



20-01-2026  
Total pilgrims: 73,788  
Tonsures: 23,449  
Hundi Kanakalu: 4.65 CR  
Waiting Compartments: 13

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



## NATION | NEWS

**KTR condemns Congress MP for 'attack' on BRS MLA**



## WORLD | NEWS

**Could US Congress stop Trump from taking over Greenland?**

## SPORTS | NEWS

**Abhishek Sharma Shatters World Record With 22-Ball Fifty In 1st T20I Against New Zealand**



## INBRIFS

America is now world's hottest economy: Trump

**New Delhi (TSIT):** US President Donald Trump on Wednesday addressed the World Economic Forum (WEF) in here, where he strongly promoted what he called the "American growth miracle" and praised his administration's economic record. Speaking to global leaders and business executives, Trump said the United States had transformed from a "dead economy" into the "hottest economy in the world" within one year of his return to the White House. He claimed that growth, productivity, investment and incomes were all rising rapidly, while inflation had been brought under control. "After 12 months back in the White House, our economy is booming. Growth is exploding, productivity is surging, investment is soaring, incomes are rising. Inflation has been defeated," Trump said, calling it the fastest and most dramatic economic turnaround in US history. Trump sharply criticised former President Joe Biden, accusing his administration of creating stagflation, a situation of low growth and high inflation.

**7-year-old on way to school crushed to death**

**Hyderabad (TSIT):** A Class-I student of an Army School was killed, and her mother was critically injured when a two-wheeler they were riding skidded and fell under an Army vehicle in Telangana. The shocking incident occurred near Trimulgherry in Secunderabad on Wednesday. The seven-year-old boy, a student of Trimulgherry Army School, was on his way to the school and was riding pillion on the scooter driven by his mother. When they reached near the RK Puram Flyover, the scooter skidded. An Army truck coming behind ran over them. The child died on the spot, while her mother sustained grievous injuries. She was shifted to a hospital, where her condition is stated to be critical. The shocking visuals of the child getting crushed under the front wheel of the Army vehicle were recorded on CCTV. Neredmet police registered a case and took up the investigation. According to police, the boy's father serves in the Indian Army and is currently posted in Jammu and Kashmir. In another road accident in the city, three people were injured when a car overturned.

## Telangana targets \$25 billion investment in life sciences by 2030



**Hyderabad (TSIT):** The Telangana government has set the target of attracting \$25 billion investment in life sciences in the next five years. The government unveiled Telangana Next-Gen Life Sciences Policy 2026-2030 at Davos with a clear roadmap to position Telangana among the top five global life sciences clusters by 2030.

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, who is leading a delegation of ministers and top officials at the World Economic Forum (WEF) annual meeting, released the policy. Industry minister Sridhar Babu said that the policy targets \$25 billion in investments and the creation of 5 lakh new jobs, with a strong focus on high-value R&D, advanced biologics and therapies, and environmentally sustainable manufacturing.

According to him, key initiatives include Green

Pharma City, flagship Pharma Villages, and 1Bio, a first-of-its-kind growth-phase centre and biopharma scale-up manufacturing facility. The State government will also establish a dedicated Life Sciences Innovation Fund, scalable up to Rs 100 crore (\$111 million). "With Hyderabad already home to the World Economic Forum's Fourth Industrial Revolution (C4IR) Network and the world's first centre focused on healthcare and life sciences, Telangana is uniquely positioned to lead the next wave of global life sciences innovation. We are building a future-ready ecosystem that is science-led, sustainable, and globally competitive," the minister said.

The state has also earned the reputation of being the vaccine capital of the world and played a key role in saving millions of lives during the COVID-19 pandemic. With a total vaccine production capacity of approximately 14 billion doses, it has solidified its leadership position as a global vaccine hub. The state is also emerging as a leader in the manufacturing of medical devices and diagnostic equipment/reagents with a flourishing ecosystem.

## AP Minister Nara Lokesh Accelerates Investment Push at Davos WEF 2026



**ANDHRA PRADESH**  
India's Sunrise State

**Amravathi (TSIT):** In a high-energy outreach at the World Economic Forum (WEF) Annual Meeting 2026, Andhra Pradesh's Minister for IT, Education, and RTG Departments, Nara Lokesh, intensified efforts to position the state as a premier hub for technology and renewable energy investments.

Lokesh held a series of targeted meetings with top executives from leading

global firms in fintech, green energy, and artificial intelligence, pitching Andhra Pradesh's strategic advantages, infrastructure, and policy support to attract substantial capital inflows.

The minister's agenda focused on transforming Visakhapatnam into a key tech and fintech center while advancing renewable energy projects across the state. He presented clear investment proposals highlighting port infrastructure, skilled talent pools, and supportive ecosystems for startups and innovation.

A standout meeting was with Nikhil Kamath, Founder of prominent stock-broking platform Zerodha. Lokesh proposed establishing a Technology Development Center in Visakhapatnam as part of the city's plan to emerge as a fintech hub. The center would concentrate on platform engineering, backend systems, trading algorithms, and data analytics.

## Mamata directs DMs to strictly follow SC guidelines during electoral roll revision, avoid harassment

**Kolkata (TSIT):** West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Tuesday instructed district magistrates to strictly adhere to the Supreme Court's directions while conducting hearings related to the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, stressing that people should not be harassed in the name of "logical discrepancies".

The chief minister made the remarks after unexpectedly joining a meeting chaired by Chief Secretary Nandini Chakraborty with district magistrates at the state secretariat, Nabanna.

According to a senior official, Banerjee made it

**CM TELLS DMs: ACCEPT EVERY SC-LISTED DOCUMENT, GIVE RECEIPTS, RESCHEDULE IF VOTERS CAN'T ATTEND.**



exception during the hearings. District magistrates were also asked to ensure that receipts are issued to citizens after submission of documents," the official said. The chief minister further directed officials to make alternative arrangements for voters who are unable to attend hearings on the scheduled dates.

Banerjee emphasised that while the Election Commission's work should continue, the state's development programmes must not be disrupted under any circumstances. She also assured officials that they need not fear, stating that her government stands firmly with them.

clear that all SIR-related hearings must be conducted strictly as per the apex court's instructions. She expressed concern that people were facing inconveniences due to hearings over so-called logical dis-

## Won't use force, but US needs Greenland for strategic reasons: Trump at Davos

**Davos (TSIT):** President Donald Trump on Wednesday said the US will not use force to take Greenland and stressed that only America can protect the mineral-rich island, which is at the centre of escalating geopolitical tensions with Europe.

Speaking at the annual meeting of the World Economic Forum, Trump said the US is booming but Europe is "not heading in the right direction".

"I have tremendous respect for people of Greenland and Denmark, but only the US can secure Greenland," Trump said in his 70-minute-long speech during which he launched a blistering attack on NATO allies on a range of issues, including tariffs, environment and immigration.

"We fought for beautiful Denmark, which is not a land, but a big piece of ice, cold and poorly located. It is a very small ask compared to what we have given them for many, many decades. We were stupid to give it back," Trump said, staking claims over the region. "People thought I would use force. I don't have to use force. I don't want to use force. I won't use force." Trump said that Greenland, which is a Danish territory, has a strategic location between the US, Russia and China. "The US needs it for strate-



gic reasons, not for rare earth minerals." Only the US can protect Greenland, and many European nations have also acquired territories; there is nothing wrong with it. "We were a powerful force when we saved Greenland and gave it to Denmark after World War II, but we are much more powerful now," Trump said.

He also called for immediate negotiations for the US to acquire Greenland from Denmark, describing the country as ungrateful, during his speech at Davos. The President also spoke on the US' economic strength and global prosperity, saying "the USA is the economic engine of the planet". "When America booms, the entire world booms."

**EAM Jaishankar, Spanish FM pledge deeper ties**

**New Delhi (TSIT):** External Affairs Minister (EAM) S Jaishankar held a meeting with Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation Jose Manuel Albares on Wednesday, discussing bilateral cooperation, including in trade, investments, defence, technology, education sectors, besides people-to-people ties. EAM Jaishankar expressed gratitude to Spain for its support for deepening ties between India and European Union in various sectors. "Held wide-ranging discussions this morning with FM Jose Manuel Albares of Spain on our bilateral cooperation and world affairs. Spoke about trade, investments, defence, technology, education and people to people ties. Reaffirmed our strong political dialogue," EAM Jaishankar posted on X.



**OPENS TOMORROW**

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23.24.25 JAN | NOVOTEL HYDERABAD CONVENTION CENTRE

10 am - 8 pm | Valet Parking | Entry fee Rs.100



## Consumer Awareness Bharat Yatra Launched to Strengthen Consumer Rights

Hanamkonda: The Consumer Awareness Bharat Yatra is being organised to promote consumer awareness and protect consumer rights across the country, said Dr. Pallegadu Damodar, President of the Consumer Coordination Committee (CCC) of Southern States and National Senior Secretary of the Consumer Confederation of India (CCI).

Addressing a Consumer Awareness Seminar organised by the District Consumer Advisory Council at Ramnagar,



Hanumakonda, on Wednesday, Dr. Damodar said the yatra is being jointly conducted by the Department of Consumer Affairs and CCI, with the support of other concerned departments.

He explained that the yatra aims to create

awareness about the Consumer Protection Act, 2019, including issues such as fraud in weights and measures, food adulteration, deficiencies in paid services, and the legal mechanisms available for consumers to seek compensation.

**SHIRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED**  
(Formerly Known as Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited)  
Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No. 14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032.  
Branch Office: D-4/11403/1B, 1ST Floor, Near National Function Hall, DVK Road, Nalgonda-508001.

### 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 by its incorporation dt. 30-11-2022). 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 Demand Notices on respective dates mentioned herein below under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act, 2002 calling upon 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 Borrowers(s)/Co-Borrower(s)/Guarantors	NPA DATE:	Date Of Demand Notice:
(1) Mannem Venkanna, S/o: Mannem Appaiha, Age: 40 Years, Occ: Business, R/o: H.No: 3-126, Shiva Nagar, Chityala Mandal, Nalgonda -508114, Cell: 9059476960.	30.09.2018	28.11.2025
(2) Mannem Vijaya Lakshmi, W/o: Mannem Venkanna, Age: 38 Years, Occ: Business R/o: H.No: 3-126, Shiva Nagar, Nalgonda Town & Nalgonda District, Nalgonda -508001, Cell: 9059476960.	30.09.2018	28.11.2025
(3) Shaik Hussain, S/o: Shaik Ali, Age: 40 Years, Occ: Business, R/o: H.No: 1-257, Muthyalamangalam, Chityala Mandal, Nalgonda District -508114, Cell: 6301027520.	30.09.2018	28.11.2025

**NLGD2TF1802270004 - DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY:** Property Holder Name: Mannem Venkanna with Document No: 3207 of 2018. All that Open House Plot within Survey No: 224 inside Residential Zone Admeasuring 243 Sq Yards Equivalent to 203.17 Sq.Meters Situated at Block No: 06, Bhavani Nagar, Chityala Village and Mandal, Nalgonda District: North: Plot of Bomma Narsamma, South: Plot of Guntuji Papa Chary, East: Plot of Jahangir, West: 18 Feet Wide Proposed Road.

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 any of his secured assets referred to in the notice, without prior written consent of the secured creditor.

Dated: 21.01.2026  
Place: MIRYALAGUDA

Authorized Officer  
SHIRIRAM FINANCE LTD.

**SHIRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED**  
(Formerly Known as Shriram Transport Finance Company 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, Ghatkopar, Navi Mumbai-400710.

Authorised Officer Address: Zonal Office, Wyra Road, SBI Buildings, Khamamm-507001.

### 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 by its incorporation dt. 30-11-2022). 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 Demand Notices on respective dates mentioned herein below under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act, 2002 calling upon 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 Borrowers(s)/Co-Borrower(s)/Guarantors	NPA DATE:	Date Of Demand Notice:
(1) Mani Kumar Saiana, S/o: Srihari Rao, Age: 35 Years, Occ: Sri Saimayur Engineering Works At Mahabubabad, # 1-4-12/2/24, Housing Board Colony, Mahabubabad, Warangal, Cell: 998899645 -...borrower/Guarantor No. 1. (2) Madhavi Sayana W/o: Srihari, Age: 52 Years, Occ: House Wife, # 1-4-12/2/24, Housingboard Colony, Mahabubabad, Warangal, Cell: 998899645 -...borrower/Guarantor No. 2.	30.11.2016	22.12.2025

**MABOTFT1510260012 - DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY:** Property Holder Name: Madhavi Sayana W/o: Srihari, Age: 52 Years, Occ: House Wife, # 1-4-12/2/24, Housingboard Colony, Mahabubabad, Warangal, Cell: 998899645 -...borrower/Guarantor No. 4.

**MABOTFT1510260012 - DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY:** Property Holder Name: Madhavi Sayana W/o: Srihari, Age: 52 Years, Occ: House Wife, # 1-4-12/2/24, Housingboard Colony, Mahabubabad, Warangal, Cell: 998899645 -...borrower/Guarantor No. 4.

**MABOTFT1510260012 - DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY:** Property Holder Name: Madhavi Sayana W/o: Srihari, Age: 52 Years, Occ: House Wife, # 1-4-12/2/24, Housingboard Colony, Mahabubabad, Warangal, Cell: 998899645 -...borrower/Guarantor No. 4.

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 any of his secured assets referred to in the notice, without prior written consent of the secured creditor.

Dated: 16.01.2026  
Place: KHAMMAM

Authorized Officer  
SHIRIRAM FINANCE LTD.

**SHIRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED**  
(Formerly Known as Shriram Transport Finance Company 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, Ghatkopar, 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 by its incorporation dt. 30-11-2022). 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 Demand Notices on respective dates mentioned herein below under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act, 2002 calling upon 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 Borrowers(s)/Co-Borrower(s)/Guarantors	NPA DATE:	Date Of Demand Notice:
(1) Surapu Reddy Srinivas Reddy@Aliai Surapu Reddy Srinivas Reddy, S/o: Surapu Reddy Nanda Radha, Age: 55 Years, Occ: Self Employee, R/o: Address-I: H.No: 74, IV Lane, Annapurna Colony, Road No. 7, Hastingapura, Vanasthalipura, Sugam Ring Road, Near Mithra Bar, Hyderabad-500073, Address-II: # 4-57, Reddy Guda Colony, Near Government School, Chilavera, Chilavera, Mahabub Nagar-503937, B/o: Proprietor of "S.S. Enterprises", Anmathavillas, 3rd Floor, Somajiguda, Opp: Yashoda Hospital, Hyderabad-500079, 9059168175. (2) Surapu Reddy Annapurnamma @ Alias Surapu Reddy Annapurnamma, S/o: Surapu Reddy Srinivas Reddy, Age: 50 Years, Occ: Self Employee, R/o: Address-I: H.No: 74, IV Lane, Annapurna Colony, Hastingapura, Vanasthalipura, Sugam Ring Road, Near Mithra Bar, Hyderabad-500073, Address-II: # 4-57, Reddy Guda Colony, Near Government School, Chilavera, Chilavera, Mahabub Nagar-503937, B/o: "Sumeera Saree Center", 9948727008. (3) K Nagendra Kumar @ Alias Kajapa Nagendra Kumar, S/o: Nagaraju Kajapa @ Nagaraja Kajapa, Age: 60 Years, Occ: Self Employee, R/o: H.No: G-1, 130/B, Lane No. 18, Sairam Plaza, S.R. Nagar, Welfare Association, Near Brilliant Grammer High School, Hyderabad-500038, 8008302365. (4) Mahanohan Sahu, S/o: Raghu Nath Sahu, Age: 63 Years, Occ: Self Employee, R/o: H.No: G-1, 130/B, Lane No. 18, Sairam Plaza, S.R. Nagar, Welfare Association, Near Brilliant Grammer High School, Hyderabad-500038, 7032700242. ....Borrowers/Co-borrower/Guarantors/Legal heirs	28.02.2019	19.12.2025

Name of the Borrowers(s)/Co-Borrower(s)/Guarantors	NPA DATE:	Date Of Demand Notice:
(1) Surapu Reddy Srinivas Reddy@Aliai Surapu Reddy Srinivas Reddy, S/o: Surapu Reddy Nanda Radha, Age: 55 Years, Occ: Self Employee, R/o: Address-I: H.No: 74, IV Lane, Annapurna Colony, Road No. 7, Hastingapura, Vanasthalipura, Sugam Ring Road, Near Mithra Bar, Hyderabad-500073, Address-II: # 4-57, Reddy Guda Colony, Near Government School, Chilavera, Chilavera, Mahabub Nagar-503937, B/o: Proprietor of "S.S. Enterprises", Anmathavillas, 3rd Floor, Somajiguda, Opp: Yashoda Hospital, Hyderabad-500079, 9059168175. (2) Surapu Reddy Annapurnamma @ Alias Surapu Reddy Annapurnamma, S/o: Surapu Reddy Srinivas Reddy, Age: 50 Years, Occ: Self Employee, R/o: Address-I: H.No: 74, IV Lane, Annapurna Colony, Hastingapura, Vanasthalipura, Sugam Ring Road, Near Mithra Bar, Hyderabad-500073, Address-II: # 4-57, Reddy Guda Colony, Near Government School, Chilavera, Chilavera, Mahabub Nagar-503937, B/o: "Sumeera Saree Center", 9948727008. (3) K Nagendra Kumar @ Alias Kajapa Nagendra Kumar, S/o: Nagaraju Kajapa @ Nagaraja Kajapa, Age: 60 Years, Occ: Self Employee, R/o: H.No: G-1, 130/B, Lane No. 18, Sairam Plaza, S.R. Nagar, Welfare Association, Near Brilliant Grammer High School, Hyderabad-500038, 8008302365. (4) Mahanohan Sahu, S/o: Raghu Nath Sahu, Age: 63 Years, Occ: Self Employee, R/o: H.No: G-1, 130/B, Lane No. 18, Sairam Plaza, S.R. Nagar, Welfare Association, Near Brilliant Grammer High School, Hyderabad-500038, 7032700242. ....Borrowers/Co-borrower/Guarantors/Legal heirs	28.02.2019	19.12.2025

**BSRBTFT1707300001 - DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY:** All that the Non-Agricultural Land to an extent of Ac.11-28 Guntas in Survey No. 159/A (Ac. 7-33 Guntas) and in Sy.No. 194/A (Ac. 3-35 Guntas) Situated at Chilavera of Midil Mandal, Mahabubnagar District, and **Bounded as follows:** **Boundaries For Sy.No. 159/A:** North: Cart Way, South: Land of Radhamma, East: Land of B. Alivelu, West: Land of K. Parvathamma, **Boundaries For Sy.No. 194/A:** North: Cart Way, South: Land of B. Alivelu, East: Land of K. Parvathamma, **West:** Land of B. Alivelu.

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 any of his secured assets referred to in the notice, without prior written consent of the secured creditor.

Dated: 21.01.2026  
Place: HYDERABAD & MAHABUB NAGAR

Authorized Officer  
SHIRIRAM FINANCE LTD.

# Telangana

HYDERABAD  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 2026

3

## Telangana Rising Delegation Holds Outcome-Driven Breakfast Meeting with TATA Chairman at Davos

Davos: The Telangana Rising delegation, led by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, held a highly productive breakfast meeting with TATA Group Chairman Natarajan Chandrasekaran at the TCS Pavilion on Day 2 of the World Economic Forum (WEF) 2026. The meeting focused on promoting the State's long-term Telangana Rising 2047 vision, policies, and growth ecosystem, rather than seeking immediate investments.

Chief Minister made a detailed presentation on Telangana's Vision 2047, including the \$3 trillion economy target and the



CURE, PURE, and RARE development framework. Impressed by the structured planning and clarity of vision, the TATA Chairman commended the State Government's approach of showcasing policy strength, talent, innovation, and infrastructure into advanced skill centres. The delegation also briefed

Chandrasekaran on the establishment of the Young India Skills University, with industrialist Anand Mahindra as Chairman of its Board of Governors.

Sports infrastructure was a major focus of the discussion. The Chief Minister pitched plans to upgrade major stadiums in Hyderabad with TATA's support, aiming to prepare India for medal success at the 2036 Olympics. Chandrasekaran welcomed the proposal and agreed on the need for world-class sports infrastructure and early-stage talent grooming.

Reacting positively to

Telangana's growth framework.

**ICICI Home Finance**  
Corporate Office: ICICI Home Finance Company Limited ICICI HFC Tower, Andheri - Kurla Road, Andheri (East), Mumbai - 400059, India  
Branch Office : D: No: 16-11-20/6/6/1, 1st Floor, Opp. TV Tower, Malakpet, Near Musarambagh Metro station, Dilsukhnagar, Hyderabad, Telangana-500036.

Notice for sale of immovable assets through Private Treaty  
Corporate Office: ICICI Home Finance Company Limited ICICI HFC conducted several e-Auctions for the sale of the mortgaged property mentioned below, however, all such e-Auctions failed. Now, an interested buyer has approached ICICI HFC with an offer to purchase the said property for an amount of Rs. 25,00,000/- Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below-described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the said creditor for the possession of the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) will be sold on "As is where it is", "As is what it is", and "Whatever there is", by way of Private Treaty as per the brief particulars given hereunder:

Sr. No	Name of Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantor(s)/ Legal Heirs, Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured asset(s) with known enc

## AP Speaker moots salary cut for MLAs not attending Assembly

Amaravati, Jan 21 : Andhra Pradesh Speaker Chintakayala Ayyanna Patrudu on Wednesday suggested a 'no work, no pay' policy for MLAs who are not attending the Assembly.

He also mooted the proposal to give voters the 'Right to Recall' such public representatives.

The Speaker made the suggestion at the 86th All India Conference of Presiding Officers on "Accountability of Legislature towards the People" at Lucknow. He was apparently hinting at Opposition YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) MLAs who have not been attending the Assembly.

All 11 MLAs, including



YSRCP president and former Chief Minister Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, have been skipping Assembly sessions to press their demand for Leader of Opposition status for Jagan Mohan Reddy. The Speaker said that the failure of some legislators to perform their duties is most regrettable.

"In the Andhra Pradesh Legislative

Assembly, some of the members have not attended even a single day of sessions nor participated in a single debate till date since their election to the House in June 2024. To make matters worse, most of these members who do not attend the House regularly draw their salaries and allowances. As a Speaker, this causes me great pain," he said.

"How can we avoid being belittled by the public with such unethical behaviour? How can such conduct be justified?" he asked. Stating that there are no specific rules to prohibit this kind of behaviour, he requested the Lok Sabha Speaker to show a way forward. He

also sought advice from his fellow Speakers.

"This is not just an issue for the Andhra Pradesh legislature. The public will use these examples to paint all elected representatives with the same brush. No one is exempt from public criticism," he said.

The Speaker made two suggestions in this regard. He said that just as employees' salaries are withheld if they do not attend duty, the salaries and allowances of public representatives should be cut for non-attendance. "For those elected representatives who still do not learn a lesson, there is no choice but to send them back to the 'People's Court'.

Hyderabad police commissioner V.C. Sajjanar, IPS inaugurates advanced robotic-assisted orthopaedic surgery system at Medicover Hospitals, Secunderabad



Medicover Hospitals, Secunderabad, on Wednesday commissioned the city's newest MAKO robotic-arm system for hip and knee replacements, with Hyderabad police commissioner V.C. Sajjanar, IPS performing the ceremonial

joint-replacement surgeon Dr. Uday Krishna Maineni said the technology allows minimally invasive cuts, smaller incisions, less blood loss and, in selected cases, same-day discharge. Chairman Dr. Anil Krishna noted that bringing the 6-crore system to Telangana keeps high-end joint care within India and offloads overseas medical travel. The first robotic cases—two total knee replacements—are scheduled next week. Medicover plans to extend robotic assistance to shoulder and spine units later this year, cementing its pitch as a precision-orthopaedics hub.

### "Hi Life Brides" Unveils Hyderabad's Grandest Bridal Showcase This Weekend at Novotel HICC



Hyderabad (TSI): Brides-to-be can finally mark their calendars: the city's most anticipated wedding exposition, "Hi Life Brides," opens its doors on 23 January at the Novotel Hyderabad HICC and runs through 25 January. Curated as a one-stop destination for every bridal need, the three-day event spotlights exclusive bridal couture, heirloom-worthy fine jewellery, curated trousseau essentials and on-trend wedding décor ideas.

From hand-embroidered lehengas to bespoke diamond sets and destination-wedding trousseau packs, more than 150 premium labels will present their latest collections under one roof. Visitors can also attend daily styling workshops, meet celebrity makeup artists and book one-on-one consultations with top wedding planners. Entry passes are available on the Hi Life Brides website and at the venue. Doors open 11 a.m.-8 p.m. daily; early-bird shoppers receive complimentary goodie bags.

### GITAM Hyderabad Earns Global Spotlight: Prof. Parwekar Keynotes SmartCom-2026, Campus Wins ITC WOW Sustainability Award

Hyderabad: GITAM Deemed-to-be University, Hyderabad, added two new feathers to its cap this week. Professor Pritee Parwekar from the Department of Computer Science & Engineering delivered the opening keynote at the 10th International Conference on Smart Trends in Computing and Communications (SmartCom-2026) in Pune, while the campus itself was honoured with the ITC



"Wellbeing Out of Waste" (WOW) Award for exemplary recycling efforts. Addressing a hybrid audience of 400-plus delegates from 50 countries on 19 January, Prof. Parwekar mapped the future of secure,

intelligent communication networks and AI-integrated computing, setting the academic tempo for the three-day Springer-supported conference. Barely 48 hours later, back home, GITAM students and the Hospitality Team collected the ITC WOW trophy for diverting 20,975 kg of paper waste from landfill in 2025-26—saving an estimated 356,000 litres of water and 41 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent. Ambika Philip, Director – Hospitality and Campus Life, credited the milestone to "a campus culture that treats sustainability as everyone's everyday job."



reflecting on collaborative learning practices, Dr M Naveen Kumar observed, "The emphasis on peer programming, Think-Pair-Share models, and collaborative problem-solving creates an environment

where students actively participate in learning, enhancing critical thinking and adaptability."

Sharing her observations on pedagogy and student engagement, Dr Saleti Sumalatha said, "Carnegie Mellon University follows a deeply student-centric approach to teaching. Methods such as reflection-based learning, critique-based activities, design sprints, pair and mob programming, inquiry-driven discussions, and indirect assessment help students build strong conceptual understanding."

She added that implementing several of these approaches in her own database courses resulted in a 100 per cent student success rate.

Highlighting CMU's research ecosystem, Dr Ashu Abdul noted that the university places strong emphasis on societal impact and industry relevance. Students across academic levels are actively involved in addressing real-world industry challenges.

He cited insights shared by Professors at CMU who collaborated with Meta, on projects such as compact AI-based language models for SRM University-AP, Andhra Pradesh, Neerukonda, Mangalagiri Mandal, Guntur District,

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for language-impaired children, smart eyewear for individuals with memory loss and dementia, and other futuristic innovations.

Beyond publishing research

## KTR condemns Congress MP for 'attack' on BRS MLA



Hyderabad, Jan 21 : Condemning the alleged verbal abuse and physical assault on his party MLA by Congress MP Mallu Ravi, BRS working president K. T. Rama Rao on Wednesday termed it an open attack on democracy. Rama Rao reacted strongly to the incident that occurred in Jogulamba Gadewal district on Tuesday. Mallu Ravi, the MP

from Nagarkurnool, pushed aside BRS MLA Vijayaram during an argument over a protocol issue at the launch of development programmes at Paipadu in Vaddepally municipality. The MP was angry when Vijayudu, the MLA from Alampur, wanted to break coconuts as part of the tradition. A video of the incident shared by BRS on social media shows Mallu Ravi pushing aside the MLA and shouting, "Who are you to break the coconuts?" BRS MLA, along with party leaders, were at the launch of development works by the MP. AICC General Secretary Sampath Kumar and other Congress leaders were present.

## Sunitha unveils Band Capricio's historic USA tour 2026 poster

Playback singer Sunitha Upadrashta on Tuesday launched the poster for Band Capricio's 30-city USA tour—billed as the largest-ever American trek by a Telugu live act—at a Hyderabad media gathering. Eknath Kiran and Shravan of the six-piece outfit called the unveiling a "full-circle" moment, recalling that Sunitha first took them to the US years ago when they were starting out. The February-March 2026 "Rise Tour" will open phase one of the marathon run, presented by New Jersey-based promoter Vedom Art and co-presented by Eleven Point Two, Vedom Art, creator of the GigVedom indie-music festival, will handle production across venues stretching from Dallas to Detroit. Sunitha wished the band "memorable and successful shows," saying their growth symbolises Telugu music's widening global footprint. Tickets go on sale this week; city-wise dates are expected to drop shortly.



### South Central Railway general manager Shri Sanjay Kumar Srivastava conducts safety inspection in Guntur division

South Central Railway general manager Sanjay Kumar Srivastava on Wednesday inspected the Nandyal-Nallapadu section of Guntur division, accompanied by divisional railway manager Sudeshna Sen and senior headquarters officials. Starting at Nandyal station, he checked the running room, canteen and crew lobby before distributing safety-awareness pamphlets to staff and passengers. A rear-window ride-through followed, covering track, signalling, level-crossing gates and the Gundlakamma bridge. Srivastava quizzed gatekeepers on vigilance protocols and reviewed progress of the new Bogada tunnel and Amrit station upgrades at Giddalur, Kambam, Markapur Road, Donakonda, Vinukonda and Narasaraopet. He directed engineers to speed up work on these modernisation projects and also examined the freight siding at Nallapadu. The day-long exercise, officials said, reaffirmed SCR's twin focus on operational safety and passenger-centric infrastructure before the summer rush begins.

## RPF brass band plays at Begumpet station



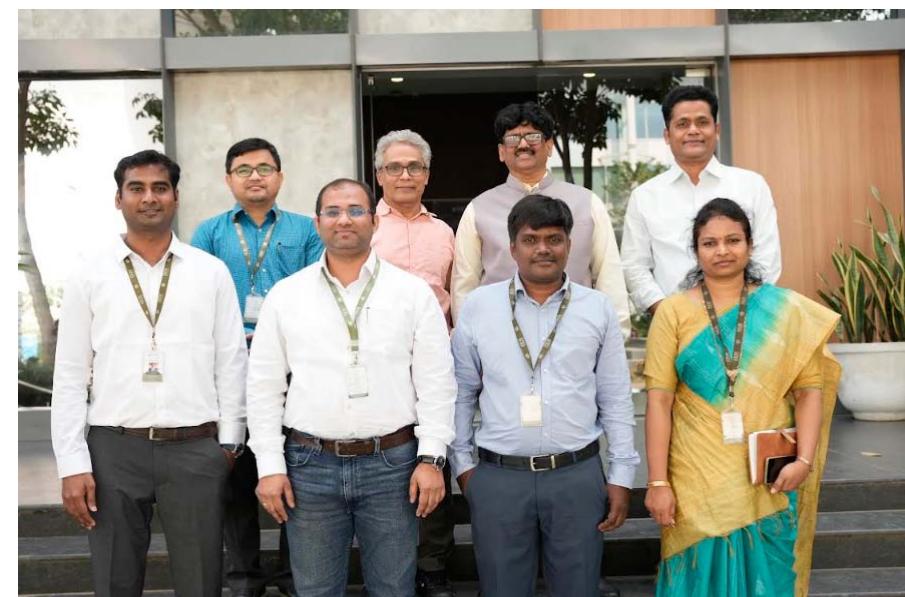
Railway Board, is designed to "infuse patriotic spirit" among rail users in the run-up to Republic Day. Videos of the Begumpet performance posted by SCR's official handles crossed 50,000 views within hours, prompting requests for additional late-night sets. Senior Divisional Security Commissioner R. K. Meena said the bandobust plan ensures zero disruption to train services while giving travellers a "musical salute to the nation".

## Kubera Silks grand opening held at General Bazaar, Secunderabad

Premium-silk retailer Kubera Silks opened its third Hyderabad outlet at General Bazaar, Secunderabad, on Wednesday morning, with actor-anchor Suma Kanakala cutting the ribbon before a packed crowd of shoppers and textile traders. Founded only last July by entrepreneurs Shyamsunder and Shalini, the brand has raced from a single store to a three-branch chain in six months by pitching authentic Kanchi, Banaras and Gadwal weaves at bridal-budget prices. The new 1,200-sq-ft showroom stocks designer and fancy pattu alongside wedding collections; launch-day discounts drew steady footfall till closing time. Addressing guests, Kanakala praised the founders' "quality-first, pocket-friendly" model and wished them "many more milestones". Management says the Karmanghat and Saroornagar branches will be complemented by a fourth location later this year as Kubera eyes city-wide coverage. Special inaugural offers run through the weekend.



## SRM AP faculty share key learnings from academic visit to Carnegie Mellon University



Guntur (TSIT) A four-member faculty cohort from SRM University-AP recently concluded an academic visit to Carnegie Mellon University (CMU), USA, gaining valuable insights into global best practices in artificial intelligence (AI), interdisciplinary research, and student-centric pedagogy.

The first cohort comprised Dr Saleti Sumalatha, Dr M Naveen Kumar, Dr Ashu Abdul, Assistant Professors, Department of Computer Science and Engineering along with Dr Sunil Chinnadurai, Associate Professor, Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering. Together, they represented the domains of computer science, robotics, and AI-driven research. During their visit, the faculty engaged closely with CMU researchers and academicians to understand how AI is seamlessly integrated into academic programmes, research initiatives, and industry collaborations. Key areas of focus included AI applications in quantum computing,

language models, robotics, and interdisciplinary projects addressing real-world and societal challenges. Speaking about the visit, Prof. Ch. Satish Kumar, Vice Chancellor, SRM AP, said, "Our engagement with Carnegie Mellon University offered valuable global perspectives on integrating AI into higher education. Faculty members play a crucial role in systematically embedding artificial intelligence across the curriculum, research initiatives, and institutional strategy. Such international exposure enables us to benchmark our practices and further strengthen SRM AP's vision of research-led education."

He also noted that the faculty members were actively involved in research discussions and academic collaborations, which will contribute significantly to meeting global academic and research standards at SRM AP.

Reflecting on collaborative learning practices, Dr M Naveen Kumar observed, "The emphasis on peer programming, Think-Pair-Share models, and collaborative problem-solving creates an environment

where students actively participate in learning, enhancing critical thinking and adaptability."

Sharing her observations on pedagogy and student engagement, Dr Saleti Sumalatha said, "Carnegie Mellon University follows a deeply student-centric approach to teaching. Methods such as reflection-based learning, critique-based activities, design sprints, pair and mob programming, inquiry-driven discussions, and indirect assessment help students build strong conceptual understanding."

She added that implementing several of these approaches in her own database courses resulted in a 100 per cent student success rate. Highlighting CMU's research ecosystem, Dr Ashu Abdul noted that the university places strong emphasis on societal impact and industry relevance. Students across academic levels are actively involved in addressing real-world industry challenges.

He cited insights shared by Professors at CMU who collaborated with Meta, on projects such as compact AI-based language models for SRM University-AP, Andhra Pradesh, Neerukonda, Mangalagiri Mandal, Guntur District,

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for language-impaired children, smart eyewear for individuals with memory loss and dementia, and other futuristic innovations. Beyond publishing research

papers, CMU prioritises building market-ready prototypes and refining them through user feedback and market research. This application-driven approach plays a key role in producing industry-ready graduates," he added.

Commenting on advanced research infrastructure, Dr Sunil Chinnadurai said, "The visit provided valuable exposure to cutting-edge work in robotics and AI, particularly hyperspectral robotic vision. This has significant applications in assistive robotics and automation." He further noted that the interactions led to the initiation of a collaborative research project involving undergraduate students from SRM AP, offering them hands-on, industry-relevant experience.

Faculty also interacted with Dr Raj Reddy, widely regarded as the Father of AI in India, who shared insights on strengthening AI laboratories and aligning academic research with industry needs at SRM AP. The faculty plan to disseminate these learnings through a Faculty Development

Programme to ensure broader institutional impact. The second Cohort has already departed for CMU. The outcomes of the visit are expected to strengthen AI integration, research capacity, and innovative teaching practices at SRM University-AP, reinforcing its commitment to globally relevant education and interdisciplinary research.

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S.C.Railway can be seen on our  
website: www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER  
(through https://ireps.gov.in) [PUB/7/19]

CE-C/I/SC Construction Organisation,  
South Central Railway,  
Secunderabad, respectively, invites e-  
tender on behalf of the President of  
India for the following works:

SI.No. : 1. Notice Inviting Tender  
No. : 01-CAO-C-SC-2026, Dated :  
13-01-2026. Name of work : South  
Central Railway Construction  
Organization : Kazipet - Balharshah  
Section : SW-1 : Proposed  
Construction of Two (02) Overpasses  
for Wild Animals Crossing at Railway  
Km:178/17-25 & Km:192/21-27 with  
Clear Span : 1x42.00m Span  
Composite Girder with Total Width of  
100m per Overpass between Makudi  
and Sirupurton Railway Stations. SW-  
2 : Proposed Construction of New  
Minor Bridge No:168A Span:1x4.00m  
x 1.50m RCC Box by Air pushing  
Method across existing UP & DN Main  
Lines and New 3rd Line at Railway  
km:245-6 between Bellampalli and  
Mandamari Stations. SW-3 :  
Proposed Construction of Control  
Cubical Building for New SP/BPC  
between Balharshah - Manikguda  
Stations.

Details : Estimated Cost : Rs.  
80,89,90,916.49. Earnest Money  
Deposit : Rs. 41,95,000.00  
Completion period : 09 (Nine)  
Months. Date of Opening : 05-02-  
2026 15:00 hours.

i) For document and other details,  
please login to website  
<https://ireps.gov.in>.  
ii) Tenderers can submit their offers  
online during tender submission period  
which is the Fifteen days period prior to  
closing of tender.  
iii) Tenderers should watch for any  
corrigenda (issued online only) up to  
the date of commencement of the  
tender submission period.

Chief Administrative Officer,  
(Constit), Secunderabad  
[PUB/1/22]

Open e-Tender Notice No. :  
Dy.CE/GS/SC/01 to 04/2026/  
OT, Dated : 20-01-2026.

For and on behalf of President of India  
the undersigned invites e-tender for  
the following works:

SI.No. : 1. e-Tender No. :  
01\_GS\_SC\_26\_OT. Name of the  
work : New crossing station between  
Kamalnagar and Udgar station - Earth  
work in formation, construction of new  
bridges, extension of existing Bridge,  
Laying and Linking of BG track,  
assembling and insertion of points and  
crossings, supplying, leading and  
dumping of stone ballast Construction  
of RBG Building, Approach Road and  
other miscellaneous works for  
proposed New crossing station  
between Kamalnagar and Udgar  
station. Approximate Tender Value  
in Rs. : 8,49,13,266/- Earnest  
Money Deposit (Rs.) : 5,74,600/-  
Completion Period in days : 12  
Months. Works considered similar  
in nature towards Standard  
eligibility criteria : Any Civil  
Engineering work consisting of  
execution of earthwork in formation  
and any type of bridges. Bid closing  
date : 12-02-2026.

SI.No. : 2. e-Tender No. :  
02\_GS\_SC\_26\_OT. Name of the  
work : Secunderabad Division :  
Technical consultant for feasibility  
study, master planning, urban  
designing, engineering & preparation  
of technical feasibility report (TFR),  
detailed estimate (DE), along with  
BOQ tender schedule (TS) for work  
planned for redevelopment of  
Sanathnagar station of Secunderabad  
division. (Rate included 18% GST),  
Approximate Tender Value in Rs. :  
12,64,665/- Earnest Money Deposit  
(Rs.) : 25,300/- Completion Period  
in days : 365 Days. Bid closing  
date : 12-02-2026.

SI.No. : 3. e-Tender No. :  
03\_GS\_SC\_26\_OT. Name of the  
work : Secunderabad Division :  
Technical consultant for feasibility  
study, master planning, urban  
designing, engineering & preparation  
of technical feasibility report (TFR),  
detailed estimate (DE), along with  
BOQ tender schedule (TS) for work  
planned for redevelopment of  
Begumpet (2nd Entry) station of  
Secunderabad division. (Rate is  
inclusive of 18% GST). Approximate  
Tender Value in Rs. : 14,41,515/-  
Earnest Money Deposit (Rs.) :  
24,300/- Completion Period in days :  
365 Days. Bid closing date : 12-  
02-2026.

SI.No. : 4. e-Tender No. :  
04\_GS\_SC\_26\_OT. Name of the  
work : Secunderabad Division :  
Technical consultant for feasibility  
study, master planning, urban  
designing, engineering & preparation  
of technical feasibility report (TFR),  
detailed estimate (DE), along with  
BOQ tender schedule (TS) for work  
planned for redevelopment of  
Sirpurkaganzagar (Both Entry) station  
(Rate including 18% GST). Approximate  
Tender Value in Rs. : 16,47,172/-  
Earnest Money Deposit (Rs.) :  
32,300/- Completion Period in days :  
365 Days. Bid closing date : 12-  
02-2026.

For SI.No. 2, 3 & 4, works considered  
similar in nature towards Standard  
eligibility criteria : As per RFP.

1. Tenderers should participate  
through e-tendering only and no  
manual entries may be considered.  
2. All the prospective tenderers are  
requested to remit Earnest Money  
Deposit through online payments only.  
3. The Railway reserves the right to  
cancel the tender without assigning  
any reason thereto.

4. All the prospective tenderers are  
advised to get GSTIN identification  
Nos. and submit along with their offer.  
5. Dr. Chief Engineer / Gati Shakti /  
Secunderabad.

## Telangana Women Safety Wing Engages CSR Leaders to Strengthen Women Safety Initiatives



Hyderabad: The Women Safety Wing (WSW) of the Telangana Police on Tuesday convened a high-level stakeholder meeting with Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) leaders, non-governmental organisations and philanthropic institutions to explore collaborative approaches for strengthening women safety initiatives across Telangana. The meeting provided a focused platform for discussions on solution gaps, scalable interventions and partnership models, with emphasis on how CSR support can enable sustainable, outcome-oriented programmes in areas such as women's safety, mobility, access to justice and economic empowerment. Addressing the participants, the Additional Director General of Police, Women Safety Wing, outlined key priority areas where CSR partnerships can add significant value, including prevention, response, rehabilitation and capacity building. The discussions also highlighted the WSW's ongoing initiatives such as Bharosa Centres, skilling interventions, survivor support services, community outreach programmes, awareness campaigns and technology-enabled safety interventions.

Tender Notice No. :  
LGD/L/18/2025-26/OT,  
Dated : 21-01-2026

[PUB/7/3]

Dy.CEE/LGDS acting for and on  
behalf of the President of India invites  
E-Tenders against Tender No  
LGD/L/18/2025-26/OT - E-TENDER -  
closing date : 16-02-2026 at 15:00  
hours. Bidders will be able to submit  
their original / revised bids up to closing  
date and time only. Manual offers are  
not allowed against this tender, and  
any such manual offer received shall  
be ignored.

Contractors are allowed to make  
payments against this tender towards  
earnest money (Bid Security) shall be  
deposited either in cash through e-  
payment gateway or submitted as  
Bank Guarantee bond from a  
scheduled commercial bank of India or  
as mentioned in tender documents.  
The Bank Guarantee bond shall be  
as per Annexure-VIA and shall be valid  
for a period of 60 days beyond the bid  
validity period. The original Bank  
Guarantee should be delivered in  
person to the official nominated as  
indicated in the tender document within  
3 working days of deadline of  
submission of bids. Non submission of  
scanned copy of B.G. with the bid on e-  
tendering portal (IREPS) and / or non  
submission of original B.G. within the  
specified period shall lead to  
summary rejection of bid.

SI.No. : 1. Tender Number :  
LGD/L/18/2025-26/OT. Description  
of work : Replacement of over aged  
Electrical assets like cables, control  
panels etc. at Carriage Workshop,  
Lallaguda.

Advertised value (Rs.) :  
Rs.1,35,66,902/- (One Crore Thirty  
Five Lakhs Sixty Six Thousand Nine  
Hundred and Two only). Bid Security  
(Rs.) : 2,17,900/- Period of  
Completion : 12 Months from the  
date of issue of letter of acceptance.  
Date of Closing : 16-02-2026 at  
15:00 hours.

1. Website Particulars :  
[www.ireps.gov.in](https://ireps.gov.in)

Deputy Chief Electrical Engineer,  
Carriage Workshop,  
Lallaguda, Secunderabad.

E - Tender Notice No. 483/  
DRM/W/GNT,  
Dated : 20-01-2026

[PUB/7/5]

The undersigned invites e-tenders for  
the works mentioned below upto 15:30  
hours of 13-02-2026.

SI.No. : 1. Tender ID : 2834. DEN  
Section : North. Description of  
work : Renovation of Cricket Ground,  
VIP Visitor Gallery & Dressing Rooms  
at Nallapadu. Approximate value in  
Rs. : 2,34,41,298/- Earnest Money  
Deposit (Rs.) : 2,67,200/-

1. Website Particulars :  
[www.ireps.gov.in](https://ireps.gov.in)

Deputy Chief Electrical Engineer,  
Carriage Workshop,  
Lallaguda, Secunderabad.

E - Tender Notice No. 483/  
DRM/W/GNT,  
Dated : 20-01-2026

[PUB/7/5]

The undersigned invites e-tenders for  
the works mentioned below upto 15:30  
hours of 13-02-2026.

SI.No. : 1. e-Tender No. :  
02\_GS\_SC\_26\_OT. Name of the  
work : Secunderabad Division :  
Technical consultant for feasibility  
study, master planning, urban  
designing, engineering & preparation  
of technical feasibility report (TFR),  
detailed estimate (DE), along with  
BOQ tender schedule (TS) for work  
planned for redevelopment of  
Sanathnagar station of Secunderabad  
division. (Rate included 18% GST),  
Approximate Tender Value in Rs. :  
12,64,665/- Earnest Money Deposit  
(Rs.) : 25,300/- Completion Period  
in days : 365 Days. Bid closing  
date : 12-02-2026.

SI.No. : 2. e-Tender No. :  
03\_GS\_SC\_26\_OT. Name of the  
work : Secunderabad Division :  
Technical consultant for feasibility  
study, master planning, urban  
designing, engineering & preparation  
of technical feasibility report (TFR),  
detailed estimate (DE), along with  
BOQ tender schedule (TS) for work  
planned for redevelopment of  
Begumpet (2nd Entry) station of  
Secunderabad division. (Rate is  
inclusive of 18% GST). Approximate  
Tender Value in Rs. : 14,41,515/-  
Earnest Money Deposit (Rs.) :  
24,300/- Completion Period in days :  
365 Days. Bid closing date : 12-  
02-2026.

SI.No. : 3. e-Tender No. :  
04\_GS\_SC\_26\_OT. Name of the  
work : Secunderabad Division :  
Technical consultant for feasibility  
study, master planning, urban  
designing, engineering & preparation  
of technical feasibility report (TFR),  
detailed estimate (DE), along with  
BOQ tender schedule (TS) for work  
planned for redevelopment of  
Sirpurkaganzagar (Both Entry) station  
(Rate including 18% GST). Approximate  
Tender Value in Rs. : 16,47,172/-  
Earnest Money Deposit (Rs.) :  
32,300/- Completion Period in days :  
365 Days. Bid closing date : 12-  
02-2026.

For SI.No. 2, 3 & 4, works considered  
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eligibility criteria : As per RFP.

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any reason thereto.

4. All the prospective tenderers are  
advised to get GSTIN identification  
Nos. and submit along with their offer.  
5. Dr. Chief Engineer / Gati Shakti /  
Secunderabad.

## Telangana

### Fisheries Corporation Chairman Mettu Sai Kumar Launches Scathing Attack on Harish Rao

Hyderabad: Telangana Fisheries Corporation Chairman Mettu Sai Kumar on Wednesday launched a sharp attack on BRS leader T. Harish Rao, accusing him of spreading falsehoods and misleading the public on various issues.

Addressing the media, Sai Kumar alleged that Harish Rao was a "habitual liar" and claimed that falsehoods had become synonymous with his political conduct. He remarked that Harish Rao functioned like an "ATM and ID card for lies," making reckless statements without accountability. Sai Kumar further alleged that former Chief



Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao (KCR) and K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) themselves had ordered the tapping of Harish Rao's phone due to a lack of trust, claiming they suspected him of acts amounting to political betrayal. He questioned Harish Rao on why his own uncle, KCR, would have ordered phone surveillance if there was mutual confidence. Referring to the ongoing police SIT investigation, Sai Kumar said Harish Rao had sought permission related to his son's foreign travel and later came out making aggressive statements to divert attention.

### Late Freedom Fighter Vannala Laxmi's 101st Memorial Service Held Grandly in Warangal



Warangal: The 101st memorial service of late freedom fighter Vannala Laxmi was held in a grand manner at MSA Emerald Function Hall, Charbowli, Warangal, on Tuesday. The solemn event witnessed the participation of hundreds of relatives, friends, and admirers, who gathered to pay rich tributes to the veteran freedom fighter. Floral tributes were offered to the portrait of Vannala Laxmi, remembering her selfless contribution to India's freedom struggle and her lifelong

tribute session, reflecting on the ideals of patriotism, courage, and sacrifice upheld by the late freedom fighter. Senior Leaders Bandi Sudhakar, Palleboina Ashok Mudhiraj, Choppari Somaiah, Eppa Adinarayana, Muthyalala Dayasagar, Ashok Reddy, Srinivas, Veera Swamy, Padma Rao, M. Sridhar, Chamala Rajender and other Leaders Met Vannala Laxmi's sons Vannala Venkateshwarlu and Sathyanarayana.

### SHIRRAM FINANCE LIMITED

(Formerly Known as Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited)

Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No. 14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032.

Branch office: D.No. 4-11430/1B, 1st Floor, Near National Function Hall, DVK Road, Nalgonda-508001.

### 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 by its incorporation dt. 30-11-2022). 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 SHIRRAM 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 Demand Notices on respective dates mentioned herein below under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act, 2002 calling upon 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 Borrowers(s)/Co-Borrower(s)/Guarantors

NPA DATE: 31.03.2020 Date Of Demand Notice: 29.12.2025

(1) Ashala Sihala, S/o: Shambulingam, Age: 46 Years OCC: Business, R/o: Door No: 4-10-1549, Flat No: 203, Sri Sais Homes, Sirram Nagar Colony, DVK Road, Nalgonda District-508001, Cell: 9866368749. (2) A. Sugunamma @ Ashala Sugunamma, W/o: Late Shambulingam, Age: 58 Years, R/o: H.NO: 11-10-1549, Flat No: 203, Sri Sais Homes, Sirram Nagar Colony, DVK Road, Nalgonda District-508001, Cell: 7918554669.

(3) Samala Sandhya, S/o: Sadanamand, Age: 28 Years, R/o: H.NO: 4-7-44, Ward No. 4, Kolkoda Village, Devaruppula Mandal, Nalgonda District-508244, Cell: 8468604279.

NLGD2TF1903310004 - DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY: Property Holder Name: Ashala Sugunamma with Document No: 74455 of 2019. All that Flat No: 203 in First Floor (House No: 4-10-159/203) Admeasuring 1000.00 Sq.Feet including Common Area together with Undivided Share of Land 32 Sq.Yards is 75 Sq.Meters Out of 574.00 Sq.Yards Known as Sri Sais Homes Situated at Sreeram Nagar Colony, Nalgonda Town, Nalgonda District Boundaries for Flat No: 203: North: Open to Sky, South: Lift/Open to Sky, East: Open to Sky, West: Corridor and Flat No: 204.

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 any of his secured assets referred to in the notice, without prior written consent of the secured creditor.

## EDITORIAL

## HOW TO FEED 10 BILLION PEOPLE

Rome: With the world struggling to feed eight billion people today, how will we feed ten billion by 2050? Meeting the nutritional needs of a growing population requires not just a radical increase in food production – almost all of it plant-based – but also a more equitable distribution to ensure that no one is food-insecure. That is a tall order. The current food system is already buckling. Roughly 673 million people go to bed hungry every night, and in 2025, we witnessed two famines (in Gaza and Sudan), each driven by conflict, climate shocks, and soaring food prices. At the same time, 1.66 billion hectares – 60% of which are agricultural land – have been degraded by the very practices we rely on to feed the world.

Global hunger stems not from a lack of capacity to produce enough food, but partly from our failure to produce it efficiently and distribute it evenly. Conflict and insecurity remain the dominant causes of hunger across 20 countries and territories, leaving nearly 140 million people facing acute food insecurity. Disasters have inflicted an estimated \$3.26 trillion in agricultural losses worldwide over the past 33 years – an average of \$99 billion annually, or roughly 4% of global agricultural output; and recent supply-driven food-price spikes have pushed tens of millions of people into hunger almost overnight. Worse, these are not one-off shocks. They represent the new normal. For decades, the agriculture sector has responded well to rising demand by developing higher-yielding crops and using more of everything: more fertiliser, more pesticides, and more water. Yet this trend has produced unnecessary waste, polluted rivers, degraded the soil, and released ever-more greenhouse gases (GHGs). We need to find a better path, and science can show us the way. We already have the knowledge and the tools to optimise what we use and diversify what we grow.

One priority is to improve efficiency. Between 1990 and 2020, fertiliser use rose 46% and pesticide use doubled. But only 30-60% of fertiliser nutrients and 20-70% of pesticides are effectively absorbed; the rest washes into rivers, degrades soil, or releases GHGs. Fortunately, research shows that optimising nitrogen use can boost yields by up to 19% and slash fertiliser use by 15-19%. Improved pesticide management – through precision spraying, biopesticides, and residue monitoring – reduces chemical waste while safeguarding biodiversity. Agroecological practices – such as intercropping, crop rotation, and integrating trees into farm systems – further enhance soil health, lower input dependence, and strengthen long-term resilience.

The next priority is to diversify the food system. Decades of productivity gains have fostered a dangerous dependency on just three crops. Wheat, rice, and maize now provide most of the world's calories. Such reliance on monocultures creates profound vulnerability to pests, diseases, and climate change. The solution lies in the crops we have marginalised. Traditional and underused species – hardy millets, nutrient-dense legumes, indigenous fruits, robust yams – offer ample nutrition alongside other benefits such as climate resilience. United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization initiatives like Future Smart Food (in Asia) and 100 Crops for Africa demonstrate how these "forgotten" crops can simultaneously expand diets, boost farm incomes, and restore degraded soils. Finally, we must scale up effective technologies. Data analytics and precision-agriculture tools are already reshaping farming. Drones can plant seeds and deliver inputs with pinpoint accuracy. AI platforms can use satellite imagery to provide tailored, real-time recommendations. Robots can detect weeds for targeted spraying, avoiding the need for blanket herbicide applications.

## Edit

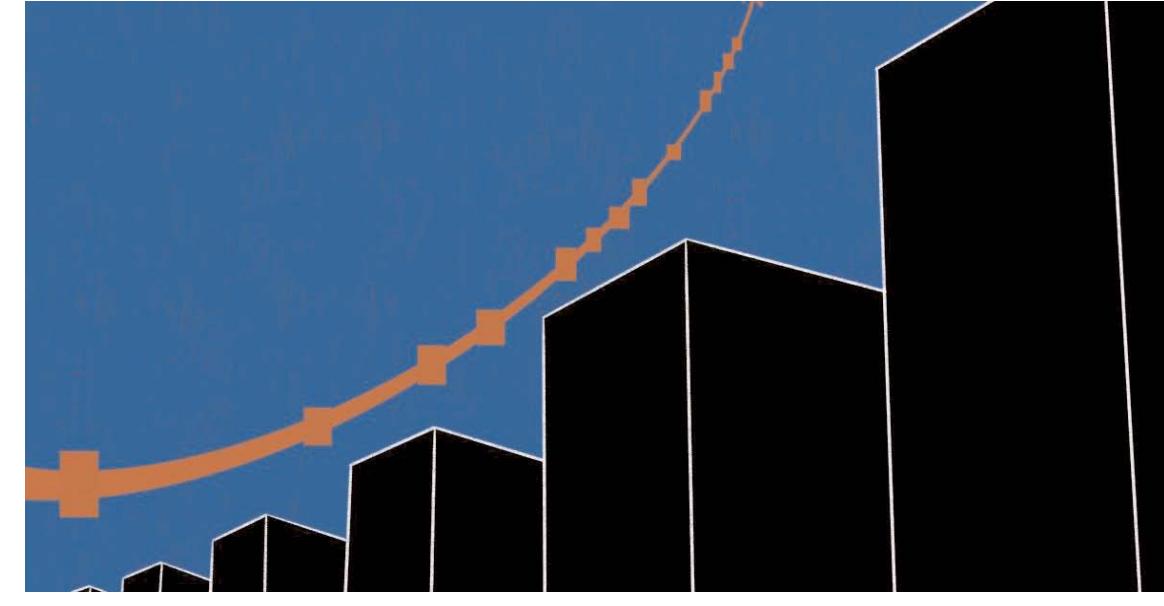
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THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 2026

6

## Venezuela, Greenland and Why The Rich Gathered in Davos Aren't Going to Change Anything

Capitalism always taught us that market economy and fair play were its founding principles. That anybody, any country, could get rich by 'hard-work' and following the rules. Yet, the world doesn't run on the fancies of a market economy. If that were true, we wouldn't have had the many wars in the first place. The latest geopolitical ongoing: the assault on Venezuela, Trump's threats of seizing Greenland, the controversial 'Board of Peace' plan for Gaza, all show that it is time for another round of resource grab. In fact, resource grab is the central principle of capitalism. Its origin story is that of plunder, from colonialism, slave trade, looting of Africa, India and so on. It continues with the policies enacted via Bretton Woods institutions. And it is nourished with a resource-grab war now and then.

And this time the self-endorsed leader of the neoliberal paradise, Donald Trump, has made the ambitions of his empire as clear as possible. It's astonishing how a person can go about inciting wars, giving threats to countries and asking for a Nobel Peace Prize all at the same time. Every sane person knows the real motive behind the political turmoil in Venezuela was oil. Yet the American establishment kept shifting the narrative to drugs, and democracy. But as soon as President Nicolas Maduro was brought to the US, everybody from Trump to Marco Rubio reverted to their interest in Venezuelan oil. With high national debt, rising consumer debt, inflation and inequality, the US economy is facing significant challenges at home. It needs more resources to stay afloat. It needs to maintain its petrodollar hegemony to stay on the top. For the unaware, the US dollar is deeply linked with oil money. In the early 1970s, the US signed a contract with Saudi Arabia that all oil trade payments must be done in dollars. That forces countries to maintain a balance of dollars in their forex accounts. But today, the world has shifted. BRICS countries hold over 40% of the world GDP. An estimate says about 20% of global oil trade is already happening in other currencies, Euros, Chinese yuan, rubles and even digital payment systems. And this was exactly the crime of Venezuela. It had started to accept payments for its crude oil in yuan and other currencies. Trump's outbursts on Truth Social clearly show



how much a talk of this de-linking of dollar from oil trade ruffles them. Even before he assumed the presidency, in December 2024, he wrote on Truth Social, "The idea that the BRICS Countries are trying to move away from the Dollar while we stand by and watch is OVER." No wonder that they couldn't stand that Venezuela, a country heavily sanctioned by the US, was still managing to keep itself afloat. When the US sanctions a country, usually the world follows. See the extent of sanctions on the people of Venezuela; its elected government officials can't travel to other countries, and their assets are frozen in the US. Of course there was a ban on oil imports from Venezuela, yet Chevron was granted an exception. Other countries importing Venezuelan oil also faced a 25% extra tariff from the US. Apart from that, efforts were made to sabotage the oil industry in Venezuela, with bans on imports of machinery, technology, even the crucial naphtha used in oil production. Tankers of oil moving in and out of Venezuela were targeted. In such a situation, how could Venezuela develop its oil industry? The country was never left in peace. Political coups destabilised it, while hybrid wars remained a constant feature in Venezuela. After all this, the IMF data says that Venezuela's GDP is going to be -3%. This is like tying someone's hands and then blaming them for not working. A study published in Lancet looked at the impact of US sanctions on 152 countries between 1971 and 2021. It estimated that about 600,000 deaths occurred each year in these 50

years in these countries as a direct and indirect result of US sanctions. The scale of this data is horrifying. Between 1971 and 2021, US sanctions have caused about 3 crore deaths in 152 countries. Unfazed by sanctions, China found a way to trade with Venezuela, and also other Latin American countries. Out of 33 Latin American countries, 24 are part of China's Belt and Road Initiative. China is building critical infrastructure and renewable energy projects in many of these countries. Between 2000 and 2023, China invested \$100 billion in Venezuela. This investment went into crucial infrastructure like railways and power plants. In return, Venezuela supplies oil to China. Last year, 80% of Venezuela's oil exports went to China. Experts say the US attack on Venezuela isn't just about Venezuela – it's also an attack on China's growing influence. Trump is simply not able to digest China's growing influence in Latin America. A few weeks ago, he pressured a Hong Kong-based company to sell two major ports on the Panama Canal. They were sold to the US company BlackRock. And now the unprovoked threat to Greenland, a sovereign nation, is only a testament to the new imperial vision of America. In this new vision, the US refuses to acknowledge the sovereignty of other nations. Either they work as extended colonies of the US, or they face its ire. From tariffs to sanctions or outright military action, this is the new US foreign policy. Though Russia and China often become enemies in this game, they are a smokescreen behind which the

US pursues its interest. What's appalling is these are not even the legitimate interests of a nation, but of a few elite corporations. Perhaps that is why a real-estate man like Trump is their best bet to make the best deals. If you look closely, the US military is carrying out the job of boosting profits and expanding markets for American private companies. From oil companies to Big tech giants, the promoters of the US economy want to reap maximum profits. The controversial 'Board of Peace' initiative further consolidates the power of a few elites over democratic institutions built with decades of effort. Invitations have been sent to over 60 nations, including France, Germany, Italy, Hungary, Australia, Canada, India, Pakistan, and the Middle East countries. Countries can pay \$1 billion for a permanent seat on the board or stay there for free for 3 years. Donald Trump is to remain its chair for life. His son-in-law Jared Kushner is directly involved in the workings of the board. Even Russia has been invited to be a member of the board. What is the message to the world? Is it that the UN and other independent institutions, formed after the second world war, now irrelevant? The world's elites are directly going to thrust themselves in conflicts, and the resulting "deals"? That the exploits of the genocide are up for grabs, come and take your pick? Morality and humanity are things of the past, forget progress and innovation, just grab natural and public resources, supplement them with cheap labour in slavery like conditions!

## Uniform, dignity and a crisis of trust

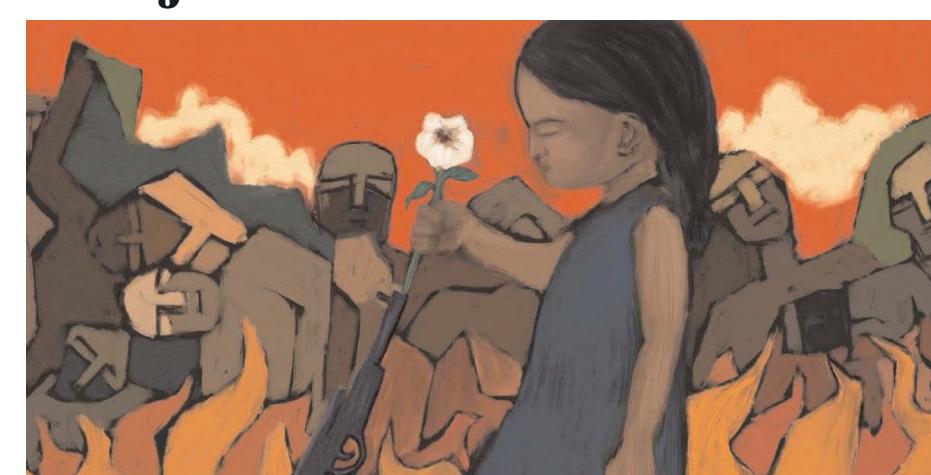


DR. SATYAWAN SAURABH

The police system is the most sensitive and influential face of power in a democracy. The police are not only law enforcement agencies but also a symbol of the state's moral strength. When a top official within this system faces serious ethical allegations, questions are not limited to the individual, but raise concerns about the credibility, accountability, and conduct of the entire system. The suspension of a senior IPS officer and DGP (Civil Rights Enforcement) of Karnataka after the emergence of an allegedly objectionable video points to this deep crisis. The alleged video clips, which went viral on social media, created a stir in administrative and political circles. The state government's swift suspension decision indicates that the matter was not limited to personal conduct, but rather involved the dignity of public office and institutional prestige. However, it is equally essential that a fair and transparent investigation be conducted before any individual is legally convicted. This is the balance of democracy – neither ignoring allegations nor passing judgment before investigation. The police uniform is more than just a mere garb. It symbolizes trust between citizens and the state. An officer, particularly at the rank of DGP, is not merely an administrator issuing orders but also a face that sets ethical standards for the entire force. His or her conduct conveys the message of where the system stands. When such allegations are leveled against a top official, it's

natural for ordinary citizens to question: "If those responsible for formulating policy and enforcing discipline are so careless about decorum, how can we expect justice from the system?" This is the point where personal conduct becomes a matter of public concern. This incident highlights another important aspect – the impact of social media. Today, any alleged video or content can spread widely within hours. This has increased transparency, while also exacerbating the risk of rumors, editing, and misuse. Therefore, the state and investigating agencies face a dual challenge: to thoroughly investigate the facts while respecting public sentiment. Taking administrative action based on viral content on social media is a sensitive decision. The Karnataka government's decision to suspend demonstrates an effort to establish accountability at an early stage, ensuring an impartial investigation. It's important to understand that suspension is not a punishment in itself, but a process to clear the way for an investigation. It's often argued that an official's private life should be separate from their work. This may seem true in theory, but for those in high constitutional or administrative positions, the line between private and public life is very thin. The reason is clear: their every action becomes linked to the image of the institution. If the alleged acts are considered contrary to public morality, the dignity of women, or the dignity of the office, they cannot be dismissed as merely a "private matter," especially when the acts involve public symbols, uniforms, or official settings. The biggest question in this entire episode is one of institutional accountability, transcending the individual. Are the mechanisms within our administrative structure robust enough to identify behavioral deviations in a timely manner? Is the internal code of conduct for senior officials merely on paper? Society expects a prestigious cadre like the IPS to not only enforce the law but also pro-

## India's Timeless Ideals Face the Perils of Majoritarian Power Now



In the Rig Veda, among humanity's earliest surviving texts, a deceptively simple line unsettles every politics of exclusion: Ekam sat vipra bahudva vadanti – truth is one, the wise call it by many names. Long before pluralism became a constitutional principle or a liberal slogan, it was articulated as a civilisational instinct. India did not merely tolerate difference; it theorised it, ritualised it, and – at its best – governed through it. The Upanishads argued not for uniform belief but for shared inquiry. Adi Shankara's Advaita Vedanta did not erase difference; it wove contradiction into coherence. Bhakti and Sufi saints – Kabir, Nanak, Ravidas – collapsed rigid boundaries through devotion that refused to ask whether God answered Ram or Rahim. Disagreement was not a threat to truth; it was its method. This philosophical disposition was not confined to metaphysics. It shaped statecraft. Ashoka, ruling over a vast and wounded empire, responded to the carnage of Kalinga not with triumphalism but remorse. His edicts warned against disparaging other sects, arguing that honouring differences strengthened one's own faith. Akbar later translated this ethic into governance – abolishing discriminatory taxes, convening interfaith dialogue, and articulating sulh-e-kul, peace with all. These were not acts of benevolence alone; they were recognitions that legitimacy in India flowed

from inclusion. Even epic imagination reflected this moral order. Valmiki's Ramayana described Rama as rule by religious dominance but by impartial justice – where the weak were protected, the poor heard, and power restrained by dharma. Gandhi reclaimed this idea, carefully stripping it of sectarian meaning. His Rama was not a Hindu state but a moral republic, grounded in self-rule, restraint, and equal regard. Independent India's founders attempted to institutionalise this inheritance. Ambedkar's Constitution did not privilege belief; it protected conscience. Nehru insisted that the state must act as an umpire, never a player. Secularism, in the Indian sense, was not hostility to religion but neutrality among them. It is against this long arc that recent developments have unsettled observers – within India and beyond. Critics argue that the post-2014 political order marks not a routine ideological shift

but a redefinition of the state's moral posture. Where the republic once mediated difference, it increasingly appears to arbitrate identity. Where power once sought legitimacy through accommodation, it now draws energy from consolidation. The Citizenship Amendment Act of 2019 crystallised these anxieties. By introducing religion as a criterion for fast-tracked citizenship, it punctured a foundational premise of constitutional equality. Coupled with proposals for a nationwide National Register of Citizens, it triggered fears – particularly among Muslims – of statelessness by bureaucratic design. The protests that followed were among the largest in independent India's history. The state's response – police crackdowns, internet shutdowns, and selective enforcement – deepened the sense that dissent itself was being reclassified as disloyalty. Institutional guardrails have also come under strain. The Election Commission, once admired

# Mangaluru: Congress launches hunger strike against 'dilution' of MGNREGA, announces 100-km

Mangaluru, Jan 21: Strongly opposing changes to the name and structure of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), Congress workers under the leadership of the Dakshina Kannada District Congress Committee staged a hunger strike on Wednesday in front of the Mahatma Gandhi statue at Rajaji Park near the Town Hall here. Addressing the protesters, District Congress Committee president K Harish Kumar alleged that the NDA-led Central government, by renaming the MGNREGA scheme, had "killed Mahatma Gandhi for the second time". He said the Centre had altered the very essence of the Act, a move that would impose an increased financial burden on all states.

Condemning the changes, Harish Kumar said the protest was aimed at demanding that



the original form of the MGNREGA Act, enacted during the UPA regime, be retained. To create public awareness on the issue, he announced that a 100-kilometre padayatra would be undertaken from Sullia to Mulki in Dakshina Kannada district from February 9 to 12. Senior Congress leader Ramanath Rai, speaking on the occasion, said that during the tenure of the UPA government, several pro-people legislations were introduced, including the Food Security Act,

inappropriate for the district administration to hoist a saffron flag during a religious programme. He said the display of a politically motivated flag at a temple event deserved strong condemnation.

Addressing the gathering, MLC Ivan D'Souza said the Central government, by amending the guidelines of the MGNREGA scheme—which had provided employment to nearly 18 crore people—had dealt a severe blow to the livelihoods of the rural poor. He alleged that the government, unable to tolerate Mahatma Gandhi's name being associated with the Act, had removed it and renamed the programme as Viksit Bharat-Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) (VB-G RAM G) Act, 2025, with the intention of creating emotional sentiment by invoking the name of Ram.

In a post on X, he said that the Congress party will do anything for the

Data centres in Karnataka: Sify Tech set to launch, Bharti keen to set up, says M.B. Patil



Karnataka has secured fresh data-centre commitments after back-to-back meetings in Davos. Large and Medium Industries Minister M.B. Patil announced on Tuesday, Indian ICT firm Sify Technologies confirmed it will open a new Bengaluru facility within weeks, while Bharti Enterprises signalled plans for its first hyper-scale centre in the state after cumulative investments of 13,000 crore. Talks centred on land, water and power availability, with Tier-2 cities also under consideration to spread growth

## 'Seat Edge' suspense-thriller trailer released

The trailer for Siddhu Moolimani's upcoming dark-comedy horror thriller "Seat Edge" dropped on Tuesday, showing the young actor as a ridiculed YouTube vlogger who risks a haunted town to win back both his lost love and online fame. Rakisha Shetty plays the estranged college girl who joins the ghost-hunt and uncovers a dual-shade twist. Directed by Chethan Shetty and produced by Giridhar T. Vasanthapura under N. R. Cinema Productions, the 45-day shoot spanned Bengaluru, Mysuru, Shivamogga and Chikmagaluru, with CG-heavy sequences designed for family-friendly scares. Armaan Mallick and Tippu have sung the soundtrack, while cinematographer Deepak Kumar promises edge-of-the-seat visuals. The film, slated for a 30 January release, was teased by top Kannada vloggers to tap its core digital-native audience.



## Natural Farming Should Become a Sustainable Livelihood for All: Dr Sharanaprakash Patil



Bengaluru : Dr Sharanaprakash R. Patil, Minister for Medical Education, Skill Development, Livelihood, Entrepreneurship and Raichur District In-charge said that, The Karnataka government is giving high priority to livelihood generation, particularly for women and has rolled out special schemes to promote natural farming as a sustainable means of income.

Addressing the National Conference on Natural Farming, jointly organised by the Union Ministry of Rural Development and the Karnataka Department of Livelihood and Entrepreneurship at Hotel Ashok in Bengaluru on Wednesday, the Minister said women are emerging as a dominant force across sectors, including natural farming. "In Karnataka, women are at the centre of

this transformation. They are achieving remarkable success in adopting and promoting natural farming practices," Dr Patil said.

He highlighted that under the Karnataka State Rural Livelihoods Mission (SRLM) – Sanjeevini, women self-help groups (SHGs) are practising chemical-free, low-cost natural farming. Many of them are serving as Krishi Sakhis and community resource persons, while also running key enterprises in bio-input production and value addition.

Dr Patil noted that natural farming has created skilled and dignified rural employment opportunities for women. Nearly 5.26 lakh SHG members have been trained in soil health management, climate-resilient cropping practices, processing, branding and market linkages, he added.

Speaking on the occasion,

Agriculture Minister N. Chaluvaryaswamy said several schemes have already been implemented by the Agriculture Department and assured that more focused measures would be taken to promote natural farming.

The state government is providing substantial financial support to the agriculture sector and is committed to empowering farmers, especially women farmers, by extending necessary facilities and benefits, he said.

Chief Secretary Shalini Rajneesh, Additional Secretary to the Government of India (Rural Development) T.K. Anil Kumar, Joint Secretary Swati Sharma, Secretary Manoj Kumar Meena, Mission Director R. Snehal, Additional Mission Director Srinivas and several senior officials and dignitaries were present.

## Government has given 4G exemption worth Rs 189 crore to KPTCL to directly purchase MEI products : K.J. George



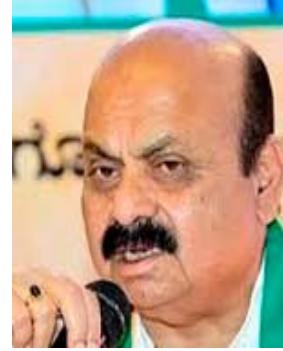
Bengaluru: Energy Minister K.J. George said, The current government has given 4G exemption worth Rs 189 crore to KPTCL to directly purchase MEI products.

Addressing the progress review meeting of MEI at Bescom's Bengaluru bhavana, he directed

the company officials to manufacture the switch-gear required by KPTCL on time and dispatch the best quality products.

Company Chairman S. Manohar said, Currently, a power distribution transformer repair unit has been started in MEI. The Energy Minister has

## Election through ballot paper is Congress's political hypocrisy: MP Basavaraj Bommai



Bengaluru: Former Chief Minister and Member of Parliament Basavaraj Bommai has said that Congress leaders deciding to conduct local body elections through ballot papers instead of EVMs amounts to political hypocrisy, as they themselves were elected using EVMs but now claim they have no faith in them.

In a post on X, he said that the Congress party

sake of politics. This reflects an attempt to

already instructed the Bescom officials to hand over the repair work of transformers coming under the jurisdiction of Bescom to MEI, and accordingly, steps have been taken by Bescom to hand over the power transformers to MEI for repair in a phased manner. S. Manohar, informed the meeting that preparations have been made to start repair units in Chitradurga, Mysore and Kalyana Karnataka parts of KIADB on the model of the power distribution transformer repair center in the MEI Company.

BDA Recovers property at Gnanabharathi Nagadevanahalli Layout



Bengaluru: Bangalore Development Authority recovered its encroached property at Gnanabharathi Nagadevanahalli Village in an operation conducted on Wednesday.

Unauthorized constructions on which had come up in Sy. No. 39/3 of Gnanabharathi Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, was demolished and an extent of 30 guntas of land is recovered. The recovered property is estimated at about Rs. 35 crores. The demolition operation was carried out by the BDA Taskforce, Engineer Officer -1, Executive Engineer, Assistant Executive Engineer, West Division, BDA along with the local police.

## DCM DK Shivakumar welcomes investors at WEF in Davos to invest in the 'city of the future'



Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar used his Davos stage on Tuesday to brand Bengaluru as "the city of the future" and urged global investors to back the next wave of Karnataka's growth. Noting that 500 top multinationals already run major operations from the capital, he highlighted the city's 2.5 million engineers—double California's talent pool—plus 70 medical colleges that churn out 150,000 healthcare professionals annually.

"Excellent weather, culture and human resource make Bengaluru irresistible," Shivakumar said, adding that India's urban share is set to rise from 40 % to 50 % within 25 years.

## KARNATAKA TO OFFER 75% DISCOUNT ON TREATMENT FOR JOURNALISTS ABOVE 60

Bengaluru : Dr. Sharaprasad R. Patil, Minister for Medical Education, Skill Development, Livelihood and In-charge Minister for Raichur District said that, Our department has taken the initiative to provide special benefits to journalists who have devoted their lives to correcting and guiding society. All journalists above 60 years of age will receive a 75% concession on medical treatment in all hospitals under the Department of Medical Education. They will have to pay only a nominal fee. He was speaking after distributing health cards to senior journalists at a programme

jointly organised by the Department of Medical Education, Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research, and the Senior Journalists' Forum here on Wednesday.

In consultation with the Chief Minister, a decision will also be taken in the coming days on granting a concession on the remaining 25% of treatment costs, he clarified. "Journalists are the responsibility of our government.



A true aspect that I saw in my childhood. My father used to torture my mother a lot, and I made this song with that inspiration. We worked very hard to make it come true. Veteran actor Naveen, who plays the role of father in this song. D. Padil has played the role of mother very wonderfully and Madhumati has played the role of mother very wonderfully. This song has been written by Venkatesh Kulkarni. Our film contains new content with all kinds of elements.

## "Scholarships denied to backward class students for three years": HDK slams CM



Minister and AHINDA organisations, Kumaraswamy posed a direct question: "In 2023, 2024 and 2025 – for three years, scholarships were not given to 1,64,000 backward class and minority Muslim students in the education sector. Why were they not provided?" he asked.

"In the name of AHINDA, you have been using these communities to strengthen your chair. For the last three years, you have cheated these children by not releasing funds. You are blaming lapses in the Finance Department for non-

payment. Who is holding the Finance portfolio? This government has betrayed the AHINDA sections," Kumaraswamy charged. Reacting strongly to the case filed against Devadurga constituency JDS MLA Karemna Nayak, the Union Minister said this reflects the government's disgraceful conduct.

Threats to MLA - Government under fire "This incident itself shows the level to which this government has fallen. It is not just a one-time incident involving Karemna Nayak. She is facing daily threats and intimidation. Rajeev Gowda, who threatened Shidlaghatta municipal commissioner Amruthagowda, has still not been arrested. They keep saying he will be arrested. Even yesterday, the Home Minister said they are making all efforts to arrest him. They are waiting for the court's order on his bail plea to decide whether to arrest him or

not," Kumaraswamy said, expressing his displeasure. Minister inspects convention preparations: Union Minister Kumaraswamy inspected preparations for the JDS convention scheduled to be held on the 24th of this month. Accompanied by former minister H.D. Revanna, he visited the venue and reviewed the arrangements. Reacting to this, Kumaraswamy said, "Hassan district is the land of our ancestors who strengthened the Janata Dal. This district is the karmabhoomi of our party. This is the district that has given us strength. From this district, we are launching a fresh drive to strengthen party organisation. From this sacred land, we are beginning preparations for the 2028 Assembly elections and local body elections. This programme marks the beginning of strengthening the Janata Dal family organisation and sending out a strong message."

## 7 TN fishermen arrested by Lankan Navy, Stalin writes to EAM seeking their release

Chennai, Jan 21 (TSIT) Seven fishermen from Tamil Nadu were on Wednesday arrested by the Sri Lankan Navy along with their two boats for allegedly fishing in their territorial waters, even as Chief Minister M K Stalin wrote to External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar urging him to prevent further apprehensions and secure their release along with their fishing boats by utilising appropriate diplomatic channels.

The fishermen, hailing from Mayiladuthurai district, had ventured into the sea last night and were fishing in the Palk Strait region, when they were arrested by the Lankan Navy personnel for fishing in their waters after crossing the International Maritime



Boundary Line (IMBL). The Lankan Navy personnel later took the seven fishermen into their custody along with their two fishing boats to the Kankesanthurai Port in the Island Nation for further action. The incident comes close on the heels of three fishermen each arrested by the Lankan Navy

on December 28 and 30, 2025, 11 from Karaikal on January two, nine from Nagapattinam district on January 3 and 10 fishermen

from Rameswaram on January 14. The latest arrest of fishermen today while fishing in the Palk Strait, took place despite Mr Stalin's efforts to find a permanent solution to sustain their livelihood and restore their traditional fishing rights in the Palk Strait region. Mr Stalin also urged the Centre to retrieve Katchtheevu, an islet ceded to Sri Lanka through a pact in 1974 and said this alone will provide a lasting solution to restore the traditional fishing rights of the fishermen.

arrests has caused much heartburn among the fishing community in the state. This was also reiterated in the Governor's address in the State Assembly on the opening day of the first session of New Year.

Various fishermen associations condemned the oft-repeated instances of arrests of fishermen and urged the central and the state governments to find a permanent solution to sustain their livelihood and restore their traditional fishing rights in the Palk Strait region. Mr Stalin also urged the Centre to retrieve Katchtheevu, an islet ceded to Sri Lanka through a pact in 1974 and said this alone will provide a lasting solution to restore the traditional fishing rights of the fishermen.

Madras HC quashes FIR against BJP leader Amit Malviya

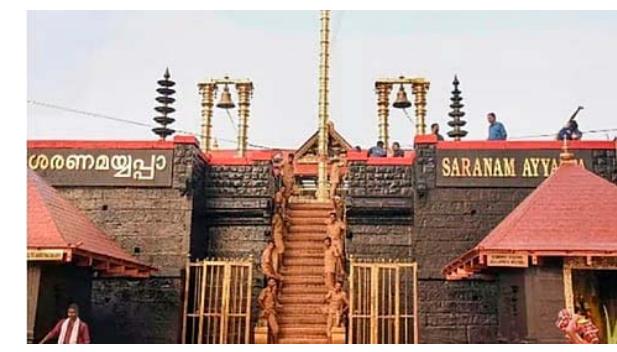


Madurai, Jan 21 (GNS) The Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court has quashed an FIR registered against BJP leader Amit Malviya for alleged distortion of comments made by Deputy Chief Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin on 'Sanatana Dharma'.

Justice S Srimathy said the comments of Udhayanidhi were tantamount to hate speech and held that questioning it was a reaction.

BJP leader K Annamalai said the court has quashed the vindictive and politically motivated FIR filed by the corrupt, anti-Hindu DMK government against Amit Malviya.

**ED freezes Rs 1.3 crore in assets, seizes gold bar in Sabarimala temple money laundering probe**



Chennai (TSIT) The raids, conducted under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002, aim to trace the "Proceeds of Crime" from a well-planned conspiracy. The ED initiated the investigation based on Kerala Police FIRs that implicated senior officials of the Travancore Devaswom Board (TDB), former temple administrators, private sponsors, and jewelers.

Preliminary findings reveal that gold-clad sacred artefacts, including Dwarapalaka idol components, pedestals (pedeams), and sanctum sanctorum door frames, were falsely recorded as "copper plates" in official records between 2019 and 2025. This allowed their unauthorized removal and transfer to private facilities—Smart Creations in Chennai and Roddam Jewellers in Karnataka—where the gold was chemically extracted under the guise of repair work.

plates" misrepresentation, official correspondence, jewellers' invoices, and documents pointing to wider financial irregularities in temple offerings and rituals. "The seized materials are being examined to quantify the exact Proceeds of Crime, establish

## TN Assembly adjourns for day after adopting condolence resolutions, obituary references

Chennai, Jan 21 (TSIT) The Tamil Nadu Assembly was adjourned today without transacting any business after adopting condolence resolutions and making obituary references in respect of former members who died during the intervening period. Soon after the House Assembled for the day, Speaker M Appavu read obituary references on the passing away of former MLAs S. Pannirselvam and L. Ganeshan of MDMK. The House also adopted condolence resolutions on the demise of prominent Industrialist A Vellayan, former Chariman of Murugappa Group.

Erode Tamizhanban (alias) N. Jegadeesan, renowned poet. AVM. Saravanan, popular film producer, Shivraj Patil, veteran political leader and MLA K. Ponnuasamy. After the members observed two minutes' silence as a mark of respect to the departed souls, the Speaker adjourned the House to meet again tomorrow for the debate on the motion of thanks to the Governor for his address.

After two days of debate, Chief Minister MK Stalin will reply to it on Saturday, the last day of the first session of the New Year, which began yesterday.

Chennai, Jan 21 (UND) The union Ministry of Education today invited participants who have developed credible, deployed and research-backed AI solutions with demonstrated measurable outcomes to take part in the IIT-Madras Bharat Bodhan AI Conclave 2026 to be held in New Delhi on February 12 and 13.

The event will be a national-level platform focused on accelerating responsible and outcome-driven adoption of AI across India's education ecosystem. The call is aimed at identifying and engaging AI-enabled education solutions that have moved beyond pilots and demonstrate measurable impact on learning outcomes.

The last date for submission of Letters of Interest is January 29, a release from IIT-Madras said today. Submissions are invited

## Union Education Ministry calls for participation to IIT-Madras Bharat Bodhan AI Conclave 2026

### Bharat Bodhan AI Conclave 2026

Feb 12 - 13, 2026 09:00 AM

New Delhi, Delhi - India

support, assessment and diagnostics, personalised learning, and system-level monitoring at scale, he said.

To advance this national priority, the union Education Ministry has established a Centre of Excellence in Artificial Intelligence for Education at IIT Madras and named as 'IIT Madras Bodhan AI Foundation'. The Centre carries a national mandate to develop responsible, scalable and India-first AI solutions for education, aligned with national policies and digital public frameworks, while democratising access across diverse socio-economic, geographic and linguistic contexts.

The Bharat Bodhan AI Conclave 2026 is envisioned as a national platform for landscape discovery, bringing together policymakers, government representatives, educators,

researchers, solution providers and ecosystem partners to map, engage with and evaluate AI-enabled education solutions at scale. Selected participants will receive high-visibility national exposure and the opportunity to showcase their solutions to policymakers, government representatives, academic and research institutions, edtech practitioners, investors, philanthropic organisations and industry stakeholders. Participants will present through demonstration stalls at the conclave and receive structured review and feedback from a designated committee, as well as from educators, learners and other stakeholders attending the event. Participation in the Bharat Bodhan AI Conclave 2026 will be a prerequisite for organisations seeking future engagement with the Centre of Excellence, including research partnerships, pilot implementations.

## Blue Monday isn't real, but sadness is – and it plays a vital role in children's development



ings of unhappiness.

But there is further risk when these messages reach children directly. When young people are told that "negative" emotions can be combatted through shopping or digital, artificial distractions, it weakens their ability to recognise, understand and manage what they feel. This makes it vital that we factor media discourse into children's emotional education.

Sadness and the developing mind

From an obstacle to be overcome, sadness plays a fundamental role in children's development. At a very early age, they learn that expressing sadness can gain them the support of parents and carers, and that in most cases, it is much more effective than other emotions in getting attention and solace. Furthermore, sadness helps to readjust goals after a failure, allowing children to modify their approaches and expectations in the face of adverse situations. It also drives introspection processes that allow children to reflect on what they feel, their values, and how they relate to others.

Experiencing sadness therefore contributes to moral growth.

Emotions linked to loss, disappointment and injustice help children to build their sense of right and wrong, develop sensitivity to the suffering of others, and strengthen their empathy. In fact, recent studies have found that experiencing sadness is linked to an increased ability to put oneself in another's shoes.

Adult responses to sadness

The way adults respond to sadness has a decisive impact on how children learn to manage it. A warm, sensitive and caring family environment benefits emotional development, while tense, cold and critical interactions hinder it. Family dynamics – the emotional models that determine the quality of conversations and availability of support – are what shape the way a child interprets and expresses sadness. School and social environments are also key. Children who feel supported not only experience sadness less intensely, but also develop greater confidence to cope with it.

Guiding children in recognising and managing sadness is a

way to help them develop resilience. When they learn strategies for coping with difficult emotions – talking, asking for help, putting their feelings into words, identifying what they need – they acquire internal resources that enable them to face future challenges. This resilience translates into stronger self-esteem and a more realistic and confident perception of their own abilities.

Cultural values and beliefs also play a part in determining which expressions of sadness are accepted, considered appropriate, or suppressed. This means the expression and regulation of sadness vary significantly between cultural and social environments. Understanding these differences allows us to better support children's emotional processes, and avoid misinterpreting their behaviour. When faced with commercial messages like those surrounding Blue Monday, adults must recognise that this emotion is a natural part of growing up – not just one day of the year – and offer children spaces where they can feel heard, supported and understood.

## Demographic crisis: China tries everything to make babies

Declaring childbirth a patriotic act. Nagging newlyweds about family planning. Taxing condoms. To get its citizens to have babies, the Chinese Communist Party has pulled every lever. The efforts have largely failed. For the fourth year in a row, China reported more deaths than births in 2025 as its birth rate plunged to a record low, leaving its population smaller and older.

The government said 7.92 million babies were born last year, down from 9.54 million in 2024. The number of people who died in 2025, 11.31 million, continued to climb. The latest figures were reported alongside economic data showing China's economy grew 5% in 2025.

The number of births for every 1,000 people fell to 5.63, the lowest level on record since the founding of the People's Republic of China, according to official data. Around the world, governments are contending with falling birth rates. But the problem is more acute for China: Fewer babies mean fewer future workers to support a rapidly growing cohort of retirees. A worsening economy has made addressing the challenge even more difficult. "China is facing a severe challenge posed by an extremely low fertility rate," said Wu Fan, a professor of family policy at Nankai University.

China's top leaders have redoubled their efforts to try to boost the national birth rate enough to reverse the decline, something that demographers said is probably impossible now that China has crossed a demographic threshold where its fertility rate is so low that its population is shrinking.

Xi Jinping, China's top leader, has called for a "new type of marriage and childbearing culture," urging officials to influence young people's views on "love and marriage, fertility and family." Local officials have responded with increasingly ham-handed measures to get citizens to have babies, including tracking women's menstrual cycles and issuing guidelines to reduce abortions that are medically unnecessary.

Many of the measures have been met with a collective shrug by young people who do not want to start a family.

On Jan. 1, officials placed a 13% value-added tax on contraceptive drugs and condoms, a move that has been met with a mix of indifference, mockery and derision. While the policy was not explicitly directed at boosting the birth rate, it was immediately interpreted by a skeptical



public as yet another futile attempt to encourage more children. Jonathan Zhu, 28, said the price increase would have little effect on his habits. "I'll still use them," he said, citing financial pressure as his reason for delaying fatherhood until marriage. His girlfriend, Hu Tingyan, 26, agreed, noting that the cost of condoms does not influence her willingness to have children. "I don't feel the time is right yet," she said. Some of the government's other baby-boosting measures, such as offering cash and subsidized housing for couples, have also failed to move the needle.

The empirical evidence from other countries so far is that monetary incentives have almost no effect in raising fertility," said Wang Feng, a professor of sociology at the University of California, Irvine. For many young people, the high costs of raising a child are especially discouraging amid a slowing economy and a property crisis. Youth unemployment remains high, and many recent college graduates are struggling to land a steady paycheck, falling back on their parents with little support from a threadbare social welfare system. "With China's economic woes, young people may want to wait and see, and that's not good news for raising fertility," Wang said.

China arrived at this problem much sooner than it anticipated even a decade ago, when officials relaxed the one-child policy to permit couples to have two children. It adjusted its birth policy again to allow three babies in 2021. This has left the government with less time to fix its severely underfunded pension and health care systems.

At the same time, China experienced a sudden and rapid decline in the working-age population, as the number of citizens age 60 and over is projected to reach 400 million by 2035. Young people often express reluctance to contribute to the public pension fund because of the financial burden.

# Telangana Sets Global Ambition with Next Gen Life Sciences Policy 2026–30

DAVOS, SWITZERLAND 21st January 2026 — The Government of Telangana, India unveiled its Next-Gen Life Sciences Policy 2026–30 at the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting in Davos, signalling the State's intent to play a far more consequential role in shaping the future of global healthcare, advanced therapeutics, and sustainable bio-manufacturing. The policy articulates a decisive shift from scale-driven manufacturing to value-led, innovation-powered growth and positions Telangana as a globally integrated life sciences hub across discovery, development, and deployment. With a clear ambition to rank among the top five life sciences clusters worldwide by 2030, the policy targets USD 25 billion in investments, creation of 500,000 high-quality jobs, and deeper integration into global life sciences value chains. The manufacturing depth is increasingly complemented by high-value R&D and innovation activity. Several global sciences organizations — including Amgen, Sanofi, Bristol Myers Squibb, Lilly, among several others have established or expanded R&D, digital, and global capability centres in Hyderabad,



reflecting confidence in the Telangana's scientific talent and innovation-ready infrastructure. The Next-Gen Life Sciences Policy 2026–30 represents a deliberate scale-up, designed to accelerate Telangana's transition from being indispensable to global supply chains to becoming a global originator of advanced therapies and platforms. The policy was unveiled by the Hon'ble Chief Minister Mr. A. Revanth Reddy in the presence of the Hon'ble Minister for IT & Industries, Mr. D. Sridhar Babu, Special Chief Secretary Mr. Sanjay Kumar IAS, and the CEO, Telangana Lifesciences, Mr. Shakthi M. Nagappan. Unveiling the policy, Mr. A Revanth Reddy, Chief

Minister of Telangana, India said "We are building one of the world's most trusted and transformational biosciences ecosystems—driving global health impact from Telangana. The policy's global unveiling at Davos reflects Telangana's conviction that the next phase of growth in life sciences will be driven by cross-border collaboration, global capital, and shared innovation agendas." "In the last two years alone, we have been able to attract investment to the tune of Rs. 73,000 Crores. With the launch of new policy, we are now aiming higher to attract Rs. 2 Lakh crore over the next 5 years. The policy prioritizes frontier science and advanced manufacturing

platforms, including cell and gene therapies, peptides, precision fermentation, and other next-generation modalities. It strengthens the broader ecosystem across clinical research, pharma services, diagnostics, medical electronics and digital health—positioning Telangana as a preferred destination for global life sciences hubs" Mr. D. Sridhar Babu, Hon'ble Minister for IT, Electronics & Communications, and Industries & Commerce, Government of Telangana. Adding to this Mr. Sanjay Kumar (IAS), Special Chief Secretary, Industries & Commerce and ITE & C Departments, Government of Telangana, "The Policy

builds on the strong foundation and spirit of innovation. The policy is not merely a framework; it is designed to accelerate the adoption of breakthrough technologies such as AI, digital health, and next generation therapeutics, while nurturing skilled talent. A defining reform is the recognition of R&D units as full-fledged industrial enterprises, allowing them equal access to incentives and reinforcing the State's commitment to innovation and high-value scientific activity" "Focused on frontier R&D, sustainable manufacturing, talent development, and a robust start-up-to-scale-up pipeline, the policy strengthens Telangana's integration into the global life sciences value chain. A dedicated Life Sciences Innovation Fund, scalable up to INR 1,000 crore (USD 100 million), will catalyze early- and growth-stage innovation, support deep-tech ventures—particularly biotherapeutics. Another key initiative proposed is the establishment of the Telangana School of Life Sciences, a university of global excellence focused on research, education, and future-ready talent development" added Mr. Shakthi M. Nagappan, CEO, Telangana Life Sciences.

# Rupee declines 76 paise to settle at record low of 91.73 against USD



Mumbai: The rupee crashed

76 paise to close at an all-time low of 91.73 (provisional) against the American currency on Wednesday, January 21, pressured by persistent foreign fund outflow amid heightened uncertainty and risk-off sentiment in global markets. The rupee recorded its previous all-time low of 91.14 on December 16, 2025, and so far this month, the local unit has fallen by 1.50 per cent, forex traders said, adding that the depreciation can be attributed to heightened geopolitical uncertainty. Rising tensions in Europe over the Greenland issue and potential tariffs, along with a negative trend in the domestic market, further dented investor sentiment, they said. At the interbank

foreign exchange, the rupee opened at 91.05 and lost ground to touch an intraday low of 91.74 against the greenback. The domestic unit settled for the day at an all-time low of 91.73 (provisional), registering a decline of 76 paise from its previous close. On Tuesday, the rupee depreciated 7 paise to close at 90.97 against the US dollar. "Emerging economies like India are facing pressure from volatile capital flows," Abhishek Bisen, Head-Fixed Income, Kotak Mahindra AMC, said. Besides, geopolitical tensions, including the Greenland dispute that has strained US-Europe relations (which is a risk of NATO breakdown) and also the control of Venezuela's oil reserves by the US, are creating ripple effects across the

global trade, he said. Bisen further noted that for India, the pending trade agreement with the US remains a key stabilising factor, as its conclusion could boost confidence and bilateral commerce. "Also, until the geopolitical risk eases and the trade deal materialises, the rupee is likely to remain vulnerable to external shocks. However, given the strong forex reserves, the Reserve Bank of India can manage the situation as the depreciation has made INR relatively cheaper on REER basis, which shall help shore up exports," he said. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which measures the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading 0.02 per cent lower at 98.61.

## Zomato's Deepinder Goyal to step down, Blinkit's Albinder Dhindsa takes over



Mumbai: Zomato's parent firm Eternal Limited on Wednesday, January 21, announced a major leadership change, with its CEO Deepinder Goyal resigning from his position with effect from February 1, 2026. The company said Albinder Dhindsa, who is currently the CEO of Blinkit, will take over as the new chief executive. In a letter addressed to the shareholders, Goyal said he has recently been drawn towards new ideas that involve higher levels of risk, experimentation and exploration. He explained that such ideas are better pursued outside a public company like Eternal, which needs to stay focused and disciplined in its current business strategy. "Of late, I have found myself drawn to a set of new ideas that involve significantly higher-risk exploration and experimentation," he said. "These are the kinds of ideas that are better pursued outside a public company like Eternal," Goyal added. He added that if these ideas belonged inside Eternal's strategic scope, I

would have pursued them within the company. Last week, Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Rajya Sabha MP Raghav Chadha joined gig workers in celebrating a victory for their "safety, dignity and work conditions" as the government directed food delivery and quick-commerce platforms to do away with rigid "10-minute delivery" commitments. In a video message, Chadha said that it is a memorable day for gig workers as the Central government has struck down the private companies' "10-minute delivery" brand-

ing. "I want to thank the Central government for intervening in the matter," said Chadha, describing the cruelty linked to "10-minute delivery" as real. He said the promise of "10-minute delivery" adds to the mental stress of delivery workers and forces them to drive dangerously to meet the deadline, endangering other road users. Earlier, Labour Minister Mansukh Mandaviya asked major food delivery and quick-commerce platforms to do away with rigid '10-minute' delivery time commitments, stressing that the safety of delivery partners must come before speed. Mandaviya held discussions with officials of Blinkit, Zepo, Swiggy and Zomato in Delhi, during which he advised them to remove strict delivery deadlines from their platforms and promotional material in the interest of delivery workers' safety. Last week, AAP MP Raghav Chadha joined gig workers in celebrating the government's move to end rigid 10-minute delivery commitments, calling it a win for their safety and dignity.

## Iconic category leader, blenders pride announces the launch of zenith black edition

National, 21 January 2026: A Limited Release of One Million Bottles ONLY Where Bold Black Design and Iconic Heritage Converge to Redefine Premium Whisky Excellence Blenders Pride, a leader in India's premium whisky segment, proudly announces the launch of the Blenders Pride Zenith Black Edition—a limited-edition expression that unites a bold black aesthetic with the iconic Blenders Pride blend to create a truly distinctive experience. Encased in a striking black design that signifies elevated luxury and distinction, the Zenith Black Edition is meticulously crafted for discerning whisky connoisseurs—for the One in a Million. With only one million bottles available, this edition is as rare as it is refined. In the world of luxury, black represents more than just a colour—it is an attitude, a statement of sophistication and power. Long associated with Blenders Pride,



black now takes centre stage in an innovative design expression that redefines the codes of premium whisky. This is not simply new packag-

ing; it is a bold expression of style for those who don't follow trends—they set them. Debasree Dasgupta, CMO, Pernod Ricard India, said, "Blenders Pride continues to redefine the benchmarks of premium whisky in India. The launch of the Zenith Black Edition marks the brand's most refined expression yet—an evolution that translates its enduring legacy into a bold new design language. This year, Blenders Pride brings its core values to life through an aesthetic that celebrates aspiration, distinction, and craftsmanship. Limited to one million bottles, the Zenith Black Edition is created for individuals who don't merely admire excellence—they embody it." Blenders Pride Zenith Black Edition is crafted for those who pursue the extraordinary—an elevated experience that blends uncompromising quality with the distinction of owning something truly exceptional. Planned for a pan-India launch, Blenders Pride Zenith Black Edition is currently available in exclusive stores only.

## Team Global Express expands partnership with HCLTech to transform logistics operations with AI

NOIDA, India, Jan 2026 — HCLTech, a leading global technology company, has been selected by Team Global Express, the largest multimodal logistics organization in Australia and New Zealand, to accelerate digital transformation with AI-powered solutions. HCLTech's partnership with Team Global Express has grown rapidly. The new agreement consolidates the logistics major's multi-vendor IT landscape into a single, strategic partnership with HCLTech as the trusted advisor to drive efficiency, innovation and data-driven decision-making. HCLTech will be responsible for end-to-end managed IT services for Team Global Express across applications, hybrid cloud infrastructure, networks, cybersecurity, digital workplace and

**Highlights**

- HCLTech, a leading global technology company, has been selected by Team Global Express, the largest multimodal logistics organization in Australia and New Zealand, to accelerate digital transformation with AI-powered solutions.

service management. AI Force, HCLTech's GenAI-driven platform for service transformation, will drive automation, enhance compliance and elevate customer experience across Team Global Express' operations. "We are delighted to onboard HCLTech as our strategic technology partner," said Danny Gravell, Chief Innovation Officer, Team Global Express. "Their deep domain expertise,

innovative approach and commitment to operational excellence will play a vital role in modernizing our IT landscape and strengthening our ability to serve customers across Australia and New Zealand." "This partnership marks a significant milestone for HCLTech," said Sonja Eland, Executive Vice President and Country Manager for Australia and New Zealand, HCLTech. "Our comprehensive suite of solutions, powered by advanced AI and automation, will enable Team Global Express to accelerate transformation, enhance customer experience and drive long-term value creation." The partnership reinforces HCLTech's credentials as a trusted technology leader in enterprise transformation and digital innovation.

New Delhi: Italian super luxury automaker Automobili Lamborghini on Tuesday, January 20, said its sales in India declined marginally to 111 units last year, as compared to 113 units sold in 2024. Overall, the company delivered 10,747 units worldwide in 2025. Lamborghini India delivered a total of 111 cars in 2025, underscoring the brand's continued resilience and strong market relevance despite a challenging luxury automotive environment, it said in a statement. The year was marked by a robust performance in the super SUV segment, which recorded a strong 17 per cent year-on-year growth, reaffirming the increasing demand for Lamborghini's SUV portfolio in India, it added. This growth reflects the strong customer response to the brand's hybridisation journey and its ability to align performance with evolving consumer preferences, fur-

ther strengthening Lamborghini's position in the Indian market, with close to 800 Lamborghini cars now on Indian roads, the company stated. "Despite challenging market conditions, we are very proud of the results achieved in 2025, which confirm Lamborghini's ability to stand out even in a complex global environment," Stephan Winkelmann,

Chairman and CEO of Automobili Lamborghini, said. The performance reflects the automaker's capacity to interpret market dynamics and to make strategic choices that respond concretely to customers' expectations, he added. In 2025, the EMEA (Europe, the Middle East, and Africa) region continued to be the company's leading market with 4,650 vehicles delivered. The Americas followed, closing the year with 3,347 units delivered, while the Asia Pacific (APAC) region recorded 2,750 vehicle deliveries, it stated. Lamborghini reported sales of 111 units in India in 2025, translating to a 1.13 percent drop compared to the volumes it managed in 2024. Despite the slowdown in the Americas, the luxury Italian automaker sold 10,747 units globally in 2025; a 0.56 percent growth over 2024. The 800hp Urus SE likely provided the necessary lift to Lamborghini's overall sales volumes. Lamborghini's India sales dropped by 2 units in 2025. The Urus SE was likely the key driver of sales in 2025. Lamborghini surpassed the 100-unit sales mark in 2023. Lamborghini India sales over the years. Lamborghini sold 103 units in 2022, which was nearly a 12 percent improvement over its 2022 numbers. In fact, this was the very first time the Italian marque managed to sell over 100 cars in our country. That figure rose by 10 percent in 2024, with 113 units sold. While Lamborghini's sales did drop this year, the company claims to have sold 17 percent more units of the Urus. Given the soaring popularity of SUVs in our country (and abroad), the Urus has always managed to make bank for Lamborghini.

## Lamborghini sold 111 cars in India in 2025, SUVs in demand



# Trump wants 'immediate negotiations' to acquire Greenland but insists he 'won't use force'

Trump has just finished speaking – after an astonishing scrum to try to get into the room here at Davos. People were turned away. Even heads of state. And the security has been unbelievable, with people – even some famous ones – not being let in or out of the hall. Some of those queuing thought Trump would be a laying down the law of the new rules of the world economy. Trump initially talked in friendly terms about the western allies that had been most perturbed by what they'd seen on his social media posts. He even acknowledged that he probably shouldn't speak about the controversial issue of Greenland. Then, he announced he was seeking immediate negotiations for the USA to acquire Greenland. A negotiated settlement he said. No force required. But the US needed "full title". "We want this land" to build the "greatest Golden Dome ever built" he

said. During his address, Trump said "Biden gave \$350bn to Ukraine" when speaking about support for their war against Russia. He's made similar claims previously – but BBC Verify has found no evidence for this figure. The Kiel Institute, a German-based think tank which tracks defence spending, has put the total amount of support the US government has given, external to Ukraine at \$119bn (£88.5bn) from January 2022 up until October 2025. Former president Joe Biden was in office from January 2021 until January 2024. The US Department of Defense has also done a calculation which looks at a broader range of US military activity in Europe and includes replenishing defence stocks. Its figure was \$182.8bn (£136bn) when Trump came into office – considerably less than the figure the president has mentioned. Trump's description of how



the US economy is doing will sound familiar to anyone who has been listening to the US president over the past year. But does it match reality? Trump's claims often contain some truth – while being significantly exaggerated. Take growth, which he said has been "extraordinarily high". Growth in the US has been stronger than many analysts expected, coming in at an annual pace of 4.3% over

the three quarters to September. But that's not unprecedented – the US had stronger growth during the same period in 2023. And the figures have been jumpy due in part to sharp swings in trade. He says "inflation is defeated" – and again, not quite. Overall, consumer prices jumped 2.7% over the 12 months to December. That's down from 3% a year ago, when Trump took office, but still above the Fed's 2% target. He's also boasting about investment. Some companies have increased production plans in the US, but there are plenty of reasons to be sceptical about the claims. More now from Trump on tariffs, as he says he imposed them on different countries with large economic deficits. "You're all party to them, in some cases victim to them but in the end it's a fair thing and most of you realise that," he says. In some cases, such as in Switzerland, Trump says he initially imposed a 30% tariff before reducing this, because he doesn't want to hurt people. He says that the US is keeping the whole world afloat" and it should be paying the lowest interest rate of any countries. Trump turns to the cost of prescription drugs in the US coming down. On tariffs, he says he used them to get favoured nations treatment for drug prices. He says he did it to secure access to goods without having to pay

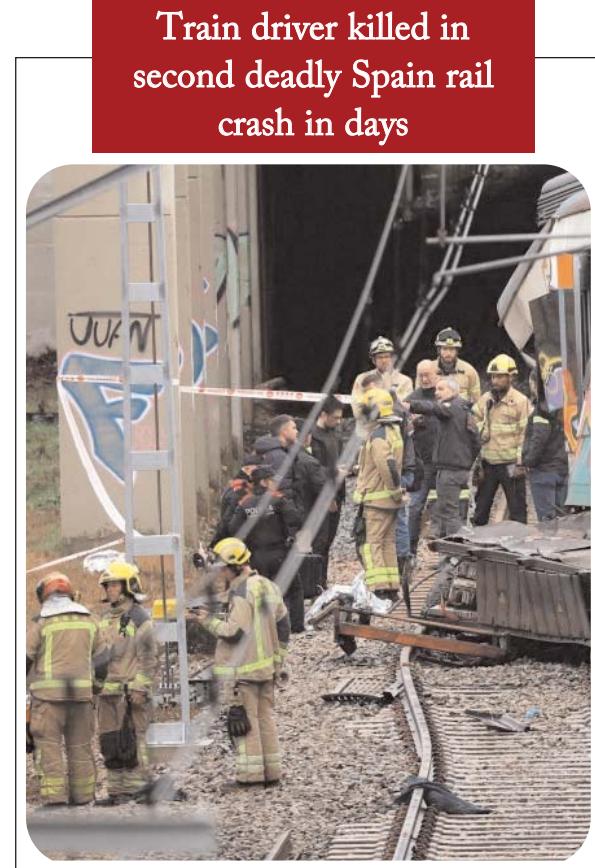
13,14,15 times more than certain other countries. He recounts a conversation he had with French President Emmanuel Macron – and how he threatened to put up tariffs on French goods unless Macron agreed to Trump's demands on drug prices. He says the US is not going to subsidise the whole world. Well pay whatever the lowest price is around the whole world, he says. He says because of this, drug prices are going to come down everywhere. "Without tariffs I wouldn't have been able to get it done." US markets rebounded after President Trump told the World Economic Forum he would not use force to acquire Greenland, easing market fears. Shortly after the opening bell, the S&P 500 and Dow Jones Industrial Average both rose around 0.3%, and the Nasdaq also made modest gains. Treasury yields fell as prices rose, while the dollar pared losses.

## LIFE SENTENCE FOR MAN WHO KILLED JAPAN'S EX-PM SHINZO ABE



The man who killed Japan's former prime minister Shinzo Abe has been sentenced to life in prison, three and a half years after he shot him dead at a rally in the city of Nara in 2022. Tetsuya Yamagami had pleaded guilty to murder charges at the trial's opening last year, but how he should be punished has divided public opinion in Japan. While many see the 45-year-old as a cold-blooded murderer, some sympathise with his troubled upbringing. Prosecutors said Yamagami deserved life imprisonment for his "grave act". Abe's assassination stunned the country, where there is virtually no gun crime. Seeking leniency, Yamagami's defence team said he was a victim of "religious abuse". His mother's devotion to the Unification Church bankrupted the family, and Yamagami bore a grudge against Abe after realising the ex-leader's ties to the controversial church, the court heard. On Wednesday, Judge

Shinichi Tanaka from the Nara district court sentenced Yamagami to life in prison without parole, as the prosecution had requested. "The act of waiting for an opportunity, finding an opening, and targeting the victim with a gun is despicable and extremely malicious," said the judge, public broadcaster NHK reports. Yamagami sat quietly with his hands clasped and eyes downcast as the sentence was handed down. Nearly 700 people had lined up in the cold to try to get one of the 31 seats inside the courtroom to attend the hearing. Abe's shocking death in broad daylight prompted investigations into the Unification Church and its questionable practices, including soliciting financially ruinous donations from its followers. The case also exposed links with politicians from Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party and resulted in the resignations of several cabinet ministers.



### Train driver killed in second deadly Spain rail crash in days

## Japan restarts world's largest nuclear plant as Fukushima memories loom large

Japan has restarted operations at the world's largest nuclear power plant for the first time since the 2011 Fukushima disaster forced the country to shut all of its reactors. The decision to restart reactor number 6 at Kashiwazaki-Kariwa north-west of Tokyo was taken despite local residents' safety concerns. It was delayed by a day because of an alarm malfunction and is due to begin operating commercially next month. Japan, which had always heavily relied on energy imports, was an early adopter of nuclear power. But in 2011 all 54 of its reactors had to be shut after a massive earthquake



and tsunami triggered a meltdown at Fukushima, causing one of the worst nuclear disasters in history. This is the latest installation in Japan's nuclear power reboot, which still has a long way to go. The seventh reactor at Kashiwazaki-Kariwa is not



## Global markets on alert as Europe to suspend approval of US trade deal

The European Parliament is planning to suspend approval of the US trade deal agreed in July, according to sources close to its international trade committee. The suspension is set to be announced in Strasbourg, France on Wednesday. The move would mark another escalation in tensions between the US and Europe, as Donald Trump ratchets up his efforts to acquire Greenland, threatening new tariffs over the issue on the weekend. The stand-off has rattled financial markets, reviving talk of a trade war and the possibility of retaliation against the US for its trade measures.

Shares on both sides of the Atlantic were lower on

Tuesday, with European stock markets seeing a second day of losses. In the US, the Dow Jones slid more than 1.7%, while the S&P 500 dropped more than 2% and the Nasdaq closed about 2.4% lower. Stock markets in the Asia-Pacific region were mixed on Wednesday, with major indexes in Japan and Hong Kong trading a little lower, while shares in Hong Kong and mainland China were slightly higher. The price of gold continued to make gains as it rose above \$4,800 (£3,570) an ounce for the first time. The price of silver dipped from Monday's record high above \$95 an ounce. Precious metals are seen as safer assets to hold

in times of uncertainty, and the prices of both gold and silver have soared over the past year. On the currency markets, the US dollar held steady against its major peers, having dropped 0.5% overnight – the biggest daily fall since early December. Trade tensions between the US and Europe had eased since the two sides struck a deal at Trump's Turnberry golf course in Scotland in July. That agreement set US levies on most European goods at 15%, down from the 30% Trump had initially threatened as part of his "Liberation Day" wave of tariffs in April. In exchange, Europe had agreed to invest in the US and make changes at on the continent expected to boost US exports.

## Nigeria police confirm mass church abductions after previous denial



Nigeria's police have now confirmed that a group of worshippers was kidnapped from three churches in a remote part of the northern Kaduna state, after previously denying it. More than two days after the raid on the Kurnmin Wali village, police on Tuesday night said that an earlier statement denying the attack had been "widely misinterpreted". Local residents told the BBC that 17 worshippers had been abducted but that 11 later escaped. Police spokesperson Alhaji Muhammad Rabiu described the reports of a kidnapping as "mere falsehood which is being peddled by conflict entrepreneurs who want to cause chaos". He challenged "anyone to list the names of the kidnapped victims and other particulars." The chairman of Kajuru local government area, which includes Kurnmin Wali, Dauda Madaki, said security forces had been sent to the area but found no sign of a kidnapping. "We visited the church where the so-called kidnap took place. There was no evidence of the attack. I asked the village head, Mai Dan Zaria, and he said that there was no such attack."



## Israeli PM Netanyahu agrees to join Trump's Board of Peace

Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has accepted an invitation to join US President Donald Trump's Board of Peace. A statement from his office said Netanyahu would become a member of the board "which is to be comprised of world leaders". The board was originally thought to be aimed at helping end the two-year war between Israel and Hamas in Gaza and oversee reconstruction. But its proposed charter does not mention the Palestinian territory and appears to be designed to supplement functions of the UN. The United Arab Emirates and Bahrain have also agreed to join, as have Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Morocco and Vietnam. Many others have

expressed reservations. It is not clear how many countries have been invited to join Trump's new body – Canada, Russia, Turkey and the UK are among them, but have not yet publicly responded. Norway has said it will not join because the current proposal "raises a number of questions", while France and Sweden have indicated they will do the same. According to a copy of the charter leaked to the media, member states will be given a renewable three-year term, but they can secure a permanent place if they contribute \$1bn (£740m) of funding to the board. The document says the Board of Peace will be "an international organisation that seeks to promote stability, restore dependable and lawful governance, and secure enduring peace

in areas affected or threatened by conflict". It will "undertake such peace-building functions in accordance with international law", it adds. Trump will be the chairman but also "separately serve" as representative of the US. A US official has said the chairmanship can be held by Trump "until he resigns it", but that a future US president may choose a new representative. As chairman, he will have "exclusive authority to create, modify or dissolve subsidiary entities as necessary or appropriate to fulfil the Board of Peace's mission", according to the document. He will also select "leaders of global stature" to serve two-year terms on an Executive Board that will help deliver the mission of the Board of Peace, US officials say. Last Friday, the White House named the seven members of the



## David Beckham's First Reaction After Son Brooklyn's Explosive 6-Page Note Goes Viral

David Beckham, a legendary footballer, found his name in the top trends on social media after his eldest son, Brooklyn, made some scathing remarks about him and mother, Victoria Beckham, over their attempt to 'control' him and his wife, Nicola Peltz Beckham. Brooklyn shared a 6-page statement on social media, making some serious allegations against his parents while also ruling out the possibility of a reconciliation. While David didn't directly respond to the allegations made by Brooklyn against him and Victoria, he touched upon the topic by suggesting that "children make mistakes". Speaking on CNBC's Squawk Box on Tuesday, David Beckham said that children are bound to make mistakes, and that is the only way for them to learn as well. He has carried the same belief while educating his own children. "I've been



able to use my platform and my following for Unicef and it's been the biggest tool to make people aware of what's going on around the world for children. I've tried to do the same. I've tried to do the same with my children to educate them. They make mistakes.

Children are allowed to make mistakes. That's how they learn," the former Manchester United and Real Madrid midfielder said. "So that's what I try to teach my kids. But you know, you have to sometimes let them make those mistakes as well," he added.

my life. Brooklyn Beckham speaks out against parents Victoria and David Beckham: "I do not want to reconcile with my family. I'm not being controlled, I'm standing up for myself for the first time in my life. [...] My parents have been trying endlessly to ruin my relationship since before... pic.twitter.com/FBF1K1d4fu — Pop Base (@PopBase) January 19, 2026 "For my entire life, my parents have controlled narratives in the press about our family. The performative social media posts, family events and inauthentic relationships have been a fixture of the life I was born into. Recently, I have seen with my own eyes the lengths that they'll go through to place countless lies in the media, mostly at the expense of innocent people, to preserve their own facade. But I believe the truth always comes out."

## "He Might Still Be In Contention": Michael Clarke On Shubman Gill's T20 Axe

One of the most sought-after batters in Indian cricket, Shubman Gill, was surprisingly dropped from the T20 squad as the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) announced the squad for the World Cup, starting February 07. The Ajit Agarkar-led selection committee picked the likes of Ishan Kishan and Rinku Singh in the team, leaving out Gill, a decision that continues to be debated among fans and experts. However, Gill has now been backed by former Australia captain Michael Clarke to not just return to the team but also take the captain's role. "He might still be (in contention). I don't think that changes too much. I think the squads needed to be



announced by a certain time, and he wasn't batting as well as he would like. India's got so many opening batting options; he's not the captain of the team at this stage, so I think they pretty much made the decision. They wanted these couple of warm-up games to be a real focus on what they are

doing in the World Cup. There were questions about his form. They made that decision specifically in the lead-up to the World Cup," Clarke said in the Beyond23 Cricket Podcast. Gill was named India's T20I vice-captain when he returned to the T20 side last year, replacing Axar Patel. But,

the selection committee took a U-turn and re-appointed Axar as the team's vice-captain in the shortest format for the T20 World Cup. As the T20 World Cup ends, however, Clarke feels Gill could end up leading Suryakumar as India's captain in the shortest format. "I think after the World Cup, don't be surprised if he not only comes back into the team, but he also takes over the captaincy. He's an unbelievable player; just not playing his best cricket at the moment. I don't think there are too many concerns moving forward with Shubman Gill. India has made it clear we are 100 per cent focused on this World Cup, and we want to win it," he said.

## Alcaraz In Splits At Fan's "Carlos Nadal" Quip In Australian Open



Six-time Grand Slam winner Carlos Alcaraz was put through his paces by German journeyman Yannick Hanfmann on Wednesday before swatting him aside to book his place in the Australian Open third round.

After overcoming a shaky start in the set, Alcaraz truly made his sporting prowess count, winning the contest in straight sets. The 22-year-old Spaniard came through the arm-wrestle 7-6 (7/4), 6-3, 6-2 on Rod Laver Arena to set up a clash with France's Corentin Moutet or American student Michael Zheng.

As Alcaraz chases his maiden Career Grand Slam in Melbourne, comparisons with fellow Spaniard Rafael Nadal are bound to come.

In fact, during the match on Wednesday, Alcaraz was called "Carlos Nadal" by a fan in the arena. The quip left the Spaniard in splits. Here's the video: "I knew he was going to play great. I mean, I know his level, I played him a few times already," said the world number one,

who is bidding to become the youngest man to complete a career Grand Slam of all four majors. So far, the Melbourne Park hard courts have proved his nemesis, failing to go past the quarter-finals in his four trips to Australia. He crashed at that stage last year to Novak Djokovic and Alexander Zverev the year before. "To be honest, it was tougher than I thought at the beginning. I didn't feel the ball that good. You know, the ball was coming as a bomb, forehand and backhand," he added.

"Really, really happy that I got through a really difficult first set and then I started to feel a little bit better on the court."

The turning point came when Hanfmann netted a forehand on serve to give Alcaraz a 5-4 advantage and the Spaniard served to seal a marathon set that spanned 75 minutes. The reigning French Open and US Open champion reset and quickly took a grip on set two as he began to find his rhythm, rattling through it in just 43 minutes.

## 'Playoffs Start at 0/0': Tristan Stubbs Ahead Of Sunrisers SA20 Clash With Pretoria Capitals



think so," he added when asked whether their track record gives them an advantage. "Having guys who have been in this situation definitely helps. Like I said earlier, it's still a game of cricket. Your experience doesn't really matter if you can't perform on the day. It doesn't count for anything." A big reason behind the

Sunrisers finishing on top of the standings has been Quinton de Kock's form. In eight innings, he has scored 328 runs at an average of 46.85. "De Kock has been awesome for us. Everybody sort of played as a team. It helped us get into the playoffs," Stubbs said. While de Kock is the second-highest scorer in the

SA20 so far, he is closely followed by Pretoria Capitals' Sherfane Rutherford in third place with 317 runs at an average of 79.25. "He has been very good for them. They've done well to get into the top two. But in the playoffs, you start on nought for nought. You've got to play well on the day," he said. The winner of Qualifier 1 will progress directly through to the coveted Betway SA20 Season 4 Final on Sunday, January 25 at Newlands. The loser gets another opportunity in Qualifier 2 on Friday, January 23 at the Wanderers against the winner of Thursday's Eliminator between Paarl Royals (third) and Joburg Super Kings (fourth) at Centurion.

## RADUCANU'S 'MOST DISPIRITING' SLAM DISPLAY - WHAT WENT WRONG?



When Grand Slam draws are made, we're all guilty of plotting ahead. It turns out we looked one round too far in the case of Emma Raducanu at the Australian Open. A potential shot at top seed Aryna Sabalenka loomed in round three, but the British number one fell to a stinging defeat by Austria's Anastasia Potapova on Wednesday. Former US Open champion Raducanu was seeded 28th in Melbourne, but was completely out of sorts against 55th-ranked Potapova in a 7-6 (7-3) 6-2 second-round loss. "She has had far heavier defeats in Grand Slams before in terms of scoreline, but for me this was the most dispiriting performance of her Grand Slam career," said BBC tennis cor-

respondent Russell Fuller. "She lacked confidence, lacked conviction and lost fight in the final few games." BBC Sport analyses the technical, mental and physical issues facing 23-year-old Raducanu - and whether there is another coaching change in the offing. Raducanu made encouraging

progress last year, climbing back into the world's top 30 and playing more matches than in any previous season. But this defeat means she has still only gone past the third round of a Grand Slam once since her stunning US Open triumph as a teenage qualifier in 2021. Her preparations for the opening major of the

## On T20 World Cup Row, ICC Blasts Bangladesh: "Unrelated Development"



The international Cricket Council (ICC) rejected Bangladesh Cricket Board's request to shift their T20 World Cup 2026 matches from India. The BCB had previously cited 'security concerns' and asked the global cricket governing body to shift their group stage games to Sri Lanka. However, the ICC said that there were no 'credible or verifiable threat to the safety or security of the Bangladesh team in India'. The BCB was also given a 24-hour deadline to take a decision on their participation and if they refuse to travel to India, it is likely that Scotland will replace Bangladesh in the T20 World Cup 2026. "Over the past several weeks, the ICC has engaged with the BCB in sustained and constructive dialogue, with the clear objective of enabling Bangladesh's participation in the tournament. During this period, the ICC has shared detailed inputs, including independent security assessments, comprehensive venue-level

security plans and formal assurances from the host authorities, all of which consistently concluded that there is no credible or verifiable threat to the safety or security of the Bangladesh team in India," an ICC spokesperson's statement in relation to the decision read. "Despite these efforts, the BCB maintained its position, repeatedly linking its participation in the tournament to a single, isolated and unrelated development concerning one of its player's involvement in a domestic league. This link-

## Abhishek Sharma Shatters World Record With 22-Ball Fifty In 1st T20I Against New Zealand



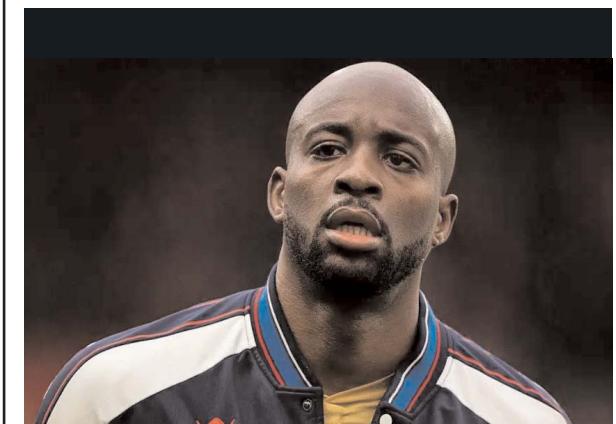
Indian cricket team batter Abhishek Sharma shattered a sensational world record with a 22-ball half-century during the first T20I encounter against New Zealand in Nagpur on Wednesday. It was a trademark aggressive knock from the left-handed opener as he dominated New Zealand bowlers from the very beginning. Abhishek reached the milestone with the help of 4 fours and 4 sixes. Thanks to his brilliant knock, he became the first batter to score 8 T20I half-centuries in 25 or fewer deliveries. Previously, he was tied with teammate Suryakumar Yadav, Phil Salt and Evin Lewis at 7. This was also the quickest half-century in terms of balls for India against New Zealand in

T20Is. Earlier, the record belonged to KL Rahul and Rohit Sharma who achieved the feat in 23 balls. Earlier, New Zealand won the toss and elected to bowl against India with pacer Kristian Clarke handed a debut cap. Left-handed wicketkeeper

batter Ishan Kishan returned to the India T20I side for the first time since 2023. With Shubman Gill omitted, Sanju Samson returned as the opener alongside an in-form Abhishek Sharma. The series comes ahead of the

T20 World Cup starting on February 7 in India and Sri Lanka, where the Suryakumar Yadav-led side enter as defending champions. "We were looking to bowl first because we felt there was dew around 8:30pm during our practice. But we don't mind putting runs on the board and we have done well batting first. Shreyas, Harshit, Bishnoi and Kuldeep are the ones who are missing out," said Suryakumar, who's playing his 100th T20I game. Earlier this month, New Zealand defeated India in an ODI series on Indian soil for the first time. "Looks like a pretty good wicket and looks pretty high-scoring. Last week was pretty special. Every team knows how hard it is to come to India and win."

## PALACE STRIKER MATETA TELLS CLUB HE WANTS TO LEAVE



France striker Jean-Philippe Mateta has told Crystal Palace he wants to leave amid interest from other Premier League and European clubs. Mateta, 28, has 18 months remaining on his current deal at Selhurst Park and as things stand he will not be signing an extension. Italian giants Juventus have tried to sign the striker this month but so far failed to reach Palace's valuation, which is believed to be around £40m. Aston Villa, who have been keen on Mateta for some time, have also shown interest in a move this month. Speaking last week, Palace manager Oliver Glasner admitted the club are listening to offers for Mateta. "There will be a price that Crystal Palace [accept], with 18 months left on his contract. We'll do the deal, if JP wants. If nobody pays that price, then he will stay," said the Austrian. Palace, who won the FA Cup in May, sold star midfielder Eberechi Eze to Arsenal in the summer and have lost captain Marc Guehi this January, after he joined Manchester City in a £20m deal. Glasner, who announced last week that he will leave the club at the end of the season, launched a scathing attack on the Palace hierarchy following Saturday's loss to Sunderland - claiming the team had been 'abandoned' by the club's recruitment strategy. Palace were knocked out of the FA Cup at non-league Macclesfield in one of the tournament's greatest shocks earlier this month. Analysis: A blow but not a surprise that Mateta wants out. The news will be a blow, but not a surprise to supporters of the club. Mateta, since his remarkable upturn in form over the past 18 months, has always made clear his desire to play at the highest level and has aims of playing in the Champions League and representing France at the World Cup. The 29-year-old's World Cup dream, one that seemed distant before Glasner's arrival at the club, is one that can be achieved now after making his senior debut in October while the frontman has scored in his last two appearances for Les Bleus.

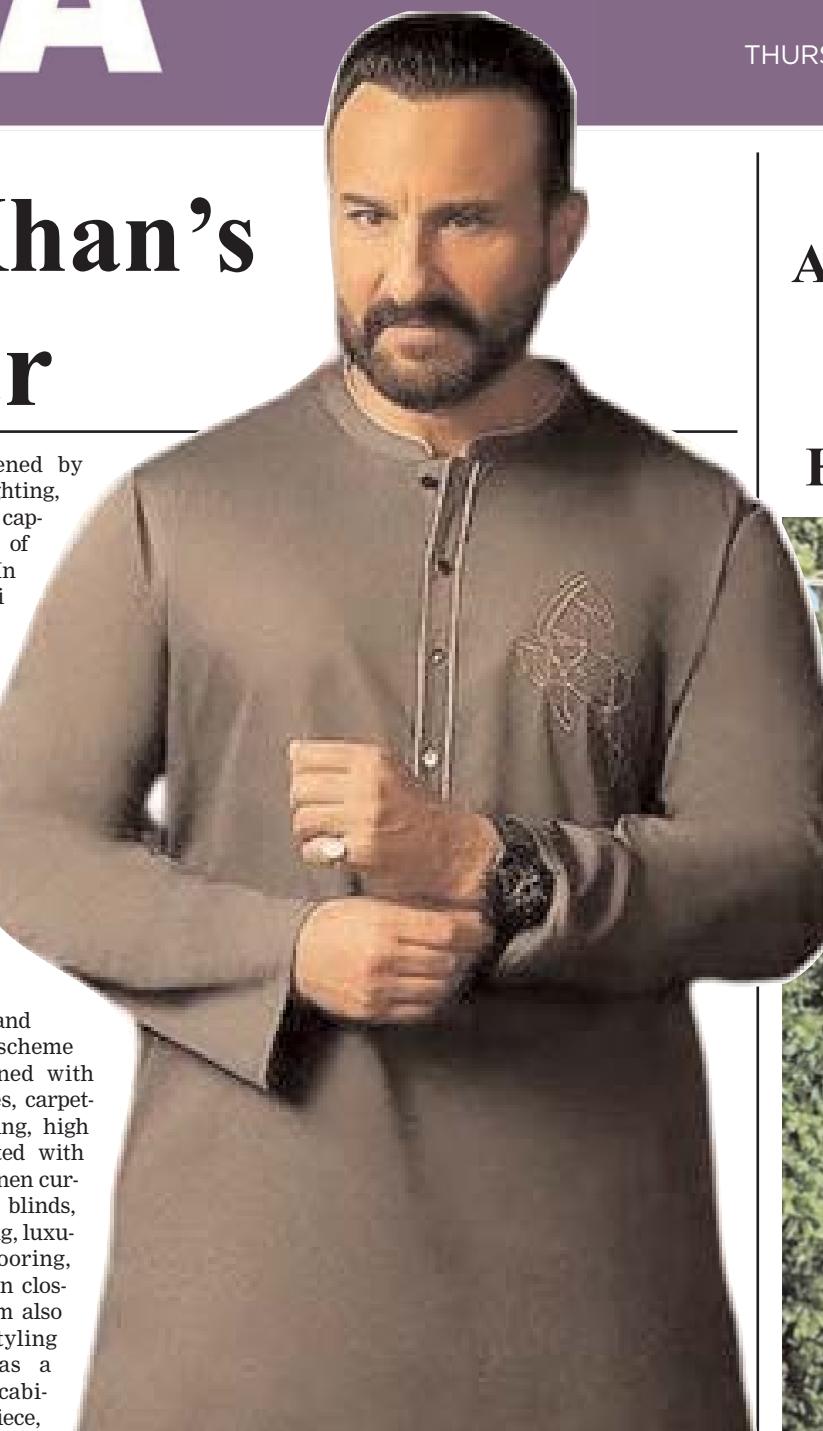
## Walkthrough Saif Ali Khan's lavish home in Qatar

**Mumbai:** Bollywood superstar Saif Ali Khan, also known as the Nawab of Pataudi, is known for his royal lifestyle and love for luxury. From the iconic Pataudi Palace to high-end cars and premium real estate, his possessions reflect elegance and class. Adding to his impressive property list is his stunning new home in Qatar, a place the actor has often described as close to his heart and one of his favourite destinations. Saif Ali Khan recently offered a glimpse into his elegant "home away from home" in Qatar. Located at St Regis Marsa Arabia at The Pearl Island, the Rs 15-crore property is a modern two-bedroom apartment with a maid's room, designed for comfort, privacy, and relaxation. Speaking about the home, Saif described it as peaceful, luxurious, and familiar, calling it the perfect place to unwind. The interiors feature a clean, minimal aesthetic with dark wood and soft cream tones, high ceilings, marble floors in common areas,

plush carpets in bedrooms, subtle lighting, linen curtains, and curated artworks. The living and dining areas blend modern and vintage elements seamlessly, while the standout feature is the expansive balcony offering stunning sea and marina views. Saif, who also owns multiple properties in Mumbai and other cities, calls the balcony his favourite corner, where he enjoys sunsets and the calming lights of the marina each evening. In a video shared by St Regis Residences Qatar, Saif Ali Khan offered a rare glimpse into his new home, explaining the emotional logic behind the choice. "It's peaceful. It's luxurious, and it's very private," he said. What draws him back to this space, he added, is its sense of retreat. "It's secluded, and it's a wonderful place to come and think and unwind and to get away from a hectic life," he shared, articulating what many global homeowners now seek: privacy without isolation. The two-bedroom residence is anchored in a

restrained palette of dark wood and soft cream, creating a timeless atmosphere that prioritises comfort over spectacle. High ceilings with surface lighting enhance the sense of openness, while marble floors, paneling, and linen curtains layered with blinds lend the interiors quiet sophistication. Artworks punctuate the space with personality, while plush carpeting in the bedrooms and a generous walk-in closet add practical indulgence. In the living area, a modern wooden cabinet serves as a focal point, complemented by a glass centre table, a dining nook, vintage-inspired printed sofas, and a richly textured carpet. If the interiors offer calm, the balcony delivers poetry. Overlooking the marina, framed by palm trees and the Doha skyline, it is Saif's favourite corner of the home. "It has to be this balcony. That's where the sun sets. And every night the lights come on in the marina, and it's a lovely place to sit," he said. Furnished sparingly with elegant patio

seating and softened by ambient sconce lighting, the outdoor space captures the essence of the residence. In Doha, Saif Ali Khan has found more than a property. He has created a refuge that mirrors his evolving sense of home, where discretion, design, and tranquillity converge. The spacious 2-bedroom home follows a dark wood and cream colour scheme throughout, adorned with stunning art pieces, carpeted bedroom flooring, high ceilings accentuated with surface lighting, linen curtains layered with blinds, elegant wainscoting, luxurious marble flooring, and a large walk-in closet. The living room also features some styling elements, such as a modern wooden cabinet as the centrepiece,



## Faria Abdullah confirms dating, drops hints about her mystery BF



has always kept her personal life private, choosing to let her work speak louder than gossip. That is why this confession

feels special and refreshingly honest. She did not reveal his name or face, only hinting that he belongs to the creative world. Is he a choreographer, a theatre actor, a painter, or a filmmaker? Hyderabad's internet detectives are already hunting for clues, turning every comment section into a guessing game. Long before films, Faria began her journey through her YouTube channel Hyderabad Diaries, where her fun and relatable content about Hyderabad life gained early popularity.



## PRABHAS FANS ON HIGH ALERT AS SALAAR 2 TEASER RUMOURS TREND ONLINE



**Hyderabad:** Over the last few days, fans of Prabhas have been buzzing with excitement after rumours claimed that an announcement teaser for Salaar: Part 2 – Shouryaanga Parvam would be released just before Republic Day. Screenshots, fan edits, and bold claims flooded X, Instagram, and Reddit, leaving one big question behind. Is it real, or just another fan driven trend. The speculation reportedly started with unverified posts from Telugu 123. Soon after, multiple handles

began repeating the same claim that the Salaar 2 teaser would drop on January 25 or 26. With no official clarification, the rumour spread rapidly and became a trending topic. Despite the excitement, Hombale Films and director Prashanth Neel have remained silent. No poster, no teaser, and no confirmation has been released so far.

### FACT CHECK, WHAT IS THE REALITY

Industry sources have now dismissed the teaser rumours as false. According to insiders, there is currently no promotional activity planned for Salaar 2. The project has not gone on floors, and there is no fixed timeline for announcements. Prashanth Neel is busy shooting Dragon with Jr NTR, while Prabhas is occupied with multiple commitments, including Faifi,

Spirit, and the sequel to Kalki 2898 AD. Sources also claim that allocating dates for Salaar 2 in the near future is unlikely. The sudden buzz also comes after Prabhas' recent film The Raja Saab failed to impress audiences. Shortly after, the release date of Spirit was officially announced as March 5, 2027, which helped divert attention. Many believe the Salaar 2 teaser chatter further helped energize disappointed fans.

### WHAT THE SEQUEL WILL EXPLORE

Salaar: Part 1 – Ceasefire released on December 22, 2023, and gained strong popularity on OTT platforms. The sequel title was revealed in the closing credits. The second part will focus on Deva's transformation into an enemy of Varadha, played by Prithviraj Sukumaran. Rebel Star Prabhas' Salaar:

Part 1 – Ceasefire has a very special place in Telugu cinema history. The Prashanth Neel directorial showcased Prabhas in a powerful mass role that stood out even in his career. The film has a sequel titled Salaar: Part 2 – Shouryaanga Parvam, and it is now back in the headlines. A rumour is widely spreading online that an announcement teaser for Salaar 2 will be released on January 25, 2026. There is nothing from the makers' end so far, but the buzz is growing among fans and movie lovers. It remains to be seen how much truth this information holds. Prashanth Neel is currently busy shooting Dragon (tentative title) with Jr NTR, and the shoot is taking place at Ramoji Film City, Hyderabad. On the other hand, Prabhas recently appeared in The Raja Saab, which failed to enthrall a majority of audiences.

## ZAKIR KHAN ANNOUNCES BREAK FROM COMEDY DURING HYDERABAD SHOW



**Hyderabad:** Popular stand-up comedian Zakir Khan has announced that he will be taking a long break from live comedy performances. The announcement was made during his recent show in Hyderabad, which is part of his ongoing stand-up special Papa Yaar. Zakir revealed that the break could last until 2028, 2029, or even 2030. Fans across social media have been expressing sadness but also support, encouraging him to prioritise his well-being.

### • FINAL SHOWS UNTIL JUNE 20

Zakir clarified that although there is no official farewell show, all performances scheduled until June 20 will be his last live appearances before the long hiatus. Fans across social media have been expressing sadness but also support, encouraging him to prioritise his well-being.

### • A HISTORIC CAREER MILESTONE

Last year, Zakir achieved a historic feat by becoming the first Indian comedian to perform a full Hindi-language stand-up show at New York City's Madison Square Garden. Calling it a "big day," he shared how overwhelming it felt to perform Hindi comedy for an audience of nearly 6,000 people. Celebrities like chef Vikas Khanna and actor Kal Penn were also present to cheer him on.

Zakir Khan rose to fame in 2012 after winning Comedy Central's India's Best Stand-Up. With hit specials like Haq Se Single and Kaksha Gyarvi, his journey has been deeply relatable for fans. For now, his remaining shows are being seen as a celebration of an era before a well-earned pause.

Fans across social media have been expressing sadness but also support, encouraging him to prioritise his well-being. "Every show is a celebration till June 20. I