



18-01-2026
Total pilgrims: 84,058
Tonsures: 22,512
Hundi Kanakalu: 4.21 CR
Waiting Compartments: 31

Approx. Darsan Time for Sarvadharshanam
(with out SSD Tokens): 12 H



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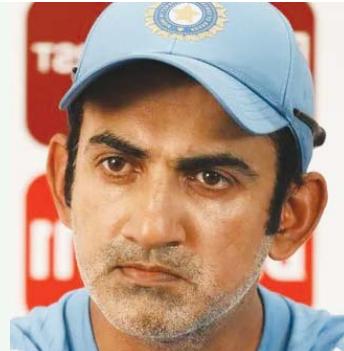
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Delhi HC dismisses Sengar's
plea to suspend sentence in
death case of survivor's father



WORLD | NEWS

Japan PM Takaichi calls
snap election three
months after taking office



SPORTS | NEWS

Gautam Gambhir
faces social media flak
as New Zealand stun
India at home

IN BRIEFS

India imposes 30 per
cent import duty on
yellow peas imported
from the US

New Delhi (TSIT) Seen as a reciprocal measure, India has imposed a 30 per cent import duty on yellow peas imported from the US, causing concern among some US lawmakers. The 30 per cent import duty comes after the US imposed a 50 per cent tariff against India and threatened to raise it to 500 per cent for buying Russian oil. The increase in import duty has drawn concern from US senators from major pulse-producing states like North Dakota and Montana. They said it places American farmers at a significant competitive disadvantage and urged the Trump administration to negotiate its removal.

Special Forces
soldier killed in
fierce gunfight in
J&K's Kishtwar

Jammu (TSIT): A soldier of the Special Forces was killed in a fierce gun battle in Kishtwar district of Jammu and Kashmir, the Army here said on Monday. The White Knight Corps said on X "The GOC, White Knight Corps, and all ranks pay solemn tribute to Havildar Gajendra Singh of the Special Forces, who made the supreme sacrifice while gallantly executing a Counter Terrorism operation in the Singpura area during the ongoing Operation TRASHI-II on the night of Jan 19, 2026." "We honour his indomitable courage, valour and selfless devotion to duty and stand firmly with the bereaved family in this hour of

DCM Bhatti Vikramarka Launches Solar Model Village Programme in Telangana



Hyderabad (TSIT): Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka on Monday inaugurated the Solar Model Village programme at Ravinuthala village in Bonakal Mandal, calling it a revolutionary initiative not only for India but globally. The programme aims to transform every household and agricultural pump set into a power generation unit.

Addressing a public meeting, Bhatti Vikramarka explained that the State Government will bear the full cost of installing solar power plants. Families and farmers can use the electricity for personal consumption and sell surplus power to the State electricity department, creating an additional income source. Under the pilot project, 81 villages across Telangana are covered,

with Kodangal and Bonakal mandals being comprehensively included. In Bonakal Mandal alone, Rs.306 crore is allocated for 22 villages, while Ravinuthala village receives Rs.24 crore.

The Deputy Chief Minister highlighted that households could save up to Rs.14,000 annually on electricity bills. Selling 1,086 surplus solar units per year at Rs.2.57 per unit can generate an extra Rs.4,000-5,000 per family.

He credited Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and the Cabinet for the scheme's design and stressed women's empowerment, noting that women can use solar income for education and healthcare.

Bhatti Vikramarka also encouraged farmers to adopt solar power on agricultural pump sets, explaining that solar energy

■ Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka inaugurated the Solar Model Village programme in Ravinuthala, aiming to transform every household and agricultural pump into a power generation unit, with the State Government bearing full installation costs.

■ The scheme enables families to save on electricity bills and earn extra income by selling surplus power, while promoting women's empowerment, sustainable farming, and the use of solar energy in schools, offices, and agricultural fields across Telangana.

generation continues throughout the year, providing income even during non-cultivation periods. Solar sheds in fields can serve multiple purposes, including power generation, cattle shelter, storage, and resting spaces.

The government is also considering installing solar plants on all schools and government offices. Bhatti Vikramarka urged farmers to avoid burning crop residue, warning of the severe health and environmental hazards. Prior to the public meeting, he inspected a solar plant in Ravinuthala village alongside officials from NPDCL, REDCO, and the district administration. Senior officials including NPDCL CMD Varun Reddy, REDCO MD Aneela, and District Collector Anudeep Durishetty attended the event.

Naidu Seeks Swiss Investments in Andhra Pradesh at WEF Meet

At WEF Zurich, Chandrababu Naidu seeks Swiss investments in pharma, AI and skill development sectors

Zurich (TSIT) Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu appealed to the Indian Ambassador to Switzerland Mridul Kumar to extend cooperation for investments of Swiss companies in Andhra Pradesh.

The Chief Minister arrived in Zurich on Monday to participate in the World Economic Forum meetings. An official release here on Monday said that Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu met the Indian ambassador for Switzerland Mridul Kumar, after reaching Zurich on day one of his four-day visit to participate in World Economic Forum sessions. Ministers Nara Lokesh and TG Venkatesh were also present.

The Chief Minister discussed with the Indian ambassador the possibilities of Swiss investments in Andhra Pradesh in various sectors. When the Indian ambassador stated that Switzerland is ahead in Pharma, medical equipment, heavy machinery, hardware, electronics, rail components, textiles and research wings, the Chief Minister explained to him the opportunities in Andhra Pradesh for investments in Pharma and Medical equipment production.

The Chief Minister explained that Andhra Pradesh brought forward 25 new policies for industrial development, adding that the Andhra Pradesh government has been giving priority to Artificial Intelligence and



Quantum Technologies. He said special attention has been paid for skill development among youth keeping in view the global demand for skilled workforce. Indian Ambassador Mridul Kumar told the Chief Minister that Andhra Pradesh has attracted investments to the tune of Rs Two lakh crore with the initiative of Chandrababu Naidu during last year's Davos WEF session.

"A small country in Europe Liechtenstein, achieved rapid growth using Artificial Intelligence technology and a delegation from that country also participated in the WEF session,"

he noted. The Chief Minister said that he is going to discuss with the delegation of Liechtenstein during the session.

Minister for HR and Skill Development Nara Lokesh explained to Indian ambassador Mridul Kumar over the initiative for skill development programme in Andhra Pradesh. He sought the cooperation of the Indian ambassador for investments of Swiss companies in Andhra Pradesh. He asserted that Andhra Pradesh is ready with manpower and the drone sector also improved in a big way with a capacity of 100 KG carrying capacity.

Modi Hosts UAE President, USD 200 Billion Trade Target Set, LNG Deal Signed



The discussions focused on expanding bilateral trade, strategic defence collaboration, and partnerships in advanced nuclear technology, including large reactors, small modular

reactors, and nuclear plant operations.

Under the energy pact, the UAE will supply 0.5 million metric tonnes of LNG annually to India, making it a key energy partner.

Both countries also agreed to collaborate on AI initiatives, including establishing a supercomputing cluster and expanding data centre capacities in India. A letter of intent was signed for a strategic defence partnership, while another was signed for joint development of space infrastructure, covering satellite fabrication, launch complexes, joint missions, and training facilities.

Stalin lays foundation for Mamallan reservoir in Chennai



Chennai (TSIT) In an initiative aimed at augmenting the drinking water source for Chennai city, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Monday laid the foundation stone for a new reservoir, named "Mamallan," near Thirupurur to be built at a cost of Rs 342.60 crore in the Kovalam basin.

Mr. Stalin, pointing out the historical significance in naming it as "Mamallan," said since the new water resource was situated at Mamallapuram ruled by Pallava King Narasimhavarman-I (known as Mamallan-great wrestler) from 630 to 668, the new reservoir was christened as Mamallan as the UNESCO Heritage site of Mamallapuram (Mahabalipuram) was founded by him named in his honour.

This will be the Chennai's sixth reservoir adding to drinking water sources of Poondi, Chembarabakkam, Puzhal, Sholavaram and Veernam reservoirs. Mamallan will be the State's first freshwater reservoir along the coast at Vada Nemmeli, on East Coast Road in the Kovai basin covering the land parcel between

Thiruvidanthai and Kokilamedu. The project, spread over 5,161.27 acres with a storage capacity of 1.65 thousand million cubic feet, would be implemented by the Water Resources Department (WRD) and the reservoir would have an annual storage capacity of 2.25 tmcft when filled twice and a potential to supply 170 million litres a day (mld) to Chennai.

There is also a proposal to restore the 15-km long Buckingham canal between Thiruvidanthai and Mamallapuram across 311 acres, as part of the project, and this would improve the livelihood of fishermen dependent on brackish water fishing. Fishing licences would also be issued to fishermen in neighbouring localities, Mr. Stalin said in his address.

Denying as baseless and defamatory the allegations that the DMK government had failed to construct water storage facilities, Mr. Stalin listed out the names of 43 dams built between 1967 and 2011, besides reeling out the various initiatives taken by the State government to strengthen water resources management.

BRS demands CBI probe into Naini coal block tenders

Hyderabad (TSIT): Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) leader and former minister T. Harish Rao has called for a CBI investigation into the Naini coal block tenders, following allegations of corruption and favoritism.

The demand comes a day after Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka directed Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) to cancel the tenders and re-auction the Naini coal blocks in Odisha. Bhatti Vikramarka had refuted claims that the 'site visit' condition in the tender was meant to favour certain companies.

Speaking at a press conference on Monday, Harish Rao

urged Union Minister for Coal and Mines G. Kishan Reddy to order a CBI probe.

He alleged that the Revanth Reddy government introduced the 'site visit certificate' policy, with the first beneficiary being the Chief Minister's brother-in-law, Sujan Reddy, whose firm, Shodha Constructions, secured the first tender under this rule. Rao claimed subsequent tenders were allegedly awarded at inflated rates of plus 7-10%, compared to previous discounts of 10-20%. He further alleged that contractors were intimidated, as they could not submit online bids and had to visit the site for certificates, allowing tenders to be selectively awarded to favoured companies.

Siddaramaiah said the process needs to be implemented

Siddaramaiah responds to three crore unmapped voters in Karnataka



cautiously. He said Booth Level Officers (BLOs) have been instructed to work carefully and ensure that no voter is subjected to injustice during the revision process.

On allegations of inappropriate behaviour towards women involving DGP Ramachandra Rao, the Chief Minister said an inquiry would be conducted into the matter and disciplin-

ary action would be taken. "No senior officer is above the law," he said.

Responding to allegations by MLA Janardhan Reddy that the Chief Minister and ministers are looting the state, Siddaramaiah said Reddy himself had looted the state's wealth and gone to jail, and the case is still pending before the Supreme Court. "He (Reddy) has no moral authority to make such allegations," he said, adding that opposition parties are indulging in false accusations and misleading the people.

He said the Legislative Assembly session would begin on January 22 and advised the Opposition to raise issues and engage in discussions during the session.

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Open e-Tender Notice No. DRM/
Works/SC/01-12/2026/OT
Dt: 13.01.2026

For and on behalf of President of India, the undersigned invites e-tender for the following works up to 14.00 hours on 13.01.2026

1. e-Tender No.: 01_CO_SC_26_OT
Name of the work: Upgradation of Existing facilities at ELS/LGD. Approx. Tender Value in : (₹) 3,09,69,156/- EMD: (₹) 3,04,900/- Completion period in Months : 09 Maintenance period in Months : 36

2. e-Tender No.: 02_CR_SC_26_OT
Name of the work: WD-SC-KZJ Section: Rag picking: BN-SC-HSJ-HYB, HYB-BMT-BTRN stations for two years under DEN/Central/SC section. Approx. Tender Value in : (₹) 1,02,33,535/- EMD: (₹) 2,01,200/- Completion period in Months : 24 Maintenance period in Months : NIL

3. e-Tender No.: 03_CR_SC_26_OT
Name of the work: WD-SC-KZJ section: Hyderabad-Slewing of point No. 41, Road No. 5 and 6 CSR enhancement at Hyderabad. Approx. Tender Value in : (₹) 57,19,110/- EMD: (₹) 1,14,400/- Completion period in Months : 06 Maintenance period in Months : 06

4. e-Tender No.: 04_CR_SC_26_OT
Name of the work: SC-KZJ Section: Emergency supply of monsoon reserves at KZJ station yard under ADEN/N/KZJ section under DEN/Central/SC Section. Approx. Tender Value in : (₹) 56,68,932/- EMD: (₹) 1,13,400/- Completion period in Months : 12 Maintenance period in Months : NIL

5. e-Tender No.: 05_CR_SC_26_OT
Name of the work: SW 1) SC-KZJ section: Proposed safety related yard improvements and up gradation works at various yards under SSE/P/Way/Aler section. Approx. Tender Value in : (₹) 1,27,88,484/- EMD: (₹) 2,14,000/- Completion period in Months : 12 Maintenance period in Months : 45 (Days)

6. e-Tender No.: 06_CR_SC_26_OT
Name of the work: SNF-MLY Section: Proposed replacement of steel girders with PSC slabs for Br. No. 11 Exg. 1x12.00m GB at Km. 4/9-5/1, Br. No. 31 Exg. 1x12.20m GB at Km. 11/12-13 and Br. No. 35 Exg. 1x12.20m GB at Km. 12/7-8 between SNF-AMQ stations. Approx. Tender Value in : (₹) 2,77,69,813/- EMD: (₹) 2,89,000/- Completion period in Months : 09 Maintenance period in Months : 48

7. e-Tender No.: 07_N_SC_26_OT
Name of the work: Additional works at ABSS stations (PDPL, RDM & MCI) for completion of Phase-I under DR/EN/North/SC jurisdiction. Approx. Tender Value in : (₹) 6,34,11,721/- EMD: (₹) 4,67,100/- Completion period in Months : 09 Maintenance period in Months : 36

8. e-Tender No.: 08_S_SC_26_OT
Name of the work: KZJ-KI & DKJ-MUGR Section: SSE/P/Way/DKJ, KRA & BDCR- Proposed safety related yard improvements and up gradation works at various yards under ADEN/DKJ Sub division. Approx. Tender Value in : (₹) 5,39,24,286/- EMD: (₹) 4,19,700/- Completion period in Months : 12 Maintenance period in Months : 45 (Days)

9. e-Tender No.: 09_S_SC_26_OT
Name of the work: KZJ-KI Section: SSE/P/Way/WL & MABD - Proposed safety related yard improvement & up gradation works at various yards under ADEN/S/KZJ Sub division. Approx. Tender Value in : (₹) 2,80,66,979/- EMD: (₹) 2,90,400/- Completion period in Months : 12 Maintenance period in Months : 45 (Days)

10. e-Tender No.: 10_S_SC_26_OT
Name of the work: KZJ-KI & MTM-JNPD Section: SSE/P/Way/MDR, KI & MTM - Proposed safety related yard improvement & up gradation works at various yards under ADEN/MDR Sub division. Approx. Tender Value in : (₹) 4,19,64,603/- EMD: (₹) 3,59,900/- Completion period in Months : 12 Maintenance period in Months : 45 (Days)

11. e-Tender No.: 11_S_SC_26_OT
Name of the work: DKJ-MUGR Section: BDCR - Proposed improvements to circulating area & PF-I surface, station building Facade, construction of New block for Dormitory & Retiring, CCI & HI Rooms, TTE Rest Rooms at Bhadrachalam Road station under Amrit Station Phase-I (Additional work). Approx. Tender Value in : (₹) 7,61,65,985/- EMD: (₹) 5,30,900/- Completion period in Months : 12 Maintenance period in Months : 36

12. e-Tender No.: 12_S_SC_26_OT
Name of the work: SW 1) KZJ-KI Section - TSR (P) including recoulement and increasing of ballast cushion to 35 cm. and deep screening of ballast for a total length of 31.133 Kms as per Annexure. SW 2) KZJ-KI, DKJ-MUGR & MTM-JNPD Sections - CTR (P)-15.19 Tkm on Passenger running loop lines. SW 3) KZJ-KI Section - CTR (P) including recoulement and increasing of ballast cushion to 35 cm and deep screening of ballast for a total length of 1,000 Kms as per Annexure. SW 4) KZJ-KI Section- Provision of PORS siding lines at YL station. SW 5) KZJ-KI section - Bridge No. 517 DN existing 1x0.60m RCC slab at Km 396/1-3 between Kazipet-Nekoda stations proposed to be extended as RCC Box of size 1x1.20x1.60m (Cast-in-situ). SW 6) KZJ-Ki Section-Bridge No. 518 DN existing 2x3.89m +1x3.70m RCC slab at Km 396/14-1 between Kazipet-Nekoda stations proposed to

I Entered Politics to Ensure Telangana's Resources Reach the People Bhatti Vikramarka

ఎప్పండితుడు భట్టి విక్రమర్కా



Hyderabad: Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka asserted that he did not enter politics to enjoy power, position, or expand business interests, but with a clear mission to protect Telangana's resources and ensure they reach the people.

Speaking to the media at Praja Bhavan, Bhatti Vikramarka said his political life has been guided by transparency, self-respect, and public service. "I entered politics

with a specific purpose — to safeguard the state's

assets from exploiters and looters and to ensure that

public resources are used for the welfare of the people," he said. The Deputy Chief Minister strongly criticised Andhra Jyothi Managing Director Radhakrishna, accusing him of publishing a fabricated report targeting him over Singareni coal company tenders. He alleged that the story was deliberately cooked up to serve vested interests.

Clarifying the issue, Bhatti Vikramarka said tender conditions are

decided solely by the Singareni Board and that ministers have no role in framing them. He stated that as soon as the allegations surfaced, he himself suggested that the tenders be cancelled.

"I was informed by the Singareni Board members that tenders had been called but no one had come forward. Even then, I instructed that the tenders be cancelled and called afresh," he explained.

Special measures for completion of construction of Indiramma houses :MLA Dr. Kavvampally



Karimnagar TSIT: Dr. Kavvampally Satyanarayana, MLA of Manakondur and president of TPCC SC cell said that the state government has taken up the exercise to complete the construction of the first phase Indiramma houses. He attended the housewarming programmes of Kathi Kanukavva-Balaiah Indiramma houses in Bandipelli Rajava-Mallesham and Cheelapur village with Bejanki mandal center as the chief guest. On this occasion, MLA Dr. Kavvampally Satyanarayana said that while 3 lakh Indiramma houses are under construction across the state, some of them have already reached the slab while others are in various stages.

Collector who started a state-level exhibition of cartoons



Karimnagar, January 19, TSIT: District Collector Pamela Satpathy inaugurated the state level cartoon exhibition at Rajarajeswara Degree and PG College under the auspices of Telangana Cartoonist Welfare Association on Monday.

Exhibition of these cartoons was organised on Mondays and Tuesdays in collaboration with Telugu Department of Telangana Cartoonist Welfare Association, General Secretary Vemula Rajamouli, Representative Person Kalyan Srinivas, SRR College Principal Kalvakunta Ramakrishna, Telugu department teachers and cartoonists given top priority.

Speaking on the occasion, the District Collector said that the performances of various cartoonists from

Dasari Harichandana Directs Swift Redressal of Public Grievances

Hyderabad: District Collector Dasari Harichandana has instructed officials to ensure prompt and effective resolution of public grievances received through the Prajavani programme, emphasizing that addressing people's problems is the primary objective of the initiative. The Collector received petitions from citizens during the Prajavani programme held on Monday at the Collectorate conference hall, along with Additional Collector (Local Bodies) Jitender Reddy and District Revenue Officer E. Venkatachari.

Dasari Harichandana directed concerned departmental officials to carefully examine all applications and take immediate action without delay. She stressed that petitions received through WhatsApp especially those submitted by senior citizens and persons with disabilities should be given top priority.

Reviewing the progress of applications submitted during the Praja Darbar held at Praja Bhavan, the Collector instructed officials to clear

pending grievances expeditiously and upload action-taken details on the respective websites. She further asked officials to conduct field-level inspections whenever necessary to ensure speedy grievance redressal and avoid pendency. With the annual SSC and Intermediate examinations approaching, Dasari Harichandana directed specially appointed officers to conduct regular visits to schools, colleges, and hostels, closely monitor teaching standards, and take focused measures to improve overall pass percentages. A total of 366 petitions were received during the Prajavani programme, including 291 housing-related applications (17 related to 2BHK houses and 274 to Indiramma Houses), 33 pension-related petitions, 22 revenue-related applications, and 20 petitions from other departments.

Nagoba Jatara Gets a New Makeover



AMARAVAJI NAGARAJU

Telangana's culture is not confined merely to royal palaces or architectural grandeur. The true essence of Telangana lies in a way of life that is deeply rooted in nature nestled in the lap of forests, amidst hills and valleys, living in harmony with the environment. The Nagoba Jatara is a grand festival that mirrors this life philosophy. It is not just a religious event; it is a celebration of nature worship, a symbol of collective unity, and a reflection of tribal life enriched by traditions passed down through generations.

In a gathering that attracts lakhs of people, healthcare services are of paramount importance. Recognising this, the government has set up 24-hour medical camps, mobile hospitals and 108 ambulance services.

Around 500 medical teams and 50 medical camps have been deployed to handle emergencies efficiently. For drinking water needs, over 1000 water tankers and water points have been arranged, while 10,000 sanitation workers have been appointed to maintain cleanliness. These steps, centred on public health, reflect a transformed and people-oriented approach to governance.

Security arrangements have been strengthened without compromise. Around 5,000 police personnel, 2,000 home guards and dedicated women police teams have been deployed. Crowd control and surveillance are being carried out through drone cameras and nearly 500 CCTV cameras. The proactive measures taken to prevent any untoward incidents underline the administration's preparedness and vigilance.

The Nagoba Jatara stands as a symbol of tribal self-respect. Hence, it is crucial that the government views it not merely as an administrative exercise but as a cultural celebration.

Tribal dance forms, musical performances and traditional

rituals are being actively promoted, bringing their artistic heritage closer to the wider public. More than 200 tribal self-help groups have been provided stalls, offering them economic empowerment an initiative that deserves special recognition.

The Congress government is also taking steps to develop the Nagoba Jatara into an international-level tourist attraction. As part of this effort, the tourism department has launched special promotional campaigns, set up information centres and introduced digital guide services to provide visitors with comprehensive information. This initiative goes beyond mere cultural display; it is an attempt to introduce Telangana's rich tribal heritage to the world.

The government has allocated 5 crore for the Nagoba Jatara and has taken several innovative steps, including direct supervision by ministers and close coordination with tribal leaders and temple committees, to ensure smooth organisation. This approach can be seen as a hallmark of democratic governance.

Importantly, the arrangements made this year are not limited to temporary measures alone. Long-term plans are underway for permanent infrastructure development, road expansion and enhancement of tourism facilities to ensure better organisation of the Jatara in the years to come. The vision of taking tribal traditions to the UNESCO level provides a clear direction to these efforts.

In essence, the Nagoba Jatara is a living representation of Telangana's tribal way of life. The meticulous arrangements undertaken by the people's government under the leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy grounded in public faith go far beyond festival management. They signify respect for the values of Telangana's people and the rich culture of its tribal communities. That is why this Nagoba Jatara is poised to be remembered in history as a true people's festival.

Amaravaji Nagaraju
TPCC President PRO

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Name of the Borrowers(s)/Co-Borrower(s)/Guarantors

NPA DATE: 28.02.2021 Date Of Demand Notice: 26.12.2025

Outstanding Amount:

Loan Amount: Rs. 51,49,463/- Rs. 15,00,000/-

Epuri Shankaraih, Age: 30 Years, Occ: Self Employee, R/o: H.No: 4-812, Appanapally, Mahabubnagar (D), Pin Code: 509001, B/o: Real Estate, Ph. No: 9499845000, 8529099683, (4) Gowri Niranjan, W/o: Gowri Vishwanatham, Age: 40 Years, Occ: House Wife, R/o: H.No: 13-44/1, Railway Station, Beside, Devarakadra, (V & M), Mahabubnagar (D), Pin Code: 509204, Ph. No: 9948890345

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In the circumstances as aforesaid, the notice is hereby given to the above borrowers, co-borrowers and/or their guarantors (where ever applicable) to pay the outstanding dues mentioned above along with future interest and applicable charges within 60 days from the date of the publication of this notice failing which further steps will be taken after the expiry of 60 days of the date of this notice against the secured assets including taking possession of the secured assets of the borrowers and the mortgagors under Section 13(4) of Securitization and Re-Construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and the applicable rules there under.

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POSSESSION NOTICE

(for immovable property) [(Rule 8/1)]

Health Minister Damodar Rajanarsimha Inaugurates Stem Cell Laboratory at NIMS

Hyderabad: Health Minister Damodar Rajanarsimha on Monday inaugurated a state-of-the-art Stem Cell Laboratory at Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences (NIMS), reaffirming the State Government's commitment to providing advanced medical care to the poor.

Speaking to the media on the occasion, the Minister said the government's primary objective is to ensure that cutting-edge healthcare reaches economically weaker sections. "As part of this vision, we have inaugurated the Stem Cell Laboratory at NIMS today," he stated.

The laboratory has been established in collaboration with Tulasi Therapeutics, a reputed biotechnology company based in the United States. Explaining the importance of stem cells in simple



terms, the Minister said, "Just as a seed is vital for the growth of a large tree, stem cells are fundamental to the human body. From stem cells, new cells and even organs can be developed."

He noted that stem cells possess a remarkable ability to repair damaged tissues and organs, offering hope in cases where conventional medicines fail. "Stem cell therapy has the potential to cure

even stubborn diseases that do not respond to regular treatment," he said.

Highlighting its medical significance, the Minister said stem cell therapy is particularly beneficial for patients suffering from cancer, blood-related disorders, and thalassemia, as it helps regenerate damaged tissues.

Currently, stem cell treatment is available only in select corporate hospitals and involves expenses running into lakhs of rupees. "With the establishment of this laboratory at NIMS, our aim is to make such advanced treatment accessible and affordable for common people," he added. At present, the laboratory will focus on in-depth research on stem cells, jointly undertaken by experts from Tulasi Therapeutics and NIMS doctors.

SHIRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED
Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No. 14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032.
Administrative office: 6th Floor (level 2), Building No. Q2, Aurum Q parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Ghatloli, Navi Mumbai-400710.

DEMAND NOTICE

Whereas the borrowers/co-borrowers/guarantors/mentioned hereunder had availed the financial assistance from Shriram Finance Limited, (Formerly known as Shriram City Union Finance Limited, amalgamated with Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited, subsequently Shriram Transport Company Limited name changed as Shriram Finance Limited) We state that despite having availed the financial assistance, the borrowers/guarantors have committed various defaults in repayment of interest and principal amounts as per due dates. The account has been classified as Non-Performing Asset in accordance with the directives/guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India, consequent to the Authorized Officer of SHIRIRAM FINANCE LTD, under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 & in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued by the following borrowers/guarantors (mortgagors) to repay the amount mentioned in the notices together with further interest at the contractual rate on the amount mentioned in the notices and incidental expenses, cost, charges etc. until the date of payment within 60 days from the date of receipt of notices.

The notices issued to them on their last known addresses have returned un-served and as such they are hereby informed by way of public notice about the same. 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.

Name of the Borrower(s)/Co-Borrower(s)/Guarantors NPA DATE: Date Of Demand Notice:
(1) Chandrala, S/o: Linganna, Age: 47 Years, Occ: Self Employee, R/o: H.No: 8-5/1, Kurva Geri, Devarakadra Mandal, Mahabubnagar (Di), Pincode: 509204, B/o: Real Estate And Hotel, Ph. No.: 9441649705, (2) Anitha, W/o: Chandrala, D/o: Hanmantu, Age: 40 Years, Occ: H.Wife, R/o: H.No: 8-5/1, Kurva Geri, Devarakadra Mandal, Mahabubnagar (Di), Pincode: 509204, Ph. No.: 9441649705, (3) MB Raghavendra Swamy, S/o: Balajai, Age: 45 Years, Occ: Self Employee, Mobile Shop At Devarakadra, R/o: H.No: 1-165, Shiva Nagar, Devarakadra (V & M), Mahabubnagar (Di), Pin Code: 509204, B/o: Mobile Shop At Devarakadra, Ph. No.: 8019323243.

MHBNRTF2112280012 - DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY: Property on the name of CHANDRAIAH, All That The Open House Plot Nos. 5.6 and 13 totally Admeasuring 550 Sq.Yards in Survey No. 563/B5, Situated at Devarakadra Village, Devarakadra Mandal, Mahabubnagar District And Bounded As Follows: Towards East: 20'-0" Wide Road, Towards West: Plot Nos. 8 & 14, Towards North: 20'-0" Wide Road, Towards South: Other Land.

In the circumstances as aforesaid, the notice is hereby given to the above borrowers, co-borrowers and/or their guarantors (where ever applicable) to pay the outstanding dues as mentioned above along with future interest and applicable charges within 60 days from the date of the publication of this notice failing which further steps will be taken after the expiry of 60 days of the date of this notice against the secured assets including taking possession of the secured assets of the borrowers and the mortgagors under Section 13(4) of Securitization and Re-Construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and the applicable rules there under.

Please note that under Section 13 (13) of the said Act, no Borrower shall, transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise of any of his secured assets referred to in the notice, without prior written consent of the secured creditor.

Dated: 19.01.2026
Place: Mahabubnagar
Authorized Officer
SHIRIRAM FINANCE LTD.

SHIRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED
Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No. 14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032.
Administrative office: 6th Floor (level 2), Building No. Q2, Aurum Q parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Ghatloli, Navi Mumbai-400710.

DEMAND NOTICE

Whereas the borrowers/co-borrowers/guarantors/mentioned hereunder had availed the financial assistance from Shriram Finance Limited, (Formerly known as Shriram City Union Finance Limited, amalgamated with Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited, subsequently Shriram Transport Company Limited name changed as Shriram Finance Limited) We state that despite having availed the financial assistance, the borrowers/guarantors have committed various defaults in repayment of interest and principal amounts per due dates. The account has been classified as Non-Performing Asset in accordance with the directives/guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India, consequent to the Authorized Officer of SHIRIRAM FINANCE LTD, under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 & in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued by the following borrowers/guarantors (mortgagors) to repay the amount mentioned in the notices together with further interest at the contractual rate on the amount mentioned in the notices and incidental expenses, cost, charges etc. until the date of payment within 60 days from the date of receipt of notices.

The notices issued to them on their last known addresses have returned un-served and as such they are hereby informed by way of public notice about the same. 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.

Name of the Borrower(s)/Co-Borrower(s)/Guarantors NPA DATE: Date Of Demand Notice:
(1) Lal Singh Mudavath, S/o: Mudavath Heera, Age: 48 Years, Occ: Private Employee, R/o: H.No. 5-4, Kotla Thanda, Mallobonpally (V), Jachherla (M), Mahabubnagar (Di), Pin: 509301, O/o: Security Guard, Ph. No: 9948159271, (2) Mudavath Ravi Kumar, S/o: Mudavath Lal Singh, Age: 34 Years, Occ: Self Employee, R/o: H.No: 3-15, Kotla Thanda, Mallobonpally (V), Jachherla (M), Mahabubnagar (Di), Pin: 509301, B/o: Cement Bricks Business, Ph. No: 9542325909, (3) K.P Tarun Tejash Naik, S/o: Patavath Puly Naik, Age: 26 Years, Occ: Private Employee, R/o: H.No: 4-44, Amadabakula (V), Kothakota (M), Wanaparthy (Di), Pincode: 509381, O/o: Advocate At Wanaparthy, Ph. No: 9866998614, 8639199189.

JADRLTF2111260003 - DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY: Property on the name of MUDAVATH LAL SINGH, H.No. 5-4, Total Extent 269 Sq.Yards, RCC Plinth Area 80 Sq.Fts., Duly Situated in the limits of Block No. 5, Mallobonpally (Kotha Thanda) Village, Shivar of Jachherla Mandal, Mahabubnagar District, And Bounded As Follows: Towards East: Road, Towards West: House of Mudavath Chander, Towards North: House of Ramsingh, Towards South: House of Mudavath Narayana Witnesses.

In the circumstances as aforesaid, the notice is hereby given to the above borrowers, co-borrowers and/or their guarantors (where ever applicable) to pay the outstanding dues as mentioned above along with future interest and applicable charges within 60 days from the date of the publication of this notice failing which further steps will be taken after the expiry of 60 days of the date of this notice against the secured assets including taking possession of the secured assets of the borrowers and the mortgagors under Section 13(4) of Securitization and Re-Construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and the applicable rules there under.

Please note that under Section 13 (13) of the said Act, no Borrower shall, transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise of any of his secured assets referred to in the notice, without prior written consent of the secured creditor.

Dated: 19.01.2026
Place: MAHABUBNAGAR, WANAPARTHY
Authorized Officer
SHIRIRAM FINANCE LTD.

L&T Finance Limited
(formerly known as L&T Finance Holdings Limited)
Registered Office: L&T Finance Limited, Brindavan Building Plot No. 177, Kalina, CST Road, Near Mercedes Showroom Santacruz (East), Mumbai 400 098
CIN No: L67120MH2008PLC181833
Branch office: Hyderabad

DEMAND NOTICE

Under Section 13(2) of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (Herein after referred to as The Act)
We have issued Demand Notice under Section 13(2) of the Act to you all (Borrower/s, Co-borrower/s & Guarantor/s) through Registered Post Acknowledge Due, as you have defaulted in payment of interest and principal installments of your loan account, and have failed and neglected to clear the said outstanding dues. As a result, the loan account has been classified as Non-Performing Asset (NPA) in the book of account in accordance with the directives relating to asset classification issued by the Reserve Bank of India. The notice has been returned as "undelivered" and therefore we are now issuing this notice to you all under 13(2) of the Act and hereby calling upon to repay the amount mentioned in the notice appended below to the L&T Finance Limited. (Erstwhile L&T Holdings Finance Ltd) within the period of 60 Days from the date of this Paper Notification together with further interest and other charges from the date of Demand Notice till payment or realization. In case you are not discharging your liabilities under the terms of this notice, we shall be constrained to exercise all or any one of the rights conferred under Section 13(4) or Section 14 of the Act. "This is without prejudice to any rights available to us under the Act and/or any other law in force from time to time."

Loan Account Number	Borrower/s & Co-borrower/s Name	Demand Notice date / NPA date / Outstanding Amount		Description of the Immoveable Property (Mortgaged)
		NPA Date	Outstanding Amount (₹) As On	
H112HL2502041 91427, H112HL2502041 91427L	1. Killi Varaha Narasimham	Demand Notice date: 08/01/2026 NPA date: 02/12/2025	Rs. 45,59,786.19/- (Rupees Forty Five Lakh Fifty Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Eighty Six Rupees And Nineteen Paisa Only) as on date 06/01/2026	Schedule - I All That Part And Parcel Of Flat No.302 In Third Floor Having Door No. 2-6/408/1008 (ptin No. 1228321886), Of "kotewara Elegant", With Having Plinth Area Of 1350 Sq. Ft., Together With Undivided Share Of Land Admeasuring 45 Sq. Yds. Or 37.62 Sq. Mtrs., Out Of 353.3 Sq. Yds., Or 295.3 Sq. Mtrs., Constructed On Plot Nos. 8 Northern Portion & 8 Southern Portion (i.e., Plot No.8), In Survey No.38 Part, Situated At Pocharam Village, Pocharam Municipality, Ghatkesar Mandal, Medchal-Malkajgiri District, East By Open To Sky West By Corridor & Flat No. 301 North By Open To Sky South By Open To Sky

L&T Finance

Sd/-
Authorized Officer
For L&T FINANCE LTD

Date: 20.01.2026
Place: Hyderabad

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

APPENDIX- IV-A- [See provision 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- 5-89/2A, 1st Floor, Sara Complex, Above KBS Bank, Beside Maheswari Theatre, Yenugonda, Mahabubnagar Town, Telangana-509001 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/lessee/s under Section 13(4) pursuant to the notice issued U/s 13(2) of the Act in the following loan accounts/prospectus nos. with a right to sell the same on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS & AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" for realization of dues. The Sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the website: www.banekauctions.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. JAGADEESH WAR JULURI 2.Mrs. ALIVELU JULURI Both R/o. H.No.12-56/7/C, Thilak Nagar, Kalwakurthy Town, Nagarkurnool District and bounded by: North:Plot of Vadde Anjamma South: Road: East: Road West: Plot of Ashok Reddy	21/12/2024 & Rs.15,92,322/- (Rupees Fifteen Lakhs Ninety Five Thousand Three Hundred Twenty-Two Only)	All that the House No.12-56/7/c on Plot No- admeasuring 196 Sq. yards Survey No.20 situated within the limits of Kalwakurthy Town and municipality Nagarkurnool District and bounded by: North:Plot of Vadde Anjamma South: Road: East: Road West: Plot of Ashok Reddy	25/04/2025	Rs. 28,85,400/-	06-Feb-2026 11.00 hrs-14.00 hrs
		Total Outstanding as On Date		27/10/2025	Rs. 15,99,527/-	Earliest Money Deposit (EMD) As On Date
		Bid Increase Amount			20,38,540/-	Date/Time of E-Auction
						07-Feb-2026 11.00hrs- 13.00hrs.
2	1.Mr.Kothur Venkat Reddy S/o, Gopal Reddy 2.Mrs. Kothur Sandya D/o. Venkat Reddy 3.Kothur Saritha D/o. Venkat Reddy All are R/o. HOUSE NO.1-1, Sampalap Village, Kosgi Mandal, Narayanpet District LAN:AP:HDB/MBNR/A000000577&CO/CP/CPO F/A000001419	26/10/2021 & Rs.18,57,231/- (Rupees Eighteen Lakhs fifty seven thousand two hundred and thirty one Only)	SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY All that the residential House over the on open plot in Survey No.1198, extent 200 Sq. yards situated at Sampalap Village, Kosgi Mandal, Narayanpet District and bounded as: North: Road:South: House Of Gangi Reddy,East: Open Place of N Venkat Reddy,West: Open Place of Bendoor Chinnaiyah	15/03/2022	Rs. 19,34,100/-	06-Feb-2026 11.00 hrs-14.00 hrs
		Total Outstanding As On Date		05/11/2025	Rs. 20,33,469/-	Earliest Money Deposit (EMD) As On Date
		Bid Increase Amount			11,86,482/-	Date/Time of E-Auction
						07-Feb-2026 11.00hrs- 13.00hrs.
3	1.Mr.Paladi Kiran Kumar 2.Mrs.Yadamma Paladi 3.Mr.Eshwaranpaladi All are R/o.HOUSE NO.7-12, Yellikil Village, Kalwakurthy Town Mandal, Nagarkurnool District-509324 LAN:AP:HDB/MBNR/A000000803	21/12/2024 & Rs.5,08,216/- (Rupees Five Lakhs six thousand two hundred and sixteen Only)	All That The Semifinished House No 7-12 (Assessment No.592) admeasuring 200 Sq yards with ground floor built up RCC area of 580 sq.ft. in Ward No.5 situated at Yellikil Village, Kalwakurthy Mandal, Nagarkurnool District and bounded by: North: House belonging to Paladi Shankar, South: 12 feet colony Road, East: 12 feet colony Road, West: House of Rodda Parameswar	25/04/2025	Rs. 11,64,600/-	06-Feb-2026 11.00 hrs-14.00 hrs
		Total Outstanding As On Date		05/11/2025	Rs. 5,85,891/-	Earliest Money Deposit (EMD) As On Date
		Bid Increase Amount</				

CM Naidu meets Singapore President in Zurich



Amaravati (TSIT): Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu met several global and national leaders in Zurich on Monday soon after his arrival to participate in the World Economic Forum (WEF) Annual Meeting at Davos-Klosters, Switzerland.

The Chief Minister met Singapore President Tharman Shanmugaratnam and expressed his delight over the interaction in a post on social media platform X. He also met World Bank Group President Ajay Banga and Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, congratulating the latter for becoming the first Chief Minister from Assam to attend the WEF annual meeting. Earlier, Indian Ambassador to Switzerland Mridul Kumar welcomed CM Chandrababu Naidu at the Zurich airport. Civil Aviation Minister K. Ram Mohan Naidu accompanied the Chief Minister.

In a post on X, Chandrababu Naidu said

■ Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu arrived in Zurich to participate in the World Economic Forum, holding key meetings with Singapore President Tharman Shanmugaratnam, World Bank President Ajay Banga, and Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, while receiving a grand welcome from Telugu NRIs and TDP supporters.

■ At the four-day WEF summit, Andhra Pradesh will pitch major investment opportunities in green energy, AI, quantum computing, biotechnology, and tourism, highlighting initiatives like the Amaravati Quantum Valley, advanced quantum skilling for one lakh experts, and past investment worth Rs 2.36 lakh crore.

the WEF meeting, held under the theme "A Spirit of Dialogue," provided a proud opportunity to represent Andhra Pradesh on a global platform that brings together leaders from business, government, international organisations, civil society, and academia. The team will also showcase initiatives like the proposed Quantum Valley in Amaravati, advanced quantum skilling programmes aimed at training one lakh experts, and the Kakinada Green Ammonia-Green Hydrogen plant. Ministers Nara Lokesh, TG Bharat, and senior officials from various departments are accompanying the Chief Minister.

The Chief Minister, along with Ministers and senior officials, will participate in the four-day WEF summit with the objective of attracting investments to Andhra Pradesh. Nearly 3,000 delegates from around 130 countries, including seven Chief Ministers from India, are expected to attend the event.

The Andhra Pradesh government has prepared detailed presentations highlighting investment opportunities in sectors such as green energy, green ammonia, AI, quantum computing, biotechnology, tourism, hospitality, education, and healthcare. The team will also showcase initiatives like the proposed Quantum Valley in Amaravati, advanced quantum skilling programmes aimed at training one lakh experts, and the Kakinada Green Ammonia-Green Hydrogen plant. Ministers Nara Lokesh, TG Bharat, and senior officials from various departments are accompanying the Chief Minister.

AP: PURE EV opens electric two-wheelers showroom in Kadapa

Kadapa, Jan 17 (UNI) PURE, one of India's leading electric two-wheeler manufacturers, announced the opening of its newest showroom in Kadapa. This strategic expansion marks a significant step in PURE's mission to strengthen its presence in Southern India.

The showroom located at Revenue Ward 75, Vijayadurga Colony Road, Vijayadurga Officers Colony, Kadapa, YSR District, AP will showcase PURE EV's comprehensive range of electric two-wheelers, and including the popular ePluto 7G Max and eTryst X. PURE EV is set to offer an unparalleled electric riding experience for the people of Kadapa. Alongside our cutting-edge electric scooters and motorcycles, the new showroom will also showcase PuREPower - our energy storage product line - to empower homes and businesses with clean energy resilience. This showroom launch is a testament to PURE EV's aggressive expansion strategy, aiming to significantly increase its footprint across India and make electric mobility accessible to a wider audience.

Hyderabad: The School of Management Studies, Chaitanya Bharathi Institute of Technology (CBIT), Hyderabad, successfully organised a One Day International Workshop on "The Raising and Rising of Engineering and Management Professionals", aimed at strengthening research translation, international collaboration, NIRF performance, and research funding, while positioning CBIT as a leading institution in India. The programme

YSRCP leaders stage protest at DGP office over party activist's murder



Amaravati, Jan 19 : YSR Congress Party leaders staged a dharna in front of the DGP's office after police refused to grant them an appointment to submit a complaint regarding the brutal murder of the party's Dalit activist Manda Salman.

YSRCP leaders said they were denied permission to meet Director General of Police (DGP) Harish Kumar Gupta, forcing them to protest outside the office, after which an Additional DGP finally received their representation. Former minister Merugu Nagarjuna stated that Salman's killing was a "government-sponsored murder" and demanded a CBI probe.

He said police not only failed to register a proper FIR on the murder but also shockingly booked a case against Salman himself.

He added that leaders were initially not even allowed to see Salman's body and that police responded only after YSRCP president and former Chief Minister Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy said

he would personally come and perform the burial.

He questioned what was happening in the state, stating that even serious crimes against women and children were not being registered and that the Constitution had been replaced by a 'Red Book rule'.

Former MLA Kasu Mahesh Reddy said Andhra Pradesh had descended into lawlessness, where even after the murder of a Dalit activist, police failed to act against the attackers and instead filed cases against the deceased. He said Salman's family was obstructed

from performing the last rites according to religious customs and that authorities went to the extent of demanding Aadhaar cards even for burial.

He announced that YSRCP would approach the High Court through a PIL and continue its struggle until justice is delivered to Salman's family.

Former minister T.J.R. Sudhakar Babu said YSRCP leaders were humiliated at the DGP office and questioned whether the DGP was working for the people or acting as an agent of Chandrababu Naidu. He recalled rampant attacks

on Dalits, demanded Rs 1 crore compensation to Salman's family and called for action against MLA Yarapathineni Srinivas Rao.

Former minister Vidadalai Rajini accused police of abandoning their constitutional duty and serving Chandrababu Naidu and Nara Lokesh. She said that SCs, STs, BCs, and minorities have no protection, that TDP goons are committing murders, and that even common citizens cannot enter police stations without political clearance.

MLC Mondithoka Arun Kumar said the killing of a Dalit activist exposed the government's true face and called upon Dalits to unite against what he termed "barbaric rule". Former minister Ambati Rambabu said police conduct in the case was deeply controversial, that repeated attempts to submit a complaint were ignored, and that the protest was forced upon them. He demanded a high-level inquiry and immediate relief for Salman's family.

Saraswathi, HOD, SMS. In his welcome address, Dr. C. V. Narasimhulu emphasised the importance of research-driven education, innovation, interdisciplinary collaboration, and global exposure for engineering and management professionals. Prof. V. Barla presented the programme highlights, stressing leadership development, skill enhancement, and industry-academia collaboration. The technical sessions featured eminent speakers from India and abroad.

CBIT hosts international workshop on raising engineering and management professionals



commenced with a formal welcome and Jyothi Prajwalana. The dignitaries on the dais included Dr. C. V. Narasimhulu, Principal, CBIT; Prof. V. Barla, Industry Professor and Convener; Dr. S. Venkataramaiah, Professor, IIM Lucknow; Major General Prof. Dr. S. S. Dasaka (Retd.), Sena Medal and Vishisht Seva Medal awardee; Dr. Veera Malli Boddu, Senior Scientist (formerly with the U.S. Environmental Department); Dr. B. Pandu Ranga Rao; and Dr. S.

Hi Life Exhibition to showcase luxury fashion at Novotel Vijayawada

Vijayawada: Fashion enthusiasts and style connoisseurs can ring in the New Year with elegance and sophistication at the Hi Life Exhibition, scheduled to be held on January 21 and 22, 2026, at Novotel, Vijayawada.

The luxury fashion exhibition will feature a curated collection of premium designer bridal wear, exquisite jewellery, fashion accessories, and lifestyle collections, offering a perfect blend of tradition and modern style. Designed to celebrate fresh beginnings, the exhibition promises an exclu-



sive shopping experience for those who appreciate refined craftsmanship and contemporary fashion trends.

Hi Life Exhibition is known for bringing together leading designers and brands under one roof, making it a sought-after destination for bridal shopping and luxury lifestyle needs. The upcoming edition aims to set the tone for the New Year with stylish inspirations and elegant creations.

Fashion lovers are invited to explore the showcase and start the year in style at this premium fashion event in Vijayawada.

District Action Against Social Media Harassment: Shadnagar DCP Sirisha

R A N G A R E D D Y : Shadnagar DCP Sirisha on Monday warned that strict action would be taken against anyone involved in character assassination of individuals through social media. She said such acts would not be tolerated under any circumstances.

Speaking to the media, the DCP stated that, as per the directions of DGP B. Shivadhar Reddy, police are closely monitoring social media activities from rural areas to across the state. Any misuse of social media platforms to tarnish the reputation or dignity of individuals will invite stringent legal action, she cautioned.

She advised the youth not

to fall prey to excessive mobile phone usage and social media addiction, which could ruin their lives. Mobile phones should be used only for constructive purposes, she said. The DCP also urged youngsters to stay away from drugs and alcohol, adding that the police are maintaining strict vigil and conducting inspections at various places to curb such activities.

Emphasizing the importance of education, she called upon students to focus on their studies and work towards fulfilling the dreams of their parents. She also appealed to the public to follow traffic rules strictly.

GITAM inaugurates five-day boot camp on autonomous aircraft and drone technologies



Hyderabad, January 19, 2026: The Department of Electrical, Electronics and Communication Engineering (EECE), GITAM School of Technology, Hyderabad, inaugurated a five-day boot camp on "Autonomous Aircraft Systems & Drone Technologies" on Monday. The programme, being held from January 19 to 23, is organised in association with C-DAC, Hyderabad.

The boot camp is conducted under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology's (MeitY) flagship SwaYaan initiative, which focuses on capacity building in Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS), drone technologies, and allied domains. As part of this national initiative, C-DAC Hyderabad is delivering an intensive hands-on training programme on emerging UAV technologies.

M. Pranay, Project Leader, C-DAC Hyderabad, briefed participants on the structure and objectives of the programme. He explained drone classifications, components, applications, dos and don'ts, supporting software tools, and the relevance of drone technology for students. Resource persons Aswin T.A., Project Engineer, and Manjira C., Project Associate, C-DAC Hyderabad, are supporting the sessions.

SCR GM Sanjay Kumar Srivastava reviews safety of train operations



Secunderabad, January 19, 2026: Shri Sanjay Kumar Srivastava, General Manager, South Central Railway (SCR), conducted a comprehensive review meeting on the safety of train operations across the zone on Monday at Rail Nilayam, Secunderabad.

The meeting was attended by Shri Satya Prakash, Additional General Manager, SCR, along with Principal Heads of Departments. Divisional Railway Managers (DRMs) of all six divisions—

appealed to the general public to avoid trespassing. Shri Srivastava also highlighted the importance of fire safety measures across the zone. He reviewed special safety drives related to electrical items in trains and the functioning of Fire and Smoke Detection Systems (FSDS). Officials briefed him on the ongoing fire safety initiatives, and the General Manager directed DRMs to continue these drives and ensure prominent display of fire safety precaution boards inside trains and at station premises to enhance passenger awareness.

He further instructed officials to make proactive plans for procuring adequate fire safety equipment such as fire extinguishers and smoke detection devices. The General Manager directed staff to immediately rectify any safety issues noticed to prevent untoward incidents.

Kalanilayam organises "Sankranti Natya Bala" cultural programme in Hyderabad



young talent. Marking 25 years of dedicated service, the organisation reiterated its commitment to preserving and propagating India's rich cultural heritage.

Several cultural dignitaries, artists, and well-wishers attended the programme

and appreciated Kalanilayam for providing a platform to budding artists. The organisers expressed gratitude to Dance Master Dhasharat, guests, supporters, parents, and media representatives for making the event a grand success.

Pranay also elaborated on the SwaYaan national drone initiative, outlining its key deliverables, activities, and the growing role of drones in India's technological and economic development. He detailed the learning approach, schedule, and expected outcomes of the boot camp.

The programme covers drone fundamentals, DGCA regulations, drone dynamics, sensors and components, security aspects, regulatory and practical applications, drone assembling and flying, and simulation tools. Participants who successfully complete the boot camp will receive assessment-based certification.

Earlier, Prof. T. Madhavi, Head of the EECE Department, welcomed the resource persons. Dr. D. Anitha, Convener of the boot camp, introduced the speakers, while Dr. Ch. Praveen Kumar, Co-Convener, is coordinating the programme.

Bail before conviction should be matter of right: Ex-CJI Chandrachud

JAIPUR: Former chief justice of India DY Chandrachud on Sunday said bail before conviction should be a matter of right, but asserted that it is a court's duty to examine a case in depth where national security is involved before granting such a relief. He made the remarks at the ongoing Jaipur Literature Festival in response to a question from senior journalist Vir Sanghvi, who raised the issue of the Supreme Court recently denying the bail plea of activist

Umar Khalid in the 2020 Delhi riots conspiracy case.

Khalid and fellow activist Sharjeel Imam have been incarcerated since 2020. Denying bail to both, the top court on January 5 observed that they were involved in the "planning, mobilisation and strategic direction" of the northeast Delhi riots. Faced with the question from Sanghvi during a session titled 'Ideas of Justice', Justice Chandrachud (retired) said, "Bail before conviction should be a matter of right. Our law is based on a presumption, and that presumption is that everyone is innocent until proven guilty." Because, if someone remains an undertrial prisoner for five or seven years and is finally proven innocent, how will you compensate for the time lost?

DY Chandrachud

Giving examples from various cases, the former chief justice of India said that bail can be denied if there is a possibility of the accused returning to society and committing the crime again, tampering with evidence, or using the benefit of bail to escape the clutches of the law. "If these three grounds are not present, then bail must be granted.

IDBI BANK
IDBI Bank Limited
3rd floor, D. No: 5-9-69/1 and 2, Chapel Road, Hyderabad-500001, Telangana, www.idbibank.in, Email: dv.krishna@idbi.co.in
RULE 8(1) POSSESSION NOTICE (FOR MOVEABLE PROPERTY)
Whereas The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the IDBI Bank Limited under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued demand notice on 14-01-2025 calling upon the borrower, M/S Abha Foods to repay the amount mentioned in the demand notice being ₹2235656 (Rupees Twenty Two Lakh Thirty Five Thousand Six Hundred and Fifty Six and Paise Twenty Six only) on 29-09-2025 plus applicable interest, incidental expenses, charges and costs thereon. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below, in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub-section (4) of section 13 of Act read with rule 6 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this the 14th day of January 2026. 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 IDBI Bank Limited for an amount of ₹22,39,324.64 (Rupees Twenty Two lakh Thirty Nine Thousand and Three hundred Twenty Four and paise Sixty four only) as on 14-01-2026 plus applicable interest, incidental expenses, charges and costs thereon. 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.

DESCRIPTION OF THE MOVEABLE PROPERTY
[Moveable Assets owned by M/S Abha Foods and located in Plot No:7, HMT Officers Colony, Old Alwal, Secunderabad-500010
Hypothecator Hypothecation Date Details
M/S ABHA FOODS 18-01-2024 Movable Asset Details
1)Counter Top Hot showcase, 2) Electric 2, 4 tray Oven 3) Electric Pizza Oven with Fire stone 4)Plenary Mixer 30 Ltrs, 5) Commercial Blender 2.2 Ltrs 6) Waffle Baker 7)Sandwich Griller 8) Electric Fryer Ltrs, 9) Chest Freezer, Vissi cooler/food Hop, 10) Flat confectionary showcase 11)Stainless steel single layer wall shelf 12) stainless steel rack with 4 shelves
Date : 14-01-2026 Authorised Officer IDBI Bank Limited
Place: Hyderabad

FORM NO.14 [See Regulation 33(2)]
OFFICE OF THE RECOVERY OFFICER - I/II
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL HYDERABAD (DRT 2)
1st Floor, Triveni Complex, Abids, Hyderabad-500001.
DEMAND NOTICE
NOTICE UNDER SECTIONS 25 TO 28 OF THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS & BANK-BRUTPCY ACT, 1993 AND RULE 2 OF SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961.
RC/890/2025 29-12-2025
Bank of India Versus M/S. Suvinda Petrochemicals Private Limited and Others
To (CD 1) M/s. Suvinda Petrochemicals Private Limited, Rep. By its Managing Director, Gadde, Rajasekhar, H.No.1-8-861, Raj Villa, 3rd Floor, Prakash Nagar, Begumpet, Hyderabad-500016. Also At: M/s. Suvinda Petrochemicals, Pvt. Ltd. Rep By its Managing Director, Gadde Rajasekhar, H.No.8-4-24/1, 12-8-42/4, Mettuquda, Hyderabad-17.
(CD 2) Sri Gadde Rajasekhar, Slo. Sri Gadde Raghavendra Rao, Flat No. 305, Dattasai Apartments, Enadu Society, V V Nagar, Kukatpally Hyderabad-49.
(CD 3) Smt Kaza Saritha, W/o. Sri Gadda Raja Sekhar, Flat no. 305, Dattasai Apartments, Enadu Society, V V Nagar, Kukatpally Hyderabad-49.
(CD 4) Sri Manchiraju Bhaskar N. Sreenivas, W/o. Sri. M.V.G. Krishna Murthy, #89 and 1st floor, Balaji Enclave, Old Bowpally, Secunderabad-500001.
1. This is to notify that as per the Recovery Certificate issued in pursuance of orders passed by the Presiding Officer, DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL HYDERABAD (DRT 2) on OA/12/2023 in amount of Rs.56,34,438.51/- (Rupees Fifty Six Lakhs Thirty Four Thousand Four Hundred Thirty Eight And Paise Fifty One only) along with pendentelel and future interest @ 12% Simple Interest Yearly w.e.f. 23-03-2023 till realization and costs of Rs.1,44,105/- (Rupees One Lakh Forty Four Thousand One Hundred Five Only) has become due against you (Jointly and severally/ Fully / Limited).
2. You are hereby directed to pay the above sum within 15 days of the receipts of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made in accordance with the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 and Rules there under.
3. You are hereby ordered to declare on an affidavit the particulars of your assets on or before the next date of hearing.
4. You are hereby ordered to appear before the undersigned on 09/02/2026 at 10:30 a.m. for further proceedings.
5. In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will also be liable to pay:
(a) Such interest as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the certificate / execution proceedings.
(b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and warrants and other processes and all other proceedings taken for recovering the amount due.
Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal, on this date: 29/12/2025
Sd/- Recovery Officer, DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL HYDERABAD (DRT 2)

SHIRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED
Registered Office: S. Towers, Plot No.144, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guntur-600032
Administrative office: 6th Floor/6th floor, Building No.02, Auroum Q Park, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Ghansoli, Navi Mumbai-400701 Branch at # 12-02-18 To 1, S.V.N Road, Batale Bazar, Wargal-506002.

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised officer M/s. Shiriram Finance Limited, (Shriram City Union Finance Limited, amalgamated with Shiriram Transport Finance Company Limited, subsequently Shiriram Transport Company Limited name changed as Shiriram Finance Limited, by its incorporation Certificate dated 30-11-2022) a corporate body registered and incorporated as a company under the Indian Companies Act 1956, is doing Non-Banking financial activities, having its Registered Office: S. Towers, Plot No.144, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guntur, Chennai - 600 032 and having its administrative office at 6th Floor (level 2), Building No.Q2, Auroum Q Park, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Ghansoli, Navi Mumbai-400701 and branch office at: Wargal II (hereinafter referred as Company/Lender), under the provisions of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (2002 (2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (2002) (2002) issued demand notices to the Borrowers details of which are mentioned in the table below to repay the amount mentioned in the said demand notices. The Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules, on this 19th day of January, 2026.

Borrower Name and Address Amount due as per Demand Notice

1.Telangana Cars Represented By Its Proprietor Nagaraju Gonela # 23-6-144/C, Shayampetta, Hanamkonda, Warangal Dist - 506 319, Cell:9849458142, (Borrower) 2.Nagaraju Gonela S/O Kanaka Rao, Age: 40 Years, Occ: For Telanga Cars, # 16-3-1086, Ac Reddy Colony, Fort Road, Warangal Dist - 506002, Cell: 9849458142 (Co-Borrower 3. Lavanya Gonela W/O Nagaraju, Age: 38 Years, # 16-3-1088, Ac Reddy Colony, Fort Road, Warangal Fort, Warangal Dist - 506 002, Cell: 970305338 (Guarantor) 4. Krishna Manda S/O Yadagiri, Age: 40 Years, Occ: Raguramana Traders, # 18-5-131, Kamunipeta, Ursu, Karemabab, Warangal Dist - 506 002, Cell: 9700081915. (Guarantor)

WARNIT/2022/290009/ DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY: (Property holder Name is GONELA NAGARAJU Mortgage deed dated 02/03/2020 Registered as Document No.2236/2020 on the file of the office of Sub-Registrar at WARANGAL FORT) House and open place H.No. 16-3-1086/A to an extent of 90.00 Sq.Yards or 75.24 Sq.Mtrs situated at Vidyav Nagar, Fort Road, Warangal city and Urban District within the limits of Revenue District Warangal and Sub - Registrar, Warangal Fort is bounded by East: Remaining House property of Donor Gifted to G.Bagya West Open plot of B.Sankaraiah North: House of L.Renuka #16-3-1086/1, South: 25.F1 Wide Road.

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

Place:Warangal, Date:19-01-2026 Sd/-Authorised officer, Shiriram Finance Ltd.

Telangana

HYDERABAD
TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026

5

CM Revanth, ministers offer prayers at tribal shrine in Medaram



Hyderabad, Jan 19 : Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, along with his family members and Cabinet colleagues, on Monday offered prayers at the tribal shrine of Sammakka-Saralamma in Medaram at Mulugu district.

A day after conducting the Cabinet meeting in Medaram, the first outside Hyderabad, the Chief Minister, along with his family members, participated in various rituals at the tribal shrine.

He also inaugurated development works undertaken by the State government for the famous Medaram Jatra scheduled to begin on January 28. The Chief Minister unveiled a

pylon and sacred platforms (Gaddelu) for the deities.

Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka and ministers accompanied the Chief Minister.

Millions of devotees are expected to participate in the Sammakka-Saralamma Maha Jatra, a biennial event scheduled to be held at Medaram in Mulugu district from January 28 to 31.

Also known as Medaram Jatra, it is considered the most significant tribal festival in Asia.

The State government has allocated Rs 260 crore for this year's 'Jatra' - Rs 150 crore for event arrangements and Rs 110 crore for

permanent temple infrastructure. The master plan focused on the sacred grounds that house platforms of Sammakka, Saralamma, Pagididdaraju, and Govindaraju, enabling lakhs of devotees to offer prayers conveniently.

At a cultural event at Medaram on Sunday night the Chief Minister announced that the state government will conduct Medaram Jatra on the lines of Kumbh Mela.

The Chief Minister said that he accomplished the development of Medaram Gaddelu and the tribal shrine with all facilities.

The Chief Minister said the Medaram festival is a historical event which symbolises courage transformed into divinity. It is the biggest tribal festival where people worship deities without a temple.

CM Revanth Reddy remembered brave women Sammakka and Saralamma, who led a revolt against the Kakatiya dynasty. The Chief Minister also recalled that he embarked on 'Padayatra' from Medaram on February 6, 2023, with a resolve to dethrone the BRS government. With the blessings of the goddesses, the People's Government' came to power in the State.

"I consider it my good fortune to develop Medaram," the Chief Minister said. He pointed out that the development of the works and stone structures was completed within 100 days before the beginning of the tribal festival.

UNNAO RAPE:

Delhi HC dismisses Sengar's plea to suspend sentence in death case of survivor's father

The judge observed that while Sengar has undergone prolonged incarceration of about seven-and-a-half years, relief could not be granted on the ground of delay alone, as the appellant had repeatedly moved applications for interim suspension, extension of bail and regular suspension of sentence.



no ground to grant relief," the court opined.

The court listed the appeal for hearing on February 3. Talking to PTI over the phone from Delhi, the rape survivor expressed satisfaction with the court's verdict, saying the decision had brought her a sense of solace.

"I am very happy with the court's decision. Today, my father's soul has found some peace. I have not even performed my father's thirteenth-day rituals yet. Until his killers are sentenced to death, his soul will not find true peace," she added.

Reiterating her resolve to fight for justice, she said those responsible for her sexual assault and her

father's death must face the strictest punishment.

"Kuldeep Singh Sengar, his brother Atul Singh Sengar, and everyone involved in this conspiracy must be awarded the death penalty," she said.

"This is not just my battle... it is a fight for justice and truth, and I will continue it till my last breath," she added. On March 13, 2020, Sengar was sentenced to 10 years rigorous imprisonment by a trial court, besides imposition of a fine of Rs 10 lakh, in the case. The trial court had said "no leniency" could be shown for killing a family's "sole bread earner".

It had also awarded a 10-year jail term to Sengar's brother, Atul Singh

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"Aap desh me badlaav chahate hain? Apko aisa petition daalne ki zaroorat nahi hai, aap ek patra likh kar mujhe bhej dijiye (You want to change the country, right? You don't need to file such a petition, you can simply write a letter and send it to me)," the CJI said.

The bench was particularly critical of the motive behind the filings of the "publicity interest litigations". "Aap log sirf jo bharat cameraman khade hai unke saamne bolne ke liye petition mat daalaiye (Do not file petitions just so you can speak in front of the cameras outside)," the CJI said. Questioning the practicality of the demand made by the petitioner, the CJI asked, "Aap keh rahe hai ek saal mein har court faisa kare? Aisi kitne courts chahiye aapko? (You are saying every court should decide within a year)?

7 arrested for gang-rape of teenage girl in Bengal's Purulia

KOLKATA: Seven people

have been arrested in connection with the abduction and gang-rape of a teenage girl in West Bengal's Purulia district, senior police officers said on Monday. The police have registered a case under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012

(POCO).

According to police and family sources, the teenage girl is from Purulia town. On Friday evening, the 17-year-old girl left her home to go to a friend's house. When she did not return home even after nightfall, the family started to worry about her.

Indian Bank

ZONAL OFFICE MALKAJGIRI
LIBERTY PLAZA / HIMALAYAN GARDEN
(HYDERABAD-500029
Phone: 2326122,23222810 Fax:040-23223409

PUBLICATION OF DEMAND NOTICE

Notice under Sec. 13 (2) of The Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002

Sent on 06/01/2026 by Regd. Post/ Speed Post:

To:Mr. Sudeep Kumar(Borrower),S/o.Yugender Gadwala,1-9-485/13/5,Plot-57,2nd Floor Rammagir,Lalitha Nagar,Musheerabad Hyderabad-500020. 2.Mr. G Padmashree (Co-Borrower and GPA holder),W/o K Rama Sankar Babu, 1-485/13/5,Plot-57, Rammagir,Lalitha Nagar,Musheerabad Hyderabad-500020

Sub: Your IBHL NRI CRE Home loan account No.7291519911 for Rs.2,00,000/- (Rupees Two Crores Only) and IBHL NRI CRE Home loan Account No.7291519912 for Rs.1,63,00,000/- (Rupees One Crore Sixty Three Lakh Only) with Indian Bank, Kondapur Branch- Reg

You committed default in repayment of loans to the tune of Rs.3,67,12,245.25 (Rupees Three crore sixty seven lakh seventy one thousand two hundred forty five and paise twenty five only) as on 05/01/2026 and the said amount carries further interest at the agreed rate from 06.01.2026 till date of repayment. The Bank, issued notice under the Act on 06/01/2026 calling upon you to repay the outstanding amount of Rs.3,67,12,245.25 (Rupees Three crore sixty seven lakh seventy one thousand two hundred forty five

EDITORIAL

Europe Has The Weapons For Trump's Greenland Tariff War

The Cold War satirical novel *The Mouse That Roared* imagined a tiny European statelet declaring war on the US in the hopes of being lavished with American aid after its inevitable defeat. It's a title that came immediately to mind when European nations sent three dozen soldiers to Greenland in response to Donald Trump's threats to wrest the island from Danish control. The idea seems to have been: Support Denmark, yes, but don't antagonise the White House when Ukrainian security is also on the line.

Whatever the intent, it hasn't worked. Trump's contemptuous delight in beating up US allies was given free rein over the weekend as he raised the ante over the Arctic territory. It's time for Europe to fight tariff fire with fire.

The president threatened a 10 per cent duty from February on US imports from the countries sending troops: France, Germany, Sweden, Finland, the Netherlands, Denmark and non-European Union members UK and Norway. That would increase to 25 per cent in June until a deal is reached for his government to buy Greenland. In a grim flashback to last year's EU-US trade deal when the bloc had to swallow a 15 per cent tariff on its transatlantic exports, the underbelly of Europe's trade-dependent, soft-power regime is fully exposed.

The cost of such extra tariffs would be high. Bloomberg Economics estimates they could cut these countries' US exports by up to 50 per cent. Germany, Sweden and Denmark look especially vulnerable. But another timid acquiescence from the Europeans would be disastrous. This is textbook economic bullying, driven by a leader who recently said the only limitation on his global powers was "(his) own mind." If last year's tariff deal is already being rewritten on the fly by the Americans, where will it stop? There has to be a point when even mice do more than squeak apologetically and submit to worse trade terms than China. So even as Germany appears to be shipping its dozen or so soldiers back home - job done, apparently - European leaders must be ready to play hardball if these levies materialise. The starting point is bolstering the European Parliament's threat to hold back approval of last year's trade agreement, which was hailed by Trump's administration as providing "unprecedented levels of market access" for American products. The deal has not stopped the US from trying to strongarm Brussels into going easy on the tech barons of Silicon Valley and Seattle over regulations and antitrust. It is time, too, to unbox the EU's "bazooka" for the fight ahead: The bloc's Anti-Coercion Instrument is explicitly designed to defend member states put under tariff pressure by foreign powers. It allows retaliation beyond customs duties, and can potentially restrict market access for titans like Google owner Alphabet Inc. That's a much bigger stick than the usual clobbering of more niche US companies, such as Harley-Davidson motorcycles with higher import taxes. French President Emmanuel Macron, still nursing his wounds after failing to stop an EU trade deal with Latin America hated by French farmers, favors this trade weapon - and he's been backed by German industrial association VDMA. "Europe must not allow itself to be blackmailed," its president wrote over the weekend.

Then comes the longer-term question of whether Europe can get by on defence and security without American backing - in Ukraine first and foremost - the answer to which was a resounding no last year when the EU had to accept the 15 per cent levy. But just as those transatlantic trade terms have barely survived the New Year, last year's rush to declare the North Atlantic Treaty Organization as being back and better than ever under "Daddy" Trump looks wildly premature.

Denmark is right to say that a hostile takeover of Greenland would be the end of the alliance as we know it. Trump's new threats go beyond the NATO "brain death" that Macron spoke of a few years back, and toward something like the forced obedience of the Soviet bloc's Warsaw Pact. To avoid this miserable fate, the rearming of Europe is ever more urgent.

Pawars, Thackerays, Congress: One By One, Maharashtra Is Moving On



Maharashtra politics is set to change irrevocably with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) consolidating its position as the dominant force in the just concluded elections to local bodies. Its victories across regions (it won 23 of the 29 corporations), including the country's plum municipality, the cash-rich Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC), shows how deeply it has dug roots in a state once synonymous with the Congress, the Pawars and the Thackerays. The implications are huge. With Maharashtra in the bag, the BJP now controls not only the biggest economic powerhouse, home to the nation's financial capital and top corporate houses, but also the second most politically influential state after Uttar Pradesh, with 48 seats in the Lok Sabha. A Grand Reset. The eclipse of traditional players and the rise of new ones means a reset of equations across the board. Because it is a work in progress, it is difficult to predict the political, social and financial texture of the emerging new Maharashtra. However, some trends can be gauged from the results of the recent polls. One is the rise of a Brahmin as the face of Maharashtra politics, displacing the Marathas who have had a stranglehold on the reins of power for decades. This is a state that was once led by strong Maratha leaders like YB Chavan, Vasantdada Patil, and of course, Sharad Pawar. Now it's over to Brahmin chief minister Devendra Fadnavis. He is the new star. Much of the credit for the BJP's victory goes to him. His canny political skills, his relentless campaign and his outreach to non-Maratha communities, particularly the OBCs, put the BJP on top. His triumph puts him in the line of succession along with Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and Union Home Minister Amit Shah for the top position in the post-Modi era. An Orphaned NCP A second significant development is the impact of the verdict on the politics of the state's influential sugar belt in western Maharashtra, which gave the Marathas their power. The wipeout of both factions of the NCP, the one led by the grand old man of Maharashtra Sharad Pawar and the other led by his nephew once touted as his heir apparent Ajit Pawar, in

their erstwhile impregnable fortresses of Pune and Pimpri-Chinchwad, has left the community orphaned and leaderless. Powered by the support of the OBCs who seem to have bought into the appeal of Hindutva, the BJP has succeeded in dividing and thereby weakening the Marathas. The party has had its eyes for a long time on the wealth and power of the sugar and banking cooperatives controlled by the community. The fall of the Pawars with no successor in sight in the immediate future presents the BJP with the opportunity it has been seeking to restructure a sector that has been the lifeline of Maratha power and change the face of the sugar belt, which has played a key role in state politics. The Pawar Play Sharad Pawar is in the winter of his life. However, Ajit Pawar is not. Unfortunately, he has taken a huge hit and endangered his position as Deputy Chief Minister in the Fadnavis-led NDA state government. He jumped ship to ally with his uncle's faction, hoping that a reunited family would retain their hold in the sugar belt. He miscalculated badly, leaving him stuck in nowhere land. Ajit Pawar was never popular with either the BJP or the RSS. He was accommodated in the NDA only to weaken Sharad Pawar, in

There are already reports that ED probes against him will resume. No politician should ever be written off. However, currently, Ajit Pawar's future looks uncertain. Mumbai Still A Challenge A third area to watch out for is Mumbai. The politics of the capital city has always been different from the rest of Maharashtra. While the BJP can bask in the glow of ousting the Thackerays from the BMC, which the family-run Shiv Sena has controlled for nearly three decades, there are caveats that the party must be acutely aware of and which will impact future developments in the city. The BJP won just three seats more in the BMC than what it garnered in the last election in 2017. Yes, it does have a majority in the corporation, but only in alliance with Eknath Shinde's faction of the Shiv Sena. The BJP had hoped to decimate Uddhav Thackeray and his faction of the Shiv Sena the way it wiped out the Pawars in western Maharashtra. It failed. Uddhav Thackeray held on to his stronghold of the Marathi sections of Mumbai and has emerged as a strong opposition. In fact, it is being said that if he had aligned with the Congress instead of reuniting with his cousin, Raj Thackeray, the alliance may have given the BJP a run for its money. Mumbai politics is up in the air. Shinde is already playing games with the BJP on the choice of the next mayor. And Uddhav Thackeray's Shiv Sena is having a field day attacking the man who broke the party and brought down its government in 2021. It's not going to be easy for the BJP to control and dominate Mumbai the way it has managed to capture the hinterland. Watch The AIMIM The fourth development that could impact future politics in Maharashtra is the emergence of Assududdin Owaisi's AIMIM as a magnet for the Muslim community. The AIMIM posted a stunning performance in the local polls by winning 121 seats across corporations, including eight in Mumbai. It swept virtually all the Muslim-dominated belts, displacing the Congress as the first choice of the community and Samajwadi Party as the second choice. The AIMIM's presence is likely to grow in Maharashtra, particularly if the BJP pursues its Hindutva agenda blatantly. It will be interesting to see how the AIMIM plays the game outside of its traditional base of Hyderabad. Clearly, Maharashtra politics will continue to churn in the coming months as the BJP prepares to consolidate its gains in the runup to the 2029 Lok Sabha and assembly elections.

INDIA IS TRULY MAKING ITS OWN DECISIONS

- Dr. Priyanka Saurabh

For any democratic nation, strategic autonomy is not just the technical jargon of foreign policy, but a matter of survival. When major decisions are driven by external pressure, fear of sanctions, or concerns about global image building, the nation gradually becomes more of a "managed partner" than a policymaker. A truly strong India will be one that engages with the US, Russia, China, and Europe—all while taking the final decisions on its own interests. Applause, headlines, and photo-ops are momentary; but an independent stand in favor of national interest determines a country's long-term dignity. A nation's strength isn't measured by its military budget, speeches on international platforms, or photographs taken with foreign leaders. True strength lies in its ability to make decisions independently in accordance with its national interests. India today presents itself as a "strong nation," a "world leader," and an "emerging global power," but the fundamental question is: is India truly making its own decisions, or is it adjusting its actions to cues from global powers? Foreign policy is the clearest reflection of a nation's self-respect and sovereignty; it determines which countries it will befriend, which it will distance itself from, and on what terms it will participate in the global

order. For decades, India, under the guise of non-alignment and later strategic autonomy, conveyed the message that it was not a permanent adherent of any power bloc, but an independent player seeking partnerships in accordance with its own interests. During the Cold War, India maintained ties with both the United States and the Soviet Union, yet maintained a distance from formal military alliances; this stance made it an ideological inspiration for newly independent Asian and African countries. In the new century, especially in recent years, this balance is under greater pressure than ever—whether it is the growing rivalry between the United States and China or the polarized world following the Russia-Ukraine War. Iran's Chabahar port was not just a trading base for India, but also a gateway for direct access to West Asia, Afghanistan, and Central Asia, bypassing Pakistan and counterbalancing China's dominance of Gwadar and the Belt and Road Initiative. Following US sanctions and the subsequent lifting of the Chabahar waiver, India's commitment to the project steadily weakened; recent reports indicate that India has moved to limit its long-term presence at the port. The real question here is not technical, but political: did India take an independent stand in keeping with its long-term geostrategic interests, or did the fear of anger-

ing Washington force it to forgo viable options? For India, purchasing crude oil from Russia at a discounted rate is a matter of energy security and economic prudence, not merely diplomatic obstinacy. Despite Western sanctions, India initially signaled clearly that it would choose energy sources in accordance with its national interests, and this logic led to a sharp surge in oil imports from Russia. Over time, "moral preaching" and hints of indirect sanctions from the US and European countries created additional pressure; some large corporate importers reduced their purchases of Russian oil and shifted toward pro-Western alternatives, even though overall Russian oil imports remained high. A strong nation is one that is driven by the economic interests and energy security of its citizens, not by the "image management" or narratives of other countries—otherwise, "strategic autonomy" gives way to "strategic hesitation." The most dangerous trend is that applause and headlines on international platforms are becoming a substitute for decision-making autonomy. Speeches in foreign parliaments, laudatory headlines in the global media, or a "pat on the back" from a superpower are being presented as certificates of national honor, while recent history, such as Iraq, Libya, and Afghanistan, is replete with examples of how quickly external support can change

Is Vijay's TVK Reacting Like A Fan Club Or A Political Party?

The conspicuous silence of Tamilaga Vettai Kazhagam (TVK) over the Jana Nayagan controversy has triggered uneasy questions in Tamil Nadu's political circles. Is Vijay's party behaving like an extension of his fan club rather than a serious political outfit? Or is this silence a calculated move to keep its options open with the powers that be in Delhi? These questions have gained urgency as actor Vijay faces a second round of questioning by the CBI and his much-hyped film Jana Nayagan remains stuck between the courts and the CBFC. The coincidence of these developments has only sharpened scrutiny of TVK's response or the lack of it. There has been no strong statement questioning the delay in the film's release. No sharp attack on the CBFC. No protest over the non-release of what is projected to be Vijay's final film. Not a single TVK spokesperson has participated in television debates on the Jana Nayagan issue. The party's official stance has been one of studied restraint, explained away with a familiar refrain: "We trust the judicial process." Beyond routine attacks on the DMK and broad denunciations of communal politics, largely echoing Vijay's speeches, TVK has avoided press conferences, major political interventions, or demonstrations of strategic depth. Even in the immediate aftermath of the tragic Karur stampede, the party retreated into a cocoon. Journalists have been brought in as spokespersons. Yet, when confronted

with crises like Karur or Jana Nayagan, the party's instinct remains the same: political silence outside the courtroom. A narrative of Vijay being targeted by the Centre through the CBFC is steadily building, but it is the Congress that is articulating this argument, not TVK itself. For a party aspiring to power, this is a strange abdication of political space. Politics is about demonstrating power at the right moment. For a fledgling party in a state dominated by deeply entrenched Dravidian organisations, this is not optional, it is essential. Vijay has repeatedly demonstrated fan power. What his party has yet to demonstrate is political power: grassroots mobilisation, issue-based agitation, and consistent public engagement. This gap raises an uncomfortable question: does TVK lack a genuine grassroots structure? The difference between a fan base and an ideologically committed cadre is fundamental. A fan reacts to the star. A political worker reacts to issues, mobilises sentiment, and converts it into votes. Cadres understand local problems and work the ground. Fans do not. History offers clear lessons. MGR succeeded because he understood and embedded himself in Dravidian political ideology and organisation. Jayalalitha strengthened that structure. NT Rama Rao rode on an anti-Congress wave and fan fervour to power in 1984, but the Telugu Desam Party

learnt and built political structures after its defeat in 1989 and Chandrababu Naidu later built a durable organisation. In Tamil Nadu, Vijayakanth's DMK proved to be a third political force with an 8 per cent vote share in its first election in 2006 because it had a strong organisational base, something other actors, including Kamal Hassan, could not achieve. On issues ranging from Thiruparankundram to broader governance debates, TVK has rarely taken categorical, aggressive positions. Its headquarters has yet to emerge as a fountainhead of ideas, strategy, or political direction. The party still revolves overwhelmingly around Vijay's star power, an unhealthy dependence on electoral politics. Even a respectable vote share may not translate into real impact without committed cadres on the ground. TVK has also been ambiguous on alliances. Smaller parties may join for a boost from Vijay's fan base, but that may strengthen the allies more than TVK itself. The party urgently needs to demonstrate grassroots mettle and political mobilisation, and it needs to do so soon. Otherwise, the question will linger: is Vijay's political project still a fan club struggling to evolve into a party? Whether TVK can make that transition before the elections may well determine not just its future politics, but the course Dravidian politics will take.

All 140 MLAs, including CM, support me: DK Shivakumar

Bengaluru: Stating that all 140 MLAs including the CM were in support of him, Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar said he would not like to disclose the discussions with his leaders in public.

Speaking to reporters here, he said, "All 140 MLAs are my supporters. Even CM Siddaramaiah is in support of me. Do you (media) know what Siddaramaiah and I have discussed? Only we know what we have discussed and what we have discussed with Rahul Gandhi. Can I disclose those details in front of you? Time will answer all your questions and I won't discuss it any further."

There is no confusion about leadership. You (media) are creating confusion. We have discussed it and the High Command will take a final decision. And all of us will abide by that decision. Both CM and I have clarified this matter many times, hence don't create any more confusion. Congress party is together, the High Command will take a suitable decision at an appropriate time. I have met Rahul Gandhi. Siddaramaiah has also mentioned that he will comply by any decision of the High command. You are worried about your TRP."

Asked about Delhi visit, he said, "We go to Delhi for political, party and government work. I discussed Karnataka, Assam elections and other political matters with our leaders. But media has reported that I did not meet Rahul Gandhi. One day you published my photo discussing with Rahul Gandhi and on another day, you have reported that I did



not meet him. I have made it clear that time will answer all your questions and I won't discuss it any further."

When pointed to MLAs discussing the leadership issue, he said, "MLAs will have their desires, there is nothing wrong in it. Can't say it is wrong. We would have whispered somethings to their ears and they would be waiting eagerly." When a reporter pointed out that he has worked hard for the party, he said, "It is not that only I have worked hard for the party. Party workers have burnt midnight oil in

all the 224 constituencies. We have to especially remember the efforts of our party workers during Covid. The people, media, BJP and JDS are all praying for me while some are criticizing me."

MGNREGA SESSIONS

"We have called for a special session on MGNREGA. It is an important scheme for Karnataka as about Rs 6,000 crore was spent on it every year. We will discuss about the scheme in the special session," he added. Asked about his brother's statement that High command would give good news, he said, "My brother, our party workers and even media are saying so. Getting together is good news and discussing is also good news." Asked if good news would come by April, he said, "Why discuss now, let's see." Thinking of conducting all local body elections together Asked when the GBA elections may be held in view of the draft voter list being released today, he said, "The Court has given its order. Our government has decided to conduct zilla and taluk panchayat elections.

Bengaluru North City Corporation Commissioner reviews inter-departmental coordination works



Bengaluru: A coordination meeting of various departments under the jurisdiction of the Bengaluru North City Corporation was held at the conference hall of the Commissioner's office, chaired by Commissioner Pommala Sunil Kumar.

Addressing the meeting, the Commissioner directed BWSSB officials to pay special attention to the ongoing works on Sanjaynagar Main Road and to extend necessary cooperation for works being carried out by B-SMILE on Lazar Road and Mosque Road. He instructed authorities to act on the City Corporation's request to disconnect electricity connections to unauthorised buildings and to submit details of connections already disconnected. BWSSB officials were also asked to share information regarding rules and conditions for drilling borewells within city limits.

The Commissioner reviewed works being undertaken by the National Highways Authority on Kempegowda International Airport Road and directed officials to gather details of BMRCL

works on roads under North City Corporation limits to ensure proper coordination. He instructed that footpaths be identified for the Walkaluru programme and that applications seeking permission for road cutting be disposed of at the earliest. He also sought action on issues related to water supply disconnection and pending dues of Indira Canteens.

Emphasising the need to expedite city beautification, the Commissioner instructed that the tender process for vehicle towing be completed quickly. He directed identification of five locations under flyovers from GBA and five locations under metro lines for beautification works in coordination with BMRCL.

Stressing the need to avoid inconvenience to

Indira Canteens, he instructed officials to maintain cleanliness and ensure uninterrupted drainage, water, and electricity supply, while clearing pending bills through coordination with BESCOM and BWSSB, including one-time settlement options if required. He also directed that white-topping road works be completed at the earliest with strict quality control.

Taking a serious view of illegal borewells, the Commissioner instructed that the tender process for vehicle towing be completed quickly. He directed identification of five locations under flyovers from GBA and five locations under metro lines for beautification works in coordination with BMRCL. Stressing the need to avoid inconvenience to

Special Fortnightly Vaccination Campaign for Measles-Rubella -2026

Bengaluru : With the objective of protecting children from measles and rubella, the Measles-Rubella vaccine is being administered under the Universal Immunization Programme, with the first dose given at 9 to 11 months of age and the second dose at 16 to 24 months of age.

The Government of India is committed to the complete elimination of measles and rubella by the end of 2026, and the role of the State is extremely crucial in achieving this important goal. In this context, the Greater Bengaluru Authority has given special emphasis to the effective implementation of the Measles-Rubella elimination programme.

In view of the likelihood of widespread transmission of measles from October to December and the possibility of a higher number of cases being reported from January to March, a Measles-Rubella fortnightly vaccination

campaign has been organized through sessions from 19/01/2026 to 31/01/2026 at Urban Primary Health Centres and outreach areas of the five city corporations under the jurisdiction of the Greater Bengaluru Authority.

Parents of children aged 0 to 5 years who have, for any reason, experienced a delay in vaccination or whose children have not been vaccinated are requested to visit the nearest Primary Health Centre and ensure that their children receive the required vaccines, as per a notification issued by the GBA (Health Department). Vaccinate your children and keep them healthy.

An action plan has been formulated for the Measles-Rubella fortnightly vaccination programme covering 145 projects under the Greater Bengaluru Authority. Under the special Measles-Rubella fortnightly vaccination campaign, a total of 1,114 vaccination centres have been planned across 3,005 migratory sites, through which 267 children will receive the MR-1 vaccine, 246 children will receive the MR-2 vaccine, 178 children will receive the Penta-1 vaccine, and 183 children will receive the DPT second booster dose vaccine. This campaign covers 1,040 high-risk areas, including slums and areas reporting measles cases, under which 1,493 children will be administered the MR-1 vaccine and 1,512 children will be administered the MR-2 dose vaccine.

BMA Symposium Sets Roadmap for AI in Management Education



Bengaluru: The Bangalore Management Association (BMA) has organised a symposium on "AI and the Future of Management Education & Practice" here on Saturday. Around 120 delegates, including Directors, Deans, Heads of Departments and senior faculty members from management institutions, participated in the event.

The symposium was held under the leadership of Pankaj Kumar Pandey, IAS, President, BMA, and presided over by Dr. Shivashankara N., IAS, Senior Vice President, BMA. The programme provided a platform for academics and industry leaders to discuss the growing challenges and opportunities of Artificial Intelligence in management education with rapidly evolving

industry requirements. Prof. Vidyashankar S., Vice Chancellor, Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU), spoke about university initiatives to address emerging AI requirements and called upon institutions to adapt proactively.

Mr. Ashwin Hegde Karkala, Senior Vice President, Cyware, highlighted the fast-changing global skill requirements and corresponding shifts in manpower and talent requirements.

In his address, Dr. Shivashankara N outlined BMA's vision and significant role it plays in promoting an effective managerial culture across industries, MSMEs, startups, service sectors and government organizations, for which academics are an important segment, he added. Dr. Shivashankara stressed

the importance of universities and colleges becoming active partners in BMA's initiatives to enhance the quality of management education and improve employability.

A panel discussion featuring Mr. Chella Pandian Pitchai, AVP- Global Head, Biocon Biologics, Mr. Nadeem Pasha- Head Talent Acquisition- Robosoft, Dr. S.J. Nagana Gouda, State NHRD Secretary, Mr. Ananth Mallya, Founder - Quantech-Origin, and Dr. N. Mohan Das, Director (Retd.), MHRD, Government of India emphasised the importance of AI literacy, analytical thinking, adaptability, ethics, and closer collaboration between academia and industry.

Mr. N.D. Veeranna Gowda, Director, Management Development Centre, BMA, presented key outcomes and action plans, including the formation of joint committees, curriculum redesign, faculty upskilling, student projects, internships, and placement support with BMA as the facilitator. The Symposium reaffirmed BMA's role as a thought leader and neutral facilitator in all such progressive endeavours.

88.91 lakh voters listed in draft rolls of five city corporations

Opportunity to submit claims and objections from January 20 to February 3, 2026

Bengaluru: In connection with the conduct of elections under the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA), the draft electoral rolls were published. Citizens are advised to verify whether their names are included in the draft electoral rolls and, if not found, to immediately submit applications in the prescribed forms to get their names included. All citizens aged 18 years and above should ensure that their names are included in the electoral rolls, stated State Election Commissioner G.S. Sangreshi during a joint press conference held at GBA Head Office.

The ward-wise draft electoral rolls of the five City Corporations under the jurisdiction of the Greater Bengaluru Authority include a total of 8,891,411 voters, informed State Election Commissioner G.S. Sangreshi.

Speaking to the media after releasing the draft electoral rolls, he stated that elections will be conducted under the GBA jurisdiction covering five City Corporations —

Bengaluru Central, Bengaluru North, Bengaluru South, Bengaluru East, and Bengaluru West — comprising a total of 369 wards.

The draft electoral rolls have been prepared with October 1, 2025 as the qualifying date. The rolls include 45,69,193 male voters, 43,20,583 female voters, and 1,635 other voters, totaling 88,91,411 voters, he explained.

From January 20, 2026 to February 3, 2026, Booth Level Officers (BLOs) will visit households for verification. During this period, citizens will have the opportunity to submit claims and objections, he said. The disposal of claims and objections will be carried out from February 4 to February 18, 2026, and the final electoral rolls will be published on March 16, 2026, he added.

Among all wards, Ward No. 23 of Bengaluru West City Corporation has the highest number of voters

Happiest Minds Run 2026

Run Miles bring Smiles

Bangalore: Bengaluru witnessed an early morning surge of energy and enthusiasm as Happiest Minds Technologies successfully concluded the 6th edition of the Happiest Minds Run on 18th January 2026 at St. Joseph Indian High School, opposite UB City. The event saw the participation of over 2000 people, coming together for a morning centered on fitness, purpose, and collective action. This year's run carried a deeper purpose, with proceeds directed toward supporting children living with Type 1 Diabetes through Idhayaangal Charitable Trust. By combining movement with



reflects our belief that collective action, driven by empathy, can change lives. Seeing 2000 plus people come together for a cause that supports children and families is truly inspiring. The run today stands as a powerful expression of commitment toward health, consistency, and community impact." Following the Bengaluru edition, the Happiest Minds Run will continue across multiple cities, with events scheduled on February 7, 2026, in Bhubaneshwar; February 8, 2026, in Pune and Madurai; and February 15, 2026, in Noida and Hyderabad, extending the initiative's

meaning, the Happiest Minds Run reinforced the idea that community action can create real, lasting impact. Joseph Anantharaju, CEO & Co-Chairman of Happiest Minds, said, "The sixth edition of Happiest Minds' run

focus on health, inclusion, and social impact nationwide. The Happiest Minds Run was proudly supported by AON, RBL Bank, ICICI Bank, Federal Bank, Decathlon, Happiest Health, Sakra, TATA Soulful, DKMS, and Happiest Physio.

BharathCloud appoints JLL as advisory partner for USD 100 million AI-ready sovereign cloud investment



BENGALURU : BharathCloud has appointed JLL as an advisory partner to facilitate build of AI-ready sovereign cloud infrastructure across major cities in India and select international locations.

BharathCloud intends to invest up to USD 100 million over the next five years, subject to board approvals, financing arrangements, regulatory clearances, and prevailing market conditions. As part of this arrangement, JLL will serve as exclusive advisory partner, supporting BharathCloud in colocation site identification, design consultancy, and portfolio optimization. Together, the companies aim to deliver world-class edge cloud infrastructure in cities such as Mumbai, Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi NCR, Kolkata, and Pune, as well as Tier-II and Tier-III locations including Vizag, Ahmedabad, Jaipur,

Coimbatore, Kochi, Chandigarh, and Bhopal. BharathCloud is now strengthening its alliance with JLL for cloud centre development. This collaboration aims to establish a robust distributed cloud ecosystem, positioning BharathCloud as a key orchestrator enabling seamless integration of AI, IoT, and 5G technologies for enterprise edge computing. This strategic move marks the cre-

ation of a fully functional Digital Triangle in India for the first time, unlocking unprecedented value. By integrating DE-CIX's globally recognized interconnection ecosystem with BharathCloud's secure, sovereign cloud infrastructure, this alliance empowers businesses to scale efficiently while actively shaping the future of digital connectivity in India. Padma Reddy Sama, Co-Founder, BharathCloud, said, "This strategic partnership with JLL is a key milestone in advancing India-first, enterprise-grade AI cloud infrastructure. Together, we will roll out sovereign, AI-powered cloud centres starting with at least two in every metro and expanding into Tier-II and Tier-III cities while ensuring top-tier security, scalability, operational efficiency, and compliance with India's data sovereignty requirements."

KARUR STAMPEDE CASE:

TVK chief Vijay grilled for 6 hrs by CBI in second round of questioning

NEW DELHI (TSIT): TVK chief Vijay was on Monday questioned for six hours by the CBI here in the Karur stampede case, officials said.

Vijay was earlier grilled for six hours at the CBI headquarters on January 12. He was asked to come again on January 13, but the actor sought another date due to Pongal, they said. The actor turned politician arrived at the agency headquarters on Lodhi Road in a fleet of luxury SUVs at around 10:20 am. He left at about 5 pm, they said.

TVK party leader C T Nirmal Kumar, who was present outside the CBI office, told reporters that that they are cooperating in the investigation.

"Lots of rumours are being spread around which are not true. We all



know what happened in Karur. MPs from Delhi had gone to Karur; even the Tamil Nadu BJP president has said what exactly happened in Karur." "We are cooperating with the investigating agencies. Please refrain from spreading any misinformation.

He (Vijay) has not been called again," Kumar added. Vijay was questioned during the day by a team of officials led by a deputy superintendent rank officer drawn from the agency's anti-corruption wing, the officials said. Several questions

related to decision-making about the rally, reasons for his delay, continuation of the speech, his knowledge about the ongoing chaos, turnout and mismanagement of the crowd were put forth to him, they said.

The call on attributing the role of individuals in the chargesheet will be taken only after a thorough analysis of the statements of the actor, senior political officials of his party, and police and district administration officials involved in the process of giving clearance and managing the rally, they said. The federal agency took over the case from an SIT following a Supreme Court order and has been gathering evidence related to the September 27 stampede, which claimed 41 lives and left more than 60 injured in Tamil Nadu's Karur.

All eyes on section seeking power share as TNCC meets on Jan 20

CHENNAI: In the backdrop of the All India Congress Committee (AICC) showing a clear direction to the State unit of the party, the Tamil Nadu Congress Committee (TNCC) will hold a crucial Executive Committee meeting on January 20, 2026, at 12 noon at the Sathyamurthy Bhavan in Chennai, under the leadership of its president K Selvaperunthaga.

After the Delhi AICC's preparatory meeting, this Executive Committee meet-

ing will focus on preparations for the 2026 Tamil Nadu Assembly elections and discuss key organisational and mass outreach activities of the party in the state, as AICC has sent a message not go harsh against 'trusted' ally Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK).

Several senior Congress leaders are expected to attend, including Leader of the Congress Legislature Party S Rajeshkumar, MLA, AICC Tamil Nadu in-

charge Girish Chodankar, and AICC secretaries Suraj MN Hegde and Nivedith Alva. Emphasising the importance of the meeting, the TNCC president Selvaperunthaga has urged all state executive committee members and special invitees to attend without fail.

The deliberations are expected to shape the party's strategy and organisational roadmap ahead of the crucial 2026 Assembly polls in Tamil Nadu.

Addressing a function at the Tamil Nadu Dr MGR Medical University in Guindy, the Minister said the revision would benefit 1,575 RCH sanitation workers across the State and entail an annual financial commitment of Rs 11.11 crore.

Policy failure: Eliminating dogs doesn't eliminate danger

India's stray dog crisis is less about animals versus people and more about persistent failures in public health governance, data systems, and urban management that turn a preventable risk into a recurring emergency



India's stray dog crisis is fundamentally a governance failure in public health and urban management, not a simplistic humans-versus-dogs moral battle. Reframing it this way erodes space for data-driven solutions and meaningful accountability.

India today carries an extraordinary share of the global rabies burden, accounting for nearly 36% of human rabies deaths worldwide. Government figures record over 37 lakh dog bite cases in 2024 alone, with at least 54 suspected human rabies deaths in that period. The crisis is particularly severe in states like Tamil Nadu, which reported around 5.25 lakh dog bite incidents and 28 rabies deaths the previous year. In Tamil Nadu, pet dogs, not strays, were responsible for nearly 30% of rabies deaths over the last ten years. These numbers are not merely statistical markers. They point to a serious, ongoing public health emergency that exposes deep systemic failures in surveillance, prevention, and urban animal management.

Against this stark backdrop, the Supreme Court has repeatedly tried to steer the conversation away from a simplistic "dogs versus humans" narrative. Yet executive and local responses frequently drift in precisely that direction. Under

media and public pressure, several states have adopted unsustainable or unlawful measures, ranging from indiscriminate removals to outright killings. In one particularly troubling instance, authorities in Bihar's Begusarai district ordered the shooting of at least 24 dogs in 2023 following a series of local attacks. More recently, around 500 dogs were allegedly poisoned in Telangana's Kamareddy and Hanamkonda districts. Such reactive violence may briefly appease public anger, but it does nothing to address structural gaps in urban animal governance or public health planning.

The Animal Birth Control (ABC) rules are grounded in behavioural ecology and international best practices. They mandate sterilisation and vaccination of street dogs, not culling. Multiple empirical studies, including those aligned with World Health Organisation guidance, show that neuter-vaccinate-return programmes reduce dog population growth and help stabilise behaviour over time. The underlying logic is behavioural, not sentimental.

The central failure, therefore, is not conceptual but institutional. India has the right legal and technical model, but falls short on implementation. Under

Municipal corporations across the country rarely meet sterilisation targets. Many lack trained veterinarians, adequate infrastructure, or up-to-date dog census data. Standardised reporting on sterilisation rates or vaccine coverage is weak to non-existent, making it difficult to track progress or identify gaps. Chennai illustrates these problems starkly. The city's stray dog population is reported to have risen from about 57,000 in 2018 to over 1.81 lakh by 2024, with only around 27% of these dogs sterilised. This leaves a large fertile population, and the underlying reasons include contractor disputes, staff shortages, and administrative interruptions, even as dog-bite cases continue to climb.

Public budgets are announced regularly, but their utilisation remains opaque. There is little clarity on how much of the allocated funding for ABC programmes is actually spent, how it is deployed, or whether private agencies and contractors are held accountable when they underperform. In practice, a significant share of the operational burden is shifted onto under-resourced NGOs and volunteers.

In this context, repeated judicial or administrative calls to "remove dogs from streets" or "place them in shelters" can sound decisive but collapse under closer scrutiny. Sheltering is not a simple or neutral administrative act. It is capital, land, and labour-intensive. One estimate suggested that housing Delhi's roughly 10 lakh street dogs would require around Rs 10,000 crore, a figure that would consume more than half of the city's annual development budget. No civic body in India currently has the financial, spatial, or human capacity to shelter animals at anything near this scale.

Hidden hazard: Indoor air pollution is a shared global risk

In developing countries, indoor air pollution is usually framed as a development problem, linked to people cooking and heating with wood, charcoal or other solid fuels, often in homes with limited ventilation



When indoor air pollution makes the news in Western countries, it often feels like a local concern. One week, the focus is on wood-burning stoves. Another, it is gas cookers or whether people should open their windows more often during winter.

In developing countries, indoor air pollution is usually framed as a development problem, linked to people cooking and heating with wood, charcoal or other solid fuels, often in homes with limited ventilation. These two debates rarely intersect. Our new study, which analyses air-pollution-related mortality risk across 150 countries, suggests they are in fact describing the same public health challenge.

We find that air pollution, including exposure inside homes, contributes substantially to premature death worldwide – deaths that occur earlier than expected because air pollution increases the risk of disease. While exposure levels and pollution sources vary widely, indoor air pollution consistently adds to national mortality risk across all income levels.

When indoor air pollutants are inhaled, they can trigger inflammation and place long-term strain on the heart and respiratory system. The same biological processes occur whether pollution comes from a wood stove in a rural village or from a poorly ventilated cooker in a modern urban flat.

Our study does not measure household-level behaviour or individual exposure. Instead, we take a broader perspective, analysing country-level patterns and examining how access to clean cooking fuels, electricity, healthcare and wider socioeconomic condi-

tions relate to air-pollution mortality risk. The results show a clear and consistent pattern. Countries such as the UK, with widespread access to clean household energy and strong health systems, experience much lower mortality risk linked to air pollution. By contrast, countries including Benin, Cameroon, Guinea, Sierra Leone and Togo – where energy deprivation remains widespread – face far higher risks.

Most existing research on indoor air pollution focuses on rural households and communities. This work is essential, but it often misses the larger structural picture. Our research reveals the global pattern and shows that the same

broad drivers influence risk across regions and income groups. At a macro level, access to clean fuels and reliable electricity lowers air-pollution mortality risk, while higher healthcare spending further reduces it.

Larger rural populations and limited access to household energy increase risk. These patterns help explain why air-pollution deaths remain concentrated in emerging and developing economies, while advanced economies experience far fewer deaths, even though air pollution has not disappeared. They also show that indoor and outdoor air pollution cannot be treated as separate issues, because both reflect how energy is pro-

duced, used and regulated. Reducing indoor air pollution often requires modest changes, such as using extractor fans, ventilating homes regularly and maintaining heating appliances. In developing countries, however, meaningful reductions depend on access to clean cooking fuels, rural electrification and stronger healthcare systems. Overall, our findings underline the central role of clean household energy and robust health systems in reducing deaths linked to air pollution.

Indoor air pollution is best understood not as two separate problems, but as one shared global health challenge with common causes and consequences.



Chief Minister inspected the ongoing construction of the Kalaignar International Convention Centre at Muttukadu, Chengalpattu District....

Congress appoints 71 district congress committee presidents in Tamil Nadu

The Hon'ble Congress President has given approval for the appointment of Presidents of the District Congress Committees in Tamil Nadu, the AICC announced in a press release issued on Sunday.



CHENNAI: The All India Congress Committee (AICC) on Sunday approved the appointment of new Presidents for the District Congress Committees in Tamil Nadu, with immediate effect, as part of the party's organisational restructuring ahead of key political challenges.

The Hon'ble Congress President has given approval for the appointment of Presidents of the District Congress

Committees in Tamil Nadu, the AICC announced in a press release issued on

Sunday. The appointments have been made under the party's nationwide organisational revamp initiative, Sangathan Srijan Abhiyan, aimed at strengthening the Congress at the grassroots level. As part of this exercise, AICC observers were assigned to each district to conduct detailed reviews, interact with party functionaries, and assess organisational performance. Based on the comprehensive

reports submitted by the observers and subsequent one to one discussions with senior party leadership, the new DCC Presidents have been finalised.

The AICC said the appointments will take effect immediately. The move is seen as a significant step towards energising the party cadre in Tamil Nadu and preparing the organisation for the upcoming electoral battles, including the 2026 Assembly elections.

ONCE RUGGED, REKLA RACES HAVE EVOLVED INTO ORGANISED SPORT



GUDALUR (TSIT): The Mayor of Surrey Heath in the United Kingdom, Louise Ashbery, along with members of the mayoral team, paid tribute to a statue of Colonel John Pennycuick, the architect behind the Mullaiperiyar dam, providing a lifeline to 5 districts in Tamil Nadu, marking the British engineer's birth anniversary.

The tribute was held at a private grape orchard along the Gudalur-Cumbum

paying respects.

Deputy Mayor Cliff Bennett and councillors Sharon Ann Billing, Nicola Coles, Matthew Sleep and Alan Ashbery were part of the delegation. Five District Farmers' Association president SR Thevar, Santhana Beeroli of Uthamapalayam a documentary filmmaker who identified Pennycuick's grave in London and members of farmers' associations were present.

COIMBATORE: While jallikattu dominates Pongal celebrations in Southern Tamil Nadu, the Kongu region comes alive with the spectacle of traditional rekla races at this time, every year. Over the years, the rekla races have gradually transformed from a rugged, traditional sport into a more structured and disciplined event, attracting wider participation from across Tamil Nadu.

European Nations slam Trump's 10 percent tariff threat over Greenland

Berlin: The eight European countries targeted by US President Donald Trump for a 10 per cent tariff for opposing American control of Greenland blasted the move Sunday, January 18, warning that the American leader's threats "undermine transatlantic relations and risk a dangerous downward spiral." In an unusual and very strong joint statement coming from major US allies, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, France, Germany, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands and Finland on Sunday said troops sent to Greenland for the Danish military training exercise "Arctic Endurance" pose "no threat to anyone." Trump's Saturday announcement sets up a potentially dangerous test of US partnerships in Europe. The Republican president appeared to indicate that he was using the tariffs as leverage to force talks over the status of Greenland, a semi-autonomous territory of NATO ally Denmark that he regards as critical to US national security. "We stand in full solidarity with the Kingdom of Denmark and the people of Greenland," the group said. "Building on the process begun last week, we stand ready to engage in a dialogue



based on the principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity that we stand firmly behind. Tariff threats undermine transatlantic relations and risk a dangerous downward spiral." There are immediate questions about how the White House could try to implement the tariffs because the EU is a single economic zone in terms of trading. It was unclear, too, how Trump could act under US law, though he could cite emergency economic powers that are currently subject to a US Supreme Court challenge. European Union foreign policy chief Kaja Kallas said China and Russia will benefit from the divisions between the US and Europe. She

added in a post on social media: "If Greenland's security is at risk, we can address this inside NATO. Tariffs risk making Europe and the United States poorer and undermine our shared prosperity." Trump's move was also panned domestically. US Sen. Mark Kelly, a former US Navy pilot and Democrat who represents Arizona, posted that Trump's threatened tariffs on US allies would make Americans "pay more to try to get territory we don't need." "Troops from European countries are arriving in Greenland to defend the territory from us. Let that sink in," he wrote on social media. "The damage this President is doing to our

reputation and our relationships is growing, making us less safe. If something doesn't change we will be on our own with adversaries and enemies in every direction." These tariffs will hurt us. Six of the countries targeted are part of the 27-member EU, which operates as a single economic zone in terms of trading. It was not immediately clear if Trump's tariffs would impact the entire bloc. EU envoys scheduled emergency talks for Sunday evening to determine a potential response. The tariff announcement even drew blowback from Trump's populist allies in Europe. Italy's right-wing premier, Giorgia Meloni, considered one of

Trump's closest allies on the continent, said Sunday she had spoken to him about the tariffs, which she described as "a mistake." The deployment to Greenland of small numbers of troops by some European countries was misunderstood by Washington, Meloni told reporters. She said the deployment was not a move against the US but aimed to provide security against "other actors" that she didn't name. French President Emmanuel Macron wrote on social media that "no intimidation or threats will influence us, whether in Ukraine, Greenland or anywhere else in the world when we are faced with such situations." He added that "tariff threats are unacceptable and have no place in this context." Jordan Bardella, president of Marine Le Pen's far-right National Rally party in France and also a European Parliament lawmaker, posted that the EU should suspend last year's tariff deal with the US, describing Trump's threats as "commercial blackmail." Trump also achieved the rare feat of uniting Britain's main political parties — including the hard-right Reform UK party — all of whom criticised the tariff threat.

Tech Mahindra on WEF list of organisations making AI work in real world



Davos: Indian IT major Tech Mahindra on Monday made it to a list of organisations leading the real-world AI adoption, alongside global giants like AMD, Siemens and PepsiCo. Produced by the World Economic Forum in collaboration with Accenture, the report on MINDS (Meaningful, Intelligent, Novel Deployable Solutions) organisations listed 20 pioneers driving high-impact AI solutions in disease detection, energy optimization, supply-chain resilience and more. It analysed hundreds of cases in more than 30 countries and over 20 industries (including healthcare, energy and infrastructure). An independent Impact Council of leading executives and experts identified clear common patterns among the most promising

cases. These included embedding AI into strategic decision-making, redesigning work to strengthen human-AI collaboration, strengthening data foundations, modernizing technology platforms and supporting all of this with responsible governance. Releasing the report during its annual meeting 2026, the WEF said it reveals successful AI stories that are already delivering measurable performance gains and how pioneering organizations are moving beyond experimentation to achieve impact at scale. As investment accelerates and expectations rise, the findings highlight a growing divide between companies that have built the capabilities to scale AI and those still struggling to deploy it effectively, showing how this gap can be

SMALL CAP PORTFOLIO EXPOSURE TO MICROCAPS LIMITED TO ~2%



Depository Services (India) Ltd. sit within business services, while PVR Inox and Sun TV Network Ltd. represent media & entertainment.

Perception problem

Allocation to small-caps is also skewed by perception. "Many stocks perceived as large- and mid-cap are actually small-cap stocks for fund managers as per AMFI classification," says Juzer Gabajiwala, Director at Ventura. For example, familiar companies—including CDSL, Gillette, NBCC, PNB Housing Finance, Wockhardt, East India Hotels, Angel One, and Tata Chemicals—are officially classified as small caps even though investors often think of them as mid-cap-like.

Shift in investor behavior

As per the study, investor behaviour

does not always follow short-term performance. Between December 2024 and November 2025, small-cap funds delivered negative returns of roughly -2.4 percent, yet the category saw net inflows of ₹53,165 crore. Instead of pulling back, investors continued to allocate more. This suggests that flows are being driven by long-term conviction rather than short-term price movements. "By nature, smallcaps are volatile and at times risky. However, the category has evolved, portfolio construction has become more disciplined, and the opportunity set continues to broaden. Patience is the key for any portfolio investing and to create "alpha" one must have smallcaps in the portfolio," Gabajiwala concludes.

About Ventura:

Ventura is a leading omnichannel trading and investment platform with an extensive network of branches, sub-brokers, and digital channels. Established in 1994, Ventura is headquartered in Mumbai, India, and is a SEBI-registered financial service provider. As a member of various esteemed regulatory bodies including NSE, BSE, MCX, NCDEX, NSDL, and CDSL, Ventura offers a comprehensive range of services including online stock trading, derivatives trading, mutual funds, Demat accounts, portfolio management services, and customised investment planning support.

Award winning longitude 77 expands footprint with hyderabad launch



The globally recognized Indian single malt celebrates Hyderabad's rich cultural heritage through an exclusive unveiling in Taj Falaknuma Palace 19 January 2025. Longitude 77, the Indian single malt from Pernod Ricard India, successfully launched in Hyderabad, captivating Hyderabad's discerning connoisseurs with its rich blend of Indian craftsmanship and global expertise. The launch was celebrated through an exclusive event at The Taj Falaknuma Palace, Hyderabad, offering guests an unparalleled experience of authentic, contemporary Indian luxury. Globally recognized for its exceptional quality, Longitude 77 has earned prestigious accolades, including Gold at the London Spirits Competition, The Global Spirit Masters by The Spirits Business and Monde Selection along with a Bronze at The International Wine & Spirits Competition. These

awards reflect the brand's unwavering commitment to excellence and its growing stature among the world's finest whiskies. At the heart of Longitude 77 is a legacy of extraordinary craftsmanship. Brought to life by the master whisky makers behind iconic global names like Chivas, Glenlivet, and Jameson, Longitude 77 draws from over two centuries of whisky-making heritage, infusing generations of

I've ever tasted. The maturation in the foothills of Nashik, expertly timed and influenced by natural temperature shifts, has resulted in something remarkable. This whisky is a testament to India's emergence as a serious player in the global whisky landscape showcasing the country's ability to craft spirits of outstanding depth, quality, and distinction." Mahesh Patil, Master Blender of Longitude 77 expressed, "Crafting Longitude 77 has been a journey of passion and precision, drawing upon centuries of distilling expertise while celebrating India's unique terroir. Each batch represents our commitment to creating a world-class single malt that truly captures the essence of India. The cool, dry climate of Dindori Nashik, combined with our meticulous double maturation process in American Bourbon barrels and wine casks, creates the distinctive smoothness and complexity that defines Longitude 77.

MAKEMYTRIP INTRODUCES WOMEN-CENTRIC SAFETY AND ASSURANCE SIGNALS IN STAY AND BUS BOOKINGS



Gurugram, January 19, 2026: MakeMyTrip, India's leading online travel company, is leveraging technology and user-generated content to help women travellers make more confident choices across accommodation and intercity bus bookings. The approach is informed by behavioural signals observed on the platform, which indicate a more deliberate review journey among women travellers, including higher click-through on reviews, greater time spent on maps and street view, and deeper engagement with guest-uploaded photos before confirming a booking. These patterns are rein-

forced by booking behaviour. Women are booking 50 percent more stays at least 15 days in advance and show a 16 percent higher preference for premium and branded properties compared to men. This trend becomes more pronounced as women travellers move from Tier 1 to Tier 3 cities, where branded stays also function as a signal of assurance. On intercity bus routes, solo women travellers also tend to prefer seating arrangements that place them alongside other women rather than in mixed proximity. When the platform detects that a woman may be planning a stay, key cues

surface more prominently. Ratings submitted by women are highlighted. AI led summaries bring forward cues such as staff behaviour and location safety during the stay search process. Additionally, women specific amenity indicators such as CCTV, door eye, door chains and full-length mirrors are surfaced more clearly to help travellers understand the safeguards in place at the property. Travellers can also use the Street View option already available on the platform to visually assess the surrounding roads and approach to the property before making a decision.

MagickHome Opens Its Largest Experience Hub in Bangalore; Inaugurated by Rukmini Vasanth



Bangalore, January 2026:

MagickHome, a modular home interior brand unveiled its flagship Interiors Experience Hub in HSR Layout, Bangalore, inaugurated by acclaimed Kannada film actress Rukmini Vasanth. Spanning 6,200 sq ft across two floors, the hub is MagickHome's largest and most immersive destination, designed to completely reimagine how homeowners discover, experience, and choose interiors. Adding star power and strong cultural resonance to the occasion, Rukmini inaugurated the space, celebrating the growing intersection of design, lifestyle, and modern urban living in Bangalore. Walking into the Experience Hub feels like stepping into a real home. Visitors can explore a full-scale 2BHK mock-up, moving seamlessly from an award-winning island kitchen to a thoughtfully integrated living and study area, a guest bedroom with a sliding wardrobe and sofa bed, and a master bedroom lined with floor-to-ceiling wardrobes. The space also showcases MagickHome's patented, child-safe PU finishes, premium acrylics, and a wide range of laminations, opening up over 50,000 design permutations for personalised interiors. Elevating the experience

further is the Design Experience Zone, featuring the Pivoting Panel Matrix and Fabric Library, where customers can touch, compare, and visualise materials in real scale and lighting - turning complex choices into confident decisions. Speaking about the launch, Indrakumar Pathmanathan, Chairman, MagickHome, said, "MagickHome

has always believed that great interiors begin with great understanding. This Experience Hub is a physical expression of that belief. It brings together design, materials, and real-life spaces under one roof, so customers can truly see, touch, and feel what their future home can be. Bangalore felt like the most natural city for this next chapter. It appreciates

design, values quality, and is constantly evolving." On the customer experience and business vision, Ganesan Viswanathan, Vice President, MagickHome, added, "Today's customer does not want to be overwhelmed by choices. They want guidance, transparency, and an engaging process. This store is built to do exactly that. From our 2BHK mockup to the Design Experience Zone, every element is designed to simplify decision-making while elevating the experience. Bangalore is a mature, design-aware market, and this hub allows us to serve it at scale while setting the foundation for our future growth." Speaking about the hub, Rukmini Vasanth, Indian actress, said, "What I loved about this space is how real it feels. You're not just looking at samples and displays but actually walking through a home, understanding how the designs fit in everyday lives. It makes the process of planning your home feel simple, personal and very exciting." With this launch, MagickHome positions Bangalore not just as a market, but as a partner in its design journey. The hub blends thoughtful design, global quality standards, and a deeply human approach to home-making.

HIGH-SPEED TRAIN CRASH IN SPAIN KILLS AT LEAST 39

At least 39 people have died in a train collision in southern Spain and dozens more have been injured in the country's worst rail crash in more than a decade, Spain's Civil Guard has said. Carriages on a Madrid-bound train derailed and crossed over to the opposite tracks, colliding with an oncoming train in Adamuz on Sunday evening. Four hundred passengers and staff were onboard both trains, the rail networks said. Emergency services treated 122 people, with 43, including four children, still in hospital. Of those, 12 adults and one child are in intensive care. Spanish Transport Minister Óscar Puente said the death toll "is not yet final", as officials launched an investigation. Puente described the incident as "extremely strange". All the railway experts consulted by the government "are extremely baffled by



the accident", he told reporters in Madrid. Follow live updates Rail network operator Adif said the collision happened at 19:45 local time (18:45 GMT), about an hour after the train left Málaga heading north to Madrid, when it derailed on a straight stretch of track near the city of Córdoba. The force of the crash pushed the carriages of the

second train into an embankment, Puente said. He added that most of those killed and injured were in the front carriages of the second train, which was travelling south from Madrid to Huelva. The type of train involved in the crash was a Freccia 1000, which can reach top speeds of 400 km/h (250 mph), a spokesperson for the Italian

rail company Ferrovie dello Stato told Reuters news agency. Rescue teams said the twisted wreckage of the trains made it difficult to recover people trapped inside the carriages. Córdoba fire chief Francisco Carmona told Spanish public broadcaster RTVE: "We have even had to remove a dead person to be able to reach someone

alive. It is hard, tricky work." Salvador Jimenez, a journalist with RTVE who was on one of the trains, said the impact felt like an "earthquake". "I was in the first carriage. There was a moment when it felt like an earthquake and the train had indeed derailed," Jimenez said. Footage from the scene appears to show some train carriages had tipped over on their sides. Rescue workers can be seen scaling the train to pull people out of the lopsided train doors and windows. A Madrid-bound passenger, José, told public broadcaster Canal Sur: "There were people screaming, calling for doctors." All rail services between Madrid and Andalusia were suspended following the accident and are expected to remain closed all day on Monday. Iryo, a private rail company that operated the journey from Málaga, said

around 300 passengers were on board the train that first derailed, while the other train – operated by the state-funded firm Renfe – had around 100 passengers. The official cause is not yet known. An investigation is not expected to determine what happened for at least a month, according to the transport minister. Spain's Prime Minister, Pedro Sánchez, said the country will endure a "night of deep pain". The mayor of Adamuz, Rafael Moreno, was one of the first people on the scene of the accident, describing it as "a nightmare". King Felipe VI and Queen Letizia said they were following news of the disaster "with great concern". "We extend our most heartfelt condolences to the relatives and loved ones of the dead, as well as our love and wishes for a swift recovery to the injured," the royal palace said on X.

Japan PM Takaichi calls snap election three months after taking office



Japan's Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi will dissolve parliament on Friday, paving the way for an early election on 8 February that she hopes will translate her strong public polling into a big majority in the lower house. It was an "extremely weighty decision" that would "determine Japan's course together with the people", Takaichi told a news conference in Tokyo. The country's first female leader and her cabinet have enjoyed high public support since taking office last October. But her party lags behind in polls and the move is risky. It's Japan's second general election in as many years and will test appetite for her plans to boost public spending when cost-of-living is top of voters' minds. Having been elected as prime minister by lawmakers on 21 October, Takaichi is now seeking a public mandate in the House of Representatives, the more powerful house in Japan. Since the day she took office, Takaichi said,

she has been "constantly concerned that the Takaichi cabinet has not yet been tested in an election where the public chooses the government". "Is Sanae Takaichi fit to be prime minister? I wanted to ask the sovereign people to decide," she told the news conference. Campaigning for the vote to elect the 465 lower house MPs, who serve four-year terms, starts on 27 January. Her Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) has governed Japan almost continuously since 1955. It currently has 199 seats - including three held by its independent partners - in the House of Representatives, the most of any party. The LDP's coalition with the Japan Innovation party gives it a fragile majority, with just enough seats to govern. A protege of former conservative PM Shinzo Abe and self-proclaimed admirer of Margaret Thatcher, Takaichi is known as Japan's "Iron Lady". She came into office promising an economic upturn after years of stagnation.

Thirteen schoolchildren killed after bus collides with lorry in South Africa



SWISS DEADLY FIRE BAR OWNERS' LAWYERS CONDEMN 'VINDICTIVENESS'



The lawyers of the owners of a Swiss bar where a deadly fire broke out on New Year's Eve killing 40 people and injuring 116 have broken their silence to criticise "lies" about their clients. Jessica and Jacques Moretti were "devastated", the lawyers told local media, but denied being aware of any dangers at their venue. "There is a sort of public vindictiveness directed against them," one of the three lawyers, Yaël Hayat, said. Initial findings from the investigation suggest the fire began as sparklers attached to champagne bottles ignited soundproof foaming that lined the ceiling of the basement of Le

Constellation bar in the popular ski resort of Crans-Montana. Authorities have acknowledged that the bar had not undergone safety checks for five years. Most of the victims of the fire were young - eight were under the age of 16 - and many are being treated in

Man seriously injured in Sydney's third shark attack in two days



Three shark attacks have been reported in Sydney in a little over 24 hours, leaving at least two people seriously injured, according to local authorities. A man was taken to hospital in critical condition after being injured at Manly beach on Monday evening, New South Wales Police said in a statement. Hours earlier, an 11-year-old surfer had to be assisted off Sydney's Dee Why Beach after a suspected shark bit his surfboard, with the local council urging swimmers and surfers to be cautious. The first incident saw a 12-year-old boy taken to hospital with critical injuries after he was attacked by a large shark while swimming in Sydney

Harbour on Sunday afternoon, police said. The boy and his group of friends were jumping off a six-metre rock ledge at Shark Beach, in the Sydney suburb of Vaucluse, when the attack happened on Sunday. Despite its name, shark attacks are rare at Shark Beach, a popular swimming spot. The boy

was pulled out of the water by his friends before rescuers arrived. Police said it was their actions that had given him a shot at survival, local media reported. He is currently in intensive care. "The actions of his mates... have been nothing but brave. [It was] a gallant recovery," said Joseph McNulty, who leads the state of New South Wales' marine area command. "Very confronting injuries for those boys to see, but I suppose that's mateship." Marine police arrived to a "horrendous scene", McNulty told reporters. They pulled the boy onto a police speedboat and used tourniquets to try and stop the bleeding from his legs. They also tried to resuscitate the boy as the boat made its way to an ambulance waiting by a wharf. Authorities believe the boy was attacked by a bull shark, an aggressive species found in warm, shallow waters. Many experts consider bull sharks among the most dangerous sharks in the world.

US believes its power matters more than international law



The US is acting with impunity and believes its power matters more than international law, the head of the UN has told the BBC. Speaking to BBC Radio 4's Today programme, António Guterres said Washington's "clear conviction" was that multilateral solutions were irrelevant. What mattered, he continued, was the "exercise of the power and influence of the United States and sometimes in this respect by the norms of international law". His comments come weeks after the US struck Venezuela and seized its president - and in the context of Donald Trump's repeated threats to annex Greenland. Guterres said he believed the founding principles of the UN - including the equality of member states - were now under threat. President Trump has previously been scathing in his criticism of the United Nations. He used his address at last September's General Assembly to question its very purpose, claiming he had "ended seven unendable wars" on his own and the UN "did not even try to help in any of them". "Later I realised that the UN wasn't there for us," he said. Presented with this damning assessment, Guterres admitted his organisation was struggling to make members abide by the international laws laid out in the UN Charter. The UN was "extremely engaged" in solving major global conflicts, he insisted. "But the UN has no leverage - the big powers have stronger leverage. He questioned whether that extra leverage was being used to produce real and enduring solutions to those conflicts, or just quick fixes. "There is a big difference between the two things," he noted. Guterres also said his organisation needed reform to tackle "dramatic problems and challenges" facing its 193 members. "There are those that believe the power of law should be replaced by the law of power," the UN chief said. "Indeed, when one sees the present policy of the United States, there is a clear conviction that multilateral solutions are not relevant and that what matters is the exercise of the power and the influence of the United States and sometimes in this respect by the norms of international law". He suggested the UN Security Council - designed to maintain international peace and security - no longer represented the world and was "ineffective".

Trump links Greenland dispute to not getting Nobel Peace Prize



US President Donald Trump has said he no longer feels obliged to think only of peace after he did not receive the Nobel Peace Prize, as he again repeated his demand for control of Greenland. In a message to Norway's Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Støre, Trump blamed the country for not giving him the prize. In his reply to Trump, Støre explained that an independent committee, not the government of Norway, awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in October to Venezuela's opposition leader María Corina Machado. CBS News, the BBC's US partner, confirmed the message and its contents. "Considering your Country decided not to give me the Nobel Peace Prize for having stopped 8 Wars PLUS, I no longer feel an obligation to think purely of Peace, although it will always be

predominant, but can now think about what is good and proper" for the US', Trump said in the message obtained by US media. "The World is not secure unless we have Complete and Total Control of Greenland," he added. Prime Minister Støre said he had received the text message on Sunday in response to a text he and Finland's president Alexander Stubb had sent to Trump. Støre said they had conveyed opposition to proposed tariff increases over the Greenland dispute, and pointed to the need to escalate, proposing a three-way phone call the same day. Trump has made no secret of his desire to be awarded the annual prize. He has increasingly insisted that the US needs to take over Greenland for national security reasons. The

sparingly-populated but resource-rich Arctic island is well placed for early warning systems in the event of missile attacks and for monitoring vessels in the region. Trump has repeated that he wants the US to buy Greenland and has not ruled out using military force against a member of the Nato security alliance to take it. Over the weekend, he said he would impose a 10% tariff on goods from eight

Nato allies starting in February if they oppose his proposed takeover, and threatened to raise it to 25% by June. In his message to Støre, Trump said Denmark cannot protect Greenland from Russia or China, and questioned "why do they have a 'right of ownership' anyway? There are no written documents, it's only that a boat landed there hundreds of years ago, but we have boats landing there, also". "I have done more for Nato than any other person since its founding, and now, Nato should do something for the United States," he concluded. UK Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer said on Monday that any decision about the future status of Greenland "belongs to the people of Greenland and the Kingdom of Denmark alone", and called the use of tariffs against allies "wrong". Danish Defence Minister Troels Lund Poulsen and Greenlandic Foreign Affairs Minister Vivian Motzfeldt are due to meet on Monday with Nato Secretary General Mark Rutte. Last week, the Danish and Greenlandic governments, together with Nato allies, decided to increase military presence and exercise activity in the Arctic and the North Atlantic. Several European

states sent small numbers of military personnel to Greenland in a so-called reconnaissance mission. As Trump's recent message said, he has claimed to have ended eight wars since his second term as president began last year. The White House has previously listed these as conflicts between Israel and Hamas, Israel and Iran, Pakistan and India, Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Thailand and Cambodia, Armenia and Azerbaijan, Egypt and Ethiopia, and Serbia and Kosovo. BBC Verify has examined Trump's claim which include a number of "wars" which had lasted just days, although were the result of long-standing tensions, and in some cases - for example Egypt and Ethiopia - there was no fighting to end.



King's Out There: New Zealand Media Manager's Remark On Virat Kohli Goes Viral

Indian cricket team star batter Virat Kohli broke multiple records as he slammed a brilliant century during the 3rd ODI encounter against New Zealand in Indore on Sunday. Chasing a mammoth target of 338, India found themselves in deep trouble after losing 4 wickets before reaching the 100-run mark. However, Virat stitched together useful partnerships with Nitish Kumar Reddy and Harshit Rana to keep the hosts in the game. While the target proved to be too much for India, renowned sports presenter Jatin Sapru revealed how Kohli's presence kept the New Zealand camp worried despite being in a great position. "Harshit Rana had just walked out to bat with Virat Kohli, when New Zealand's media manager, who is a good friend, I texted him saying 'Something special could be around the corner'. Guess his reply? 'King's out there in the middle. Not out of it yet.' Virat Kohli has a global reputation which he has earned

over the last decade and a half. New Zealand was 160 runs ahead, needed just four wickets, but their supporters still aren't thinking about it because Virat was around," Sapru said. Meanwhile, former India all-rounder Irfan Pathan lauded the star batter Virat Kohli after his 54th ODI century in the third and final ODI of the recently-concluded three-match series against New Zealand on Sunday at Indore's Holkar Stadium, and called Kohli India's best ODI batter. Speaking on his YouTube channel, Pathan praised Kohli's consistency and longevity, noting that for over a decade, from 2013 to 2026, he has consistently been regarded as India's best ODI batter. He highlighted that Kohli has scored runs under multiple captains, including MS Dhoni, himself, Rohit Sharma, and now Shubman Gill. "Virat Kohli once again showed why he is such a great player. Back in 2013, when I was also playing, people used to say Virat Kohli is the best batter in the Indian

team currently. In 2016, people also used to call him the best batter in the Indian team. Now, 10 years later in 2026, people are still calling Virat Kohli the best batter in India's ODI side. There's no doubt about it. He scored runs under MS Dhoni's captaincy, under his own captaincy, under Rohit Sharma's captaincy, and now under me."



"Go To School And Learn Captaincy": Ex-Pakistan Star's Brutal Message To Shubman Gill

Former Pakistan cricket team star Basit Ali delivered a brutal verdict on Shubman Gill's captaincy after India suffered an ODI series loss against New Zealand on Sunday. During the 3rd ODI clash in Indore, New Zealand slammed 337/8 and despite Virat Kohli scoring a brilliant century, the hosts slumped to a 41-run loss. While Kohli looked in tremendous form, the likes of Rohit Sharma and KL Rahul failed to impress and despite late fireworks from Harshit Rana and Nitish Kumar Reddy, the total proved to be a bit too much for Gill and co. Following criticism for not being 'proactive' on the field, Gill was targeted by Basit in his



analysis as he said that the India captain failed to make effective decisions on the field. "Credit goes to the Indian captain, Mr. Gill and his captaincy. Even India was without Hardik

Pandya and Jasprit Bumrah. Shami, they aren't keen on picking. India's strength has come down to Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma. Rahul scored in two matches, but

he got out cheaply today. What were the rest doing?" asked Basit on the YouTube Show 'The Game Plan'. India took a 1-0 lead in the series but ended up losing the next two matches due to disappointing performances from the bowling unit. In the 3rd ODI, the hosts had the early advantage with two quick wickets but Glenn Phillips and Daryl Mitchell took the game away from them. Basit highlighted the errors committed by Team India in the 3rd ODI and sarcastically commented that Gill should "go to school and learn captaincy". "When New Zealand almost chased down a 300-plus target in the first ODI, they had set their goal.

Harshit Rana Receives Stunning Praise From His Big Critic: "New Zealand Were Scared"



to him. What a knock! If you look at the scorecard and the fall of wickets, they fell continuously. It was 1/28, 2/45, 3/68 and 4/71. Nitish Kumar Reddy came and steamed the innings and later hit sixes. But the real game-changer was Harshit Rana. The way Rana was batting, New Zealand players were shivering. I was amazed by Rana's batting and performed at a different level. They were literally shaking and didn't know what to do. He was hitting sixes effortlessly and his batting was tremendous," Srikanth said on his YouTube channel. Chasing

a mammoth target of 338, India looked in deep trouble but the partnership between Kohli and Rana gave them some hope. The duo added 99 runs for the seventh wicket and Rana contributed 52. Srikanth was quick to point out that it was Rana's aggressive batting that kept the required run rate in check and allowed Kohli to play his natural game on the other end. "Out of the 99 runs that Virat Kohli and Harshit Rana added, Rana made 52. That 52 runs were crucial and gave Kohli hope even though the asking rate was above 11. Rana's hitting reduced it to 10 and New Zealand were scared. New Zealand captain was scared too," he added.

Ramiz Raja Asks Bangladesh Fans To "Make Some Noise", Gets Trolled Over Stunned Silence



One of the greatest players to have played for Pakistan, Ramiz Raja had to face embarrassment in a Bangladesh Premier League (BPL) match after his attempt to get fans in the stadium make noise fell flat. In a video that has surfaced on social media, Ramiz could be seen asking the fans to 'make some noise' before the start of the match but what happened next made him a butt of jokes on social media. Despite Ramiz's appeal, the fans mostly remained silent. Ramiz, realising he was in the middle of a tough crowd, himself said: "they don't want to make some noise". Here's the video: BPL 2026 Rescheduled After Controversy BPL, Bangladesh's marquee T20 league, faced an unprecedented crisis on 15 January 2026, when a total player boycott led to the cancellation of all scheduled fixtures for the day. The revolt was triggered by some public remarks from M. Najmul Islam, the Chairman of the BCB Finance Committee, who labelled former captain Tamim Iqbal an "Indian agent"

'SHAMEFUL' AND 'TERRIBLE LOOK' - THE CHAOS THAT MARRED SENEGAL'S TRIUMPH



Senegal beat Morocco to win the Africa Cup of Nations for a second time - but only after the final was overshadowed when they temporarily refused to play after the hosts were awarded a stoppage-time penalty with the match goalless. Referee Jean Jacques Ndala gave the spot-kick in the 98th minute after being advised by the video assistant referee (VAR) to consult the pitchside monitor and review defender El Hadji Malick Diouf's challenge on Brahim Diaz. Amid sensational scenes, head coach Pape Thiam, still incensed by Ndala's decision moments earlier to disallow a Senegal goal, ushered his team off the field. Former Liverpool striker Sadio Mane stayed on the

pitch and tried to encourage his Senegal team-mates to finish the game. Following a delay of around 17 minutes, the players did eventually return. Real Madrid forward Diaz, the tournament's top scorer with five goals, was trusted with the penalty, but his tame 'Panenka' effort was caught by Senegal keeper Edouard Mendy who

barely had to move, and Ndala immediately blew his whistle for full-time. Villarreal midfielder Pape Gueye then scored the winning goal in the fourth minute of extra time to seal a second triumph in five years for the Lions. In his post-match news conference, Morocco coach Walid Regragui said Senegal's

actions were "shameful" and do not "honour Africa". Fifa president Gianni Infantino strongly condemned the "ugly scenes" in a post on Instagram. Thiam, meanwhile, had his media briefing cancelled after a ruckus broke out in the press room. But in an interview with BeIN Sport, he accepted that he should not have ordered his team off the field. "We didn't agree," he said. "I don't want to go over all the incidents. I apologise for the football. "After reflecting on it I made them come back [on the pitch] - you can react in the heat of the moment. We accept the errors of the referee. "We shouldn't have done it but it's done and now we present our apologies to football."

DJOKOVIC REGISTERS 100TH AUSTRALIAN OPEN WIN

Novak Djokovic delivered a serving masterclass as he registered his 100th victory at the Australian Open with a straight-set win over Spain's Pedro Martinez. The world number four, who is bidding for a standalone record 25th Grand Slam singles title, only dropped five points out of 57 on serve across a two-hour exhibition of serving excellence. The 38-year-old produced eight holds to love, only lost one point in each of the second and third sets and won 93% of points behind his first serve - all while maintaining a first-serve percentage of 77%. The 10-time champion fittingly closed out the win with his 14th ace of the night, triumphing 6-3 6-2 6-2. Mark

Woodforde, a 17-time Grand Slam doubles champion, hailed Djokovic's serving as "supreme" and "exceptional" on BBC Radio 5 Sports Extra but the Serb offered a more understated assessment of his performance. "Tonight's performance was great, I can't complain about anything. I served very well," said Djokovic. "It's always a challenge to kick-start the tournament on the right note and send the right signal not only to yourself but your opponents watching you play. I have a couple of days without a match to recover my body. I'm using every hour to get in shape for the next challenge." After notching up a century of wins in Melbourne - a feat he has also

achieved at Wimbledon (102) and Roland Garros (101) - Djokovic was treated to video highlights from his 2005 main-draw debut during his post-match interview. Djokovic, in understandably jovial spirits, played down this period of reflection, insisting he will not get caught up in his career achievements until he has "put the racket aside [and is] sipping some nice cocktail on the beach".



GAUTAM GAMBHIR FACES SOCIAL MEDIA FLAK AS NEW ZEALAND STUN INDIA AT HOME

India head coach Gautam Gambhir once again became a subject of intense scrutiny on social media as Shubman Gill & Co suffered a 1-2 series defeat against New Zealand. In the deciding third ODI on Sunday, India were made to chase another gigantic target of 338, courtesy of Daryl Mitchell and Glenn Phillips' hundreds. Despite Virat Kohli scoring yet another hundred, India faltered in the chase. Though there remain many factors behind the series defeat, what happened against the Kiwis



was an all-round collapse. Coach Gambhir, whose selection and strategic decisions have been questioned at various intervals since he took over the head coach's role from Rahul Dravid, became a subject of intense criticism on social media. Many fans even unleashed memes, trolling Gambhir. The ODI series loss against New Zealand at home isn't a one-off. For fans, this loss is not an isolated incident but part of a troubling trend under head coach Gambhir. Since the former opening batter took over in mid-2024, the national team has suffered several unprecedented setbacks: The 2024 Test Whitewash: New Zealand became the first team to sweep India 3-0 in a home Test series. ODI Slump in Sri Lanka: India lost an ODI series to Sri Lanka for the first time in 27 years shortly after Gambhir took over.

Harshit Rana Receives Stunning Praise From His Big Critic: "New Zealand Were Scared"

Former Indian cricket team batter Kris Srikkanth was all praise for all-rounder Harshit Rana and even claimed that New Zealand were scared when he was batting during the 3rd ODI encounter in Indore on Sunday. Although the hosts slumped to a 41-run defeat, Harshit stunned everyone with his aggressive batting and even ended up scoring 52 off 43 deliveries. Srikkanth, who has previously criticised Harshit's selection in the team, could not help but appreciate his batting. Following the match, he hailed Virat Kohli for yet another stunning century but also highlighted how Rana's batting shifted the momentum. "Virat Kohli is King of Kings. Bow down to him. What a knock! If you look at the scorecard and the fall of wickets, they fell continuously. It was 1/28, 2/45, 3/68 and 4/71. Nitish Kumar Reddy came and steamed the innings and later hit sixes. But the real game-changer was Harshit Rana. The way Rana was batting, New Zealand players were shivering. I was amazed by Rana's batting and performed at a different level. They were literally shaking and didn't know what to do. He was hitting sixes effortlessly and his batting was tremendous," Srikanth said on his YouTube channel. Chasing

SOBBING JONES AMONG AUSTRALIAN OPEN RETIREMENTS



An emotional Francesca Jones vowed to pick herself up after the British number three saw injury wreck her chances of a first main-draw win at the Australian Open. Jones was left sobbing on court after struggling with a glute problem from the early stages of her first-round match against Polish qualifier Linda Klimovicova. The distraught 25-year-old tried to continue but ultimately quit when trailing 6-2 3-2. The world number 71 has a rare genetic condition which means she plays with a modified grip, defying the doctors who said she would never play professionally. "If I was someone that didn't know how to pick myself up quickly, I'd have no capacity to be where I am right now," Jones said. A groin injury had forced Jones out of a match at last week's Auckland International, but it was a glute problem that led to her retirement against Klimovicova. Jones was born with Ectrodactyly Ectodermal Dysplasia (EED) and has three fingers and a thumb on each hand, three toes on her right foot and four toes on her left. After a difficult 2024 where she found herself outside the world's top 150, Jones planned to retire in 2025 if her ranking did not improve. Instead, she enjoyed a life-changing season that pumped new energy into her tennis career. Jones had received direct entry into the Australian Open main draw for the first time, but this marked a sad exit to what had been a proud moment. There was a sombre atmosphere on the court as Jones sobbed loudly while receiving treatment in the third set. The crowd applauded her sympathetically as Jones limped off with a towel covering her head. It is the 16th time she has retired from a match since the start of the 2023 season. "I don't relate to any of the retirements directly to what could be referred to as 'kid with a syndrome,'" Jones said. "What I relate to is that I don't think I had a team in place and the expertise that I needed from a younger age."

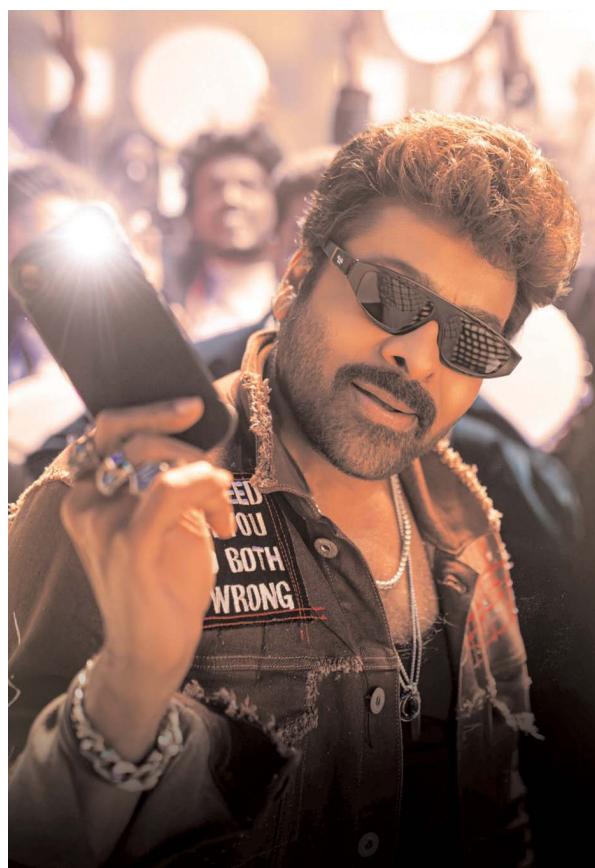
Star Entertainer Naveen Polishetty Rewrites Records

Star entertainer Naveen Polishetty has officially entered the big league, and *Anaganaga Oka Raju* stands as the biggest blockbuster of his career. In just five days, the film has stormed past a massive ?100.2 CRORES GROSS worldwide, turning the Sankranthi box office into a celebration of records, momentum, and pure audience frenzy. From the very first show, *Anaganaga Oka Raju* has enjoyed unstoppable word of mouth, packed houses, and repeat family audiences. The result is historic. All distributors crossed breakeven within just four days, a rare feat in today's highly competitive release environment, clearly establishing the film as a clean blockbuster across territories. With this sensational run, Naveen Polishetty delivers his FOURTH CONSECUTIVE BLOCKBUSTER, reinforcing his status as one of the most reliable and bankable stars of Telugu cinema. Each release has only pushed his market higher, and *Anaganaga Oka Raju* now crowns that journey as his career-high grosser. Overseas, the film has created another landmark. Naveen Polishetty completes a HATTRICK OF \$1 MILLION+ FILMS IN THE USA, a feat achieved by only a select few. Even more remarkably, *Anaganaga Oka Raju* is now racing rapidly towards the prestigious \$2 MILLION mark, with collections holding strong every single day. The overseas distributor Moksha Movies ensured fantastic screen



holding and strategic placement despite a tight festive schedule, playing a crucial role in the film's massive overseas success. Back home, the AP and TS box office has shown extraordinary strength. Despite heavy Sankranthi competition, all distributors of Sithara Entertainments stood solidly behind the film, giving it the best possible release, strong screen counts, and prime placements. Their belief in the content translated directly into sustained footfalls and record-breaking num-

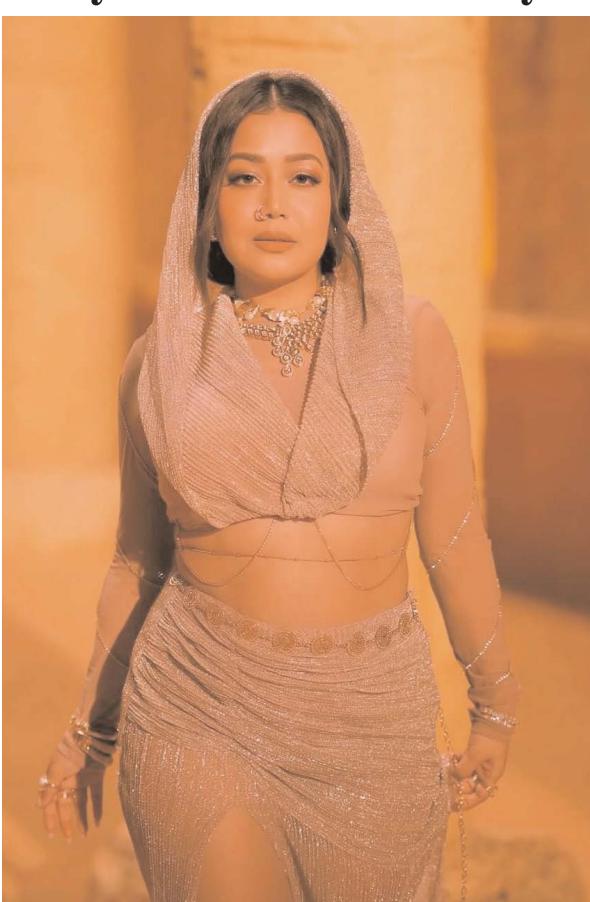
Chiranjeevi's Mega Sankranthi Blockbuster Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu All-Time Industry Record In Telugu States On Day 7, Close To 300 Cr Worldwide & \$3 M In North America



Megastar Chiranjeevi's festive winner Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu is having a record-shattering run. Directed by Anil Ravipudi, the film has not only maintained a rock-solid hold throughout its first week but has also pulled off many landmark feats, including achieving breakeven. The numbers underscore the momentum. After a massive opening, the film has steadily posted big numbers daily, including a strong 31 Cr haul yesterday. The global total now sits at 292 Cr, placing MSG on the brink

of the coveted 300 Cr club, a milestone it is expected to cross comfortably today. This performance positions the film to surpass *Sankranthik Vasthunnam*, thereby becoming the highest-grossing film of Anil Ravipudi's career. MSG has also become the All-Time Highest Share Collected Film In AP & TS on its 7th day. Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu has entered into second week with excellent occupancies everywhere. MSG's impact is equally electrifying overseas.

'Not sure if I'll be back': Neha Kakkar's mysterious Insta story



Mumbai: Bollywood singer Neha Kakkar on Monday announced that she is taking a break from her personal and professional commitments, citing the need to step away from responsibilities, relationships, and work. She took to her Instagram stories section, where she shared a note, which read: "Time to take a break from responsibilities, Relationships, Work and Everything I can think of right now. Not sure if I'll be back or not. Thank you." She then requested the shutterbugs and fans to not "film her at all". "And I request Paparazzi and Fans to Not to film me at all. I hope you respect my privacy and let me live freely in this world. No Cameras Plz! I request! This is the least you all can give me for my peace (sic)," Neha concluded the post. The "Lollipop" singer

did not disclose the reason behind her decision. Neha is the younger sister of playback singers Tony Kakkar and Sonu Kakkar. She began performing at an early age at religious events. In 2005, she participated in the second season of the singing reality show, *Indian Idol*. She made her Bollywood debut as a chorus singer in the film *Meerabai Not Out*. She rose to prominence with the release of the dance track "Second Hand Jawaani" from *Cocktail* in 2012. Neha then went on to belt out hits with popular party songs, including "Sunny Sunny" from *Yaariyan* and "London Thumakda" from the 2014 soundtrack album *Queen*. The singer has also appeared in several music videos and as a judge on several television reality shows, including "Indian Idol".

VIJAY VARMA SHARES SELFIE WITH A 'GOLDEN TOILET' AT AMITABH BACHCHAN'S HOUSE



Explosive claims: Black magic behind Shefali Jariwala's death?

Mumbai: Indian actress and model Shefali Jariwala's sudden demise last year left the entire nation in shock. The actress passed away on June 27, 2025, at the age of 42 in Mumbai, reportedly due to a cardiac arrest. Shefali rose to fame with the iconic music video "Kaanta Laga" and later became a familiar face on reality shows such as *Bigg Boss*. Now, 6 months after her death, her husband, actor Parag Tyagi, has made a startling revelation. During his appearance on the latest episode of "Abraa Kaa Dabra" podcast, hosted by Paras Chhabra, Parag claimed that black magic was performed on Shefali twice before her demise. He said he sensed something unnatural during prayers and even through physical touch, which reflected in her health as insomnia, anxiety, depression, and dark circles. While expressing strong conviction, Parag chose not to

name anyone or go into specific details. According to Parag, where there is faith and God, there is also the presence of evil. He recalled that the first time he felt something was wrong, the feeling passed, but the second time it was much stronger and heavier. "Just by touching her, I could understand something was not right," he said, adding that this prompted him to increase his prayers and religious rituals. "I know for 100 per cent that someone has done something," Parag stated, while maintaining he cannot accuse anyone directly. Shefali Jariwala and Parag Tyagi's love story began quietly in 2010, away from the spotlight. After dating for four years, the couple tied the knot in 2014 in an intimate wedding ceremony. "I know for 100 per cent that someone has done something," Parag stated, while maintaining he cannot

accuse anyone directly. Speaking on Paras Chhabra's podcast, Tyagi said his belief was not based on rumours or hearsay but on what he described as lived experience and intuition. He acknowledged that many people do not believe in such practices but insisted that he does. "Bahot saare log nahi maante inn cheezon ko but main bahot maanta hoon. Jahan par bhagwan hai wahan shaaitaan bhi hai. Aur pata hai log apne dukh se dukhi nahi hai, dusre ke sukh se dukhki hai. Mujhe lagta hua mujhe pata hai kisine kiya hai. Main ye nahi bol sakta kisne kiya but kisine toh kiya hai." Tyagi added that he sensed something was wrong on more than one occasion, suggesting that the feeling was persistent and unsettling. "Mujhe mehsoos hota hai ke kuch toh gadbad hai. Ek baar nahi do baar hua hai aisa mehsoos, aur ek baar toh

n i k a l
gaye lekin iss
baar thoda heavy
rahi cheezin. I don't
know, idea nahi kya
cheez thi kya nahi."
What he says he
noticed Elaborating
further, Tyagi spoke
about moments of
prayer and devotion,
claiming he could
sense changes in Shefali
during those times.
He said these feelings
were strong enough for
him to increase religious
rituals at home. "Main jab
baitha hoon na bhakti mein
mujhe mehsoos ho jaata hai
kuch toh gadbad hai. Pehli
baar mein woh itni hasmukh
ladki hai... main zyaada
details mein nahi jaana
chahunga but mujhe unkto
touch karke samajh jaata tha
ke bhai kuch toh gadbad hai.
Iss baar kuch zyaada tha toh
maine thoda sa puja badha di
thi. I know for 100 per cent

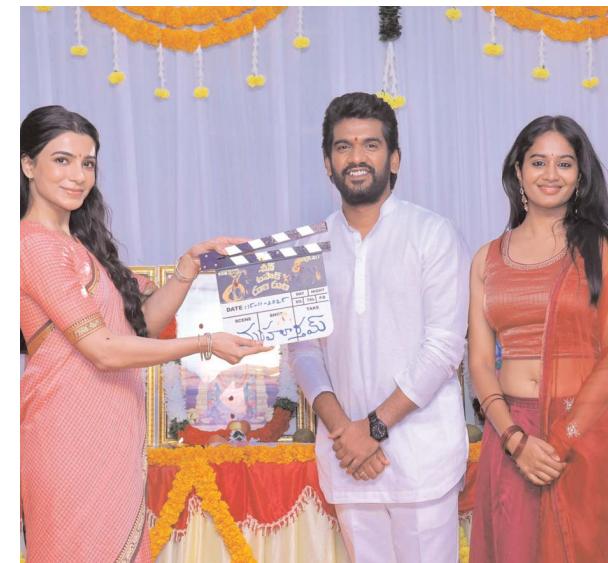
Gavireddy Sreenu's 'Cheen Tapak Dum Dum' Begins with Star-Studded Pooja Ceremony

Gavireddy's New Film Cheen Tapak Dum Dum Launched with Pooja Ceremony - Graced by Samantha, Mallidi Vassishta, Gopichand Malineni, BVS Ravi & Nandini Reddy

Subham Fame Gavireddy Sreenu new film has been launched today with a formal pooja ceremony amongst his well-wishers. The film marks the new journey of writer-turned-actor Gavireddy Sreenu, who earlier entertained audiences with his performance in the Amazon Prime hit series *Kumari Srimathi* and *Subham*.

The film is interestingly titled as *Cheen Tapak Dum Dum*, promising a perfect entertainer. The launch event was graced by star heroine Samantha, directors Mallidi Vassishta, Gopichand Malineni, Nandini Reddy, BVS Ravi, Gowthami, and other eminent personalities from the industry, making it special for the entire team.

Samantha gave the first clap, Gopichand Malineni directed the first shot, Mallidi Vassishta switched



on the camera, and script handover was done by Nandini Reddy, BVS Ravi, and Gowthami marking an auspicious start. The film is produced by Srinu Nagulapalli and marks the first production of Village Talkies. The film is directed by Y N Lohit. It stars Brigida Saga in the prominent role. The film's production design will be handled by A S Prakash, while cinematography is handled by Senthil Kumar. Music is composed by PR, with

About Yumna Zaidi's new Pak drama shot in Hyderabad, Karachi

Hyderabad: 2026 has kicked off on a strong note for the Pakistani entertainment industry. This Ramzan, viewers are in for a special treat as Yumna Zaidi and Hamza Sohail come together for the first time in a brand-new serial penned by Saima Akram Chaudhry with several dramas already dominating Hindi- and Urdu-speaking households across the globe. While some shows are currently on air, many highly anticipated projects are gearing up for release in the coming months. Among them is Yumna Zaidi and Hamza Sohail's upcoming drama, tentatively titled *Load Wedding*, which has already created a buzz. This Ramzan, viewers are in for a special treat as Yumna Zaidi and Hamza Sohail come together for the first time in a brand-new serial penned by Saima Akram Chaudhry, known for her pop-



ular hits *Suno Chanda*, *Chupke Chupke*, and *Hum Tum*. The drama has been shot across multiple Pakistani cities, including the hills of Nathiagali and the streets of Islamabad, Hyderabad, and Karachi, giving the story a vibrant and authentic backdrop. The cast also features seasoned actors Bushra Ansari and Arshad Mehmood, along with rising talents such as Rumaisa Khan and a

