohol greatly increases the risk of accidents and said that offenders would face cancellation of driving licences along with criminal cases. She also instructed drivers to carry valid driving licences and insurance documents, ensure their vehicles are in good condition, and avoid driving while using mobile phones or when fatigued.

Municipal commissioner's wife gave birth in the main government hospital



Karimnagar: Municipal Commissioner Praful Desai's wife delivery birth to a baby boy at Karimnagar Government Hospital. Commissioner Praful Desai admitted the pregnant Municipal Commissioner's wife to Karimnagar Government Hospital on Sunday.

As the amniotic fluid decreased, she was admitted to the mother and child center of the government headquarters. She was operated under the supervision of gynecologists on Monday. Experienced gynecologists managed the delivered successfully in coordination with expert medical team and nursing staff. As a result, the Municipal Commissioner's wife delivered birth to a baby. The mother and child are currently safe. Treatment is under the supervision of special medical experts. HOD Gynecologist Dr. Padmaja, Gynecologists Dr. Deepa, Sangeeta, Suhasini, Pediatricians Venu, Mallikarjun, Anesthesia HOD Dr. Shantanu, Sangeeta Nursing Superintendent Sarita, Padmashri, Rama Vaidya provided services. District Collector Pamela Satpathy, Hospital Superintendent Veera Reddy, Municipal Commissioner couple. RMO

AKUT protests suspension of Prof Manohar Rao over demonstration for CAS promotions



Warangal, Jan 13 (TSIT): The Association of Kakatiya University Teachers (AKUT) has strongly condemned the suspension of Osmania University Teachers Association (OUTA) leader Prof. Manohar Rao, following his participation in a peaceful protest demanding the implementation of the Career Advancement Scheme (CAS) for teachers. OUTA has been staging demonstrations for the past 40 days, and its agitation has drawn support from the AKUT, with president Prof. B. Venkatarama Reddy and Secretary Dr L.P. Raj Kumar condemned the suspension, terming it a violation of democratic principles and an affront to the dignity of the teaching community. Calling for an amicable resolution, AKUT urged the Osmania University (OU) administration to revoke the suspension and engage in constructive dialogue. The association reiterated its commitment to safeguarding teachers' rights and pledged full support to OUTA in its ongoing struggle.

Indecorous and Abusive Language Towards Officials is Deplorable

Hyderabad : Justice B. Sudarshan Reddy, a retired Supreme Court Judge and former Lokayukta of Goa, emphasized that the freedom of expression guaranteed by the Constitution is one of the most precious rights and serves as the very lifeblood of society. However, he clarified that the Constitution does not extend its protection to unbridled or limitless liberty.

In a statement issued on Tuesday, Justice Reddy strongly condemned recent media narratives that violated the personal privacy of a lady IAS officer. He asserted that whether on social media platforms or in mainstream media, the exercise of freedom of expression without any sense of responsibility is fraught with danger. Such irresponsible use inevitably invites proportionate regulation and control, which itself poses a grave peril.

He urged that if self-restraint and a sense of accountability towards society prove elusive, it would be far wiser for individuals to voluntarily



relinquish the exercise of such freedom rather than allow others to impose restrictions upon it. Justice B. Sudarshan Reddy described as profoundly reprehensible and utterly deplorable the practice of hurling indecent, irresponsible, and discourteous remarks—or engaging in abusive outcries—against young women officers who discharge their duties with utmost efficiency and integrity. He characterized such conduct, undertaken in the guise of freedom of expression, as a grave affront to their dignity, a direct assault on their personality, and a dangerous manifestation of patriarchal ideology.

Nine Amrit Bharat Express trains to connect Assam, West Bengal nationwide

The new year is proving to be a game changer in terms of the rail travel experience. Be it the common man or premium travellers, Indian Railways is all set to bring comfortable travel at an affordable cost to passengers across India. Nine Amrit Bharat Express trains will be introduced soon from West Bengal and Assam to the length and breadth of India, adding to the expanding fleet of modern affordable trains. They will provide affordable long-distance connectivity from these two states, covering populous states like Bihar and Uttar Pradesh on the way. They will also cover far-off states such as Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Karnataka, connecting multiple regions of the country. These services will ease the additional demand for rail travel while offering a comfortable ride experience for travellers.

Nearly two centuries after the inaugural train journey in India, Indian Railways has redefined mobility for millions who rely on trains as a daily necessity. By bringing comfort and convenience once associated with luxury travel to the common passenger, it has steadily expanded modern, passenger-friendly services, ensuring reliability, safety, and enhanced comfort are no longer exclusive to premium travellers.

In line with this vision, the Amrit Bharat Express has emerged as a boon for everyday passengers. Conceived as a special offering of the Amrit Kaal, it



delivers seamless, non-AC long-distance sleeper class travel at fares of around Rs.500 per thousand kilometres, with short and medium-distance journeys priced proportionally lower, connecting regions often separated by geography and opportunity. The fare structure is simple and transparent, with no dynamic pricing, making it accessible for the common man.

Since its launch in December 2023, 30 Amrit Bharat Express trains have been operational, and within just one week, nine new services will be added. A new set of Amrit Bharat Express services will extend rail links from the eastern and sub-Himalayan regions to major destinations across southern, western and central India.

These new Amrit Bharat Express services are being introduced on routes passing through

Assam, Bihar and West Bengal, regions that account for a large share of India's migrant workforce and long-distance rail passengers. Designed to cater to heavy passenger volumes, especially during festive seasons and peak migration periods, these trains will provide reliable, affordable and comfortable connectivity for travellers commuting for employment, education and family needs across different parts of the country.

As part of Indian Railways' continued push to expand affordable long-distance connectivity, nine Amrit Bharat Express services are being introduced across key corridors. The routes are as follows:

1. GUWAHATI (KAMAKHYA) – ROHTAK AMRIT BHARAT EXPRESS
2. DIBRUGARH – LUCKNOW (GOMTI NAGAR) AMRIT BHARAT EXPRESS
3. NEW JALPAIGURI – NAGERCOIL AMRIT

BHARAT EXPRESS

4. NEW JALPAIGURI – TIRUCHIRAPPALLI AMRIT BHARAT EXPRESS
5. ALIPURDUAR – SMVT BENGALURU AMRIT BHARAT EXPRESS
6. ALIPURDUAR – MUMBAI (PANVEL) AMRIT BHARAT EXPRESS
7. KOLKATA (SANTRAGACHI) – TAMBARAM AMRIT BHARAT EXPRESS
8. KOLKATA (HOWRAH) – ANAND VIHAR TERMINAL AMRIT BHARAT EXPRESS
9. KOLKATA (SEALDAH) – BANARAS AMRIT BHARAT EXPRESS

From New Jalpaiguri, trains will directly connect North Bengal with the southern tip of the country and with central Tamil Nadu, creating seamless corridors across multiple linguistic, cultural and economic zones. These routes are expected to become vital lifelines for migrant workers, students, traders and families who routinely travel between eastern India and southern educational, industrial and commercial centres.

Similarly, new services from Alipurduar will strengthen connectivity between the Dooars region in northeastern India and major metropolitan and industrial hubs in the southern and western part of the country. For regions that are geographically remote yet strategically important, these trains will act as stable economic and social connectors, improving access to jobs, education, healthcare and markets.

Services extending towards southern hubs such as Bengaluru and Chennai will support workforce mobility and student travel

by linking eastern and north-eastern regions with major manufacturing, IT and education centres. Direct connectivity to Mumbai and Panvel will strengthen east-west integration, easing business travel and access to key commercial and logistics hubs.

Routes passing through Odisha and Andhra Pradesh will improve seamless movement along the eastern corridor, benefiting industrial, coastal and pilgrimage regions.

Passengers can look forward to a host of modern amenities, including foldable snack tables, mobile and bottle holders, radium floor strips, comfortable seating and berths, modern toilets with electro-pneumatic flushing, fire suppression mechanisms, and provisions for divyangjan passengers. Fast charging points and pantry cars further enhance long-distance comfort.

Rooted in the needs of the common passenger, the Amrit Bharat Express proves that modern design, reliability and improved amenities can be delivered at truly affordable fares. By redefining non-AC long-distance travel for everyday users, it sets the template for inclusive, passenger-centric rail modernisation. The Amrit Bharat Train reflects a future-ready railway system where thoughtful design, indigenous technology and operational excellence converge to make comfortable, reliable and inclusive rail travel the new national standard.

Attack on Tamil culture: LoP Gandhi criticizes Centre over Vijay's 'Jana Nayagan' certification delay

Chennai, Jan 13 : Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday accused the Information and Broadcasting Ministry of attempting to stall the release of actor-turned-politician Vijay's film 'Jana Nayagan', describing the move as a direct assault on Tamil culture. In a post on X, the Leader of Opposition (LoP) in the Lok Sabha alleged that the Centre was using the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) to suppress the voices of the Tamil people.

"The I&B Ministry's attempt to block 'Jana Nayagan' is an attack on Tamil culture. Mr. Modi, you will never succeed in suppressing the voice of the Tamil people," LoP Gandhi said in the post.

The movie, which serves as the farewell project for TVK chief Vijay, faced an indefinite delay after the Madras High Court stayed its certification.

The CBFC raised objections to over at least 50 dialogues deemed politically sensitive, references to former Chief Minister M.G. Ramachandran, and the portrayal of defence forces. The movie's producers moved the Supreme Court challenging the stay, citing a loss of creative freedom.LoP Gandhi's remarks came during his visit to the Nilgiris district on Tuesday for the golden jubilee celebrations of a local school. Political observers have claimed that the visit serves as an outreach to Vijay's TVK before the state Assembly elections, particularly as ties with the ruling DMK remain tense.

The Tamil Nadu Congress Committee



(TNCC) greeted LoP Gandhi with posters branding him as "Thalaiva (leader)", signalling a firm stance amid a power-sharing tussle with the DMK.

The DMK recently ruled out a coalition government, prompting the Congress, which holds 17 Assembly seats, to demand at least 40 seats in the forthcoming polls to increase its strength.

Meanwhile, the delay in the certification for the film has triggered a nation-

wide political debate.While Chief Minister M.K. Stalin condemned the CBFC as a "weapon" of the BJP, senior party leader Tamilisai Soundararajan defended the Board.She stated that the CBFC is an independent body and noted that the Congress stifled freedom during the Emergency. Congress MP from Virudhunagar, B Manickam Tagore, earlier alleged that the Modi government intends to control movies which are critical of the administration.

India, not Pakistan, is US long-term strategic partner: Lawmakers

Washington, Jan 13 : Senior US lawmakers sought to draw a clear distinction between India and Pakistan in Washington's strategic calculus, stressing that India — not Pakistan — remains America's long-term partner in the Indo-Pacific and beyond. Speaking at a discussion hosted by the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), Representative Ami Bera said periodic diplomatic engagement with Pakistan should not be confused with strategic alignment.

"We're not creating a strategic partnership with Pakistan," Bera said, pushing back against perceptions created by recent political rhetoric. He acknowledged that comments by US leaders can sometimes generate friction in New Delhi. "The president made some comments about Pakistan, had invited Pakistani leaders into the Oval Office," Bera said, describing the diplomatic context during a recent visit to India.

However, Bera emphasised that economic and strategic realities clearly favor India. "You don't see American companies making multibillion-dollar investments in Pakistan. That's all happening in India," he said.



Representative Rich McCormick echoed that assessment, describing India as indispensable to regional and global stability. "There is no more important friend that we're going to need for the future of not just the United States and India, but for the entire stability of the world, than India," he said.

The lawmakers said Pakistan does not feature in Washington's long-term Indo-Pacific strategy, which is increasingly centered on democratic partners and economic integration. Bera noted that India has been

central to US strategy across multiple administrations. "If you go back to the Clinton administration, through the Bush administration, through Obama, to Trump 1.0, to Biden, India's been very key to our whole Indo-Pacific strategy," he said.

Bera also contrasted investor confidence in India with the absence of similar momentum in Pakistan. "We're playing the long game," he said, adding that business communities understand the direction of US engagement.

McCormick said India's

alignment with US values sets it apart. "The commonality we have in the way we look at economics and freedom and advancement of a people," he said, describing the foundation of the partnership. While acknowledging that India pursues an independent foreign policy, McCormick said Washington understands New Delhi's domestic priorities. "He's doing it for the best interest of his country," McCormick said, referring to Indian decision-making on energy and economic growth.

India's BRICS chairship to focus on humanity-first, people-centric approach, says EAM Jaishankar

NEW DELHI: External Affairs Minister (EAM) S. Jaishankar said on Tuesday that India is approaching its BRICS chairship with a humanity and a people-centric approach, which will seek to bring together the collective potential of member countries for greater global welfare.

Speaking at the launch of the BRICS India 2026 website, logo and theme on Tuesday, EAM Jaishankar noted that BRICS, over the years, has expanded its agenda and membership, responding to changing global realities while remaining focused on people-centric development, foster-



ing dialogue, and promoting practical cooperation.

Extending Makar Sankranti, Lohri, Magh Bihu and Pongal greetings, the EAM said, "Just as these festivals symbolise hope, renewal, and goodwill, India's BRICS chairship will seek to bring together the

collective potential of BRICS countries for greater global welfare. When India prepares to assume the BRICS chairship in 2026, we do so at an important moment in the grouping's journey."

In 2026, he said that BRICS will complete 20 years since its inception, during which it has steadily evolved into a "significant platform for cooperation among emerging markets and developing economies".

"The current global environment presents complex and interconnected challenges, geopolitical uncertainties, complicated economic land-

scapes, climate-related risks, technological changes, and persistent development gaps continuing to affect countries across regions," he added. Highlighting India's approach for its BRICS chairship, EAM Jaishankar said, "In this context, BRICS remains an important forum that encourages dialogue and cooperation and practical responses taking into account national priorities at different stages of development. India approaches its chairship with a humanity-first and a people-centric approach inspired by the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi."

SC refuses to entertain PIL seeking removal of Savarkar portraits, warns of costs

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Tuesday refused to entertain a PIL seeking the removal of portraits of Vinayak Damodar Savarkar from Parliament and other public spaces, warning the petitioner of exemplary costs before allowing the plea to be withdrawn. A bench comprising Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justices Joymalya Bagchi and Vipul M Pancholi cautioned the petitioner, retired Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officer B Balamurugan, against filing what it described as a frivolous petition and indicated that heavy costs could be imposed for wasting the court's time."This kind of frivolous petition... shows the mindset," the CJI said. The bench was irked by the petitioner's submission that he could not come to argue the case in person because of financial constraints.

"You were in the IRS. You can afford to come to Delhi and show yourself and argue. We would like to impose exemplary costs on you. What do you think of yourself?" the CJI said.Balamurugan, in his PIL (public interest litigation), sought directions for the removal of portraits of the historical figure from the Central Hall of Parliament and other public spaces.Additionally, the plea sought a direction to restrain the government from honouring individuals chargesheeted for heinous crimes such as assassination or anti-national activities unless they are acquitted.During the hearing, the CJI questioned the petitioner's background and service record, including his last posting before retirement and the circumstances under which he was denied promotions.

AINU restores normal urination for woman after 12 years of suffering

Hyderabad: Asian Institute of Nephrology and Urology (AINU) announces the successful treatment of a 45-year-old woman who suffered from urethral stricture for 12 years, restoring her urinary function and quality of life through advanced reconstructive surgery. A woman who had suffered for over a decade with difficulty in passing urine has regained normal urinary function following an advanced surgical procedure. The life-changing reconstructive procedure was expertly carried out by Dr. Sarika Pandya, Consultant Female Urologist and Dr. Bhavatej Enganti, Head-Reconstructive Urology giving the patient a renewed sense of comfort and confidence.

Pallavi (name changed), a 45 old house wife from Jharkhand was suffering from persistent urinary difficulties for over a decade, including painful urination, poor urinary flow, frequent infections, and significant discomfort that affected her quality of life. Despite consulting and undergoing temporary treatments, her condition continued to recur, leading to prolonged physical, emotional & psychological distress.

The patient had undergone repeated urethral dilatation procedures over 10-12 years, which provid-



ed only temporary relief. She experienced interrupted urine flow, prolonged time spent in the bathroom—often up to 20 minutes—and recurrent urinary tract infections. Following buccal mucosal graft urethroplasty, her urinary flow returned to normal within four months of surgery.

Dr. Sarika Pandya, Consultant Female Urologist, AINU Banjara Hills explained that the woman was diagnosed with female urethral stricture, a condition caused by narrowing of the urethra that results in poor urinary flow. Symptoms commonly include dribbling of urine, intermittent flow, frequent urinary infections, and a persistent sensation of incomplete bladder emptying.According to Dr. Pandya, female urethral stricture can occur due to repeated urinary tract infections, Catheterization during any surgeries such as

Caesarean section or hysterectomy, and frequent urethral dilatations performed without detailed evaluation.Urethral dilatation, often used as a first-line treatment, offers only temporary symptom relief, Dr. Pandya noted. "Many women undergo the procedure every one or two months. Repeated dilatations can further damage the urethra and worsen the condition over time," she said.

Buccal mucosal graft urethroplasty, a procedure long established in male patients, is now being successfully performed in women as well, she said. The surgery involves using tissue from the inner lining of the mouth to reconstruct the narrowed portion of the urethra, providing a long-term solution. "After surgery, patients are able to pass urine completely within seconds. The prolonged time spent in the bathroom is eliminated, urinary tract infections reduce significantly, and overall

quality of life improves," Dr. Pandya said, adding that the procedure does not increase the risk of urinary incontinence.AINU has performed this procedure on 60 women over the past five years, almost all patients showing good post-operative outcomes, Dr. Pandya said. In another case, a woman with recurrent urinary tract infections was found through ultrasound and cystoscopy to have incomplete bladder emptying due to urethral stricture. She reported significant improvement following surgery.

Dr. Pandya advised women experiencing prolonged urination time, interrupted or weak urine flow, recurrent infections, or a feeling of incomplete bladder emptying to seek specialist evaluation. The condition is more commonly seen in women over 40 years of age and is present in about 10-20% of women presenting with urinary complaints, she added.Speaking about the procedure, Dr. Bhavatej Enganti, Head - Reconstructive Urology said, "Female urethral stricture is uncommon and often overlooked, leading to years of suffering for patients. This case highlights the importance of accurate diagnosis and advanced reconstructive procedures. With timely intervention, even long-standing conditions can be treated effectively."

Female urethral stricture and recurrent uri-

nary tract infections (UTIs) are not just medical conditions—they carry a significant social and emotional burden for women. In many societies, urinary symptoms such as frequent urination, burning, leakage, or difficulty passing urine are considered embarrassing or taboo. Women often hesitate to speak openly about these issues, even with family members or doctors, fearing judgment, shame, or misunderstanding.

About Asian Institute of Nephrology & Urology: Asian Institute of Nephrology & Urology (AINU), part of Asia Healthcare Holdings, is India's leading super-speciality hospital network exclusively focused on Urology and Nephrology. With seven cutting-edge hospitals across four cities, AINU is at the forefront of delivering world-class kidney and urological care. Known for its clinical excellence, AINU offers advanced services including UrologyRobotic Surgery, Uro-Oncology, Reconstructive Urology, Nephrology & Kidney Transplantation,Dialysis, Female Urology, Pediatric Urology, Men's Health & Andrology. A trailblazer in Robotic Urological Surgery in India, AINU has treated over 500,000 patients, performed more than 1400 robotic surgeries, and operates a 500+ bed network. Accredited by NABH and recognised for postgraduate training programs like DNB and FNB, AINU continues to redefine standards in specialised care and innovation.

Bank of Baroda Joins Hands with CREDAI Hyderabad for Property Show 2026

TO BE HELD FROM FEBRUARY 6-8 AT HITEX, THE PROPERTY SHOW WILL FEATURE LEADING DEVELOPERS AND SPECIAL OFFERS FROM BANK OF BARODA

Hyderabad: Bank of Baroda (Bank), one of India's leading public sector banks, has announced its association with CREDAI Hyderabad as the Exclusive Presenting Partner for the upcoming CREDAI Hyderabad Property Show 2026, scheduled to be held from February 6 to 8 at HITEX Exhibition Centre, Hyderabad. The three-day property expo will bring together leading real estate developers from across the city, offering prospective homebuyers a single platform to explore a diverse range of residential projects and avail attractive financing solutions from Bank of Baroda.

Organised by the Hyderabad chapter of Confederation of Real Estate Developers' Associations of India (CREDAI), the Property Show will feature only



RERA-approved projects from CREDAI member developers, ensuring transparency, credibility and enhanced consumer confidence.

At the Bank of Baroda stall, home buyers can avail instant in-principle home loan sanctions, special offers and receive personalised loan consultations. Speaking on the occasion, Shri Ritesh Kumar, General Manager & Zonal Head – Hyderabad Zone, Bank of Baroda said, "At Bank of Baroda, our aim to play a

constructive role in Hyderabad's growth and development by acting as an enabler for both homebuyers and developers through timely, accessible and customised financial solutions. Our association with CREDAI Hyderabad for the Property Show 2026 reflects this commitment. Hyderabad is one of India's most vibrant housing markets, and through this partnership, we look forward to making home ownership more accessible and affordable for aspiring buyers."

PhD scholar killed, another injured in scooter accident on IIT-Bhubaneswar campus

BHUBANESWAR: A PhD scholar was killed, and another critically injured after their scooter hit a median on the IIT-Bhubaneswar campus, a statement said on Tuesday.

The accident took place around 11.20 pm on Monday, it said. The two scholars were rushed to the hospital, but one of them succumbed to the injury, it added. The rider lost control near a turn and hit the median. A nearby security patrol heard the crash and found the rider severely injured on the road, said the statement issued by IIT-Bhubaneswar. "The pillion rider was

found conscious and lying on the pavement. The security team immediately transported both students to the institute's Sanjeevan Hospital," it said. "Following initial emergency treatment and CPR, doctors referred them to Manipal Hospital. The severely injured student was declared dead there, while the pillion rider remains in stable condition in the Neuro ICU," it said.

EDITORIAL

TRUMP'S NEW RULE FOR THE ROAD: MY WAY OR THE HIGHWAY

2026 has barely begun and US President Donald Trump is on a rampage. On Saturday, January 3, he shocked the world by ordering the military invasion of Venezuela and the kidnapping of its president Nicolas Maduro and his wife, and, thereafter, announcing the takeover of the oil-rich country.

On Monday, the dust had barely settled on that when White House adviser Stephen Miller said on TV that Greenland rightfully belonged to the US and that the Trump administration could seize Danish territory if it wanted. Asked whether the US would rule out the use of force, Miller said that "Nobody's going to fight the United States militarily over the future of Greenland."

On Thursday, Trump directed his government to withdraw the country from 66 international organisations, which he felt were contrary to the interests of the United States. The list included 35 non-UN organisations and 31 UN affiliated outfits, the most important of which is probably the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) of 1992, the 2015 Paris Agreement on Climate Change, UN Women, UN Population Fund and the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

'My Own Morality'

A day earlier, on Wednesday, cool as a cucumber, he reached out to one of his principal media adversaries, The New York Times, which had criticised the Venezuela action as an "imperialist venture". In a wide-ranging, two-hour interview, he declared that his powers as Commander-in-Chief were constrained only by his "own morality" and international law and other checks had no effect on his ability to invade and coerce nations around the world. The morality bit was a bit rich, coming from a man who has been accused of sexual misconduct arising from his association with Jeffery Epstein. Trump said in the interview that the US would remain "in charge" of Venezuela for as long as he wanted, and that could be many years. He also confirmed plans to take and refine 30-50 million barrels of Venezuelan oil worth some \$2.8 billion, adding that he would control the money and use it for the people of Venezuela and the US. As for Greenland, it was true that the US already had a base there and could expand its facilities without any problem, but Trump is unlikely to be happy with anything short of ownership of the island - because he feels that physical possession of the territory "was psychologically needed for success", something that a lease or a treaty would not provide. On Saturday, he doubled down on this and declared "If it affects NATO, then it affects NATO," adding that "But you know, they need us much more than we need them." As for Iran, things are still on balance. But you never know if and when Trump will strike.

Trump's bottom line assessment seems to be that he alone could be the arbiter of any limits to his authority, and that he had the liberty to use any instrument to cement American supremacy military, economic or political. This tells us a great deal about his world view. At the core of his belief is that national strength, and not laws and treaties, were the deciding factors in global politics.

The Tariffs Train

All this comes after a year when he had liberally used his power to impose tariffs on most countries of the world. He has also joined Israel in making war against Iran and, by his own account, destroying its nuclear programme.

Many of the organisations that the US is leaving are mainly marginal or have been moribund for a long time. This was clear gunflection to the MAGA base, a substantial portion of which is annoyed by the January 3 US military intervention in Venezuela. Midterms are coming and Trump has recently said that big losses might lead to him being indicted. But many of the other organisations relating to environment, renewable energy, development, education and the promotion of human rights, democracy, counterterrorism, anti-piracy, social rights and trade are important in terms of global governance and even American soft power. But that is clearly not a concern for the President.

Makar Sankranti: Kite Flying, Joy, Culture and Consciousness

- Dr. Satyawan Saurabh

Makar Sankranti is not merely a festival with a date in the Indian culture, but it is a colorful manifestation of the change of the seasons, societal life, and folk culture. This is when the sun shifts to dockshinayan to Uttarayana and fresh energy is contributed to both nature and human existence. The centuries old kite flying tradition that comes with this festival has received its fair share of centuries. Throughout its history, it has not been confined to just providing entertainment and has added to it social, cultural and health aspects. Although kite flying is no longer the game of rooftop standing and tugging of the string, nowadays it is a sign of collective celebration, psychological joy, and physical exercise. Kite flying is regarded as a very ancient tradition in India. It is mentioned in history and folklore. It used to be an emblem of prowess and tact in the royal palaces but with the passage of time, it has turned into a daily necessity of life. The prevalent colorful kites in the sky during Makar Sankranti, Basant Panchami, and other celebrations are an indication of the general awareness and celebration of the Indian society. This festival is not only a tradition, but also a great social event in such states as Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, and Delhi. Kite flying is the social aspect of the sport that is the most beautiful. It takes individuals out of their homes and unites them with others. Rooftop conversations, children laughter, young people competitions and the elderly smile all these scenes make this festival alive. The echo of "Woh kata... Woh mara" is not only the intensity of the game, but the audible together. In the modern era where social interaction is declining, such festivals are an alternative that can be used to sustain human relations. The tradition has taken a new turn with kite festivals and mass events which are conducted during Makar Sankranti. Such events are organized in assorted places together by the local govern-

ments, social institutions, voluntary institutions, to achieve not only entertainment, but also cultural preservation, social coexistence. The elderly, women and children are equally involved in these events thus making this a festival of all the segments of the society and not just a part of society. Kite flying is a sport whose health advantages are many and is usually taken as a seasonal sport. Playing with kites exercises most of the body engaging the hands, shoulders, and eyes making the body active. Outing gives the body solar energy and helps in mental exhaustion. There is a belief among the doctors and psychologists that such group and fun activities can aid in alleviating stress. Kite flying is also very helpful in the mental health. The sight of colorful kites flying in the open sky is joyful and relaxing to the mind. It brings one to the present moment and offers some type of spontaneous meditation feel. Such experiences may also be significant in ensuring mental balance in the fast-paced and stressful life that people live today. It is not only entertainment, but also educational to children when they are playing with kite. It builds patience, equilibrium, coordination, and competition. Being aware of the direction of wind, the correct tension of strings, the ability to make the right decisions in time all these abilities can reinforce choices making in children. Moreover, this practice when carried out in a family context enhances social values and cultural affiliations of children. Nevertheless, kite flying can be discussed as a celebration of happiness and thrill, but it also represents safety issues. With time, Chinese manjha and nylon string have caused a number of severe accidents. This has not only been deadly to the human race, but birds and other animals have also perished. Road crashes, throat cuts, and deaths of birds all of it is evidence of the deformed character of this tradition. This has been done through regulations set by the government and administration which are not sufficient. It is imperative to ensure that people are aware of

it and develop a feeling of accountability. Kites can be made safe with the help of cotton string, safe and open areas, child supervision, and time attention all these measures can ensure the safety of kite flying. The most important thing is that the happiness of the festival does not turn into the reason of suffering to anyone. Kite flying also requires to be re-evaluated with the environmental eye. Kite wastes also get into trees, power lines and roads posing environmental challenges. The plastic and nylon kites cannot break down in the long term and they are hazardous to the wildlife. The use of eco-friendly kites and natural dyes, therefore, is what is required at the moment. These positive efforts are being made by most social organizations and volunteer groups. They are motivating children and young people towards safe and environmental sensitive kite flying. Sensitization is being spread in schools and social forums so that there is a balance between tradition and nature. The kite flying is also changing with the changing times. It is no longer restricted to rooftops. Digital and social media has provided it with international outreach. The videos and photos of kites festivals are going around the globe. The way, Indian communities residing overseas remain in touch with their native culture by also holding kite festivals on Makar Sankranti. This transformation shows that not all traditions remain the same but they change with the times. One such change is kite flying, where modernity, tradition, entertainment, and health fly. This festival makes us understand that there is no opposition between joy and responsibility but they complement each other. Finally, Makar Sankranti and kite flying which comes along with it is not merely a festival, but also a celebration of life. It is a lesson to us of the meaning of collectivity, balance and joy. Tradition when taken in the right way and with responsibility is not only a reminder of the past but also a source of inspiration to the present and the future.

Art Of The Deal: As Trump Wavers, India Is Writing Its EU Playbook

When German Chancellor Friedrich Merz landed in Gujarat this week and called for concluding the EU-India free trade agreement (FTA) by the end of January 2026, it signalled more than routine diplomacy. In a world reshaped by sanctions, industrial policy, and supply-chain realignments, Europe's outreach to India is now as strategic as it is geoeconomic. The high-level visit once again highlights that as the United States wavers between protectionism and partnership, New Delhi is seeking to broaden its trade horizons, with Europe emerging as the key pivot.

Why EU Deal Now Defines India's Trade Moment

Europe's courtship of India is driven by mutual interests in economic partnerships. The EU-India FTA is in the final stages of negotiations, with both sides seeking to bridge differences on sustainability standards, digital trade, and labour mobility. For Europe, it is about de-risking supply chains away from China and securing access to a large democratic market. For India, the deal offers access to the EU's high-value consumer base, new technology partnerships, and credibility as a manufacturing and regulatory hub capable of meeting global standards. The stakes are immense: the EU is one of India's largest trading partners, accounting for nearly 12% of its total trade. Momentum has been built by earlier European deals. The India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), signed in July 2025, was New Delhi's first major trade pact with a



G7 economy in over a decade. It grants duty-free access for 99% of Indian exports to the UK. The India-EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) went further, coupling tariff cuts with a USD 100 billion investment commitment over 15 years from Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, and Liechtenstein - an unprecedented investment-linked model. It illustrates how India's trade policy has matured from defensive tariff management to an outward-facing investment narrative.

Indo-Pacific, Gulf and the New Frontiers

If Europe is India's most optimistic economic engagement at the moment, relations with the United States have been more complicated. Bilateral trade volumes continue to rise, yet there is still no formal India-US trade agreement despite years of dialogue. High tariffs and unresolved market-access disputes persist, and Washington's 2025 imposition of punitive duties on select

Indian exports rekindled friction. Both sides continue to work through various channels, but India's calculus is shifting. Rather than wait for a breakthrough with Washington, New Delhi is hedging its bets by retaining the US as a strategic partner while expanding ties with others to insulate its export base from the current unpredictability in American policy. That diversification is most visible in the Indo-Pacific. After India walked away from the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) in 2019, its alternative architecture is taking shape through bilateral and minilateral pacts seven years later. The India-New Zealand FTA, concluded in December 2025 after a decade-long pause, opens duty-free corridors for Indian exports and enhances mobility for professionals. With Australia, India is deepening the interim Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA) into a comprehensive CECA, targeting services, investment

protection, and critical-mineral supply chains. Meanwhile, an ongoing review of the ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA) aims to fix imbalances that disadvantaged Indian manufacturers. Undoubtedly, India is rebuilding its regional competitiveness on its own terms, engaging selectively but assertively with the Indo-Pacific's trade architecture. West Asia is where India's trade diplomacy intersects most closely with its energy and strategic interests. The India-Oman Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), signed in December 2025, grants duty-free access to more than 98% of Indian exports, building on the success of the UAE CEPA, which has already lifted bilateral trade to more than USD 100 billion. The broader India-Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) FTA has also been revived after years of dormancy, promising to bring India closer to Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and other Gulf economies.

What Trump May Be Getting Dangerously Wrong About Iran

The comment by India's Foreign Secretary, Vikram Misri, on Monday, that the government is watching the developments in Iran closely, appears to be an understatement. As the unrest threatens the 47-year-old Islamic regime's survival, it also has the potential of creating a regional crisis, one that could seriously harm India's economic and strategic interests.

The protests, which began two weeks ago in Tehran, have already spread to more than 100 cities in all of Iran's 31 provinces. Iran's regime, led by the Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, has done what it has done in the past, trying to crush the unrest with brutal force. More than 600 demonstrators have already been killed, according to human rights groups, which have warned that the actual death toll could be far higher because of a nationwide internet blackout.

Iran has seen many anti-government protests since the 1979 Islamic Revolution, which deposed Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi. But the latest protests appear to be the most significant challenge to the regime. They have already taken more lives than the last one in 2022, which followed the death in custody of 22-year-old Mahsa Amini over hijab enforcement, killing 550 people across the country. That was a feminist-centred protest. The latest one, which has spread more quickly nationwide, has attracted young men, women and even the elderly.

Is This An Uprising?

This protest is also significant due to the participation of traders, their first such involvement since the 1979 revolution. In fact, they started these demonstrations in Tehran on December 28, when the Iranian currency, the rial, collapsed against the dollar, and later attracted other sections of society. But it's still early to call it a mass uprising as there are no signs yet of a regime collapse, despite some reports of defections from the security forces.

After years of Western sanctions, ordinary Iranians' lives had already become miserable. Things worsened after the conflict last summer with Israel, when the US also joined and bombed Iran. Last month, the coun-



try's inflation exceeded 50%. So, there was enough ground for sparking unrest. Ayatollah Khamenei has accused foreign powers of orchestrating the unrest, primarily the United States and Israel, but the scale of unrest suggests the protesters' anger is directed against the government. Slogans have been heard against the Islamic regime, which is rare in Iran. The country's former crown prince, Reza Pahlavi, who is in exile in the United States, has been encouraging street protests for some time, but one can't dispute his Iranian heritage.

US Military Action May Not Help

Donald Trump is weighing his military options. Soon after the protests began, he warned Iranian authorities that he would take military action if they started killing demonstrators. He has repeated his threat several times in the past few days, but has yet to order any military strikes despite the deaths of hundreds of Iranians. For a leader who is known to opt for military solutions without hesitation and, only 10 days ago, raided Venezuela and seized its leader, Nicolas Maduro, this may look surprising. Even so, Trump has reasons to be careful. Iran is not Venezuela. It is nearly as big as Western Europe and remains a military power, despite being

degraded by the Israeli and the US military action last year. One must also remember that Iran's retaliatory strikes on Israel last year forced the Jewish state to agree to a ceasefire, something it wasn't used to in the case of its other enemies, like Hamas or Hezbollah. Also, the US military had been preparing to invade Venezuela and kidnap Maduro for months. Events in Iran have moved much faster for the US military to make similar preparations.

Trump's Options

Trump must also have been reminded by his advisors of America's ill-fated 1980 military operation Eagle Claw, in which the US attempted to rescue American diplomats held in Tehran after the Islamic revolution. This doesn't mean that Trump will not order military strikes. But he has to listen to his commanders and advisors about their timing, targets and fallout. Despite many people in Iran loathing the Islamic Regime, they would not like to be invaded by Israel or its main backer, the United States. Last summer's US strikes only inspired patriotic fervour in Iran. Ignoring Israel's request, Trump avoided extending military action to topple the regime. In this context, one should look at Monday's statement by the White House press

secretary, Karoline Leavitt, who said that airstrikes were "one of the many, many options that are on the table", but that "diplomacy is always the first option for the president". Around the same time, Trump warned that the US would impose a tariff of 25% on "any and all business" done with the United States by countries that are also engaged in commerce with Iran.

The Power of the Revolutionary Guards

Perhaps the most important factor that may save the Islamic regime is the all-powerful Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC). It was formed by the regime's founder, Ayatollah Khomeini, soon after he returned home from exile in Paris in February 1979, although he had started recruiting its members in France earlier.

The IRGC's initial aim was to disarm the protesters who took part in the revolution and protect the regime against any potential US attack and coups. Under official patronage, this organisation gradually became the most powerful personal army of the Ayatollahs, parallel to Iran's military forces. They even have a unit dealing with foreign assignments called 'Quds Force', which helped create Iran's proxies: Hezbollah in Lebanon and Houthis in Yemen.



Rape case: Expelled Cong MLA Rahul Mamkootathil sent to three-day police custody

Thiruvalla, Jan 13 : A court here on Tuesday sentenced expelled Congress MLA Rahul Mamkootathil to three days of police custody in connection with a rape case, marking a major escalation in a politically sensitive investigation that has triggered sharp reactions across Kerala's political spectrum.

The Chief Judicial Magistrate Court in Thiruvalla, allowing the prosecution's plea, directed the police to produce Mamkootathil again on Thursday, while posting the hearing on his bail application to Friday.

The prosecution argued that custodial interrogation was essential to collect further evidence, including electronic and circumstantial material, and to verify inconsistencies in statements already recorded.

Incidentally, in two similar cases, Mamkootathil managed to secure anticipatory bail. However, in this case, he was arrested on Saturday midnight.

The arrest of Mamkootathil has drawn intense public and political attention, with the case unfolding at a time when the State is already witnessing heightened political activity ahead of the Assembly elections.

Adding momentum to the investigation, the complainant arrived in Kerala from Canada earlier on Tuesday. Police sources said the complainant's presence would be crucial for further questioning and for corroborating evidence gathered so far.

Her statement is expected



to play a key role during the next phase of the probe, particularly as the police seek to strengthen the prosecution's case ahead of the bail hearing. Meanwhile, the situation outside the court premises turned tense as protesters from the youth wings of both the BJP and the CPI(M) converged, raising slogans against Mamkootathil.

The police faced a difficult task in preventing clashes

and ensuring law and order, deploying additional personnel to control the crowd and keep rival groups apart.

While the Congress has distanced itself from Mamkootathil by expelling him from the party, opposition parties have stepped up attacks, accusing the party of moral hypocrisy and demanding swift and transparent action. The BJP and the CPI(M) youth wings have both sought to use the case to mount political pressure, underlining the case's broader political ramifications. With custodial interrogation underway and the bail hearing scheduled for Friday, the coming days are expected to be crucial, both legally and politically, as the case continues to reverberate beyond the courtroom.

KPCC panel begins deliberations on student elections

Bengaluru : The committee constituted by the KPCC President to examine the issue of student elections in Karnataka held its first meeting on Tuesday at KPCC Bhavan in Bengaluru. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Sharanaprakash Patil, Minister for Medical Education and Skill Development.

During the meeting, members held a preliminary but detailed discussion on the committee's terms of reference, focusing on the relevance, need, and possible framework for conducting student elections in universities and colleges across the state. Various viewpoints and concerns related to academic, democratic, and social aspects were deliberated. The committee unanimously agreed that



it cannot take a unilateral decision on holding student elections, given their wider implications. It stressed the importance of building broader public consensus through consultations with students, parents, educators, and other stakeholders. The public has been invited to submit their views and suggestions during the committee's tenure.

Higher Education Minister Dr. MC Sudhakar and several Congress leaders and NSUI representatives attended the meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for January 22.

GBA elections to be held within Supreme Court deadline: Shivakumar



Bengaluru : Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on Tuesday said that elections to the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) will be conducted within the deadline fixed by the Supreme Court. Speaking to reporters at Palace Grounds, the DCM, who also holds the Bengaluru Development portfolio, said the government would issue necessary directions to the State Election Commission to ensure compliance with the court's order.

He clarified that the State Election Commission has already submitted an affidavit to the Supreme Court and the matter now rests with it, while the government will extend full cooperation. Shivakumar also stressed the need to conduct pending Zilla and Taluk Panchayat elections in accordance with the 73rd and 74th Constitutional amendments.

Responding to technical objections, he said a committee has been formed to examine them, including concerns over women's reservation, without government interference. Ruling out seeking extra time from the court, he said conducting elections is the government's responsibility and expressed confidence of performing well in all five city corporations.

Hi Life Exhibition opens in Bengaluru with luxury fashion showcase

Bengaluru (TSIT) Bengaluru is set to welcome the New Year in style with the much-awaited Hi Life Exhibition, one of the city's premier fashion and lifestyle showcases. The exhibition will be held on January 15, 16, and 17, 2026, at The Lalit Ashok, bringing together an exclusive curation of designer fashion, couture wear, fine jewellery, accessories, and premium lifestyle collections.

Known for presenting the latest trends and luxury craftsmanship under one roof, Hi Life Exhibition offers fashion enthusiasts an opportunity to refresh their wardrobes for 2026 with statement pieces and contemporary designs. The elegant setting of the exhibi-



tion promises a refined shopping experience, featuring creations by renowned designers and emerging labels.



With a blend of innovation, craftsmanship, and style, the Hi Life Exhibition is expected to attract fashion lovers, industry professionals, and style-conscious shoppers from across the city, making it a key fashion event on Bengaluru's January calendar.

BAYAKEGALU BEROORIDAGA REFLECTS KARNATAKA'S SILENT FAMILY CRISIS

Karnataka (TSIT) With Karnataka witnessing a sharp 61 per cent rise in family courts—from 31 to 50 in just five years—the silent crisis within modern families is becoming impossible to ignore. Addressing this growing social concern, the Kannada film Bayakegalu Berooridaga offers a sensitive and timely reflection on the fragile state of relationships today. Directed by N. Jyothi Lakshmi, the multi-award-winning film explores the "thin lines" of misunderstanding, emotional neglect, and unmet needs that slowly erode human bonds. Rather than focusing on courtroom drama, the film turns attention to empathy, emotional honesty, and the importance of nurturing relationships before they reach breaking points. Having already won 25 awards, the film has struck a deep chord with audiences and critics alike. Set to release in theatres this February, Bayakegalu Berooridaga goes beyond entertainment to spark an essential conversation on emotional well-being, double standards, and the urgent need to heal families before social fractures widen further.



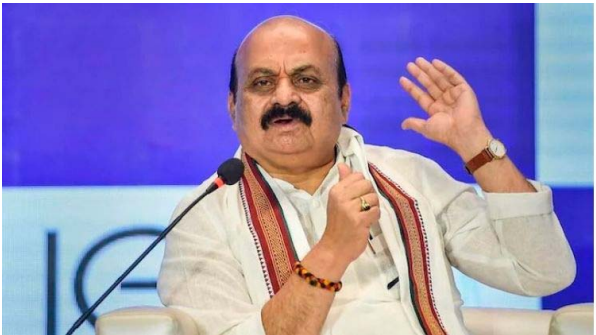
Complete White Topping Road Work Quickly: Maheshwar Rao



Bengaluru : Chief Commissioner, Maheshwar Rao, has instructed officials to expedite the white topping work being carried out in Vijayanagar RPC Layout. While visiting and inspecting various locations within the Bengaluru West City Corporation area, he stated that white topping work has been undertaken on the 1.4 km stretch of road from Railway Parallel Road, West Of Chord Road, to 5th Main

Road. So far, 645 meters of the road have been completed, and officials have been directed to accelerate the remaining work and complete it swiftly. He instructed officials to ensure proper rainwater drainage at locations where white-topping works are underway. Side drains must be constructed correctly, and pedestrian pathways should be developed in accordance with prescribed standards.

Renaming Tumakuru's Mahatma Gandhi Stadium Is an Insult to Gandhiji, says MP Basavaraj Bommai



Bengaluru: Former Chief Minister and Member of Parliament Basavaraj Bommai said that the state government's attempt to rename the Mahatma Gandhi Stadium in Tumakuru and named it has Dr GParameshwara is an unpardonable offence and has exposed the true face of the Congress. Let the Siddaramaiah government rename the Rajiv Gandhi University and the Sanjay Gandhi Hospital in Karnataka after Mahatma Gandhi.

Speaking to the media at the BJP office here on Tuesday, he said that while the Congress has strongly opposed the change of the MNREGA name by the Central Government, it is now indulging in double standards. At a time when such debates are ongoing, renaming the Mahatma Gandhi Stadium is a reckless act and an insult to the father of the nation. The home minister, Parameshwara should have named some ground in his own college after himself. During the previous BJP government, the Tumakuru District Stadium was developed, and he had inaugurated it. The former CM said that Karnataka already has a Rajiv Gandhi University, which should be renamed as Mahatma Gandhi University. There is also a Sanjay Gandhi Hospital—Sanjay Gandhi was not a national leader, and that institution too should be named after Mahatma Gandhi. The state Congress leaders have nothing beyond praising the Nehru family. It is the

Congress that has "killed" Mahatma Gandhi's ideals. Gandhiji had advised dissolving the Congress after independence, but the party continued it for political gain. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K.Shivakumar lacked the moral authority even to take Mahatma Gandhi's name.

Responding to a question about the CM and the DCM visiting Mysuru to meet Lok Sabha Leader of the Opposition Rahul Gandhi amid leadership confusion, Bommai said the Congress high command has become incompetent and not taking any decision has become their policy. Even a broken clock shows the correct time twice a day. Rahul Gandhi's visit would bring no benefit to the state. Responding to a question on AICC President Mallikarjun Kharge's remarks about Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the Somnath Temple in Gujarat, the BJP MP said Kharge is frustrated after losing power at the Centre. The Prime Minister Modi speaks of a developed India along with a heritage-rich India. India's growth rate stands at 7.5 percent, while the United States grows at 2 percent, Japan at 3 percent, and China at 4 percent. India's identity lies in its traditions and culture. The Somnath Temple is a symbol of India's culture and faith. Despite being attacked three times, thus Temple stood strong—similarly, a new India has risen. Modi visited the temple to showcase this heritage to the people, which the Congress fails to understand.

Organic Waste Compost Sale Campaign in Hebbal Division

Bengaluru : As part of the initiative to convert wet waste generated within wards into compost, a sale of organic fertilizer was organized under the leadership of Bengaluru North City Corporation Commissioner Pommala Sunil Kumar at the wet-waste composting unit located in Ward No. 18, Radhakrishna Temple area, under the Hebbal Division.

At the composting unit in Dollar's Colony, Ward No. 18, approximately 300 kg of compost suitable for plants and trees was sold. The price was fixed at Rs.150 per kg.

During the campaign, the entire 300 kg of organic fertilizer was purchased, generating a total revenue of Rs.45,000.

The objective of this initiative is to process city waste within the respective wards and to encourage household-level composting, thereby reducing the overall volume of waste. A dedicated team of City Corporation staff works daily toward this goal, and *Commissioner Shri Pommala Sunil Kumar* urged the public to actively support and participate in these efforts.



Minister N.S. Boseraju Presents KSTA 'Lifetime Achievement Awards' to Scientists Dr. Ramakrishna and Smt. Hariprasada

Bengaluru : Minister for Minor Irrigation, Science, and Technology, N.S. Boseraju, presented the prestigious 'Lifetime Achievement Awards' instituted by the Karnataka Science and Technology Academy (KSTA) to two distinguished senior scientists.

The awards were conferred during a ceremony held at the KSTA Auditorium. Speaking on the occasion, Minister N.S. Boseraju assured, "Our government is committed to the comprehensive development of the Science and Technology sector in the state. By providing further necessary support to the KSTA in the coming days, we will shape it into a model institution for the entire country." "Cultivating a scientific temper and rational thinking among students and the youth is the urgent need of the hour. Research and innovations should not be limited to laboratories; their benefits must reach the last person in society. Such programs are inspiring in bridging the gap between science and society," he opined.

The Awardees: Prof. C.N.R. Rao – KSTA Lifetime Achievement Award:

This award was presented to Dr. Ramakrishna, renowned scientist and Former Director of the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), in



recognition of his immense contribution to the field of Science and Technology. KSTA Lifetime Achievement Award in Science Communication in Kannada (2023): This award was conferred upon Sreemathi Hariprasada, Former Scientist at CFTRI, for her exceptional service in popularizing Science, Technology, Engineering, Agriculture, and Medicine (STEAM) in the Kannada language.

Department of Science and Technology Director Sadashiva Prabhu (IAS), KSTA Chairman Prof. A.H. Rajasab, and Chief Executive

Officer Dr. Anand R. were present at the event.

Fellow of KSTA: The Karnataka Science and Technology Academy (KSTA) confers the 'Fellow of KSTA' honour to recognize the contributions of academicians, researchers, engineers, and technologists from academic institutions and industries across various fields of Science and Technology. This distinction has been awarded since 2021. For the year 2023, a total of 33 achievers were selected for this honour and were felicitated during the occasion.

BESCOM Launches India's First Land Aggregator Portal for EV Infrastructure for Single-Window Power Supply Facilitation



Bengaluru: Strengthening Karnataka's green mobility ecosystem, Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited (BESCOM) has launched India's first Land Aggregator Portal for the establishment of EV charging and battery-swapping stations, integrated with a single-window digital dashboard for facilitating electricity supply. The initiative is aimed at accelerating EV infrastructure development and supporting the state's clean and sustainable mobility transition.

The unique portal was recently launched by Energy Minister K.J. George at the BESCOM

Corporate Office. It serves as a single-window interface for private landowners, government departments, private institutions, and Charge Point

Operators (CPOs) seeking to establish EV charging and battery-swapping stations across Karnataka, while also enabling coordinated power supply

arrangements through BESCOM. The Land Aggregator Portal enables landowners and EV infrastructure developers to fast-track the establishment of public EV charging facilities across urban areas and highway corridors. The initiative is aligned with national electric mobility programmes, including the National Highways for Electric Vehicles (NHEV), and reflects the broader objective of promoting clean mobility, public-private partnerships, and scalable EV infrastructure in the state.

Through the portal, landowners can lease land for EV charg-

ing and battery-swapping installations on a revenue-sharing basis, while vendors and CPOs can manage installation, operation, and maintenance. The single-window dashboard also facilitates timely electricity connectivity, reducing procedural delays and ensuring seamless coordination among stakeholders. The launch of the Land Aggregator Portal marks a key milestone in building a robust and future-ready EV ecosystem in Karnataka. By simplifying land aggregation and power supply facilitation, the initiative supports the state's transition toward a low-carbon economy.

Palaniswami predicts one more ally



CHENNAI: After sealing the tie-up with Pattali Makkal Katchi's Anbumani faction, All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK) general secretary Edappadi K Palaniswami is hinting at one more entrant to the National Democratic Alliance (NDA). The AIADMK chief enthused the cadre during an interview with party ticket aspirants on Monday, saying a new political party would join the alliance, strengthening the AIADMK-led NDA in the State. Party ticket aspirants from districts, including Dharmapuri, Krishnagiri, Mayiladuthurai, Cuddalore, and Tiruchy, who took part in the second phase of the interview conducted in Chennai, got a shot in the arm when EPS shared details on

boosting the front, seeding hopes of the alliance's victory. The AIADMK chief enthused the cadre during an interview with party ticket aspirants on Monday, saying a new political party would join the alliance, strengthening the AIADMK-led NDA in the State. Party ticket aspirants from districts, including Dharmapuri, Krishnagiri, Mayiladuthurai, Cuddalore, and Tiruchy, who took part in the second phase of the interview conducted in Chennai, got a shot in the arm when EPS shared details on

For CBI inquiry in Delhi, Vijay flew on Rs 50 lakh private jet round trip



CHENNAI: Actor and Tamilaga Vетtri Kazhagam (TVK) chief Vijay, who appeared before the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in Delhi for questioning in connection with the Karur stampede case, flew to the capital and back on a lux-

ury private jet estimated to have cost around Rs 50 lakh, according to a Daily Thanthi report.

The rental cost of the aircraft ranges between Rs 2.5 lakh and Rs 5 lakh per hour, and with additional airport landing charges, Vijay's round

trip to Delhi reportedly came to about Rs 50 lakh.

He travelled on an Embraer Legacy 600 operated by Plane SPS. The jet, which seats around 13 passengers and can fly up to 5,500 km non-stop, took the actor to Delhi on the morning of January 12, and brought him back to Chennai on the afternoon of January 13. Vijay was questioned at the CBI headquarters for nearly six hours in connection with the stampede incident that happened during a TVK rally in Karur in September 20205. The incident claimed 41 lives.

Southern Railway announces one way express special train between Podanur – Dr MGR Chennai Central

CHENNAI: One-way express special train will be operated between Podanur – Dr MGR Chennai Central to clear extra rush of passengers during Pongal, said a Southern Railway press release.Train No 06144 Podanur – Dr MGR Chennai Central one-way express special will leave Podanur

at 07.40 am on January 18 (Sunday) and reach Dr MGR Chennai Central at 04.45 pm, the same day (one service). The train will have stoppages at Katpadi, Arakkonam, Tiruvallur and Perambur. Coach composition will be of two AC chair car coaches, nine sitting chair car coaches (out

of which four coaches earmarked for un-reserved passengers), three general second class coaches and two second class coaches (Disabled friendly). Advance reservation for the one way express special will open at 08.00 am on January 14 (Wednesday), added the release.

First phase of free laptop computer scheme for 10 L students to be completed in Feb

CHENNAI: Since the free laptop computer distribution to college students has begun in TN, the initial phase of the project, which would reach 10 lakh students, will be completed by end of February, even as nearly 2 lakh systems have already reached the beneficiaries. The second phase is expected to start in March.

The Electronics Corporation of Tamil Nadu (ELCOT) floated an international tender to procure 20 lakh laptops, and the State government will be allocating Rs 2,000



crore. Accordingly, the laptops procured from MNCs such as Dell, Acer and HP, will be configured with Intel i3 or AMD

Ryzen 3 processors, 8 GB RAM, 256 GB SSD storage, Windows 11, BOSS Linux, MS Office 365 and a six-month free subscription to

the AI-powered Perplexity Pro platform. Each beneficiary will also receive a high-quality laptop bag.

Stating that the government has already started identifying beneficiaries across around 4,600 arts, science, engineering, agriculture and medical colleges throughout TN, a senior official from the Higher Education Department, said that more than 1 lakh laptops were already distributed to the students. "Almost all the beneficiaries' details were reported by the colleges. Students' data

submitted by the institution will be thoroughly scrutinised to ensure the scheme reaches all beneficiaries without fail," he added. The official also pointed out that the companies, which will supply the laptops, will be setting up service centres across all districts. "The number of service centres will be released soon after the first phase of the scheme is over," he stated. The official also cautioned students not to believe rumours on social media about online registration for the scheme.

'Jana Nayagan': SC to hear on Jan 19 plea filed by film's producer challenging Madras HC order



NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court is slated to hear on January 19 the plea filed by the producer of Vijay-starrer Tamil film "Jana Nayagan", challenging an interim order of the Madras High Court that stayed a single-judge direction to grant CBFC clearance to the movie.

According to the cause list of the apex court, the matter is likely to come up for hearing on January 19. The bench is yet to be assigned.

On January 9, the Madras High Court stayed a single judge's order directing the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) to immediately grant a censor certificate to "Jana Nayagan", leaving the fate of actor-turned-politician Vijay's film, which has drawn attention for its political overtones, in limbo. KVN Productions LLP filed an appeal against the order passed by a division bench of the high court last Friday, which put on hold the single bench's directive to the board to issue the film's certificate forth-

with. Vijay recently launched his political party, Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) "Jana Nayagan", which is widely publicised as Vijay's final film before his full-fledged entry into politics, was slated for a Pongal release on January 9.

However, the film ran into last-minute hurdles after the CBFC did not issue certification in time.

On January 9, the division bench's order came hours after Justice PT Asha directed the CBFC to give clearance to "Jana Nayagan", setting aside the film board's directive to refer the matter to a review committee.

The First Bench comprising Chief Justice M M Shrivastava and G Arul Murugan, on an appeal filed by the CBFC, granted an interim stay against the single judge's verdict.

Earlier, allowing the plea of KVN Productions seeking a direction to the CBFC to issue a censor certificate, Justice Asha said that once the board

had decided to grant the certificate, the chairperson had no power to send the matter to the review committee.

The film board immediately preferred an appeal against the order.

Additional Solicitor General ARL Sundaresan and Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, who appeared through video conferencing, outlined the grounds for the appeal before the division bench.

The January 6 letter of the CBFC, which was communicated to the producer of the film informing him that the matter was referred to the revising committee, was not at all under challenge. But the single judge set aside the letter and gave the above direction.

In its order, the division bench said the petition was filed on January 6 and the CBFC was not granted sufficient opportunity to file its reply. There shall be a stay, the bench added, and ordered notice to the producer of the movie and posted the matter to January 21.

Biologists Have Tracked 66 Million Years of Mammalian Diversity



Researchers at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln studied North America's fossil record over 66 million years, revealing insights into mammalian diversity and ecological shifts that could inform current conservation strategies. To comprehend the present, looking to history can be enlightening. Recent research from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln delved into the fossil record spanning 66 million years, examining shifts in mammalian ecosystems and species diversity across North America. The study, led by Alex Shupinski, who earned her doctorate in May, and co-authored by Kate Lyons, associate professor in the School of Biological Sciences, provides a large-scale view of how species diversity changed over the first 65 million years of the Cenozoic era — up until the arrival of humans — and how climate and other environmental factors, including changing landscapes, affected animal life on the continent.

The findings published in Proceedings of the Royal Society B also provide a

glimpse into how mammals rebounded following the last mass extinction event — the eradication of non-avian dinosaurs. Ecological Changes Over Time In the field of conservation paleobiology, tracking past changes in ecosystems over long periods of time helps scientists and the public better understand biodiversity crises happening today, and this current study offers a thorough analysis of the age of mammals and hints at what may come next. "If we are looking at the modern (crises) and we see a similar response in the functional diversity of modern community structures, it may be a conservation tool as we can highlight some of these communities that are experiencing the most disturbance and that are at highest risk of change and disturbance in their ecological services and function," Shupinski said. "Beginning 66 million years ago, we go from a completely sub-tropical environment across North America to grasslands to a frozen savanna, and finally, reaching the Ice Age," Shupinski said. "It's showing how species changed through time,

through many ecological, environmental and climatic changes and it allows us to compare across those events and at different spatial scales." In the field of conservation paleobiology, tracking past changes in ecosystems over long periods of time helps scientists and the public better understand biodiversity crises happening today, and this current study offers a thorough analysis of the age of mammals and hints at what may come next.

"If we are looking at the modern (crises) and we see a similar response in the functional diversity of modern community structures, it may be a conservation tool as we can highlight some of these communities that are experiencing the most disturbance and that are at highest risk of change and disturbance in their ecological services and function," Shupinski said. The researchers sliced the fossil record of the Cenozoic era into million-year increments and used three indices of functional diversity — which quantifies changes in community structures using mammalian traits — to examine mammalian communities on both a local and continental scale. For most of the Cenozoic era, local and continental measures of functional diversity differed, but surprisingly, during the first 10 million years of the era, immediately following the extinction of non-avian dinosaurs, all measures of functional diversity, both locally and across the continent, increased. "That was fascinating to see, that for most of the Cenozoic, functional diversity was uncoupled across time and spatial scales, except this one time," Shupinski said. "For 10 million years, all the measures are changing in the same way. Then, around 56 million years ago, we get this massive immigration of mammals into North America from other continents, and at that point, we see a divergence of functional diversity. "Communities are changing at different times, at different rates, and in different directions," she said. "We might see locally, the diversity of roles increasing, but continentally, they're decreasing."

The Surprising Truth About Ultra-Processed Foods: Redefining Health and Nutrition

A new study calls into question the level of processing as a proxy for diet quality. Recent research challenges the notion that minimally processed foods automatically lead to a healthier diet, revealing that both minimally and ultra-processed diets can be equally nutritious or lacking in nutritional value. The study highlighted that minimally processed diets might be costlier and have shorter shelf lives without additional nutritional benefits, emphasizing the complexity of defining diet quality by processing levels alone.

Dietary Choices and Processing Levels

New research demonstrates that eating primarily minimally processed foods, as they are defined by the NOVA classification system, does not automatically make for a healthy diet. It suggests that the types of foods we eat may matter more than the level of processing used to make them.

Comparing two menus reflecting a typical Western diet — one emphasizing minimally processed foods and the other emphasizing ultra-processed foods, as categorized by the NOVA classification system — the researchers found that the less processed menu was more than twice as expensive and reached its expiration date over three times faster without delivering any additional nutritional value.

Examples of More and Less Processed Foods

Examples of a more-processed (left) and less-processed (right) breakfast. None of the ingredients used to make the less-processed meal are considered ultra-processed (both the bread and jam are homemade), while almost all of the components of the more-processed meal are considered ultra-processed. Credit: Courtesy of USDA-ARS

Research Findings on Processed vs. Minimally Processed Diets

"This study indicates that it is possible to eat a low-quality diet even when choosing mostly minimally processed foods," said Julie Hess, PhD, a research nutritionist at the USDA-ARS Grand Forks Human Nutrition Research Center, who led the study. "It also shows that more-processed and less-processed diets can be equally nutritious (or non-nutritious), but the more-processed diet may have a longer shelf life and be less costly."



Mark Messina, PhD, director of nutrition science and research at Soy Nutrition Institute Global, recently presented the findings at NUTRITION 2024, the flagship annual meeting of the American Society for Nutrition.

Evaluating Nutritional Quality Across Different Diets

The new research builds on a study the team published last year, which demonstrated that it was possible to build a high-quality menu that aligns with dietary guidelines while deriving most of its calories from foods classified as ultra-processed. For the new study, the researchers asked the opposite question: Is it possible to build a low-quality menu that derives most of its calories from "simple" foods?

To find out, they constructed a less-processed menu, which derived 20% of its calories from ultra-processed foods, and a more-processed menu, which derived 67% of its calories from ultra-processed foods. The level of processing involved in each menu was determined according to the NOVA system of classification. The two menus were calculated to have a Healthy Eating Index score of about 43-44 out of 100, a relatively low score that reflects poor adherence to the Dietary Guidelines for Americans. The researchers estimated that the less-processed menu would cost \$34.87 per day per person compared with \$13.53 per day for the more-processed menu. They also calculated that the median time to expiration of the less-processed menu items was 35 days versus 120 days for the more-processed menu items.

DUCATI TO LAUNCH 10 NEW MODELS THIS YEAR

Mumbai: Italian luxury motorcycle maker Ducati on Tuesday said it has lined up 10 new and updated motorcycle models for launch in the domestic market this year. These models include Desmo450 MX, the 2026 edition of the new Multistrada V4 Rally, Panigale V4 Lamborghini, and new Monster V2 and the new Hypermotard V2/V2 SP, among others, it said. Of the 10 new models, one motorcycle model, Panigale V4R, has already hit the market on January 2, Ducati said. Besides, the company said its dealer touchpoints for the Indian market are also in place. “The year 2026 is poised to be another landmark year for Ducati as we continue to push boundaries with a portfolio of new launches that will set fresh benchmarks in the premium motorcycle segment,” said Bipul Chandra, Managing Director, Ducati India. Ducati India’s commitment to delivering the most sophisticated, performance-driven motorcycles to Indian customers has never been stronger, he said. “We are excited to introduce these exceptional new models, and with the expansion of our dealership network,” he added. The first quarter of CY 2026



will commence with the launch of the New Multistrada V4 Rally (2026 Edition) and Panigale V4 Lamborghini, alongside the highly anticipated Desmo450 MX, the company said. At the start of Q3, Ducati will introduce the New Monster V2, Panigale V2

Special Edition MM93 – Marc Marquez, and Panigale V2 Special Edition PB63 – Pecco Bagnaia, followed by the launch of the Diavel V4 RS towards the end of the quarter, it said. The fourth quarter will witness the arrival of the New Hypermotard V2 and

Hypermotard V2 SP by the end of October, with the year culminating in the launch of the Panigale V4 Marc Márquez Replica by the end of December 2026, Ducati India said. The company also said the indicative prices for the upcoming models will be

made available on its website soon and will be confirmed closer to the respective launch dates. Bookings for these models will be open at all Ducati dealerships in Delhi, Mumbai, Pune, Bengaluru, Chennai, Hyderabad, Kochi and Kolkata.

NMDC ORGANISES CONTRACTORS AND SERVICE PROVIDERS MEET AT DONIMALAI



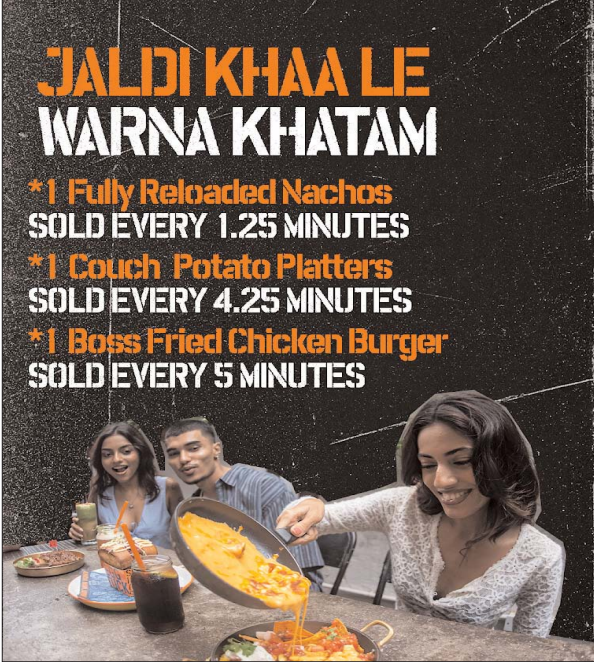
Hyderabad, 12th January 2026: NMDC organised a Contractors cum Service Providers Meet on 10th January 2026 at Donimalai, bringing together contractors, service providers, and senior officials for an open and meaningful discussion on the tendering process and day-to-day operational issues. The meet was held under the guidance of Shri S. B. Singh, Executive Director, whose encouragement played a key role in turning the idea into a successful and interactive programme. The objective was to create a common platform to share experiences, address

practical challenges, and improve coordination during tender submission and execution of works and services. Senior officials, including Shri A. K. Mishra, CGM (Works), Shri D. Hansdah, CGM (Production), along with Heads of Departments and executives, were present at the event. Members of the Contractors Association also participated in large numbers, contributing actively to the discussions. The programme began with a ceremonial lamp lighting, followed by a welcome address by Shri Rajasekhara N. HoD (Contracts), who highlighted the importance of

better coordination and timely execution of works. Presentations and open discussions on tender-related matters allowed contractors to share their concerns and suggestions, which were addressed by the NMDC team during the session. Appreciating the efforts of the Contracts Department, Shri S. B. Singh expressed hope that such interactions would help build stronger working relationships and lead to smoother project execution. The meet concluded on a positive note, with both sides welcoming more such engagements in the future.

SOCIAL Releases ‘SOCIAL 2025 Wrapped’, Revealing How India

Hyderabad: January 13, 2026: SOCIAL, India’s neighbourhood café-bar, has released SOCIAL 2025 Wrapped, its annual data-led release that captures how people across Indian cities used SOCIAL’s spaces through 2025 from working and daytime dining to late-night deliveries, live music and community-led gatherings. The year-end snapshot highlights a clear shift in consumer behaviour, with SOCIAL increasingly functioning as an all-day, all-mood space where people don’t just drop in, but stay, return, and build routines around. Commenting on the SOCIAL 2025 Wrapped, Divya Aggarwal, Chief Growth Officer, Impresario Entertainment & Hospitality Pvt. Ltd., said, “What stood out for us in 2025 is how clearly behaviour has shifted from ‘occasion-led’ to ‘mood-led’. People aren’t stepping out only for celebrations anymore; they’re stepping out because they want to experience something new, go to a



familiar corner, or a quick reset. SOCIAL 2025 Wrapped captures that: ramen when you need comfort, chaat when you want a lift, a community event when you want to feel a part of a larger community, and delivery when the night runs longer than planned.

The format that wins today is the one that can hold every mood without asking guests to be a certain version of themselves.” From work hours to closing time In 2025, SOCIAL clocked 2,025 community events and hosted 2,100+ live music gigs, reinforcing its position

as a multi-use cultural space that transitions seamlessly from a daytime café to a late-night neighbourhood bar. Across cities, the format continued to attract guests who used SOCIAL as much for workday meals and catch-ups as for evening gatherings and music-led nights. Food choices reflected comfort and familiarity. Food consumption through the year pointed to repeat, comfort-led behaviour. Guests consumed 1,46,055 bowls of ramen, 1,13,825 plates of chaat, and 63,275 servings of K-Krispy Lotus Stems in 2025. Certain dishes moved at near-constant pace, with a plate of Fully Reloaded Nachos selling every 1.25 minutes, a Couch Potato Platter every 4.25 minutes, and a Boss Fried Chicken Burger every 5 minutes, highlighting the role of shareable and familiar food in social dining. An all-day beverage culture took shape SOCIAL’s Peena Menu continued to mirror evolving moods and occasions.

Andhra Pradesh and Telangana Among Leading States as redBus Anticipates 65% Jump in Bus Bookings Ahead of Pedda Panduga (Makar Sankranti)

Hyderabad, 13 January 2026: As Andhra Pradesh and Telangana gear up for Pedda Panduga (Makar Sankranti), the state’s celebration of India’s most significant harvest festival, intercity travel across the state is witnessing strong momentum. Data from the redBus platform indicates that bus bookings from Andhra Pradesh and Telangana are expected to rise by 65 percent during the festive travel window, marking one of the highest increases seen across India for this period. The analysis compares bookings made between 09th and 18th January 2026 with the corresponding period last year (10th–19th January 2025), pointing to a clear acceleration in homebound and leisure-led journeys. This surge underscores the continued importance of buses in festive mobility, particularly for travellers returning home, visiting family, or planning short regional breaks



around Pedda Panduga. The trend also reflects evolving travel behaviour, with more travellers planning journeys in advance and opting for comfort-led services across high-demand intercity corridors. Amid rising festive travel demand during Pedda Panduga, redBus is running the Discover Bharat Sale from January 8-26. The sale offers travel options across India with fares starting at Rs. 299 per seat, along with discounts of up to 50 percent on buses, trains, and hotels. Travellers can also avail additional savings through select bank and

payment partner offers, enabling more affordable and convenient festive travel planning.

Key Travel Projections (as per bookings on the redBus platform)

- Top Routes by Traffic:**
- Hyderabad-Bangalore
 - Hyderabad-Vijayawada
 - Vijayawada-Hyderabad
 - Vijayawada-Visakhapatnam
 - Visakhapatnam-Vijayawada
 - Vijayawada-Tirupati

Top Boarding Points by traffic are in Hyderabad

- Kukatpally
- Gachibowli
- Miyapur
- Lakdikapal
- Ameerpet

Travelers’ Preferences:

64% of bookings are for AC buses, indicating a strong preference for comfortable travel options when planned in advance, while the remaining are for Non-AC buses. 61% of travellers have opted for sleeper buses, highlighting the continued popularity of convenient overnight journeys during the festive season. **Traveler Demographics:** Male travellers account for 66%, while female travellers account for 34% of total bus bookings.

Andhra Pradesh’s Power Demand to Double in a Decade; Experts Warn Grid Must Expand or Risk ‘Stranded Power’

Vijayawada: Andhra Pradesh is bracing for a tectonic shift in its energy landscape, with electricity demand projected to more than double over the next decade. According to the Resource Adequacy Plan (2024-25 to 2034-35) released by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA), the state’s peak power demand is estimated to surge from 14,610 MW in 2024-25 to a staggering 28,850 MW by 2034-35. Officials and industry experts say this projected growth, averaging nearly 7% annually, is expected to be driven by aggressive industrial expansion, port-led economic activity, increasing irrigation loads, and rapid urbanisation. The report also underscores a massive leap in annual energy requirements, which are set to rise from approximately 81,025 million units (MU) to 1,56,630 MU within the same period.

While the state is planning significant additions in generation capacity, particularly renewable energy, experts warn that transmission could emerge as the critical bottleneck. Power Industry Expert Saddaf Alam, who involved multiple renewable projects across south India, said, “We are now in a situation where generation is being built faster than the wires to carry it. If evacuation doesn’t keep up, the state will end up with stranded power—plants that produce electricity that simply can’t be delivered.” The study also highlights that peak demand is increasingly occurring during daytime hours, while non-solar hours remain vulnerable, making grid balancing and peak load management more complex. Strengthening both intrastate and interstate transmission networks

will be essential to manage fluctuating loads, reduce congestion and maintain grid stability. “Transmission is now the backbone of power reliability. Without timely investment in new lines and substations, we risk supply bottlenecks even if generation capacity is available,” further he added. “Delays in transmission projects can directly impact industries, agriculture and urban consumers.” Energy analysts emphasise that strengthening the state’s transmission backbone is not just a technical challenge but a policy imperative. “If Andhra Pradesh wants reliable, round-the-clock power—especially from renewables—the grid has to be the priority now, because building transmission lines requires years of coordinated planning, land approvals, and RoW clearance.

Khelo India Beach Games 2026: Karnataka swim to overall crown; Tamil Nadu 2nd and Manipur 3rd

Diu, January : Karnataka’s Ashmita Chandra and Dhruvad Ramakrishna clinched the women’s and men’s 5km Open Water Swimming gold medals to help the state top the medal standing in the Khelo India Beach Games 2026 at the Ghoghla Beach here on Saturday. The Khelo India Beach Games 2026, organised by the Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, was held under the technical supervision of the Sports Authority of India and national sports federations. The second edition of Khelo India Beach Games witnessed over 1100 participants compete in eight different sports – volleyball, soccer, sepak takraw, kabaddi, pencak silat, Open water swimming, mallakhamb and tug-of-war. The first six were medal sports and 32 gold medals were decided. Thirty states and Union territories took part. With the top three states – Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Manipur – claiming three gold and two silver medals



each, the overall standings of Khelo India Beach Games 2026 were decided by the number of bronze medals won by the respective teams. <https://beach.kheloindia.gov.in/medal-tally> Karnataka topped the standings with three gold, all from Open Water swimming, two silver and six bronze to win the overall crown in the second edition of KIBG. Tamil Nadu finished second with three

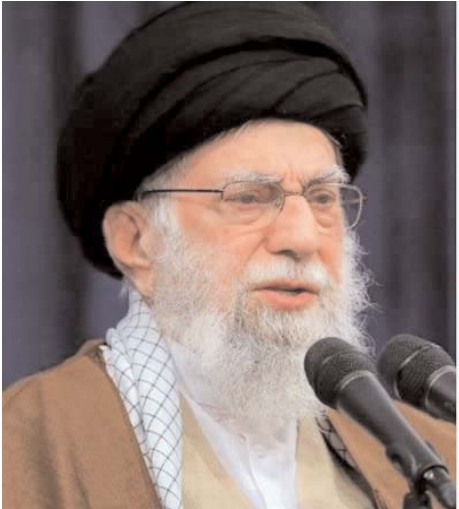
gold, two silver and three bronze while last edition winners, Manipur finished third with three gold, two silver and two bronze. Madhya Pradesh finished fourth, thanks to their exploits in Pencak Silat, which had the highest number of gold medals (16) on offer in KIBG 2026. All the medals of Madhya Pradesh came in the Indonesian Martial Art form competition, ending with a tally of three gold, one

silver and one bronze. Hosts Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, with two gold, two silver and four bronze, finished sixth behind Haryana who ended the Games with a tally of two gold, four silver and two bronze medals. Jammu and Kashmir, Odisha, Nagaland and Rajasthan also finished with two gold medals each to complete the top-10 positions in the medals tally. Before the

start of final day’s action at the Ghoghla Beach, Manipur would have fancied their chances of retaining the overall crown as both their men and women Beach Sepaktakraw teams had a chance of bagging the gold medal in Trio. While their women’s team achieved their target by beating West Bengal 2-0, Tamil Nadu leapfrogged them to the second spot by winning the men’s Trio final 2-1. Earlier, Ashmita Chandra completed a double by adding the women’s 5km Open Water Swimming gold to the women’s 10km title she had won on Friday. In the 5km race, Ashmita clocked a timing of 1:35:11s to clinch the gold medal ahead of Diksha Yadav (1:35:53s) of Maharashtra. Karnataka’s Aasra Sudhir won the bronze medal with a time of 1:39:14s. In the men’s 5km race, Karnataka’s Dhruvad Ramakrishna got the better of 10km race winner Anurag Singh of Uttar Pradesh with a gap of five seconds to win the state’s third gold medal.

Trump briefed on military and covert options for Iran, sources say

President Donald Trump has been briefed on a wide range of covert and military tools for use in Iran, two Department of Defense officials told the BBC's US partner, CBS News. Long-range missile strikes remain an option for a potential US intervention, but Pentagon officials have also presented cyber operations and psychological campaign responses, the sources said. Trump announced a 25% tariff on goods from countries with commercial ties to Iran on Monday, as rights groups say more than 600 protesters have been killed in three weeks of anti-government protests. Iran's foreign minister has said Tehran is open to talks with Washington, but remains "prepared for war". Trump's national security team is expected to hold a meeting at the White House on Tuesday to discuss options for Iran, the sources said, but it is unclear whether the



president himself will be in attendance. The US president had earlier said that his military was weighing "very strong options" to intervene if more protesters were killed. Trump said Iranian leaders had called him "to negotiate", but added that the US "may have to act before a meeting". Frustration over the collapse of the Iranian cur-



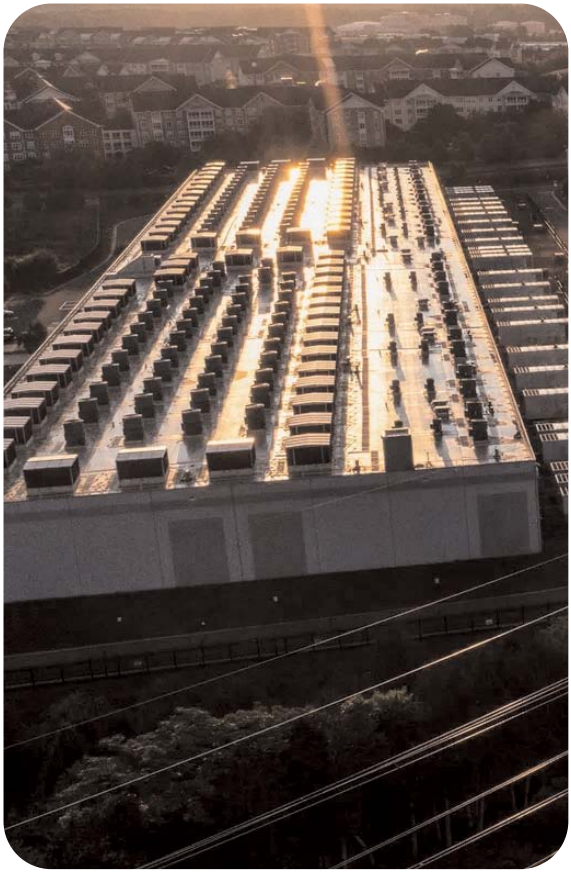
cy and economic mismanagement has expanded into a crisis of legitimacy for Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. Fars, Iran's state-linked news agency, claimed that Monday night was the "calm after the storm" following weeks of protests, with a "night free from unrest" in many cities including the capital Tehran. However,

the BBC has received footage from people who claim protests took place in a number of locations across the country. Due to an ongoing internet blackout, it is difficult to verify when the videos were filmed. On Monday, White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt said an Iranian official had also contacted Trump's special envoy Steve Witkoff,

adding that Tehran's public stance is "quite [different] from the messages the administration is receiving privately". However, she warned that the US president is "unafraid to use military options if and when he deems necessary". The two sources, who requested anonymity to discuss national security matters with CBS, said that any US military response in Iran will likely involve air power, but that planners are also considering options to disrupt Iranian command structures and communications. The US has urged its citizens in Iran to leave or have a plan to depart the country that does not require US government assistance. Khamenei accused the US of "deceit" and relying on "treacherous mercenaries", while praising state-organised pro-government rallies held in Iran on Monday. He said the "Iranian nation is a power-

ful one, is aware and knows its enemies and is present in every scene". State media said large crowds gathered in several cities following calls for pro-government demonstrations. BBC Persian has seen text messages inviting people inside the country to attend these demonstrations, while also warning them not to take part in anti-government protests. Separately on Monday, Trump said on his Truth Social platform he would impose a 25% tariff on goods from countries that are "doing business" with Tehran, without elaborating. "This order is final and conclusive," he added. Iran, already under severe US sanctions, faces a collapsing currency and inflation that has pushed food prices up by as much as 70%. Food makes up about one-third of Iran's imports, and further restrictions, caused by the tariffs, could worsen shortages and costs.

COLD WEATHER AND DATA CENTRES DRIVE UP US GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS



Le Pen hopeful appeal will allow her to run for French president



A high-stakes appeal by far-right French politician Marine Le Pen has begun in Paris against a ruling that banned her from running for public office for five years. Le Pen, 57, was found guilty last year of embezzling EU funds and, if the ban is upheld, she will not be able to stand in the 2027 presidential election. Ahead of her arrival in court, she said "hopeful" about the outcome. On Monday, the president of her National Rally party, Jordan Bardella, said barring her from the election would be "deeply worrying for democracy". Bardella said he would not stand for president but would instead seek the lower-ranking post of prime minister. The case at the Paris Court of Appeal will last until 12 February but a ruling is not expected before the summer, well ahead of next year's presidential vote. Last year's case centred on charges that Le Pen, along with more than 20 other senior party figures, hired

assistants who worked on her RN party affairs rather than for the European Parliament which paid them. The judge, Bénédicte de Perthuis, said Le Pen had been at the "heart of the system" that saw the embezzlement of 2.9m (£2.5m) worth of European funds. Le Pen was given a four-year prison sentence – with two years suspended and the remaining two to be served with an electronic tag rather than in custody. She was handed a 100,000 (£82,635) fine and banned from seeking public office "with immediate effect". More than 20 RN figures were also found guilty in last year's trial and the party was ordered to pay a 2m fine, with half the amount suspended. Eleven of Le Pen's colleagues are taking part in the Paris appeal, but 12 have decided not to challenge the original verdicts, including her sister Yann Le Pen who was given a one-year suspended prison term.

RUBBISH LANDSLIDE DEATH TOLL IN PHILIPPINES RISES TO 11



Prosecutors seek death penalty for ex-South Korean president Yoon

Prosecutors have asked for South Korea's former president Yoon Suk Yeol to be handed a death sentence if he is found guilty over his botched attempt to impose martial law. A court in Seoul heard closing arguments in Yoon's trial, in which he was accused of being the "ringleader of an insurrection". The charge stems from Yoon's attempt in December 2024 to impose military rule in South Korea - an act that lasted just hours but plunged the country into political turmoil. He was later impeached by parliament and detained to face trial. Yoon has denied the charges against him, arguing that martial law was a symbolic gesture to draw public attention to the



wrongdoings of the opposition party. Leading an insurrection - the most serious charge against Yoon - carries the death penalty or life imprisonment and under South Korean law prosecutors must ask the judge for one or the other for the crime of insurrection. South Korea has not executed anyone in nearly 30 years. In

1996, former military dictator Chun Doo-hwan was given the death penalty for seizing power in a military coup in 1979, though his sentence was later commuted to life imprisonment. The prosecutors in Yoon's case argue that although no one was killed in his martial law attempt, Yoon's intent was no less violent. They called

to the stand the military commander who testified that Yoon had ordered the arrest of lawmakers. They also presented as evidence the memo made by one of the planners of the martial law, a former military officer, containing the suggestion of "disposing" of hundreds of people including journalists, labour activists and lawmakers. Yoon's insurrection trial has been merged with those of two other senior figures in his administration, former defence minister Kim Yong-hyun and former police chief Cho Ji-ho. A verdict and sentencing for Yoon and the other defendants, if they are convicted, is expected at a later date - widely expected to be in February.

WORLD CENTRAL BANK CHIEFS 'STAND IN SOLIDARITY' WITH US FED CHAIR POWELL

Central banks across the world have joined together to declare that they stand in "full solidarity" with the Federal Reserve's chair after the US launched a criminal investigation into Jerome Powell. The heads of the Bank of England, the European Central Bank and the Bank of Canada are among 11 senior bankers who have signed a statement highlighting the importance of independence in setting interest rates. "Chair Powell has served with integrity, focused on his mandate and an unwavering commitment to the public interest," they said. The Department of Justice is conducting the probe. President Donald



Trump has said he did not "know anything" about the investigation. The probe is linked to testimony Powell gave to a Senate committee about renovations to Federal Reserve buildings. It follows a year of relentless attacks on the Fed chair by Trump. As well as criticising

Powell's decisions on interest rates, Trump has made personal comments, calling the Fed chair a "major loser" and a "numbskull". Commenting on the Fed chair, the global central bankers said in their joint statement: "To us, he is a respected colleague who is

held in the highest regard by all who have worked with him." Until the weekend, Powell had stayed largely silent in the face of Trump's attacks but on Sunday, he publicly pushed back and warned that the independence of the US central bank was at stake. "This is about whether the Fed will be able to continue to set interest rates based on evidence and economic conditions, or whether instead monetary policy will be directed by political pressure or intimidation," Powell said. In their joint statement on Tuesday, the senior financial institutions said: "The independence of central banks is a cornerstone of price.

'We were tricked': How one woman lures foreign men to fight on Russia's front line



Flames lick around the edges of Omar's passport. "It's burning well," an unseen woman says in Russian in the video. Omar, a 26-year-old Syrian construction worker, had been deployed for about nine months on the front line of Russia's war in Ukraine when the clip arrived on his phone. He knew the woman's voice. It was Polina Alexandrovna Azarnykh, who he says had helped him sign up to fight for Russia, promising lucrative work and Russian citizenship. But now she was angry. In a series of voice notes from Ukraine, Omar, speaking under a pseudonym for his safety, describes how he ended up trapped and terrified in the war zone. He says Azarnykh had promised that if he paid her \$3,000 (£2,227), she would ensure he stayed in a non-combat role. But, he says, he was sent into battle with just 10 days of training, so he refused to pay and she eventually responded by

burning his passport. He says he tried refusing to take part in a mission, but his commanders threatened to kill or jail him. "We were tricked... this woman is a con artist and a liar," says Omar. A BBC Eye investigation has followed how Azarnykh, a 40-year-old former teacher, uses a Telegram channel to lure young men, often from poor countries, into joining Russia's military. The former teacher's smiling video messages and upbeat posts offer "one-year contracts" for "military service". The BBC World Service has identified nearly 500 cases where she has provided documents, referred to as invitations, which allow the recipient to enter Russia to join the military. These have been for men - mainly from Syria, Egypt and Yemen - who appear to have sent her their passport details in order to enlist. But recruits and their relatives have told the BBC that she misled men into believing they would avoid combat, failed to make clear they could not leave after a year and threatened those who challenged her. When contacted by the, she rejected the allegations. Twelve families told us of young men they say were recruited by her who are now dead or missing.

'THEY JUST KEPT KILLING': EYEWITNESSES DESCRIBE DEADLY CRACKDOWN IN IRAN

"I saw it with my own eyes - they fired directly into lines of protesters, and people fell where they stood." Omid's voice was shaking as he spoke, fearful of being traced. Breaking the wall of silence between Iran and the rest of the world takes immense courage, given the risk of reprisals by the authorities. Omid, in his early 40s and whose name we have changed for his safety, has been protesting on the streets of a small city in southern Iran over the past few days against worsening economic hardship. He said security forces had opened fire at unarmed protesters in his city with Kalashnikov-style assault rifles. "We are

fighting a brutal regime with empty hands," he said. The BBC has received similar accounts of the crackdown by security forces following the widespread protests across the country last week. Since then, internet access has been cut by the authorities, making reporting from Iran more difficult than ever. BBC Persian is banned from reporting inside Iran by the government. One of the largest nationwide anti-government protests took place on Thursday, the twelfth night of demonstrations. Many people appear to have joined the protests on Thursday and Friday after calls from Reza Pahlavi, the exiled son of the last shah of



Iran who was overthrown in the 1979 Islamic revolution. The following day, Iran's Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei said: "The Islamic Republic will not back down." It appears that the worst bloodshed occurred after that warning as security forces and the Islamic

Revolutionary Guard Corps take their orders from him. Iranian authorities accused the US and Israel of fomenting trouble and condemned "terrorist actions", state media reported. A young woman from Tehran said last Thursday felt like "the day of judgement". "Even

remote neighbourhoods of Tehran were packed with protesters - places you wouldn't believe," she said. "But on Friday, security forces only killed and killed and killed. Seeing it with my own eyes made me so unwell that I completely lost morale. Friday was a bloody day." She said that, after Friday's killings, people were afraid to go out and that many were now chanting from alleys and inside their homes. Tehran was a battlefield, she said, with protesters and security forces taking positions and cover on the streets. But she added: "In war, both sides have weapons. Here, people only chant and get killed. It is a

one-sided war." Eyewitnesses in Fardis, a city just to the west of Tehran, said that on Friday, members of the paramilitary Basij force under the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) suddenly attacked protesters after hours without a police presence on the streets. The forces, who were in uniform and riding motorcycles, fired live ammunition directly at protesters, according to the witnesses. Unmarked cars were also driven into alleys, with occupants shooting at residents who were not involved in the protests, they said. "Two or three people were killed in every alley," one witness alleged.

Courtesy Khelo India Beach Games, local government efforts, how beach soccer developing in DNHDD

Diu, January: Beach soccer is steadily emerging as a significant avenue of opportunity and self-expression for young athletes in coastal and tribal-dominated Union Territories such as Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu. In recent years, focused initiatives by the Union Territory administration have played a key role in strengthening football development, with beach soccer gaining particular momentum. This progress has been possible by sustained investment in sports infrastructure and grassroots development. Khelo India Beach Games 2026 director-cum-joint secretary (Youth Affairs & Sports), Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, Shri Arun Gupta, has highlighted that world-class sports infrastructure is being developed across all three districts of the Union Territory to create a structured ecosystem and long-term opportunities for emerging talent, ensuring that disciplines like beach soccer receive consistent institutional support. The DNHDD beach football team coach Preet Bhatt further



ther added that interest in the discipline has grown considerably over the past three years. He noted that national platforms such as the Khelo

India Beach Games have enabled local players to test themselves at a higher level. "Such exposure has increased players' confidence and con-

tributed to the overall growth of sporting culture in the region," Bhatt said. Explaining the selection process, Bhatt said players are first shortlisted through district-level trials before being invited to specialised training camps. "A group of around 20 to 22 players undergoes focused training, after which 12 to 15 are selected for the final squad. Regular practice sessions and preparatory matches are also conducted ahead of major tournaments," Bhatt added. According to Bhatt, the region's coastal geography offers a natural advantage. Many players regularly train on sandy beaches, allowing them to adapt instinctively to the physical and technical demands of beach soccer. This familiarity with playing conditions has been instrumental in improving performances at national competitions. Beyond the Khelo India Beach Games, the Department of Youth Affairs and Sports conducts multiple tournaments across senior, youth and junior categories. Bhatt added that school-level competitions, including

Under-10, Under-12, School Games Federation of India and Subroto Cup events, serve as important platforms for early talent identification and long-term development. With a substantial tribal population in the Union Territory, sports initiatives have also played a vital role in drawing youth from tribal areas into organised competitive sport. Several players from tribal backgrounds are now part of representative teams and are delivering consistent performances. Bhatt, who currently coaches the men's team, believes that a predominantly local coaching setup has further strengthened development efforts. "Local coaches have a better understanding of players' social and geographical contexts, which helps make training more effective and outcome-driven," he said. Bhatt added that the outlook for beach soccer in Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu remains positive, with structured selection systems, institutional training support and regular competition now firmly in place.

"PEOPLE OUTSIDE THINK VIRAT KOHLI IS ARROGANT": AJINKYA RAHANE GIVES BLUNT VERDICT

Veteran Indian cricket team batter Ajinkya Rahane believes that Virat Kohli's attitude of learning and never giving up is sometimes mistaken for arrogance. Rahane offered insight into the star batter's pre-match routines and highlighted the amount of detail that goes into his preparations. Rahane spent several years in the dressing room with Virat, and both were part of the leadership group in the side. Over the years, Virat has been accused of being arrogant and overly aggressive on the field. However, Rahane believes it is his passion and intent for the sport. "However much we talk about Virat Kohli is never enough. But I have seen him very closely, how he goes about his batting. We talk about his passion and his intent each and every time. But I feel what stands out is his attitude - the attitude of learning, the attitude of never giving up. People outside



think Virat is arrogant, but he is not. He gets into the zone," Rahane said on Cricbuzz. Rahane also revealed that Virat used to stop talking to his teammates just ahead of the game and wear his AirPods to get into the zone. He added that it took the teammates some time to understand Virat's pre-game preparations. "I saw him two days before the game. He'll hardly talk to

people, even to his teammates. That's what actually gets him into the zone. He'll always wear his AirPods or try and listen to whatever he wants to and what he likes to get into the zone." "Initially, it took all the players a little bit of time - why is he doing that? But then I got to know that he's actually getting into the zone by not talking to the players or anyone," he added.

Pakistan-Born USA Cricketer Ali Khan Denied Indian Visa Ahead Of T20 World Cup, Ex-KKR Star Claims On Instagram

The USA is one of the 20 teams that will compete in the 2026 T20 World Cup, which starts in India on February 7. In fact, the USA's first match is against the hosts at the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai. Though the USA squad for the marquee event is yet to be officially announced, the team is expected to include several players from the Indian and Pakistani diaspora. Ali Khan is one such player. The right-arm pacer, who was part of the Kolkata Knight Riders squad in 2020, claimed his visa was rejected via an Instagram post. "Indian visa denied but KFC for the win," he wrote. Ali Khan was born and raised in Attock, Pakistan. At 19, his family moved to the United States. He has played



15 ODIs and 18 T20Is. Meanwhile, the T20 World Cup in Bangladesh is facing a major venue hurdle. Bangladesh has refused to travel to India, citing security threats. The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) raised its security concerns for the first time only after pacer Mustafizur Rahman's IPL contract was terminated. A

video conference between the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) and the International Cricket Council (ICC) was held on Tuesday afternoon to discuss the Bangladesh national cricket team's participation in the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026. Representing the BCB were President Aminul Islam,

Vice Presidents Shakawat Hossain and Faruque Ahmed, Director and Chairman of the Cricket Operations Committee Nazmul Abedeen, and Chief Executive Officer Nizam Uddin Chowdhury. During the discussions, the BCB reaffirmed its decision not to travel to India, citing security concerns. The Board also reiterated its request for the ICC to consider relocating Bangladesh's matches outside India. While the ICC noted that the tournament itinerary has already been announced and requested that the BCB reconsider its stance, the Board's position remains unchanged. Both parties agreed that discussions will continue to explore possible solutions.

Shreyas Iyer On Verge Of Surpassing Shikhar Dhawan, Virat Kohli To Achieve Mega First In Indian Cricket

Indian cricket team batter Shreyas Iyer is on the verge of surpassing Shikhar Dhawan and Virat Kohli to claim a sensational record ahead of the second ODI encounter against New Zealand on Wednesday. Iyer, who made his comeback to international cricket after a prolonged absence due to injury, has 2966 runs from 68 innings in ODI cricket at an average of 47.83. He needs just 34 runs to become the fastest Indian batter to reach the 3000-run milestone in the format. The record currently belongs to Dhawan who achieved the feat in 72 innings. Kohli completed 3000 ODI runs in 75 innings. Overall, if Iyer can achieve the feat on Wednesday, he will become the fourth-fastest player in the world along with Viv Richards. If Iyer achieves the feat on Wednesday, he will be the first Indian cricketer to reach 3000 ODI runs in under 70 innings. The world record belongs to South Africa legend Hashim Amla who scored 3000 runs in 57 innings. Earlier, Iyer lavished praise on Virat Kohli, saying the batting great has

been "walking the talk" for years, the latest being his masterclass in a successful run chase against New Zealand in the ODI series opener. Kohli struck a fluent 93 off 91 balls as India chased down a target of 301 to register a four-wicket win and take a 1-0 lead in the three-match rubber here on Sunday. During the innings, Kohli also became the fastest player to reach 28,000 international runs across formats and the second-highest run-scorer in international cricket, behind Sachin Tendulkar. "Whatever we talk about his innings, it would be less. We have been seeing it for so many years now he's been doing it consistently. The way he rotates the strike and he takes on the bowlers, he basically walks the talk," Iyer said in a video posted by BCCI. Iyer, who returned to international action after a long injury layoff following a spleen laceration with internal bleeding sustained during the third ODI against Australia in Sydney in October last year, said he was delighted to begin the series on a winning note.



RAIN DELAYS RADUCANU IN HOBART FIRST ROUND



Britain's Emma Raducanu will have to return to the court on Wednesday after her first-round match against Camila Osorio at the Hobart International was suspended because of rain. Raducanu, bidding for her first win of the 2026 season, led the Colombian 6-3 2-4 when play was suspended. It was a back-and-forth match, with both players battling the blustery conditions and Osorio struggling with a persistent cough. The first three games of the first set went against serve before Raducanu rallied, taking the opener in 45 minutes against her wildcard opponent. World number 82 Osorio found another gear in the second set, hitting four winners in the opening game and using her sliced backhand drop shots to break the Raducanu serve. After a 30-minute break, the players returned to court and managed just two points before the heavy rain returned. Raducanu, who had her off-season disrupted by a foot injury, is playing in her final tourna-

ment before the Australian Open begins on Sunday. World number 29 Raducanu showed some impressive ball-striking behind her forehead but she struggled against Osorio's drop shots. The Briton opted not to chase down three shorter balls played by Colombian in the first set and lost some of her intensity after the first rain delay. Raducanu's change of intent - opting to work Osorio around the court instead of overpowering her in the rallies - allowed the Colombian to claim three successive breaks of serve in the second set. The 23-year-old now faces a short turnaround before finishing off her first-round match tomorrow. Poland's Magdalena Frech, who was a comfortable 6-4 6-0 winner over France's Elsa Jacquemot, awaits either Raducanu or Osorio in the quarter-finals. Elsewhere, Britain's Harriet Dart progressed to the second qualifying round in Melbourne as she bids for a place in the Australian Open main draw.

No Apology, Bangladesh Official Breaks Silence On Calling Tamim 'Indian Agent' Amid T20 World Cup Venue Row

Controversy erupted within the Bangladesh cricket community when M. Najmul Islam, a prominent member of the BCB Board of Directors, called former Bangladesh cricket team captain Tamim Iqbal an "Indian agent" in a social media post. The comment came amid rising political tensions between the two countries, resulting in the BCB requesting the International Cricket Council (ICC) to shift their T20 World Cup 2026 matches from India to Sri Lanka. Tamim questioned the long-term financial implications of such a request but was heavily criticised by the BCB official. While he faced significant backlash for his comments, M. Najmul Islam remained steadfast in his stance and doubled down on his remarks. "It was a private



post. I do not think it went viral. It was the screenshot of my post that was made viral by people, and I do not know what people ended up gaining from it," he told Sports24. "I just expressed my personal views. I think in a situation like this, we are thinking about money and not the country. I do not have anything against Tamim. I would have said this about

anyone else. Tamim's comments were in line with India's propaganda, and I did not like it," he concluded. Earlier, he took to social media to slam Tamim for his views and even wrote a controversial message: "Eibar aaro ekjon porikkhito Bharatiya dalaal er aaty-oprokash Banglar jonogon duchokh bhore dekhlo (This time, Bangladesh has wit-

nessed the self-expression of a proven Indian agent)," he posted. The post received immediate backlash from former and current cricketers, including Taskin Ahmed, Mominul Haque, and Taijul Islam. Even the Cricketers' Welfare Association of Bangladesh (CWAB) expressed shock at Najmul's comments. "A comment made by BCB director M. Najmul Islam regarding former national captain Tamim Iqbal has come to the attention of the Cricketers' Welfare Association of Bangladesh. We are stunned, shocked, and outraged by it. "Such a remark by a board official about the most successful opener in Bangladesh's history, who represented the country for 16 years, is utterly condemnable.

Gautam Gambhir Brutally Slammed As Ayush Badoni's ODI Call-Up Leaves Internet Fuming

Ayush Badoni's inclusion in the Indian cricket team squad for the ODI series against New Zealand has not gone down well with a section of fans on social media. Badoni was handed his maiden ODI call-up as a replacement for Washington Sundar, who was ruled out due to injury. However, social media users were not happy with the choice, and some even accused head coach Gautam Gambhir of favouritism. Users were quick to cite Badoni's underwhelming numbers in List A cricket so far, as he has scored 693 runs in 22 innings and taken 22 wickets. He has had a disappointing run in the ongoing Vijay Hazare Trophy, managing just 16 runs from three innings at an average of 8.



However, he did produce notable numbers in the Indian Premier League (IPL), scoring 329 runs from 11 innings during the 2025 season. Gambhir worked with Badoni during his time with Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) in the IPL, and they also hail from the same domestic side in the Ranji



Trophy. Some social media users even namedropped Harshit Rana to claim that Gambhir has been biased towards certain players during selections. Badoni's coach, Sarandeep Singh, said that the all-rounder had received a much-awaited India call-up for the ongoing ODI series against

New Zealand, and revealed that the 26-year-old is ready to play international cricket 'right away' given his top form across all departments. Badoni received his maiden ODI call-up on Monday, named as a replacement for Washington Sundar after the latter was ruled out of the remainder of the ongoing three-game series against the BlackCaps upon sustaining a strain to his left lower rib area. Badoni had been practising at the BCCI Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Bengaluru on Monday morning for Delhi's upcoming Vijay Hazare Trophy match when he learned about the development and left his state team to join the national squad in Rajkot ahead of the second ODI on Wednesday.

PRESCOD 'NOT TAKING DRUGS' FOR ENHANCED GAMES



Former Great Britain sprinter Reece Prescod says he will not take performance-enhancing drugs despite signing up for the controversial Enhanced Games. The competition, scheduled to take place in Las Vegas in May, will allow athletes to take substances, under medical supervision, that are banned in mainstream sport. The 29-year-old, who retired last year, is the fourth-fastest British man over 100m, with a personal best of 9.93 seconds. Speaking to BBC Radio 4's World at One programme, Prescod replied "no" when questioned on whether he had taken any substances so far. Asked "But will you?" he again replied: "No." "Obviously, medical-wise it's always confidential, but I think for me right now the biggest priority is getting back into that sub-10 shape," he added. The Enhanced Games has been criticised for endangering athletes' health and undermining fair play, with the World Anti-Doping Agency (Wada) describing it as a "dangerous and irresponsible project". Only substances approved by the United States' Food

and Drug Administration, (FDA) can be taken. That is a different list to the one the Wada allows for elite athletes. UK Athletics' chief executive Jack Buckner said he was "appalled" when it was revealed Prescod had signed up earlier in January. Prescod said participants - who also include former British Olympic swimmer Ben Proud - had a "personal choice" over what measures they adopt. Speaking in September, Proud said organisers "aren't asking me to take anything" and added he was unsure if he would use any substances. "People aren't necessarily aware that's actually a choice you have. Some athletes will be enhanced, some athletes will not be enhanced," said Prescod. "I've started my winter preparation like I normally would for an athletics season." "Exciting prospect When asked if he would be putting himself at a disadvantage, Prescod said he had "competed [for] 12 or 15 years completely clean with never any sort of violation" and had run below 10 seconds "on quite a few occasions".

“Anaganaga Oka Raju will feel like the Sankranthi festival itself” – Star Entertainer Naveen Polishetty

“Anaganaga Oka Raju is a complete festival film packed with every element Telugu audiences love” – Producer Suryadevara Naga Vamsi Releasing this Sankranthi amid high expectations, Anaganaga Oka Raju is a true festive entertainer. The film stars star entertainer Naveen Polishetty, who has carved a special place in the hearts of audiences with three consecutive blockbusters. It is produced by Suryadevara Naga Vamsi and Sai Soujanya under the banners of Sithara Entertainments and Fortune Four Cinemas, and presented by Srikara Studios. The film is directed by debutant Mari, with Meenakshi Chaudhary as the female lead and music composed by Mickey J. Meyer. From the very beginning, the film’s promotional content stood out for its freshness and caught audience attention. Set to deliver a complete entertainment feast this Sankranthi, Anaganaga Oka Raju is releasing in theatres on January 14, 2026. The recently released trailer doubled expectations, and as the film gears up for its theatrical release, the team held a pre-release press meet. Speaking at the press meet, Naveen Polishetty said, “First of all, Sankranthi greetings to everyone. For us Telugu people, Sankranthi is a very special festival. No matter how many problems we



have, we forget them all, meet our loved ones, and spend time happily together. We put stress aside, enjoy festive food, laugh with everyone, and have a great time. That same energy is what you’ll see in Anaganaga Oka Raju. The film is designed to take away your stress and make you laugh freely. The amazing response you gave to the trailer doubled our confidence in the film. The jokes from the trailer went viral on social media. We received feedback from all sections saying it feels like a perfect festival film, a complete family entertainer, and that it’s very, very good. Bookings are already getting an excellent response. Especially overseas, the pre-sales alone have crossed the opening numbers of my previous films. Matching the interest you’re showing, the

film will definitely entertain you to the fullest.” Heroine Meenakshi Chaudhary said, “All of us have worked extremely hard and are coming before you with a good film. We’re eagerly waiting for your response. You will definitely enjoy the film and keep laughing throughout. Please watch it with your family and enjoy. Laugh freely and celebrate this Sankranthi happily.” Director Maari said, “The film has turned out really well. It’s a perfect festival entertainer. Sankranthi is a special festival for Telugu people. It’s an emotion for us. We’re very happy to release our film as a Sankranthi gift. This is a clean entertainer you can watch with your family and laugh freely. On January 14, go to the theatre with your family, forget all your worries, and

laugh wholeheartedly for two and a half hours. Celebrate this festival with Raju.” Producer Suryadevara Naga Vamsi said, “The film is based on a beautiful story set against the Godavari backdrop. In Naveen’s style, it’s filled with a lot of fun. There’s also a political satire episode set in a rural backdrop. While the film will make you laugh a lot, it also carries a strong emotional high towards the end. Comedy, emotion, action, songs – this is a festival film made with all the elements.” Child actor Revanth said, “Thanks to Sithara Entertainments and Naveen garu for giving me such a great opportunity.

Icon Star Allu Arjun Takes Pushpa Madness to Japan: Pushpa 2 The Rule releasing in Japan on January 16th as Pushpa Kunrin



Icon Star Allu Arjun’s biggest blockbuster and Indian industry hit, Pushpa 2: The Rule, is now ready to rule Japan. The massively successful film created waves at the Indian box office and went on to become a cultural sensation. The film also features a Japanese reference, with Pushpa’s entry fight sequence set in Japan, where Allu Arjun fluently delivers Japanese dialogues. Ahead of the grand Japanese release on January 16, the superstar reached Tokyo to promote his action entertainer, accompanied by his family. Allu Arjun took to his official Instagram handle and greeted netizens with a lovely picture from Tokyo. The post, featuring the beautiful city skyline, was captioned simply with “Tokyo.” Distributors Geek Pictures

and Shochiku have partnered with Mythri Movie Makers and Sukumar Writings to bring the Pushpa madness to Japanese screens under the title Pushpa Kunrin. As Japanese audiences have shown great love for Indian cinema’s biggest blockbusters, the makers are confident about the film’s success in Japan. The record-shattering blockbuster, starring Icon Star Allu Arjun in the lead, will have Premieres in Japanese theatres on January 15, 2026, under the title Pushpa Kunrin. Directed by Sukumar, the film features music composed by Devi Sri Prasad. Fahadh Faasil plays a police officer, while Rashmika Mandanna stars as the female lead. The film is produced by Naveen Yerneni and Y. Ravi Shankar.

Amardeep Chowdary’s Sumathi Shatakam releases first melody ‘Ekkade Ekkade’



Vision Movie Makers’ upcoming romantic entertainer Sumathi Shatakam has unveiled its first melody song titled ‘Ekkade Ekkade’, adding fresh musical buzz ahead of the film’s theatrical release on February 6. Produced by Sai Sudhakar Kommalapati and written and directed by M.M. Naidu, the film stars Amardeep Chowdary and Shaili Chowdary in the lead roles. The song, penned by Tirupati Javana and beautifully rendered by Dhanunjay Seepana, captures the soul of a heartfelt love story. Set to an evocative score by Subhash Anand, ‘Ekkade Ekkade’ stands out as a soothing melody with meaningful lyrics and rich emotional depth. The track has been released through Aditya Music on YouTube, where it is already drawing attention from music

lovers. With its gentle tune and romantic vibe, the song offers a glimpse into the film’s tender narrative and is expected to become a chartbuster, giving Sumathi Shatakam a strong musical push before its release. Apart from the lead pair, the film features Tasty Teja, Mahesh Vitta, JDV Prasad, Akella Gopi Krishna, Kiran Vijay, Mirchi Kiran, Nellore Neeraj, and Malakpet Shailaja in key roles. The technical crew includes S. Halesh as the cinematographer and Naheed Mohammed as the editor, ensuring high production values. Sumathi Shatakam has already generated positive buzz with its first look and teaser, both of which received encouraging responses from audiences. With the release of ‘Ekkade Ekkade’, the makers have further heightened expectations for this romantic musical drama.

Hania Aamir breaks silence on her wedding, divorce in 2026 news

Islamabad: Ever since 2026 began, entertainment circles have been buzzing with rumours about Pakistani actress Hania Aamir’s wedding. Several Pakistani entertainment pages and show hosts have claimed that the actress is set to tie the knot with her rumoured beau, singer Asim Azhar, later this year. Amid these ongoing speculations, Hania found herself in the spotlight again after comments made by Pakistani astrologers about her personal life went viral. Recently, on Nadia Khan’s morning show Rise and Shine, astrologer Samia Khan predicted that Hania Aamir could face divorce if she chooses to get married in 2026. The astrologer advised the actress to focus on her career and avoid marriage for now, citing astro-

logical reasons. Hania Aamir’s reaction Hania Aamir has now reacted to the prediction. The actress shared a clip of Samia Khan’s statement on her Instagram and responded with humour, writing, “Ajeeb, pehle shadi to honay do,” leaving fans amused with her candid response. Wedding rumours with Asim Azhar The wedding

rumours initially gained traction after a discussion on Galaxy Lollywood’s show hosted by Momin Ali Munshi.



NORA FATEHI AND ACHRAF HAKIMI’S AGE GAP BECOMES HOT TOPIC

Mumbai: The internet is abuzz with speculation about Bollywood actress and dancer Nora Fatehi’s personal life, with reports linking her to Moroccan football star and national team captain Achraf Hakimi. The rumours gained momentum after Nora was spotted cheering for the Morocco team during a recent match, prompting widespread chatter across social media platforms. As the rumours gained traction, one topic that has particularly caught the attention of fans and media circles is the duo’s age gap.

● **Nora Fatehi, Achraf Hakimi’s age gap**
Achraf Hakimi, born on November 4, 1998, is 27 years old, while Nora Fatehi, born on February 6, 1992, is 33, making the actress 6 years older than the footballer.



● **How the rumours started**
The buzz began after Nora’s recent trip to Morocco, where she was spotted attending a match during the Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON). Soon after, Nora shared celebratory Instagram stories, revealing

that the team she was supporting, Morocco, had emerged victorious. What appeared to be a simple show of support quickly turned into gossip fodder. Fans speculated that her presence at the match might be more personal than professional. The rumours

intensified when Reddit users noticed that Achraf Hakimi had liked one of Nora’s Instagram posts from the game, sparking theories of a possible connection. Neither Nora nor Achraf has publicly commented on the dating rumours so far.

