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Congress chief Kharge flays
MGNREGA repeal, accuses Modi
govt of 'favouring' corporates



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Chalamet beats DiCaprio
to Golden Globes glory



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Shubman Gill Told To
Follow Virat Kohli's 'Single-
Mindedness' By Ravi
Shastri: "It Is A Routine"

IN BRIEF

Class 12 girl student
gang-raped inside
moving car in
Rajasthan's Bikaner

JAIPUR (TSIT): A Class 12 girl student was allegedly kidnapped and gang-raped inside a moving car in Rajasthan's Bikaner district, police said on Monday. The incident occurred on January 6 in the Napasgar area, but a case was registered only on January 11 following a complaint by the girl's family, they said. According to the complaint, the girl had left home for school on the morning of January 6. Two youngsters intercepted her and abducted her in a car and drove away.

Couple beaten to death
over 'love affair' in Etah;
woman's kin detained

ETAH (UP) (TSIT): A 20-year-old woman and her lover were beaten to death on Sunday, allegedly by her family, after they were caught together at her house in Etah district, police said. SSP Shyam Narayan Singh said some members of the woman's family have been detained for questioning in connection with the double murder at Garhiya Suhagpur village. The deceased have been identified as Shivan (20), daughter of Ashok, and her lover Deepak (25), son of Radheshyam. Both belonged to the same village and community.

Telangana govt to form panel to review district reorganisation

Hyderabad (TSIT): Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Monday, January 12, said the state government would soon appoint a commission led by a retired high court or Supreme Court judge for reorganisation of districts in the state. Speaking after unveiling the 2026 calendar and diary of Telangana Gazetted Officers Central Association here, he said the reorganisation of districts was carried out irrationally during the previous BRS regime.

"We are receiving representations about reorganising districts and mandals. Justice will not be done if we take decisions (on districts) based on political considerations. Soon, we will appoint a committee headed by a retired high court or Supreme Court judge and comprising officers who worked in revenue department and others," he said.

The Chief Minister said there would be "rationalisation" of mandals, revenue divisions and districts. He said the government would take up debate on the issue during the budget session of the Assembly.



The Chief Minister said there would be "rationalisation" of mandals, revenue divisions and districts.

The number of districts in the state increased to 33 from 10 during the BRS government. Several leaders sought reorganisation of districts and other administrative units.

The CM mooted that the proposed panel should undertake field visits to gather public opinion on reorganisation.

Reddy announced that he has cleared a pending DA of government

We are receiving representations about reorganising districts and mandals. Justice will not be done if we take decisions (on districts) based on political considerations. Soon, we will appoint a committee headed by a retired high court or Supreme Court judge and comprising officers who worked in revenue department and others."

employees. This would put a burden of Rs 225 crore per month on the government.

PSLV suffers rare setback in C62 mission due to third-stage anomaly

The mission also included satellite payloads belonging to the United Kingdom, Brazil, Spain, Nepal and France

SRIHARIKOTA (TSIT): India's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV), long regarded as ISRO's most reliable workhorse, suffered a rare setback on Monday morning when the PSLV-C62 mission failed due to an anomaly in its third stage, marking the second such failure linked to the PS3 stage in less than a year.

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) launched the PSLV-C62 mission carrying the Earth Observation Satellite EOS-01 for the Indian Army along with 15 foreign satellites from the second launch pad at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SHAR), Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh, at 10.18 am on Monday.

The mission also included satellite payloads belonging to the United Kingdom, Brazil, Spain, Nepal and France. The lift-off and the performance of the first and second stages were reported to be normal. However, an anomaly occurred during the operation of the third stage (PS3), which uses solid fuel, leading to a devia-



tion in the rocket's trajectory and resulting in mission failure.

This is the second consecutive failure associated with the PSLV's third stage. The earlier PSLV-C61 mission, launched in May 2025, had also failed due to a malfunction in the PS3 stage, according to ISRO sources.

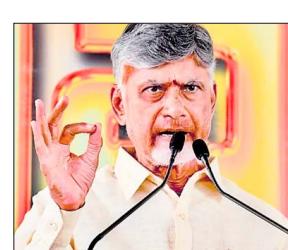
Despite these recent setbacks, PSLV remains India's most dependable launch vehicle. Out of 64

missions conducted so far, only four have failed. These include the maiden PSLV-D1 mission in 1993 due to a second-stage separation and ignition issue, PSLV-C39 in 2017 caused by heat shield separation failure, and the recent PSLV-C61 (2025) and PSLV-C62 (2026) missions, both linked to third stage anomalies.

Addressing the media after the launch, ISRO Director V Narayanan

said that the PSLV has four stages, two solid fuel and two liquid fuel stages. "The rocket's performance was normal up to the third stage. However, an anomaly was encountered towards the end of the PS3 stage. A detailed analysis is currently underway," he said. He added that data is being collected from multiple ground stations to thoroughly analyse the mission and identify the root cause of the anomaly.

Polavaram–Nallamalla project won't harm anyone: CM Naidu



Minister Naidu said that Bhogapuram International Airport will also be dedicated to the nation soon.

He claimed that the coalition government has saved Visakhapatnam Steel Plant with the cooperation of the Central government and the assistance of Rs 12,000 crore.

"Visakhapatnam Steel Plant is a sentiment for the people of Andhra Pradesh, and we will definitely protect that plant," he said.

The Chief Minister revealed that Andhra Pradesh attracted 25 per cent of the foreign investments that came into the country during the current financial year.

Stating that Andhra Pradesh has become a destination for investments, he said that if all the agreements made through Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) materialise, 16 lakh jobs will be created.

He stated that Telangana State will also have the opportunity to utilise the surplus water from Polavaram. Chief

Trump calls himself acting president of Venezuela

Venezuela's vice president and oil minister, Delcy Rodriguez, was formally sworn in as the country's interim president last week.



That money will be controlled by me, as President of the United States of America, to ensure it is used to benefit the people of Venezuela and the United States!

ism conspiracy charges. Trump has said that the US will "run Venezuela until we can do a safe, proper and judicious transition. We can't take a chance that

someone else takes over Venezuela who doesn't have the interests of Venezuelans in mind."

Venezuela's vice president and oil minister,

Delcy Rodriguez, was formally sworn in as the country's interim president last week. Trump had said that the interim authorities in Venezuela will be turning over between 30 and 50 million barrels of "high-quality, sanctioned oil" to the US, which will be sold at its market price.

IndiGo flight makes emergency landing in Varanasi after bird hit

Varanasi (TSIT) A Bengaluru-bound IndiGo Airlines flight with 216 passengers on board made an emergency landing at the Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport here following a bird strike, airport officials said on Monday. The incident occurred on Sunday night and Airport Director Punit Gupta said all 216 passengers on board were safely evacuated after the plane landed. The aircraft, operating as flight 6E 437 en route from Gorakhpur to Bengaluru, suffered damage to its front portion following the bird hit during the flight, officials said. Given the seriousness of the situation, the pilot immediately contacted the Varanasi Air Traffic Control and safely landed the aircraft at the Varanasi airport, officials added.

AI-driven digitisation errors causing widespread hardship during SIR: Mamata to CEC

KOLKATA (TSIT): West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee wrote to CEC Ganesh Kumar again on Monday, claiming that AI-driven digitisation errors in the 2002 electoral rolls were causing widespread hardship to genuine voters during the SIR exercise.

Accusing the EC of disregarding its own statutory processes followed over the last two decades, she said electors were being compelled to re-establish identity despite earlier corrections made after "quasi-judicial hearings".

"Such an approach, disowning its own actions and mechanisms spanning more than two decades, is arbitrary, illogical and

accusing the EC of disregarding its own statutory processes followed over the last two decades, she said electors were being compelled to re-establish identity despite earlier corrections made after "quasi-judicial hearings".

issued for documents submitted during SIR, claiming that the procedure was "fundamentally flawed". She said the SIR hearing process had become "largely mechanical, driven purely by tech-

nical data", and was "completely devoid of the application of mind, sensitivity and human touch", claiming that it undermined "the bedrock of our democracy and constitutional framework".



India, Germany elevate strategic partnership with wide-ranging agreements

Gujarat (TSIT) Prime Minister Narendra Modi and German Chancellor Friederich Merz reaffirmed their commitment to significantly deepen bilateral ties across defence,

contrary to the letter and spirit of the Constitution of India," she alleged. Banerjee also alleged that no proper acknowledgement was being

Serve people with commitment: Bhatti to Group-I trainees

Hyderabad: Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka on Monday called upon newly selected Group-I trainees to serve the people with dedication and integrity, stressing that public service is a responsibility to uplift the underprivileged and marginalised sections of society.

Addressing Group-I trainees who underwent coaching at the Telangana SC Study Circle at Praja Bhavan, the Deputy Chief Minister said the Indiramma people's government is moving forward with innovative programmes and new ideas focused on public welfare. He presented mementos to the trainees who successfully cleared the Group-I examination.

He said many of the



trainees come from socially and economically backward backgrounds, and urged them to extend support in future to those who struggle to find their footing in society. "You must stand by the people with sincerity and commitment, and ensure justice and welfare reach the last person," he said.

Referring to improvements made after the present government came to power, Bhatti Vikramarka said the infrastructure and facilities at the Study Circles have been significantly strengthened, and assured that further steps would be taken to enhance existing facilities.

He announced that the

one-and-a-half acre land in front of Ambedkar Bhavan at Tank Bund would be developed and utilised to provide continuous educational facilities. Congratulating the trainees selected through the Telangana Public Service Commission (TSPSC), he said they would serve in senior positions for decades and should work in a manner that makes their parents proud and society happy.

The Deputy Chief Minister said clearing the Group-I examination in today's highly competitive environment is a major achievement. He urged the officers to implement government policies with honesty and commitment in their respective roles, keeping public welfare at the centre of governance.

Naini Rajender Reddy urges party strengthening



Warangal West MLA Naini Rajender Reddy on Monday called on Congress leaders and workers to strengthen the party by following the government-party "two eyes" principle, giving equal importance to development, welfare and party organisation. Addressing a Congress review meeting in Warangal, he stressed strengthening the party from booth to division level ahead of elections and asked leaders to stay connected with the public while highlighting development works in the constituency.

First Two Indiramma houses completed in Sangareddy



Hyderabad: The first two Indiramma Houses under the new housing scheme have been completed in the Sangareddy constituency, in Atmakur and Kambalapalli villages of Sadashivpet mandal. TGIIC Chairperson Nirmala Jaggareddy inaugurated the houses on Monday and said the Congress government has allocated 5 lakh for each Indiramma house, ensuring beneficiaries can build homes in their own villages. She urged eligible applicants to apply under the scheme.

Swami Vivekananda, A beacon of inspiration for the youth: Prof Aluvala Ravi



Nalgonda, Jan 12 (TSIT): "Swami Vivekananda stands as a beacon of inspiration for our youth, pushing us toward greatness with his ideals," remarked Registrar of Mahatma Gandhi University Prof Aluvala Ravi. Participating as the chief guest at a programme organised by the NSS Unit in celebration of Vivekananda's birth anniversary on Monday, Prof Ravi highlighted Vivekananda's significance as a role model. He emphasized that success is achieved through thoughtful efforts and reinforced the idea, "Our actions ultimately define who we are." Prof. Ravi urged the youth to face their fears head-on and strive to accomplish remarkable feats. Speaking on the occasion, NSS Programme Coordinator Maram Venkataramana Reddy pointed out that the youth represent the driving force of the nation. He encouraged them to emulate Vivekananda's teachings and commit to preserving India's rich cultural heritage. Director of Hostels Dr. Domala Ramesh, Principal of Engineering College Dr Sudharani, Programme Officer Ramesh Naik along with various faculty members and students were present.

Officials stage protest over false allegations on IAS officer



Hyderabad: District officials, employees and leaders of the TGO and TNGO associations on Monday staged a peaceful protest condemning a recent news telecast aired on NTV that allegedly carried baseless and false allegations against a woman IAS officer. Raising slogans against the channel, the protesters demanded that the NTV management issue an unconditional public apology and immediately remove the reporter responsible for the irresponsible reportage. They stated that such unverified allegations tarnish the dignity of civil servants and undermine the credibility of public institutions. Revenue officials and members of the TGO, TNGO, Deputy Collectors Association and Tahsildars Association participated in the protest at the Collectorate premises, wearing black badges as a

mark of dissent. They unanimously condemned the incident and urged that defamatory and unverified reports should not be repeated in the future. A memorandum expressing strong protest was submitted to Additional Collector Kadiravan Palani, seeking appropriate action to prevent the recurrence of such incidents. Those who took part in the protest included TGO District President Krishna Yadav, TNGO District President Vikram Kumar, Deputy Collectors Association President Ramakrishna, Tahsildars Association President Prem Kumar, secretaries Ashanna and Vikram Kumar, and district officials Surender, Pawan Kumar, Kotaji, Praveen Kumar, Ilyas Ahmed, Rohini, Vandana, Dr. Venkati, along with several other officers and employees.

"The Musi River & Hyderabad's Environmental Reckoning"



BY AMARAVAJI NAGARAJU
PRO TO TPCC PRESIDENT

The Musi river, once the lifeline of Hyderabad, today presents a distressing picture of neglect. From a river that sustained drinking water needs, irrigation, and livelihoods, the Musi has deteriorated into one of the most polluted urban rivers in the world. Unchecked encroachments, industrial effluents, urban sewage, and decades of administrative apathy have reduced a historic river into a symbol of environmental failure. The consequences are visible not only in ecological degradation but also in recurring floods, public health crises, and the loss of urban resilience.

Against this grim backdrop, the Telangana government's renewed commitment to revive the Musi has generated cautious optimism. Speaking on the floor of the Assembly, Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy announced the development of the 'Gandhi Sarovar' stretch up to Bapughat as the first phase of a comprehensive Musi rejuvenation programme. The declaration has rekindled hope among citizens, urban planners, and environmentalists who have long argued that Hyderabad's future is inseparable from the fate of the Musi.

Past attempts at restoring the river tell a story of good intentions undermined by poor execution. From the Nizam era to successive governments, multiple projects were launched parks were built, funds were allo-

cated, corporations were formed but most initiatives failed to progress beyond the drawing board. Financial constraints, administrative bottlenecks, and political indifference ensured that the Musi remained trapped in a cycle of half-measures. The result has been stagnation, summed up aptly by the Telugu adage: "the blanket remained where it was spread."

Historically, the Musi has been far more than a drainage channel. Originating in the Ananthagiri hills of Vikarabad district, the river flows nearly 267 kilometres before joining the Krishna at Wadapally in Nalgonda district. It once irrigated over one lakh acres of farmland and supported rich aquatic biodiversity, including more than 25 species of fish. Folklore and tradition even attributed medicinal properties to its waters an irony lost on present-day residents who now associate the river with disease and pollution.

Equally significant is the government's emphasis on balance: firm action against encroachments through the HYDRA mechanism, coupled with rehabilitation measures for the urban poor. The Chief Minister's assurance of diverting Godavari waters to provide a permanent solution to the Musi's water flow, if realised, could mark a turning point.

Global examples from the Thames in London to the Cheonggyecheon in Seoul demonstrate that urban rivers can be restored with political will, public participation, and sustained investment. If the Musi rejuvenation programme stays on course and rises above partisan politics, it could redefine Hyderabad's relationship with its natural heritage. Reviving the Musi is no longer an option; it is an imperative. For the city's water security, for farmers downstream, and for ecological balance, the river must be restored to health. This is not merely a development project; it is a statement about the kind of future Hyderabad envisions for itself.

Within the Greater Hyderabad limits, the Musi flows for about 70 kilometres, much of it heavily encroached upon and contaminated

by untreated industrial and domestic waste. By the time it enters rural stretches of Nalgonda district, the river poses a serious threat to agriculture and public health. The grim distinction of being ranked among the world's most polluted rivers is a stark reminder of the cost of urban indifference.

The current government's approach signals a shift in intent and scale. With Rs.150 crore allocated in the 2025-26 budget and plans to develop a 21-kilometre stretch from Osman Sagar and Himayat Sagar to Bapughat, the project has gained momentum. Additional support in the form of a proposed Rs.4,100 crore loan from the Asian Development Bank further strengthens its financial foundation. Proposals to transform Bapughat into a cultural hub with a towering Mahatma Gandhi statue, a museum, and multi-faith prayer spaces aim to reconnect the river with the city's social and cultural life.

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KARIMNAGAR BRANCH

Indian Bank
3-5-335, Gandhi Road
Phone: 0876-260088, 9946125184
E-mail: karimnagar@indianbank.in

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of immovable assets under the Securitisation and reconstruction of financial assets and Enforcement of Security Interest act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6)(9)(1)*"(Retain whichever is applicable) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical/Constructive (whichever is applicable) possession of which has been taken by the authorised Officer of Indian Bank, Karimnagar Zone. Secured Credit will be sold on "As is Where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on 18-02-2026 for recovery of Rs.60,75,931/(as on 08-10-2025) due to the Indian Bank Vellore/Alwal branch. Secured Creditor, from Mrs. Pulyala Sandhya Rani W/o Peddi Reddy (Borrower/Home Loan), Mr.Pulyala Peddi Reddy, (Borrower/Home Loan), Himaja Reddy Pulyala (Borrower/Education Loan) D/o Pulyala Peddi Reddy Flat No 402, Legrand Apartment, West Marredpally, Secunderabad-50026 and H.No.2-10-1039, Flat No.201, SRR Enclave, Jyothinagar, Karimnagar.

The specific details of the property intended to be brought to sale through e-auction mode are enumerated below:

Details/Description of Mortgaged Assets:

Flat no 201 in 2nd floor admeasuring total area of 1135.00 S.ft.in which 962.00 S.ft. plinth area and common area 173.00 S.ft. in the building complex known as SRR Enclave with an undivided share of 32.36 sq yards or 510.79sq mts relating to SRR Enclave in premises of H.No.2-10-1039, Sy. No.1174, 1175, 1176, 1177 and 1178 situated at Jyothinagar locality within the limits of Municipal corporation Karimnagar under the jurisdiction of sub district and district registration Karimnagar. Boundaries of land: North:House of Chandrasekhar Rao and Mohan Rao; South: 20'-0" Wide Road; East:House of D Yelliah & K Andalu; West:30'-0" Wide Road, Boundaries of Flat: North:Open to sky and flat no 202; South:Open to sky; East:Open to sky and flat No. 207; West:Open to sky.

Reserve Price: 31.92 Lakhs
EMD: 3.20 Lakhs
Date, Time for e-auction and Property ID No: 18.02.2026 10.00AM TO 04.00PM. IDNO: IDIB500353172120
Prior Encumbrance: NIL

Bidders are advised to visit the website (<https://baanknet.com>) of our e auction service provider PSB Alliance Pvt. Ltd. to participate in online bid. For Technical Assistance, please call 8291220220. For Registration status and EMD status, please email to support.baanknet@sbpliance.com.

For property details and photograph of the property and auction terms and conditions, please visit: <https://baanknet.com> and for clarifications related to this portal, please contact PSB Alliance Pvt. Ltd. Contact No. 8291220220.

Bidders are advised to use Property ID Number mentioned above while searching for the property in the website with <https://baanknet.com>.

Date: 08-01-2026
Place: Karimnagar
Authorised Officer (Chief Manager), Karimnagar

FOR ADVERTISEMENT
PLEASE CONTACT:
9948480279, 7330778889

HINDUJA HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

Corporate office #167-169*, 2nd Floor, Little Mount, Saidapet, Chennai-600 015.

APPENDIX -IV Possession Notice (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Hinduja Housing Finance Limited (HHFL) under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, Demand Notice(s) issued by the Authorized Officer of the company to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) mentioned herein below to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sub-Section (4) of the Section 13 of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement rules, 2002. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub -section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of HHFL for an amount as mentioned herein under with interest thereon.

Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/Guarantor/LAN No. Demand Notice Date and Amount DATE OF POSSESSION

1. Mr. Prakash Bhanu S/o. Jangaiha Bhanu, R/o.H.NO. 9-106, BC Colony, Telkappally Village and Mandal, Nagarjunakond District, Telangana	16/10/2025	Rs.5,72,448/- (Rupees Five Lakhs Seventy Two Thousand Four Hundred and Forty Eight only)	09-01-2026
2. Mr. Bhagayamma B, W/o. Prakash, R/o. H NO. 9-106, BC Colony, Telkappally Village and Mandal, Nagarjunakond District, Telangana.....Co-Borrower	16/10/2025	Rs.2,40,400/- (Rupees Twenty Four Lakhs Eighty only)	09-01-2026

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY : All that the House H NO: 9-106 OLD 9-195 NEW, ADMEASURING 144.00 SQ YARDS SITUATED AT TELKAPPALLY VILLAGE AND GP TELKAPPALLY MANDAL, NAGAR KURNAL DISTRICT, Telangana, India - 509385 and bounded by: Bounded By: East: J Ramulu House, West: 12 Feet Road, North: Venkataswami Goud House, South: 12 Feet Road

Note: "Through this notice, all the previous notices issued in this LAN is hereby recalled"

Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/Guarantor/LAN No. Demand Notice Date and Amount DATE OF POSSESSION

1. Mr. Anil Goud Male S/o. Venkataramulu Goud Male, H No. 1-54, Yelikichara Village, Bhoopur Mandal, Mahabubnagar District - 509001, Telangana,Borrower 2. Mrs. Venkatamma Male D/o. Ramaswami Goud, H NO.1-54, Yelikichara Village, Bhoopur Mandal, Mahabubnagar Telangana - 509001.....Co-Borrower	16/10/2025	Rs.24,64,632/- (Rupees Twenty Four Lakhs Eighty Four Thousand Six Hundred and Thirty Two only)	09-01-2026
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DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY : All that the House No 1-54 Constructed on the land admeasuring 413 SQ Yards or Acres 0-0350 GuntaS in Survey No 792/A/EE/12 (As Per Document) & Survey No 792/A/EE/12 (As Per Conversion and Patta/Pass Book) Situated at Yelikichara village, Bhoopur Mandal Mahabubnagar district and bounded by: Boundaries Of Land: EAST: Madigala Road, WEST: M Krishnayya Goud, NORTH: Madigala Road, SOUTH: Open sky, SOUTH: Passage.

Note: "Through this notice, all the previous notices issued in this LAN is hereby recalled"

Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/Guarantor/LAN No. Demand Notice Date and Amount DATE OF POSSESSION

1. Mr. Malliah Vorus S/o. Laxmaiah, R/o. H.NO.12-68/12/A, Second Floor, Hyd Circle, Kalwakurthy Town, Nagarjunakond District, Telangana.....Borrower 2. Mr. Sharadha K Clo. Malliah Vorus, R/o. H.NO.12-68/12/A, Second Floor, Hyd Circle, Kalwakurthy Town, Nagarjunakond District, Telangana.....Co-Borrower	16/10/2025	Rs.9,77,430/- (Rupees Nine Lakhs Seventy Seven Thousand Six Hundred and Thirty Two only)	09-01-2026
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'Arrive Alive' Initiative Launched to Prevent Road Accidents CM Revanth Reddy



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

Tender Notice No. PCME/SCR/ Mech/02/2026/ACWP-RT2
Dated 09.01.2026

PCME acting for and on behalf of the President of India invites E-Tenders against Tender No. SCR-Mech-02-2026-ACWP-RT2 Closing Date/Time 02/02/2026 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids upto closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored.

S.No.: 01 Tender Notice No.: PCME/SCR/Mech/02/2026/ACWP-RT2 Dated 09.01.2026 **Tender No.:** SCR/Mech/02/2026/ACWP-RT2 dated 09.01.2026 **Name of the work :** Design, Manufacture, Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Prove out of Automatic Coach Washing Plants (ACWP) (on turnkey basis) at Coaching Depot/Charlapalli of Secunderabad Division, Coaching Depot/Aurangabad of Nanded Division, Coaching Depot/Vijayawada of Vijayawada Division and Coaching Depot/Machilipatnam of Vijayawada division **Bid value (₹) :** 10,99,25,959.03/- (inclusive of GST) **Tender closing date:** 02.02.2026 at 15:00 hrs

For further details please visit our website <http://www.ireps.gov.in>

Principal Chief Mechanical Engineer, Secunderabad

e-Tender Notice No.DRM/Works/ BZA/02/2026 dt.12.01.2026

For and on behalf of the President of India, the undersigned invites E-Tenders for the following works up to 15:00 hours and the date mentioned against each.

S.No.: 01 Tender No.: E-01-North-BZA-2026 **Name of work:** MCS/RJY : Upgradation/Development of Maintenance Facilities at MCS/RJY under ADEN/RJY sub-division. (Umbrella work Project ID : 11.06.42.24.3.55.006 of 2024-25) **Tender value (₹):** 3,35,16,463/- **EMD (₹):** 3,17,600/- **Period of completion :** 12(Twelve Months) **Date of closing:** 04/02/2026

S.No.: 02 Tender No.: E-01-Bridges-BZA-2026 **Name of work:** BZA Division: TBSR-Replacement of cracked/ corroded steel channel sleepers with Galvanized H-Beam sleepers 1456 Nos on various steel girder bridges in SSE/Br/BTR and SSE/Br/1/BZA under ADEN/BR/South/BZA jurisdiction **Tender value (₹):** 5,08,92,413/- **EMD (₹):** 4,04,500/- **Period of completion :** 09(Nine Months) **Date of closing:** 04/02/2026

S.No.: 03 Tender No.: E-02-Bridges-BZA-2026 **Name of work:** BZA Division: TBSR-Replacement of cracked/ corroded steel channel sleepers with Galvanized H-Beam sleepers 1646 Nos on various steel girder bridges in SSE/Br/RJY and SSE/Br/1/BZA under ADEN/BR/North/BZA jurisdiction **Tender value (₹):** 5,52,46,324/- **EMD (₹):** 4,26,200/- **Period of completion :** 09(Nine Months) **Date of closing:** 04/02/2026

S.No.: 04 Tender No.: E-01-east-BZA-2026 **Name of work:** SW I: Proposal for Construction of New running room with air conditioning along with kitchen at KI-30 bed capacity, SW-II: CD/BZA -Development of infrastructure facilities at Coaching Depot/BZA, SW-III: DLS BZA -Dismantling and construction of Two storied new building 21x 6.5 mtrs. Size in place of existing Laboratory. **Tender value (₹):** 6,26,31,866/- **EMD (₹):** 4,63,200/- **Period of completion :** 12(twelve Months) **Date of closing:** 05/02/2026

1) Tender conditions/other particulars such as the details of Name of work in full, the similar nature of the above works, eligibility criteria etc., are available in the Tender documents published in website at www.ireps.gov.in.
2) The prospective tenderers are advised to visit website www.ireps.gov.in, before the date of tender closing to note any changes/ corrigenda for any tender.
3) The Tender Notice is also displayed in the Notice Board located in the office of Divisional Railway Manager (Works), S.C.Railway, Vijayawada and ADEN sub-divisional offices of Vijayawada Division which can be seen.
4) The Railway reserves the right to cancel the tender without assigning any reason thereto.

Divisional Railway Manager (Works), Vijayawada

Tender Notice No: G/E/29/Tr/
Tender Notice/42/2025-26

Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer/ Traction / Guntakal acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders for the following works.

Tender No.: GTL-TRD-29-ETN-72-2025-26 **Name of Work:** Guntakal Division: Provision of OHE for pit lines 4 & 5 with isolation facility at TPTY Coaching depot. **Approximate Value (₹):** 1,13,16,900/- **EMD (₹):** 2,06,600/- **Tender Closing date & time:** 03.02.2026 at 15.00 hrs

Note:
1. Tender Document may be downloaded from www.ireps.gov.in by tenderers, free of cost.
For Bidding the tender and other details login to <http://www.ireps.gov.in> Corrigendum if any will be issued online only.

Sr.Divisional Electrical Engineer, A2219 **Traction, Guntakal**

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

'Arrive Alive' Initiative Launched to Prevent Road Accidents CM Revanth Reddy

alities lost their children in road accidents. He stressed the need to create awareness on traffic rules from the student stage itself.

The CM said that with the changing nature of crimes, the police system is being modernised. He highlighted the establishment of special mechanisms to control cyber crimes and the formation of the Eagle Force to tackle drugs, which has earned Telangana Police global recognition. He also referred to the creation of HYDRAA for the protection and restoration of lakes, ponds, and nadas.

Observing that the traffic system is currently chaotic, the Chief Minister said it would be strengthened using technology. He suggested measures such as automatic deduction of challans from accounts of violators. He noted that traffic violations have now become a bigger problem than cyber crimes, drugs, or even murders, and assured that traffic control will be treated as a top priority.

Minister Seethakka emphasized that strengthening the Tribal Police Battalion requires ensuring job security, timely

Campaign for Safer Roads in Telangana" at Yousufguda and addressed the gathering. He appreciated the police department for working with a comprehensive action plan on road safety. Stating that one road accident occurs every minute in the country, the Chief Minister expressed concern that more people lose their lives on roads than in wars. He recalled several tragic instances where even prominent person-

Hyderabad: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Monday congratulated the Telangana Police for launching the "Arrive Alive" initiative aimed at preventing road accidents and ensuring safer roads across the State. He said the government considers road accidents a serious social problem and is giving top priority to their prevention.

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Ahead of Makar Sankranti, NGO urges citizens not to participate in cockfighting



Hyderabad, Jan 12 : Animal protection organisation, Humane World for Animals India, on Monday, urged citizens not to participate in cockfighting, an illegal form of animal cruelty that takes place during Makar Sankranti. The organisation has also appealed to the people to report any instances of cockfighting to local police authorities. In a cockfight, two roosters, often fitted with razor blades on their spurs and are forced to fight each other to death.

The fight usually ends with the death of one or both roosters.

Still prevalent in some parts of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Odisha, cockfighting is a punishable offence under several laws. As per the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, under Section 11(1)(m) (ii), it is illegal to incite animal fights. The act of organising, managing, or even offering a space for such fights is also a cognisable offence under Section 11(1) (n). In addition to these violations, cockfighting events are often linked to illegal gambling and the sale of illicit liquor and child labour, all prohibited practices. It's horrifying that this still happens, and no festival or celebration can ever justify it. I have seen the fear in their eyes, the desperation in their movements, and it is gut-wrenching. The birds are terrified, trembling as they are forced to face each other. Some are bleeding from previous fights, still they are forced to fight, completely bloodied and struggling for their lives," said Mishi Aggarwal, cruelty response specialist at Humane World for Animals India.

New committee elected at ISCAF Telangana general body meet

Hyderabad, Jan 12 (UNI) The second general body meeting of the Indo-Soviet Cultural Friendship Society (ISCAF), Telangana State, was held on Sunday at the Tourism Plaza Hotel. At the meeting, a new State committee was elected. Senior High Court advocate Kadaru Prabhakar Rao was elected President, while R Gopal was chosen as General Secretary. Professors

Sarangapani and D Radhakrishna, along with K Bilkshamaya, S Arun Kumar, Y Sri Raghavarao and V Venkateswara Rao, were elected as Vice-Presidents. N S Arjun Kumar, N Rajamouli, Kondaparthi Srinivas, Maddineni Ramesh Babu, V Kondala Rao and M A Karim were elected as Secretaries, and Avva Vijayalakshmi was elected Treasurer. An executive committee comprising 20 other members was also constituted. The general body adopted several resolutions, including demands for an immediate halt to US attacks, sanctions and restrictions on Venezuela, immediate independence for Palestine and an end to Israeli attacks, and a call on the United States to drop attempts to impose tariffs affecting Indian trade.



CHITTOOR DISTRICT PUTHALAPATTU MPDO NAGARAJU DISTRIBUTED TRICYCLES AND BINS FOR DRY AND WET WASTE DISPOSAL TO 16 PANCHAYATS IN PUTHALAPATTU MANDAL.

SVIMS celebrates National Youth Day with run and tribute to Swami Vivekananda



Tirupati (TSIT) The Sri Venkateswara Institute of Medical Sciences (SVIMS) at NTR Circle on the SVIMS campus. This was followed by a 2-kilometre run from SVIMS to SV Medical College, according to Dr. B.L. Ram Naik, Medical Superintendent, SVIMS.

The programme began with flag hoisting by Dr.

R.V. Kumar, Director-cum-Vice-Chancellor of SVIMS, at NTR Circle on the SVIMS campus. This was followed by a 2-kilometre run from SVIMS to SV Medical College, according to Dr. B.L. Ram Naik, Medical Superintendent, SVIMS.

Addressing the gathering, Dr. Kumar described

sioned national rejuvenation through spiritual strength.

Dr. Kumar said the vision of Viksit Bharat is inspired by Swami Vivekananda's call for an awakened India and added that his teachings continue to motivate and empower youth by awakening inner strength and self-realisation. He recalled that Swami Vivekananda, born as Narendra Nath Datta on January 12, 1863, was a disciple of Sri Rama Krishna Paramahansa and played a key role in reviving Hinduism while spreading Yoga and Vedanta across the world.

He added that January 12 has been observed as National Youth Day since 1984 to promote Swami Vivekananda's ideals among the youth.



ADHYAYANOTSAVAMS CONCLUDED AT TIRUMALA TEMPLE



GRAND TIRUMALA NAMBI "TANNEERAMUDU" FESTIVAL

GOVERNORPET BRANCH-34640
D.No. 33-21-23, Manju Towers,
Beside Icon Public Store, Sitarampuram,
Eluru Road, Vijayawada-520002.

NOTICE TO THE BORROWER INFORMING ABOUT SALE (30 DAYS NOTICE)
(RULE 6(2)/RULE 8(6) OF SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES 2002)
Borrower(s)/Co-obligant(s)/Mortgagor(s)/Guarantor(s):
1. Mr. Kusumudi Narasimha swamy (Borrower), S/o. Lakshmipathy Raju, D.No. 21-6-1, 5th Line, Ambatvaram Street, Mutyalampadu, Vijayawada-520011. 2. Mrs. Kusumudi Padmavathi (Guarantor), W/o. Kusumudi Narasimha Swamy, D.No. 21-6-1, 5th Line, Ambatvaram Street, Mutyalampadu, Vijayawada-520011. 3. Mrs. Mudunuri Sujatha (Guarantor), W/o Late Srinivasa Raju, H.No. 21-6-1, 5th Line, Ambatvaram Street, Mutyalampadu, Vijayawada-520011. 4. Mrs. Chintalapati Lakshmi (Guarantor), W/o. Varma Raju, H.No. 2-23/2/2, Plot No.307, HMT Hills, Near Ramalayam Temple, Opp JNTU, Kukatpally, Hyderabad, Telangana-500085. 5. Bethalam Satyavathi (Guarantor), W/o Late Venkata Rama Raju, H.No. 21-6-1, Ambatvaram street, Mutyalampadu, Vijayawada (Urban), Krishna dist, Andhra Pradesh-520011

Sub-Sale of property belonging to Mrs. Kusumudi Padmavathi, Mrs. Bethalam Satyavathi, Mrs. Chintalapati Lakshmi, Mrs. Mudunuri Sujatha for realization of amount due to Union Bank of India, Governorpet Branch (34640) under the Security And Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002.

Union Bank of India, Governorpet Branch (34640) the secured creditor, caused a demand notice dated 19.07.2025 under Section 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002, calling upon you to pay the dues within the time stipulated therein. Since you failed to comply the said notice within the period stipulated, the Authorized Officer, has taken Symbolic possession of the secured assets under Section 13(4) of the Act with Rule 6 & 8 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on 06.11.2025.

Even after taking Symbolic possession of the secured asset, you have not paid the amount due to bank. As such, it has become necessary to sell the below mentioned property by holding public e-auction after 30 days from the date of receipt of this notice through online mode. The date and time of e-auction along with the Reserve Price of the property and the details of the service provider, in which the E-Auction to be conducted, shall be informed to you separately.

Therefore, if you pay the amount due to the bank along with subsequent interest, costs, charges and expenses incurred by bank before the date of publication of sale notice, no further action shall be taken for sale of the property or you can redeem your property as stipulated in sec. 13 (8) of the Act.

DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Property No.1: All that the area admeasuring about 60.24 sq.yards (area including Residential Ground floor RCC & First floor AC sheet roof building admeasuring 53.13 sq.yards, joint passage area 3.03 sq.yards and 4.08 sq.yards) around situated at N.T.S No.2, Present NTS No.194, Block No.2, Revenue Ward No.8, Old Municipal Ward No.21, New No.212, Present No.21B, Old Asst no.18370D, New No.129426, D.No.21-6-1, Near Apollo store, Uppalapati vari street, Mutyalampadu, Vijayawada, Krishna Dist, AP. The Property in the name of Mrs. Bethalam Satyavathi, W/o Late Venkata Rama Raju and Mrs. Chintalapati Lakshmi and Mrs. Kusumudi Padmavathi and Mrs. Mudunuri Sujatha and bounded by Item-1 (53.13 sq.yards)

Bounded by: East: Property of B Jagapathi Raju & joint way of item-3 - 11-11 ft, West: Property of Bethalam Bapiraju item-1-11-11 ft.

Item-3 (4.08 sq.yards): Bounded by: North: Property of Kalyana Chakravarthy 24-1 ft, South: Property of B Jagapathi Raju & item -1-24-1 ft, East: Municipal Road 4-7 ft, West: Property item No.2-4-7 ft.

Property No.2: All that the area admeasuring about 52.03 sq.yards (area including Residential Ground floor RCC & First floor AC sheet roof building 44.92 sq.yards, joint passage area 3.03 sq.yards and 4.08 sq.yards), NTS No.2, Old No.21-6-1 (as per deed) As per actual: 28-6-1, Old Municipal Ward No.21, Darmila Ward No.212, Present Ward No.21B, Revenue Ward No.46 (As per Tax), Asst no.18370D, New Asst No.129426, Present Asst No.10/305545, Near Apollo Pharmacy, Near Nulurimilli, Uppalapati street, Mutyalampadu, Vijayawada, AP and Property in the name of Mrs. Kusumudi Padmavathi and bounded by

Item No.1 (44.92 sq.yards): East: Joint Passage 11-11 ft, South: Joint wall abutting to this Property with property of Bethalam venkatarama raju 33-11 ft, West: Property of T Satyavarama Raju 11-11 ft, North: Property of Kalyana Chakravarthy 4-7 ft, South: Above item no.1 -Bethalam Venkat ram raju property 4-7 ft, East: Property of B. Jagapathi Raju & joint way of item-3 11-11 ft, West: Property of Bethalam Bapiraju item-1-11-11 ft.

Item-3 (4.08 sq.yards): Bounded by: North: Property of Kalyana Chakravarthy 24-1 ft, South: Property of B Jagapathi Raju 24-1 ft, East: Municipal Road 4-7 ft, West: Property item No.2-4-7 ft.

Date: 24.12.2025 **Place:** Vijayawada

Authorized Officer: Union Bank of India

Jagan accuses CM Naidu govt of 'backstabbing' youth



ment has placed the future of the youth and the state in peril. I demand the Chandrababu Naidu government to Arise, Awake, and facilitate the youth to achieve their goals," the former Chief Minister added. Meanwhile, Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu paid tributes to Swami Vivekananda on his birth anniversary, saying he ignited confidence and courage among India's youth.

"National Youth Day draws its strength from the ideals of Swami Vivekananda, whose life ignited confidence, courage, and a spirit of service among India's youth. He placed his faith in young minds, urging them to build character, seek knowledge, and work selflessly for the nation and humanity with discipline and unity. Greetings to the youth on National Youth Day, you are our nation's greatest strength," he posted on 'X'.

he posted. He mentioned that payment for eight quarters of fee reimbursement has been pending. He also wrote that the government has not paid Rs 4,900 crore under the Vidya Deevena scheme, while Rs 2,200 crore remains unpaid under Vasathi Deevena. Jagan Mohan Reddy

said the Rs 3,000 per month unemployment allowance, as promised in the alliance manifesto, has not been paid over the past two years. He stated that online certification courses have been discontinued.

"Backstabbing the youth by breaching manifesto promises, the state govern-

AP: YSRCP objects remarks of ruling party leaders on RLI project

Ananthapuram, Jan 12 (UNI) YSR Congress Party in Andhra Pradesh on Monday slammed the Chandrababu Naidu government over its stand on the Rayalaseema Lift Irrigation (RLI) project.

Speaking to the media here, former MLA S Visweswara Reddy said the silence of Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and the "irresponsible remarks" of his cabinet ministers only show that they are endorsing the statement of Telangana CM Revanth Reddy.

"While Chandrababu Naidu is silent on the issue, the Irrigation and Finance Ministers have been stating that RLI is a waste and a theft project, which is demeaning," Revanth Reddy had said in

the Telangana assembly.

Visweswara Reddy recalled that former Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy started the RLI project to bring water to Rayalaseema from Srisailam. He said the AP finance minister should answer why his government sanctioned Rs 190 crore when it claims the project is a waste.

The project was conceived not only to provide water to Rayalaseema but also to provide drinking

Young India residential schools to transform rural education



Mancherial, January 12, TSIT. The State government is establishing Young India Integrated Residential Schools with world-class facilities to provide international-standard education to rural students and prepare them to compete globally, Deputy Chief Minister and Finance-Planning Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka said on Monday. Mr. Bhatti Vikramarka reviewed the construction progress of these schools with Ministers Adluri Lakshman (Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Minorities Welfare), Parliamentarian Balram Naik, Chief Secretary Ramakrishna Rao, TG

EWDIC MD Ganapati, and all District Collectors in Hyderabad. Permissions have been granted for 79 schools across the State, tenders finalised for 76, and construction begun at 18 sites, he said.

Unlike existing SC, ST, and BC residential schools, these will house students from all categories on a single campus, fostering a unified family-like environment with modern amenities. The schools will offer quality education alongside sports, personality development, and skills training to tackle societal challenges, he added. Directing Collectors to accelerate works, conduct weekly reviews and monthly inspections, Mr. Bhatti Vikramarka instructed installation of dashboards at sites for public updates on progress. He emphasised completing construction to full quality standards by the next academic year for statewide launch.

Kommu Krishna Felicitated as District Sarpanch Association President

RANGAREDDY : Shadnagar MLA and Chairman of State Government Public Sector Undertakings, Veerlapalli Shankar, assured full support from the government to the District Sarpanch Association and called for united leadership. He was speaking on Monday at his residence in Shadnagar while meeting Kommu Krishna, the newly elected President of the Rangareddy District Sarpanch Association. During the meeting, Kommu Krishna felicitated the MLA with a shawl and bouquet. In return, MLA Veerlapalli Shankar honored Kommu Krishna with a shawl and congratulated him on assuming the responsibility.

Brahmotsavams of Lord Venkateswara to be held grandly in Karimnagar

Karimnagar: State Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnam Prabhakar said that the annual Brahmotsavams of Sri Lakshmi Padmavathi Venkateswara Swamy Temple, Market Road, will be organized with grandeur from January 23 to 30. Speaking at a preparatory meeting held at the temple, the minister directed officials to ensure peaceful darshan, smooth traffic flow, and all basic facilities for devotees. He stressed that the celebrations will be conducted beyond politics and appealed to public representatives and devotees to participate in large numbers.



CULTURAL PROGRAMME IN FLAMINGO FESTIVAL....

India, Germany elevate strategic partnership with wide-ranging agreements

CONTINUED FROM PAGE-1

Chancellor Merz, who was accompanied by a high-level delegation including 23 leading German CEOs and industry leaders, made his first official visit to India and his first trip to Asia since assuming office, underlining the priority Germany places on India as a key strategic partner in the Indo-Pacific. The visit came at a landmark moment in bilateral relations, with India and Germany having completed 25 years of Strategic Partnership in 2025 and marking 75 years of diplomatic relations in 2026.

PM Modi welcomed the German Chancellor in Ahmedabad, where the two leaders paid floral tributes to Mahatma Gandhi at the Sabarmati Ashram and participated in the International Kite Festival, highlighting the cultural dimension of the visit. They also jointly addressed the India-Germany CEOs Forum, engaging with business leaders to encourage greater investment and industrial collaboration. Chancellor Merz is scheduled to visit Bengaluru, with engagements focused on technology and innovation. During restricted and delegation-level talks held on January 12, the two leaders reaffirmed shared democratic values, commitment to a rules-based international order and mutual respect as the foundation of the Strategic Partnership.



They reviewed progress in bilateral relations and exchanged views on regional and global developments.

Defence and security cooperation

The leaders agreed to further strengthen defence and security cooperation, welcoming progress made through institutionalised staff talks, service-level exchanges and joint exercises. They endorsed deeper military-to-military cooperation, including training, port calls and senior-level exchanges, and welcomed the establishment of a new Track 1.5 Foreign Policy and Security Dialogue.

India welcomed Germany's participation in major defence engagements, including Naval Exercise MILAN, the Indian Ocean Naval Symposium Conclave of Chiefs in February 2026, Air Combat Exercise TARANG SHAKTI later this year, and Germany's decision to deploy a Liaison Officer to the Information Fusion Centre-Indian Ocean Region.

Both sides also welcomed the signing of a Joint Declaration of Intent to develop a Defence Industrial Cooperation Roadmap, aimed at promoting long-term collaboration through co-development, co-production

and technology partnerships. The leaders reiterated their strong condemnation of terrorism in all its forms, including cross-border terrorism, and pledged to enhance cooperation in counter-terrorism, including through UN mechanisms.

Trade, economy and technology

Highlighting strong economic ties, the leaders noted that bilateral trade in goods and services surpassed USD 50 billion in 2024, accounting for over a quarter of India's trade with the European Union. They reaffirmed support for concluding the India-EU Free Trade Agreement, describing it

as a key outcome of the upcoming EU-India Summit and a catalyst for unlocking further economic potential.

Several agreements and declarations were signed to boost cooperation in semiconductors, critical minerals, telecommunications, digitalisation, artificial intelligence and innovation. The leaders welcomed plans to establish institutional dialogue across the semiconductor value chain and deepen collaboration in research and development.

Green and sustainable development

Both leaders reviewed progress under the Green and Sustainable Development Partnership (GSDP), noting that nearly 5 billion of Germany's 10 billion commitment up to 2030 has already been utilised or earmarked for projects in renewable energy, green mobility, climate-resilient infrastructure and sustainable urban development. They welcomed new funding commitments and the launch of joint working groups on battery storage, solar manufacturing and wind energy.

The leaders also emphasised cooperation on green hydrogen, including alignment between India's National Green Hydrogen Mission and Germany's National Hydrogen Strategy, and welcomed a major green ammonia offtake agreement between Indian and German companies.

Two former PNB officials sentenced in Rs 4 crore fraud case



New Delhi, Jan 12: A CBI court has convicted and sentenced two former Punjab National Bank (PNB) officials in connection with a Rs 4 crore fraud at the bank's Jor Bagh branch in New Delhi.

Kulvinder Kaur Johar, ex-chief manager and branch head, and Ranjiv Suneja, ex-senior manager, were each sentenced to three years of rigorous imprisonment and fined Rs 75,000. PNB's former panel advocate, Narendra Singh Parihar, received two-and-a-half years' imprisonment with a Rs 50,000 fine. The sentencing was pronounced on January 9. The case, registered by the CBI on July 11, 2013, involved a conspiracy to fraudulently secure a cash credit facility of Rs 4

crore using forged property and KYC documents. The loan proceeds were diverted for purposes other than those sanctioned.

According to the investigation, Sanjeev Dixit, proprietor of M/s Shankar Metals, colluded with the PNB officials and advocate Parihar to fraudulently obtain the cash credit. The funds were siphoned off through fake bank accounts of fictitious firms, the CBI said.

Following trial, the court convicted Johar, Suneja, and Parihar, while private individuals Rahul Sharma and Rajeev Sharma were acquitted. The prime accused, Sanjeev Dixit, has been declared a proclaimed offender and remains at large.

Elderly man dies after firecracker factory blast in South 24 Parganas



and could not survive despite medical intervention. The remaining three victims — Gour Gangopadhyay, Kishan Mandal and Rahul Mandal — continue to be in critical condition, doctors

said. The explosion took place on Saturday at Haral village in the Champahati area under the jurisdiction of Baruipur Police Station. According to police sources, investigations are ongoing, and the owner of the firecracker unit has reportedly gone into hiding.

Following the blast, the Fire Department was alerted, and at least one fire engine was immediately dispatched to control the blaze. Additional Superintendent of Police of Baruipur Police District, Rupantar Sengupta, said authorities are probing the exact

cause of the explosion.

Local residents reported hearing a loud blast from the unit, where several workers were engaged in manufacturing firecrackers at the time. The force of the explosion was so intense that a portion of the structure collapsed, and a large nearby tree caught fire. Police personnel rushed to the scene after being informed and arranged for the injured to be taken to Baruipur Super Speciality Hospital. They were later shifted to MR Bangur Hospital for advanced treatment.

Former CBI officer's wife duped of Rs 2.58 cr in fake stock market scam



Hyderabad, Jan 12: In a shocking case of cyber fraud, the wife of former CBI Joint Director and retired IPS officer VV Lakshmi Narayana was allegedly cheated of Rs 2.58 crore by online scammers posing as stock market investment experts.

The fraud reportedly took place between December 24, 2025 and January 5. The victim, Urmila, a resident of Banjara Hills, approached Hyderabad cybercrime police after realising that the investment platform she was using was a sophisticated scam. According to police, the fraud involved a carefully planned strategy of social engineering and psychological manipulation. In November, Urmila

PBEL City celebrates Pongal with rural Tamil traditions



bonding and pass on Tamil culture and traditions to the younger generation.

Residents of PBEL City have been celebrating Pongal in a traditional Tamil style for the past five years. One of the organisers, Prasanna Ganesh, said that due to work com-

mitments and school schedules, many families are unable to visit their native villages. "To keep our cultural roots alive, we decided to bring the essence of village Pongal celebrations and fairs into our residential community," he said.

Congress-expelled MLA Rahul Mamkootathil arrested in third sexual assault case

Palakkad, Jan 11: Congress-expelled MLA Rahul Mamkootathil was arrested late on Saturday night in connection with a sexual assault case registered in Palakkad, police sources said on Sunday.

According to Kerala Police, Mamkootathil was taken into custody from a hotel in Palakkad around

which is already probing two similar cases against Mamkootathil, has also been entrusted with the investigation of the latest case, sources told.

Mamkootathil was reportedly staying at a hotel in Palakkad when he was detained and subsequently brought to Pathanamthitta for fur-



ther proceedings. Earlier, the Kerala High Court had granted him interim protection from arrest in the first case, which involves allegations of rape and forcing a woman to undergo an abortion. In the second case, a sessions court in Thiruvananthapuram had granted him anticipatory bail. Following the serious allegations, the Congress party expelled Mamkootathil from its ranks. Investigations in all the cases are currently underway.

ALL-NEW KIA SELTOS LAUNCHED AT PROSPERA KIA SOMAJIGUDA



Hyderabad (TSIT) : Kia India on Monday showcased the All-New Kia Seltos at Prospera Kia, Somajiguda, offering customers an opportunity to experience the next-generation mid-size SUV. The all-new Seltos has been launched at an introductory price starting from Rs.10.99 lakh (ex-showroom).

The launch event was attended by Telangana Transport Minister Ponnambalam Prabhakar, who unveiled the vehicle along with Sirajuddin Babu Khan, Managing Director, Prospera Kia. The new Seltos is engineered for a new generation of SUV buyers, focusing on enhanced design, space, safety and

advanced technology. Built on Kia's India-first global K3 platform, the All-New Kia Seltos features segment-leading dimensions, including a length of 4,460 mm, width of 1,830 mm and a wheelbase of 2,690 mm, offering improved road presence and cabin comfort. Its bold exterior design follows Kia's 'Opposites United' philosophy, highlighted by the new Digital Tiger Face, Ice Cube LED projector headlamps, automatic stream-

line door handles and new colour options such as Morning Haze and Magma Red.

Inside, the SUV offers a premium digital experience with a 12.3-inch Trinity Panoramic Display Panel, BOSE 8-speaker audio system, ventilated seats, ambient lighting and a panoramic sunroof. On the safety front, it comes with a 24-standard safety package and Level-2 ADAS with 21 autonomous features.



EDITORIAL

Grazing on the Margins: Why Pastoralists and Rangelands Deserve a Place at the Centre

Imagine a form of livelihood that requires no factories, no irrigation, and no massive infrastructure. It contributes to food security, biodiversity, renewable economies and even climate resilience. It's deeply ecological, quietly productive, and astonishingly widespread. Now imagine it being ignored for over a century. Across India, close to 10-12 million people and their animals traverse mountains, plains, and deserts, doing what they've done for generations - moving with the rhythms of the seasons in search of grass, water, and opportunities to market their goods. These are pastoralists - managers of one of India's most misunderstood livelihood system and keepers of over 40% of the country's livestock genetic diversity. And yet, for all their contributions, both they and the grazing lands they depend on remain invisible in national policy making and discourse. Misunderstanding pastoralism and grasslands

To be fair, pastoralism can feel like a bit of a mystery. The whole business of people and livestock moving around, refusing to settle down into neat categories, does not sit easily with our understanding of "modern" production systems. Pastoralism ought to have made way for agriculture and then closed shop. Is evolutionary logic appropriate to assess whether pastoralism survives or not? But regardless of whether it survives, we pretend it doesn't exist. Neither pastoralists nor the rangelands where they graze their animals are quantified, understood or even properly enumerated. As for rangelands, they are most often labelled as "wastelands" - a term that suggests not only neglect but a policy green light for takeover by industry, agriculture, or, more recently carbon-sequestering tree plantations. All this, despite the fact that these ecosystems are home to some of India's rarest biodiversity and form the ecological backbone of our dryland ecosystems.

The roots of this problem go deep. Colonial-era foresters, trained in the temperate woods of Europe, looked out at India's scrublands and savannas and saw absence - of trees, of timber and of the potential for revenue. In came the plantations and out went the herders. The British administrative mindset, with its love of neat borders and settled cultivation, was flummoxed by pastoral mobility, which seemed outdated, inefficient and unproductive. Never mind that pastoralists had evolved precisely the kind of adaptive, mobile systems that one would now call climate-adaptive. Their centuries-old knowledge of landscapes, forage and weather patterns was dismissed as backward. The irony is that these systems, derided for their unpredictability, are now being hailed, at least by researchers and civil society organisations, as 'models of resilience' in a world of climate chaos. Pastoral mobility, it turns out, is not a bug or a glitch but an integral feature of this extensive production system. It allows herders to track changes in weather and navigate across landscapes that fluctuate wildly in productivity. Where settled agriculture falters under erratic rainfall, pastoralists make do by being on the move. It's not aimless wandering, it's a finely calibrated migration.

Despite this, pastoralists find themselves hemmed in on all sides. Common lands have shrunk and commercial crop agriculture has taken over. Forests have turned into conservation fortresses that shut out the people who once helped maintain them. And now, in the name of climate mitigation, one of our many pledges include greening 26 million hectares, much of which will likely come from open ecosystems wrongly assumed to be barren or "wastelands". The prevailing logic seems to be: if it doesn't have trees, plant some. But many of these grasslands are naturally treeless ecosystems. Introducing trees can not only damage these fragile ecologies but also displace the pastoralists who rely on them. Economies and ecology in plain sight. All this while, the pastoral economy continues to feed us, largely unrecognised and under-appreciated. By the estimates of our team of researchers at the Centre for Pastoralism, the annual value of just the sheep and goat economy in India is Rs 589 billion.

Pastoralism, at large, could be valued closer to Rs 1,650 billion - more than India's national education budget and nearly 3% of the agricultural GDP. This includes meat, milk, wool, pashmina, and dung (yes, dung!), all of which flow through informal value chains that rarely make it to NITI Aayog reports or Ministry of Agriculture briefings.

Trump: When 'Ego-Mania' Trumps Rationality



US President Donald Trump is bent on wrecking the global system, just as he is wrecking the US political system. He has become all powerful internally and he wants to be all powerful externally, too. Internally, the constitutional checks and balances system is not working; externally, his depredations remain unchecked. Despite the rise of China and the revival of Russia as a power, the US is once again becoming unilateralist on the global stage under Trump. He has arbitrarily imposed tariffs on all countries in flagrant violation of WTO rules. He is using tariffs as a weapon to extract not only trade and investment concessions from others but also political ones. This is the case with India, on which he has imposed an additional 25% penalty tariffs for buying Russian discounted oil. Trump is rejecting multilateralism. Sure, his predecessors also did that, but he is doing it more scornfully. Earlier, he had walked out of the Paris Climate Change Agreement, the WHO, UNESCO and the UN Human Rights Commission, among other bodies. He has now decided to quit 66 international organisations, including many UN-related ones, the important ones being related to climate change such as the UNFCCC and the IPCC, as well as trade and economic development-related ones such as UNCTAD and the ECOSOC. Trump disparages renewable energy. He dismisses as a hoax the very idea of climate change, disregarding totally the serious concerns of the international community about the phenomenon. This also reflects US unilateralism on a very sensitive issue. Behind this are the interests of the US oil industry, which are strong backers of Trump and the Republican Party. This explains Trump's enthusiastic reference to the slogan "Drill baby Drill" in his inaugural address in January 2017, pressure on Europe (and India, too) to buy American LNG, sanctions on the Russian oil industry, and, more dramatically, his most recent adventure of attacking Venezuela and abducting President Nicolas Maduro with the expressed intention of taking control of Venezuelan oil reserves, which are the world's

biggest. Trump wants to become the dominant oil power in the world. He has made the legally bizarre claim that America owns Venezuelan oil because the infrastructure was developed by American companies in the first instance. Venezuelan oil, according to him, will be shipped to and marketed internationally by the US. The proceeds will be spent as decided by Trump himself, with Venezuelan spending what is allocated to it to buy only American products. The aggression against Venezuela is the 'Trump Corollary' to the US' revived Monroe Doctrine spelt out in the National Security Strategy 2017. The US Secretary of State, Marco Rubio, has questioned why Venezuela should sell its oil to China - which bought 50% of the country's oil last year - Russia and Iran, forgetting that the United States used to be the main buyer of Venezuelan oil but following sanctions, China became the main destination in the last decade. (Venezuela owes about \$10 billion to China after the latter became the largest lender under late President Hugo Chavez). Trump's unilateralism was also dramatically reflected in his recent interview with The New York Times, where, in the background of his attack on Venezuela violating international law, he said most pre-

sumptuously, "I don't need international law." When asked if there were any limits on his powers on the world stage, he said, "My own morality. My own mind." That means a business morality and an inconsistent mind. As part of his power play, he intends to let the New Start Treaty expire, closing the chapter on US-Russia agreements to end the arms race. With his announcement of an Iron Dome for the entire US and a \$1.5 trillion defence budget for 2017, a new arms race and strategic instability could well be the result. That Trump, with his aggression against Venezuela and the kidnapping of its President - as well as his determination to acquire Greenland by force if necessary - should still feel entitled to the Nobel Peace Prize and accuse Norway for making a big mistake in not awarding it to him, shows how totally unconcerned he is about how others judge him. He says he will accept Venezuelan Opposition Leader Maria Machado's bizarre offer to hand over to him her Peace Prize for 2017. The Norwegian Nobel Institute has ruled this out as the prize cannot be transferred to others, though the prize money can. Trump again asserted that he had solved eight conflicts (including repeating his claim to have stopped the India-Pakistan conflict) and

should therefore be eligible theoretically for eight Nobel Peace Prizes! It continues to rankle him that Obama obtained the Nobel Peace Prize undeservedly. Trump continues to talk down at Modi and India patronisingly, and even offensively, quite unmindful of the damage he is doing to India-US ties. He has made the absurd claim that knowing that he was unhappy, Modi tried to (console him) "make him happy" by stopping the purchase of Russian oil and asked "Sir, may I see you", as if a deferential subordinate was wanting to see his boss. The MEA spokesperson has countered this by clarifying that both leaders address each other with mutual respect as per diplomatic norms. The arch-warrior, Senator Lindsey Graham, standing alongside Trump in Air Force One, congratulated him for green lighting the new Russia Sanctions Bill that would impose 500% tariffs on those countries that buy Russian oil such as Brazil, India and China, and elicited the remark from the US President that it was easy to impose tariffs on India. This casual way of dealing with what has become a very sensitive issue between the two countries shows how unbothered he is about the reaction in India and also implies a readiness to increase tariffs on India if required.

Folk festival of change of seasons: Lohri and the arrival of the new season



PRIYANKA
SAURABH

India's folk traditions are not just festivals; they are living expressions of society's collective memory, understanding of nature, and philosophy of life. These traditions may change over time, but at their core, they preserve the relationship between humans and nature. Lohri, celebrated in North India, is one such folk festival, symbolizing the departure of winter and the arrival of spring. This festival not only announces the change of seasons but also announces a changing chapter in life's outlook - where warmth follows chill, light follows darkness, and new energy follows stagnation.

The festival of Lohri celebrates the cycle of nature, where every pause yields movement, and every difficulty yields possibility. This festival reminds us that life isn't just a struggle, but the relief and hope that come after struggle are just as real. This is why society has made it not just a one-day celebration, but a festival of collective emotion. Lohri's origins are deeply rooted in agricultural life. When a farmer in North India sees greenery in his fields after sowing the Rabi crops, he is filled with hope. The lush crops of wheat, mustard, and gram signal prosperity in the times to come. Lohri celebrates that hope. This festival honors the farmer's hard work, patience, and faith in nature. Gathering around a fire and offering sesame seeds, jaggery, peanuts, and rewari is not merely a religious ritual, but a collective expression of gratitude to nature. Here, fire symbolizes

purification - a resolve to burn away the cold, hardship, disappointment, and failures of the past and move forward. In folk life, fire not only provides warmth, it also fosters unity. People standing around a fire on a cold night warm not only their bodies but also their minds.

Folk tales and folk songs play a special role in the Lohri tradition. The story of Dulla Bhatti transforms Lohri from a mere seasonal festival to a symbol of social consciousness. Dulla Bhatti's character underscores the value of standing up against injustice, protecting the weak, and respecting women. This folk tale demonstrates that folk culture is not only a medium of entertainment but also a source of moral education.

The Lohri festival teaches the village community the lesson of collectivism. Rich and poor, young and old, men and women - all stand together around the fire. It is a moment of equality, where social distinctions melt away for a moment. Folk songs have a collective voice; the protagonist is not alone - the entire community participates in them. Lohri is also a cultural occasion for children. When children listen to folk songs from elders, learn stories, and participate in traditions, they not only celebrate but also connect with their roots. This is the greatest power of folk traditions - they maintain communication between generations.

But over time, the nature of festivals has also changed. Urbanization, consumerism, and a culture of ostentation have impacted folk festivals. Today, in many places, Lohri is becoming a personal performance rather than a collective event. Loud music replaces traditional folk songs, ostentation replaces simplicity, and unnecessary expenditure replaces a natural-oriented celebration. This weakens the essence of the festival.

This change isn't bad in itself, but the problem arises when meaning is lost. If festivals are reduced to mere photos, videos, and social media content, they cease to be folk culture. The soul of folk

festivals resides in participation, simplicity, and collective memory, not in commercial decorations. Today, festivals like Lohri need to be celebrated with environmental sensitivity and social inclusion. In an era of increasing pollution and resource scarcity, it's crucial to avoid unnecessary fuel, plastic, and noise. The simplicity of folk festivals is their greatest beauty.

Additionally, these festivals can be used as a means of learning for children. They should be taught that Lohri is not just a festival of fire and song, but a celebration of the farmer's labor, the cycles of nature, and community life. When children understand the meaning of traditions, they not only observe them but also carry them forward.

The arrival of spring marks not just a change of season, but a rebirth of hope. The longer days after cold and long nights also energize people mentally. Nature returns to color, flowers bloom, and life finds pace. Lohri celebrates this change - it teaches us that life is not static; after every darkness comes light. In today's stressful and uncertain times, folk festivals take on even greater significance. They give us a chance to pause, gather, and share collective joy. At a time when life is increasingly driven by competition and isolation, such folk festivals remind us of community life. Ultimately, Lohri teaches us that tradition survives when it communicates with the times - remaining relevant in new contexts while upholding its values.

Simplicity, collectivism, respect for nature, and a positive outlook on life - if these sentiments persist, every Lohri can become not just a festival but a source of new energy for society. The Lohri bonfire not only burns away the cold, it also dispels despair, loneliness, and inertia. This is why this folk festival is as relevant today as it was centuries ago. This folk celebration of the changing seasons reminds us that change is inevitable in life, and every change brings with it the possibility of a new beginning.

Anatomy of a Political Raid: From Lalu to Mamata



Has Mamata Banerjee done something "absolutely unforgivable" by raiding the raiders of the Enforcement Directorate (ED) at the office of the Indian Political Action Committee (I-PAC), a private election consulting agency, and by hitting the streets of Calcutta on January 9? At least, the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party's cadres and supporters are vociferous in asserting that the West Bengal chief minister has broken "constitutional norms" by stalling the ED's action against money laundering and corruption under her governance, and they are gunning for her head. Yet, they find it difficult to convince the larger electorate in this election-bound eastern state - and India at large - that the ED raided I-PAC's office solely to bust corruption, its primary mandate. Despite its numerical strength in Parliament, the ruling dispensation has been unable to create a consensus among neutral experts and the wider public about its so-called "war against corruption."

However, the purpose of this article is not to investigate allegations of corruption against Banerjee, the BJP's principal political opponent, or that against Suvendu Adhikari and others of his ilk, who were charged by the ED and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) when they were in the Trinamool Congress but secured reprieve after joining the BJP. The purpose, rather, is to understand how the Election Commission of India to complain that the investigating agency was sabotaging her electoral strategy under the garb of fighting corruption; challenging the ED's action in a

court of law. But the fact remains that she belongs to an enormously large section of Indians who are rapidly losing faith in the neutrality of constitutional institutions - including the investigating agencies, the election commission, and the governors. It would be imprudent to place the judiciary in the same bracket, but by its very nature the judiciary takes time and depends on investigating agencies that have already lost much of their credibility. The Yashwant Sinha route By hitting the streets with thousands of people on January 9, Banerjee has done exactly what the former BJP stalwart, now in the TMC, Yashwant Sinha, had urged the Congress and other opposition parties to do after the Bihar election results of November 2025. In an interview with journalist Neelu Vyas for her digital platform, Sinha - a former Indian Administrative Service officer of repute - said: "There is

no iota of doubt that the Bihar election has been rigged. The only option for the opposition parties, including the Congress, is to hit the streets, get arrested, and not pray for bail. Let the government put you in jail as long as it wishes. The people will eventually find a way to liberate them and save the Constitution that its founding fathers gave them." He went on in the same vein: "I used to take pride in my pedigree as an IAS officer. But I feel ashamed when I see Gyanesh Kumar, also an IAS officer. Gyanesh Kumar is a disgrace to the IAS... The opposition must bring an impeachment motion against him in Parliament, even if it is defeated." Sinha had been principal secretary to former Bihar chief minister Karpoori Thakur before relinquishing his post to enter public life. He joined the Janata Dal and later became finance minister in the Chandra Shekhar government.

Over 60 including Manjeshwar MLA detained in protest against NH-66 toll at Kumble Arikkady

Kasargod, Jan 12: Protests erupted against the collection of toll fees on National Highway 66 at Kumbale Arikkady between Kasargod and Mangaluru, during which police detained more than 60 persons, including Manjeshwar MLA AKM Ashraf, on Monday January 12. As soon as information about the toll collection spread on Monday morning, hundreds of people, including public representatives, gathered at the spot and launched a road blockade protest. Tension prevailed at the site as over a thousand protesters assembled, prompting the police to take precautionary measures.

Due to the protest, vehicular movement on the national highway came to a standstill, forcing vehicles to take



alternative routes. With traffic disrupted for several hours, the police forcibly detained MLA A K M Ashraf, other public representatives, and several protesters who were staging a sit-in protest

on the road, and took them to the police station. Traffic movement was restored thereafter.

The Toll Fee Opposition Committee pointed out that the high court has not yet

completed the hearing on its petition related to the toll collection. The committee had demanded that toll collection be stopped until a final verdict is delivered. Although discussions were held between the agitation committee and National Highways officials on Monday morning, the authorities did not withdraw the toll collection, following which the protesters intensified their agitation.

The committee warned that the protest would continue until toll collection is stopped. It stated that the collection of toll fees at Kumble Arikkady, located just 23 km from Talapady, cannot be accepted under any circumstances. Meanwhile, toll collection was resumed amid the protest.

MB Patil hands over River Mobility-made Yamaha electric bike

Hosakote: Large and Medium Industries Minister M.B. Patil handed over the Yamaha EC-06 electric bike, manufactured by Karnataka-based River Mobility under an industrial partnership promoting local manufacturing, to the globally renowned Yamaha company at its manufacturing facility here.

Speaking on the occasion, he said the commencement of local production of such two-wheelers, which make urban mobility eco-friendly, seamless and sustainable, marks a significant milestone in the State's industrial growth. It clearly reflects Karnataka's progress in building future-ready mobility systems. He also inspected the company's



manufacturing facilities and other infrastructure.

Mr Patil said the facility will manufacture around 2,000 high-quality electric bikes annually. These bikes will be fitted with locally manufactured bat-

teries capable of running up to one lakh kilometres and carrying a warranty of 10 years. He added that local manufacturing would create substantial economic value by generating skilled employment,

strengthening the local supply chain and opening new opportunities for small and medium enterprises. Noting that the automobile market is steadily shifting towards electric vehicles, Mr Patil said thousands of charging stations have already been established across the State and their number will be further expanded, underscoring the government's commitment to strengthening EV infrastructure. MLA and KEONICS Chairman Sharath Bachegowda, Yamaha India President Jim Aoyama, Industries Department Commissioner Gunjan Krishna, River Mobility CEO Aravind Mani, Co-Founder Vipin George and others were present at the event.

KSRTC Chief Public Relations Officer Dr. Latha T.S. takes charge as Vice President of Public Relations Council of India

Bengaluru: KSRTC Chief Public Relations Officer Dr. Latha T.S. took charge as the new Vice President of Public Relations Council of India.



At the swearing-in and handover ceremony held at J.P. Nagar Cultural Society, Bengaluru

Dr. T. Vinaya Kumar took charge as the President of the Governing Council and Dr. Latha T.S., Chief Public Relations Officer, KSRTC took charge as the Vice President of the Governing Council. Chinmayee Praveen took charge as the Secretary.

Dr. Devananda Gopal (Former DRDO Scientist) was the Chief Guest and M.B. Jayaram (Chairman Emeritus and Chief Mentor) and Geeta Shankar (National President) were present as honorary guests.

Dr. B.K. Ravi (Vice Chancellor, North Bangalore University), Ravindran, C.J. Singh, R.N. Mahapatra and Arijit Singh took charge as Additional Directors of the

Governing Body. On the same occasion, Dr. Prashant Venugopal took charge as the National President of Young Communicators Club and Pashupati Sharma took charge as the General Secretary of PRCI.

Everyone should work together and adhere to Vivekananda's philosophy: S Manohar



Bengaluru: Today's youth should work together and adhere to Vivekananda's philosophy to work for the development of the country, MEI President and KPCC General Secretary S Manohar has called on everyone to work together and adhere to Vivekananda's philosophy. He called on all of us to embrace the ideals of Swami Vivekananda by celebrating the 163rd birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda and the birthday of AICC General Secretary, Wayanad MP, Smt. Priyanka Gandhi, at the Karnataka State Blind Development School. He said that the then former Prime

Minister Rajiv Gandhi declared this day as National Youth Day to celebrate Swami Vivekananda's birthday as National Youth Day and that we should all move forward under the guidance given by Swami Vivekananda for the construction of India. AICC General Secretary Smt. Priyanka Gandhi, like Indira Gandhi, has committed herself to serving the people of the country by raising her voice in Parliament as a voter for the development of a secular nation for the progress of the country. Through this, she has said that everyone should contribute to the development of India under the philosophy of Swami Vivekananda. On this occasion, KPCC Congress party leaders A. Anand, G. Prakash, Sudhakar Rao, Chandrashekhar, Hemraju, Puttaraju, Sai Naveen, Hobleesh, Chinna Prakash, and Congress party leaders were present.

'Dear Husband' title teaser unveiled in Bengaluru

Bengaluru: The title unveiling and title teaser release ceremony of the new film directed by Gururaja Kulkarni (Nadagowda), which is being produced in collaboration with 'G9 Communication and Media' and 'Nirantara Productions', was held grandly at 'Phoenix Mall of Asia' in Bengaluru.

This new film, starring actors Suraj Gowda, Sharanya Shetty and Praveen in the lead roles, has been named 'Dear Husband' and is being made in the style of a suspense cum thriller.

Actor Kiccha Sudeep released the title and title teaser of the film 'Dear Husband' and wished all the best. Actors Kumar Bangarappa, Praveen Tej, music director V.



Harikrishna, directors Shashank, A. P. Arjun, cricketers Vaishak Vijayakumar, Ritesh and many others were present at the title teaser launch of 'Dear Husband'.

Speaking after releasing the title teaser of the film 'Dear Husband', actor Kiccha Sudeep said, 'When we came as newcomers,

most of the pre-production work of the film 'Dear Husband' has been completed and the shooting of the film will begin from the end of this month. The film crew is planning to shoot the film in Bangalore, Goa and other places. Sachin Basrur has composed the background music for the title teaser of the film 'Dear Husband', and Veer Samarth is composing the music for the songs of the film. Pramod Maravant has written the lyrics, Raghu Niduvalli has written the dialogues for the film. Harsha Kumar Gowda is handling the cinematography, B. S. Kempuraj is handling the editing work for the film. The film team, which has currently kicked off the work on the film with a bang by releasing the title

teaser, is planning to bring the film 'Dear Husband' to the audience by the end of this year.

— Quotes —
A very good story is coming to the screen through the film 'Dear Husband'. This is a new role for me. The script of the film is very good.

Suraj Gowda, lead actor 'This is a youth-filled subject film that will connect with today's generation. In this, I am appearing in the role of Vasanti. It is very rare for artists to get such a different story. Director Gururaja Kulkarni (Nadagowda) has chosen me as the heroine for a very good story. There are a lot of expectations from the movie'

Sharanya Shetty, lead actress

Karnataka

HYDERABAD
TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2026

7

Ashok urges Governor to reject hate speech bill



Bengaluru : Opposition Leader R. Ashok said that an appeal has been made to the Governor not to sign the Hate Speech Prohibition Bill and to take action against providing houses to encroachers in Kogilu Cross and Bangla citizens. He spoke to reporters after submitting the appeal to the Governor at Raj Bhavan.

We have apprised the Governor about the lack of law and order in Karnataka, turning it into a jungle raj. We have also appealed to save Karnataka from becoming a goonda state. The session should be called only to draft the bill. However, the Congress government has not given an opportunity for discussion on the Hate Speech Prohibition Bill. A law is being brought where if someone blinks or shows their

hand, they can be arrested. Just like the emergency imposed by former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in 1975, CM Siddaramaiah is imposing an emergency. Therefore, we have appealed not to sign it.

If this law comes into effect, police can easily arrest opposition MLAs. Based on the government's instructions, police can file cases against anyone. This has been explained as a conspiratorial bill by Congress and a bill that snatches freedom of speech. A Congress party worker has been murdered in Ballari by Congress members. Without arresting those behind it, allegations have been made against Janardhana Reddy. To bring out the truth, this case should be handed over to CBI investigation, we have requested the Governor. We will hold a convention in Ballari on January 17 to condemn the deterioration of law and order, he informed. Regarding the illegal residents in Kogilu, the fact-finding committee led by MLA Vishwanath

has submitted a report. 36 lakh people are waiting to get houses after paying lakhs of rupees.

Just because a cuckoo cooed in Kerala, the crows in the state have shut their mouths. Is the Kerala government ruling Karnataka? Is the CM here listening to Venugopal and the CM there? The government here should not become a puppet of Kerala. Even though the mother tongue rule has been violated in Kerala, the CM has not questioned it. Even though the Kerala government is oppressing Kannadiga in Kasargod, CM Siddaramaiah has just written one letter and remained silent, he said. BBMP elections should be held as soon as possible. Seeing the potholes in Bengaluru, heaps of garbage, and the ruined law and order, it is certain that Congress will bite the dust in the elections.

Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy Chairs Stakeholder Consultation Meeting on Scheme to Promote Manufacturing of Sintered Rare Earth



New Delhi : The Union Minister for Heavy Industries & Steel, H.D. Kumaraswamy, chaired a stakeholder consultation meeting on the 'Scheme to Promote Manufacturing of Sintered Rare Earth Permanent Magnet'. The meeting was attended by the Secretary, Ministry of Heavy Industries; Secretary, Department of Atomic Energy; CMD, IREL (India) Ltd.; Director (Technical), NMDC; Director, NFTDC; and various industrial stakeholders from India and abroad.

In his inaugural address, the Minister emphasized that the Scheme represents a pivotal step towards establishing a self-reliant, resilient, and globally competitive ecosystem for REPMs, aligning with the vision of Viksit Bharat @2047. He urged all

eligible domestic and international players to seize this opportunity and contribute to India's long-term growth story by participating in the bidding process. The Hon'ble Minister also informed that the Ministry is in the process of finalizing the Request for Proposal (RIP).

Joint Secretary, Ministry of Heavy Industries, explained the Scheme, highlighting the key features,

which was notified on December 15, 2025.

The total financial outlay for the Scheme is Rs. 7,280 crore, including Rs. 6,450 crore in sales-linked incentives on REPM sales and Rs. 750 crore in capital subsidy for setting up an aggregate 6,000 MTPA of REPM manufacturing facilities, thereby bolstering self-reliance and positioning the country as a prominent player in the glob-

al REPM market. The Scheme spans a total duration of 7 years from the date of award, comprising a 2-year gestation period for establishing integrated REPM manufacturing facilities and 5 years for incentive disbursement on REPM sales.

During the meeting, industry representatives outlined their capabilities, expressing interest in participating in the Scheme.

Basaveshwaraswamy Rathotsava and Kadalaikai Parise at the historic Sri Basaveshwaraswamy Temple in Sompura: M. Rudresh



Kengeri: BJP State Farmers' Morcha Vice President M. Rudresh said that the Basaveshwaraswamy Rathotsava and Kadalaikai Parise will be held on Thursday, January 15, under the leadership of the Sri Basavanna Devara Seva Samiti, in the premises of the historic Chola era Sri Basaveshwaraswamy Temple in Sompura, Kengeri Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, which was renovated in 2006. Giving information about this at a press conference, he said that more than a thousand priest couples who worship at the temple will be honored and the chariot will be dedicated by the Vijayendra Yediyurappa family. Former Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa, Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy, Union Minister Shobha Karandlaje, MP Raghavendra, BJP state president Vijayendra, film actress Dunia Vijay, NICE organization head Ashok Kheni, Legislative Council member T.N. Javarai

Gowda, Thibbadevi Tent House Sivalinga Gowda said that they will participate. The program was attended by Sri Mummadi Nirvana Mahaswami of Sri Degula Math, Kanakapura, Nishchalanandanath Mahaswamiji of Kengeri Okkaligara Mahasanthan Math, Yadava Mahasanthan Math, Yadvanya Mahasanthan Math, and Remuka Shivacharya Mahaswamy of Patta will preside. Legislative Council member T.N. Javarai Gowda, Maregowda of the Rajya Vokkaligara Sangha, former members of the corporation Sanjeevappa, Veena Nagaraj, leaders Mohan Kumar, Jothe Ramesh, Sudhir, Prakash, including Sri Basavanna Devara Seva Samiti and others were present at the press conference.

Voter roll revision reunites man with mother after 22 years

Mandsaur, Jan 12: The ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls has led to an emotional reunion of a 45-year-old man with his mother after a gap of 22 years in western Madhya Pradesh's Mandsaur district. Vinod Gayri, currently working as a peon in a school in Rajasthan's Nagaur district,

had contacted the Khilchipura village panchayat in his native Mandsaur district seeking voter identity details of his parents. He required the Elector Photo Identity Card (EPIC) information from the 2003 voter list to get his name included in the SIR 2025-26 electoral roll in Nagaur. During the process, members of the village panchayat informed Vinod's widowed mother about the inquiry. The elderly woman then approached Nai Abadi police station in Mandsaur, requesting help to trace her son who had gone missing over two decades ago.

EPS condemns 'house arrest' of secondary teacher leaders, demands their immediate release



CHENNAI: AIADMK general secretary Edappadi K Palaniswami on Monday condemned the alleged house arrest of leaders of Secondary grade Seniority Teachers Association and demanded their immediate release.

Flaying the Tamil Nadu government over its handling of SSTA's ongoing protest demanding "equal pay for equal work", he alleged that the leaders who were put on "house arrest" were denied access to their mobile phones.

As the secondary teachers have been protesting for the 17th consecutive day demanding the fulfillment of the DMK's election promise on equal pay for equal work, the Stalin government has put under house arrest 8 persons

including the state executives of the SSTA since 8 am yesterday," Palaniswami claimed.

Their mobile phones were taken away and switched off. "The puppet chief minister's government does not know how to handle the protest in a smooth manner. Engaging such tactics and denying them even basic rights of accessing their phones is condemnable," the former Chief Minister said in a post on the social media platform 'X.' He further said the state government would be held accountable if any "minor harm" befell those who have been arrested.

"I urge the DMK government to immediately release the arrested teachers," he said. The government teachers have been on protest since December 26, 2025, seeking the government's intervention to set right basic pay anomalies between the teachers appointed after June 1, 2009, and those recruited till a day before this date.

TVK chief Vijay appears before CBI for questioning in Karur stampede case



NEW DELHI: TVK chief and actor Vijay appeared before the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Monday for questioning in connection with the Karur stampede case, officials

said. The Tamil superstar reached the CBI headquarters here and was taken to the team investigating the stampede, which occurred during a rally he addressed on September 27 last year

in Karur, Tamil Nadu. The incident left 41 people dead and more than 60 injured. The CBI has questioned several office bearers of the Tamilaga Vettiri Kazhagam (TVK) in connection with the case, the officials said.

The agency may take a call on filing a chargesheet in the matter after examining Vijay's responses during Monday's questioning, they said. The CBI took over the case from an SIT following a Supreme Court order, and the investigating agency has been gathering evidence in the matter.

Ramadoss expels three MLAs supporting Anbumani for alleged anti-party activities

CHENNAI: Escalating the bitter power struggle with his son and former Union minister Anbumani Ramadoss for control of the Pattali Makkal Katchi (PMK), party founder S Ramadoss on Monday expelled three MLAs

identified with the Anbumani camp for alleged anti-party activities. In a statement, PMK general secretary Murali Shankar said the disciplinary action committee had sought explanations from the legislators through letters sent on

July 20, 2025, but had received no response, either in person, by phone, or in writing, to the party founder and president. He alleged that the MLAs continued to engage in activities detrimental to the party even after the notices.

Tamil Nadu: New mini stadium in Sooriyur set for more events this year



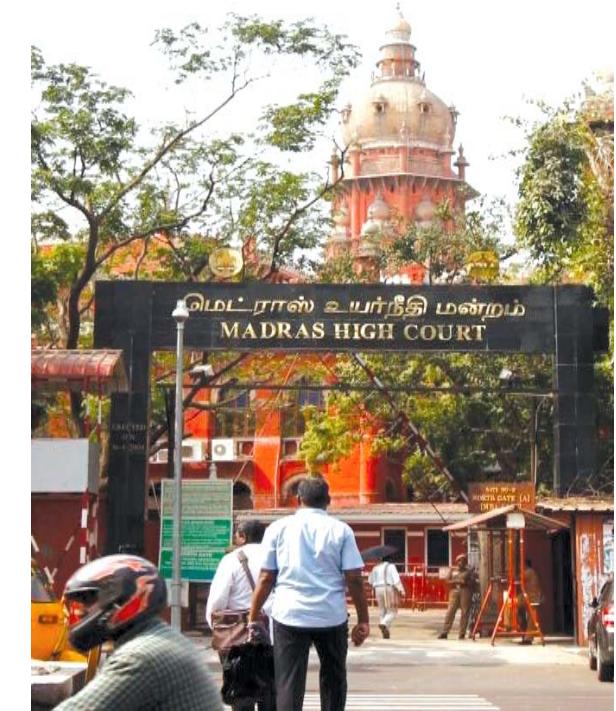
for spectators and usually, moving from the trend of holding only one event in Sooriyur, the organisers across Tiruchy have decided to hold the event in the stadium from this year.

"Because of a permanent structure for galleries in place in the stadium, at least 50 per cent of the total expenditure would be saved. We need at least Rs 5 lakh for establishing gal-

leries for spectators and VIPs, the mini stadium would save such an amount, and instead the fund could be utilised for the other purposes," said Jallikattu D Rajesh, the Founder President of Tamil Veera Vilayattu Kazhagam. He welcomed this initiative by the government but urged that the officials should ensure proper collection points. "The present collection point is said to be on private land. Thus, the officials should obtain formal,

permanent permission from their owners to avoid any issues," Rajesh said. He further noted that as the number of bull owners increased across the State, the number of bulls taking part in each event this year has increased.

"The larger bull population will pave the way for the conduct of new events with the government's permission, and the initiative for online registration for the event is also a boon for the organisers," he said.



artistic works, provided they did not amount to commercial misuse of the actor's persona.

In his plaint, Kamal Haasan stated that he is widely regarded as one of the greatest and most versatile actors in Indian cinema,

four Nandi Awards.

He has also been honoured with the Kalaimamani Award (1978), Padma Shri (1978),

Padma Bhushan (2014), and the Chevalier of the

Ordre des Arts et des Lettres (2016). The veteran actor further pointed out that he was invited in 2025 to become a member of the Actors Branch of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, in recognition of his "indelible contributions to the global filmmaking community". He argued that his endorsements command significant commercial value and public trust, and therefore unauthorised use of his persona could mislead consumers.

After granting interim relief, the court directed the actor to issue a public notice about the order in both an English and a Tamil daily, noting that the John Doe nature of the suit required wide communication of the injunction.

WILDFIRES AND MENTAL HEALTH: COMMUNITY FIRST, THEN THERAPY



support.

As of January 22, according to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, the Eaton Fire was 91% contained; Palisades, 68%. More than 15,700 structures have been destroyed and more than 40,000 acres burned. About 200,000 people were under evacuation orders at first, although some of those orders were later lifted.

Restaurants invited people affected by the fire to stop by for a meal. Hotels and short-term rentals are offering free or discounted stays. One collection point – Santa Anita Park, near the Eaton Fire – was so full of donations just four days after the fires began, the organizers said they didn't need more of some donations. Animal shelters helped evacuate small and large animals. Music benefits with big names are

scheduled. GoFundMe accounts to help people build are being set up at brisk rates. A synagogue in Pacific Palisades that survived the fire put together an information panel with speakers who had lost their homes in previous fires. A Veterans of Foreign Wars post miles from the fires is hosting a \$10-a-bowl potluck benefit, giving proceeds to displaced veterans. Clothing retailers are offering new clothes, gratis, to those affected. In 2024, according to the National Centers for Environmental Information, more than 61,000 U.S. wildfires burned more than 8.8 billion acres, the seventh-most burned acreage over the last 25 years. As the number of wild-

fires grows, research on the mental health effects is increasing. Alison Hwong, MD, PhD, an assistant professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at the Stanford School of Medicine, analyzed data from the California Health Interview Survey, which in 2021 added questions about exposure to extreme weather events and mental health. More than half, 53%, reported their mental health was affected by climate events such as wildfires. Young, White, college-educated respondents, as well as women and rural residents, were more likely to report poorer mental health, but Hwong can't entirely explain that finding. People with mental health issues are more vulnerable, she and others said.

Agyapong's team tracked the mental health status of residents affected by the 2016 Fort McMurray wildfire in Canada, with 2,400 homes destroyed and 88,000 people evacuated. "Those who reported no support from the community were at greater risk of mental health problems at six months and also at five years," Agyapong said. Family and friend support also protected people from depression, he found. His team reviewed 63 published studies on the impact of wildfires on mental health, finding an increased rate of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression, and anxiety both right after the disaster and for years after. Just after evacuation, "people are seeking immediate relief," said Dawn Gillam, a licensed clinical social

worker and executive leader of behavioral health services at Kaiser Permanente Southern California. "They want to know where to get a shower, where to get food. They want help walking their dogs, playing with their kids."

Then, "A few days in, they want to talk about their feelings. People want to talk about their frustration over little things, like they are not getting a warm-enough shower." Whether a therapist, friend, or family member is listening, people want to feel validated about how they are feeling, therapists said. Hamilton recalled a woman at the evacuation center who told her: "I'm not a crier, but I can't stop crying." She was in community leadership roles, and the reversal, of needing help instead of giving it, was difficult for her to accept, Hamilton said. Hamilton assured her that crying was normal, telling her: "We've been through the scariest days."

Humor might help. One woman fretted that she hadn't gathered the right belongings when she had to evacuate quickly. Hamilton teased her: "You didn't evacuate right?" That got a laugh. Another man joked: "People have told me my whole life I should see a therapist. Now might be the time." Hamilton has heard a lot of "I should have" and tells people to ease up on themselves. "All kinds of emotions get triggered by events like this," said Jeffrey Katzman, MD, a psychiatrist and director of the Silver Hill Academy for Research and Education in New Canaan, Connecticut. He grew up in Pacific Palisades and went to school there. Long-distance, he's helping family members who had to evacuate and are missing important medical equipment.

"There's sadness, there is numbness. It's important to honor those feelings and have someone to listen." While Katzman said it's important to honor the range of emotions of someone who's been through a wildfire, "you don't want to get stuck there. It's important to keep moving." One way to do that, he said, is to regain structure in one's life. He advises those affected by wildfires to plan, as best and quickly as possible, how they'll work, where they will live.

The Ocean has finally entered the global climate debate

In global climate policy, the ocean was long treated as an afterthought, too vast to manage effectively and too resilient to be degraded. Instead, the focus was almost exclusively on reducing greenhouse-gas (GHG) emissions and preserving forests. That era is now over.

At the most recent United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP30) in Belém, the ocean moved from the margins to the mainstream of climate governance. It featured prominently in national climate plans, adaptation frameworks, the follow-up to the first "global stocktake" under the Paris climate agreement, and even the evolving architecture of climate finance.

This shift in the global agenda was likely inevitable, as the ocean increasingly suffers the effects of absorbing over 90% of the excess heat trapped by GHGs and about one-quarter of annual carbon dioxide emissions. The consequences include warming, acidification, deoxygenation, collapsing fisheries, and coastal erosion. But small island developing states (SIDS) and least developed countries (LDCs), many of which are extremely vulnerable to sea-level rise, accelerated the shift by framing ocean governance as a matter not just of environmental management, but of survival and justice.

Consider, for example, COP30's headline political declaration, the Global Mutual, which frames climate change, biodiversity loss, and land and ocean degradation as interconnected crises demanding shared solutions and collective action. It explicitly recognizes the role of marine ecosystems in climate stability and sustainable development, giving governments the political cover to integrate ocean and coastal issues into their national climate strategies, development plans, and funding proposals.

A new baseline has been established. For the first time in the UN climate process, the official synthesis of national climate plans contains a section dedicated to the ocean. Roughly three-quarters of these

national plans include marine references, such as blue carbon, offshore renewables, fisheries resilience, and maritime decarbonization. The next step is to move toward quantified ocean-based targets, measurable blue-carbon accounting, and concrete investment pledges for coastal communities.

At COP30, governments also adopted the Belém Adaptation Indicators to track action and progress under the Global Goal on Adaptation. While these indicators are sector-neutral, they are still highly relevant to the health of coastal ecosystems, the resilience of fisheries, the vulnerability of coastal infrastructure and livelihoods, and early-warning coverage. Crucially, climate funds – including the Green Climate Fund, the Global Environment Facility, and the Adaptation Fund – have been encouraged to align their support with these indicators. This could give rise to a new generation of bankable ocean-adaptation projects.

Moreover, ocean-based solutions are attracting more resources. The One Ocean Partnership, which launched at COP30, aims to mobilize \$20 billion for coastal resilience, blue-carbon ecosystems, and ocean protection; create 20 million blue jobs worldwide; and restore 20 million hectares of marine ecosystems by 2030. More consequential was the UN Standing Committee on Finance's announcement that its 2026 forum will focus on financing climate action in water systems and the ocean – a formal push for blue investment that would have been unthinkable a decade ago. But treaties and conferences are no longer the only means for creating climate obligations. International law has started to converge with climate science. In 2024, the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea ruled that GHG emissions constitute marine pollution under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea. In 2025, the International Court of Justice affirmed that states have a binding legal duty to prevent foreseeable climate harm.

Cinépolis India expands its cinema advertising business, partners with It's Spotlight to operate digital screens across 100+ properties

Hyderabad, January 12, 2026:

Cinépolis India is expanding into cinema advertising with a nationwide deployment of digital screens across its lobby spaces. India's only international exhibitor has appointed It's Spotlight, a digital out-of-home (OOH) media company, to operate and commercialize the inventory. The deployment covers over 350 LED screens, video walls, and digital displays across Cinépolis's 101 cinemas in 63 cities spanning 23 states and Union Territories. Speaking about the partnership, Devang Sampat, Managing Director, Cinépolis India, said: "Cinema environments offer advertisers access to audiences in a focused, lean-forward setting which is distinct from outdoor and transit media. As DOOH grows and advertisers look for environments beyond cluttered digital and social platforms, cinema offers a differentiated proposition to reach young and urban audiences. With this partnership we are looking at unlocking this opportunity while staying focused on our core business of exhibition." According to the EY-FICCI M&E Report 2024, India's out-of-home advertising



ing segment reached 75,920 crore in 2024, with digital OOH expected to grow from 12% to 17% of total OOH revenues by 2027. Virkaran Singh, Founder & Director, It's Spotlight, said: "Cinema screens sit at the intersection of attention, intent, and experience, creating strong opportunities for brands to connect with a premium, highly engaged audience. This partnership allows advertisers to access a powerful yet largely untapped market, supported by programmatic capabilities, real-time analytics, and performance-linked execution across Cinépolis proper-

ties. With a presence across 23 states, brands can achieve national scale through a single buy with measurable results." Advertisers will have access to programmatic buying, campaign optimization, and performance metrics including impressions, audience profiles, and footfall data.

About Cinépolis India

Cinépolis India is a group company of Cinépolis and is the first international cinema exhibitor in India. With the vision of lighting up the movie of one's life with smiles and unforgettable

moments, Cinépolis aims to offer an unmatched experience to movie patrons. The company currently operates 494 screens in India under the brand names Cinépolis, Cinépolis VIP, and Fun Cinemas. Cinépolis has pioneered several innovations in the exhibition industry, including luxury cinemas with Cinépolis VIP and Cinépolis Junior, an auditorium specially designed for kids with colorful bean bags, cushy sofas, and loungers. The multi-benefit loyalty program, Club Cinépolis, enhances the movie-watching experience with free reg-

istration, points rewards, pre-screening invites, and star visits. Over the years, Cinépolis India has received numerous accolades, including the IMAX Big Cine Award for India's Top Multiplex Chain of the Year and the Image Retail Award for Retail Launch in 2023. At MAPIC India 2023, Cinépolis was honored with the Most Admired Retailer of the Year: Best Turnaround Story and Retailer of the Year - Leisure and Entertainment awards. In 2024, the company was again recognized as the Retailer of the Year - Leisure and Entertainment at MAPIC Retail.

About It's Spotlight

It's Spotlight is an India-based DOOH media technology company delivering AI-powered digital screens, real-time analytics, and interactive advertising solutions across premium locations, including malls and cinema chains nationwide. Founded under Skuka Solutions Pvt. Ltd., It's Spotlight combines media infrastructure with proprietary technology to bring transparency, intelligence, and measurable performance to physical advertising environments.

Actor Siddu Jonnalagadda to encourage Telugu households to Eat Healthy, Live Healthy



Hyderabad, 12th January, 2026:

Freedom Refined Sunflower Oil, India's leading edible oil brand, has onboarded popular film actor Siddu Jonnalagadda known for his films like "DJ Tillu" and "Tillu Square," to inspire Telugu households to adopt healthy eating habits. The actor, known for his charismatic screen presence and massive fan following amongst the youth, has emerged as one of the most

promising actors in Telugu cinema. The partnership brings together a beloved actor known for his relatable performances with a brand that's all about making healthy cooking accessible to every home. Mr. Siddu Jonnalagadda enjoys immense trust and admiration in the Telugu market. His association with Freedom Healthy Cooking Oils will enable the brand to forge deeper connections with the consumers and reinforce the commitment to delivering pure, healthy cooking oil solutions for every kitchen. The collaboration will see Siddu featured across Freedom's campaigns on TV, digital platforms, and beyond across Telugu states. The objective will be to start conversations around healthier cooking and reinforce the trust in Freedom Refined Sunflower Oil. Speaking about the association Mr. P Chandra Shekhar Reddy, Vice President, Sales & Marketing, Gemini Edibles and Fats India Ltd said "We are happy to be associated with Actor Siddu Jonnalagadda and we welcome him to the Freedom Sunflower Oil family. Freedom Sunflower oil helps customers to cook more with less oil giving users a unique combination of health with good taste."

Two Spectacular Days of Cinema Conclude as 3rd Niri9 International Film Festival Ends on a High Note

Hyderabad, January 12,

2026: The third edition of the Niri9 International Film Festival concluded two remarkable days (10th Jan & 11th Jan 2026) of cinematic excellence, creative exchange, and cultural celebration. Hosted at Prasad Film Labs and Raj Bhavan Samkskruti Auditorium, the festival emerged as a vibrant platform that brought together filmmakers, artists, industry veterans, and cinema enthusiasts from across India and abroad. The two-day festival showcased an impressive range of films across Feature Films, Short Films, Shorter Films, and Documentaries, reflecting diverse voices, themes, and cinematic styles. From socially charged narratives to experimental storytelling and globally acclaimed features, the carefully curated lineup deeply engaged audiences and sparked meaningful conversations. Shri M Dana Kishore, IAS, Special Chief Secretary to the Governor was present as the Chief Guest of the event. Smt C Priyanka, Managing Director of Telangana Film Development Corporation was present as Special Guest. Other dignitaries present during the closing ceremony included Shri VN Aditya, Senior Director & Chairman, National Film Awards; Shri Ashok Kumar, Actor & Director; Shri Ajith Surabhi, Principal of SVFFA, among others. One of the major intellectual highlights of the festival was the panel discussion held on Day 2, featuring eminent personalities such as Seema Biswas, Carlyta



Mouhini, Manoj Nandwana, Jadumoni Dutta, Dr Padmini Nagulapalli, Satish, Y Ravi Shankar and Dr Junmoni Devi Khaund, the festival director. The session was moderated by Sunitha Krishnan. The discussion witnessed insightful conversations on cinema as a tool for social change, independent filmmaking, representation, and the evolving landscape of storytelling in the digital era. It also deliberated upon film production, co-production, and distribution, both nationally and globally.

The category-wise winners of the film festival are as follows:

Feature Films:
Best Feature Film: Jujhpol
Second Best Feature Film: Ghar
Third Best Feature Film: Dahini - The Witch
Jury Special Award: Kuhipath
Best Actor (Male): Bishnu Kharagoria (Akash Henu Nodir Nam)
Best Actor (Female): Akanksha Yadav (Ghar)
Best Child Artist(s): Nihar Kashyap, Sanidul Islam, Manik Ali (Kuhipath)

Go Colors solidifies its southern India presence with a new flagship store in Hyderabad's A.S. Rao Nagar, inaugurated by actress Niharika Konidela

Hyderabad, 12th January

2026: Go Colors, India's leading women's bottom wear brand is strengthening its foothold in Southern India by launching its newest flagship store, spreading across a massive area of 4,430 sq.ft. in Hyderabad's A.S. Rao Nagar - a popular retail destination in the city. Another significant leap forward in Go Colors' retail scaling trajectory, the store was inaugurated by popular actress Niharika Konidela. Located in Dr. A.S. Rao Nagar, one of Hyderabad's well-developed residential and commercial hubs, the store enjoys excellent connectivity, strong street visibility, and a thriving neighbourhood ecosystem. The location also serves as a strategic testing ground for Go Colors' expansion across similar residential-led markets in the city, and the launch aligns with Go Colors' mission to offer fashion that is comfortable, versatile, expressive, and



inclusive. Designed as a one-stop destination, the Dr. A.S. Rao Nagar outlet showcases the brand's complete portfolio across women's Indian and western wear, men's wear and its signature bottomwear range. Customer insights played a key role in selecting this location. The area attracts a diverse mix of consumers with a strong preference for everyday ethnic and western wear, making it ideal for highlighting Go Colors' wide assortment of colours, fits and fabrics. The store caters to men and women across age groups, sizes and body types, with silhouettes crafted for daily wear, work, leisure and special occasions. Thoughtfully designed to offer a great shopping experience, the store blends modern aesthetics with functional planning. Its spacious, airy layout allows for easy navigation and comfortable browsing, while clearly defined category zones make product discovery intuitive. Enhanced mannequin styling, well-planned planograms and intuitive displays elevate visual appeal, complemented by comfortable trial rooms and seating areas that create a relaxed, immersive, and seamless shopping experience.

Ola Electric rolls out Shakti, its first battery energy storage system



New Delhi: Ola Electric on Monday announced the rollout of its first battery energy storage system, Shakti, from its manufacturing plant in Krishnagiri, Tamil Nadu. Shakti marks the company's entry into the country's residential BESS (battery energy storage system) market and takes the company beyond the automotive domain, the Bengaluru-based firm said in a statement. It represents a fundamental shift in how Indians will access, control, and consume energy, as a portable,

on-demand resource designed for modern Indian households, farms, and businesses, it added. "The rollout of Shakti from our Gigafactory is a defining moment in our mission to build the future of energy in India. With Ola Shakti, we have reimaged how India will store and consume energy," a company spokesperson said. Powered by the company's indigenous 4680 Bharat Cell, Ola Shakti makes reliable, affordable, and intelligent energy storage accessi-

Mahindra Premieres XUV 7XO with 5 Pioneering Tech Disruptions Starting at Rs. 13.66 Lakh



January 12, 2026: Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd., India's leading SUV manufacturer, today launched the new XUV 7XO, the company's latest trendsetter. Starting at a price of 13.66 lakh (ex-showroom), the XUV 7XO raises the benchmarks set by the gamechanger XUV 700, which has had over 300,000 customers since its launch in 2021. The XUV 7XO delivers an experience that rewrites the rules of high-end SUVs by elevating sophistication and technology like never before. Mahindra has consistently worked towards democratising technology, and the XUV 7XO further exemplifies this commitment by offering advanced features starting from the base variant. The AX variant, featuring Coast-to-Coast 31.24 cm Triple HD screens, Intelligent ADRENOX, Wireless CarPlay, Alexa Built-in with ChatGPT, Cruise Control, Push Button Start/Stop, and 75 safety fea-

tures—all as standard—makes cutting-edge technology and premium features more accessible than ever. Expressive Design: Full-width grille with jewel-like talon accents, Bi-LED projector headlights with DRLs, diamond-inspired Clear Lens taillamps, R19 diamond cut alloy wheels and super-premium high-gloss piano-black finish exude a 'tough-premi-

um' character. Experiential Tech: Coast-to-Coast 31.24 cm Triple HD screens, 16 speaker Harman Kardon Audio system with India's first Dolby Vision & Atmos, 540-degree camera with digital video recording, ADAS Level 2 with Dynamic Visualisation, Frameless Electrochromic IRVM and Memory ORVM with Auto Tilt for reverse, Approach Unlock & Walk Away Lock. Smoother in every move: Global debut of the revolutionary DAVINCI damping technology; Front McPherson Strut & Multi-link Rear Independent suspension with Frequency Selective Damping & Stabilized Bar offering superlative ride and handling. Exquisite Luxury: 6-Way Powered Co-driver seat with 4-way Boss Mode, Front Seat and Rear

Ventilated Seats, BYOD, High Density Seat Foam with First-in-segment Plush Pads. Authentic SUV Legacy: Best-in-Segment 2L mStallion TGDi gasoline engine and 2.2L mHawk turbo-diesel engine options, first-in-segment All-Wheel Drive (AWD) in Diesel R Velusamy, President, Automotive Business, Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd., said, "XUV 7XO is our next step in delivering a truly premium, technology-forward SUV—smoother in ride, sharper in response, and smarter in experience. We are introducing DAVINCI suspension system—our new valve-based damping technology—for the first time worldwide, delivering a distinctly more plush and settled ride. ADRENOX+, powered by the Qualcomm Snapdragon SA8155P, marks the first introduction of this chipset in an ICE vehicle in India, enabling exceptional computing speed and responsiveness."

Trump mulls 'very strong' military options as hundreds killed in Iran protests

President Donald Trump says the US military is considering "very strong options" in Iran, as anti-government protests which have reportedly killed hundreds enter a third week. The US-based Human Rights Activist News Agency (HRANA) says it has verified the deaths of nearly 500 protesters and 48 security personnel in Iran, while sources tell the BBC the death toll could be much higher. Trump has threatened to intervene, and said on Sunday that Iranian officials had called him "to negotiate" - but added "we may have to act before a meeting". Iranian leaders have described the demonstrators as a "bunch of vandals", and called on their supporters to take part in pro-government marches on Monday. The government has also announced three days of mourning for what it called "martyrs" killed in a "national battle against the



US and Israel" - two countries that Tehran says are fomenting unrest. Anger over the plummeting value of the Iranian currency sparked protests in late December, which have grown into a crisis of legitimacy for Iran's Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. Trump has not yet elaborated on what the US is considering in terms of military options, nor on the proposed negotiations, despite saying that a "meet-

ing is being set up" with Iranian officials. He added that Iranian leaders "want to negotiate", because "they are tired of being beat up by the United States". A US official told the BBC's US news partner CBS that Trump has been briefed on options for military strikes on Iran. Other approaches could include boosting anti-government sources online, using cyber-weapons against Iran's military, or imposing more sanctions, one source saying on Sunday

that the streets of Tehran were "full of blood". "They're taking away bodies in trucks," the source added. In one video from the site near Tehran, about 180 shrouded or wrapped figures can be seen, the majority lying out in the open. Shouts and cries of distress can be heard from people who appear to be looking for their loved ones. Footage has been blurred to protect the identities of the living, who could face further persecution from the authorities. Sources said large numbers of bodies had accumulated at hospitals and forensic facilities, while some bodies were reportedly buried urgently before dawn by the authorities, limiting the chance for identification. City workers have also removed debris, burned cars and bloodstains from the streets during the night, a source told the BBC. Multiple sources in Iran also said that they had seen

THOUSANDS OF TOURISTS STRANDED IN LAPLAND AS COLD GROUNDS FLIGHTS



HUNGARY GRANTS ASYLUM TO POLISH EX-JUSTICE MINISTER

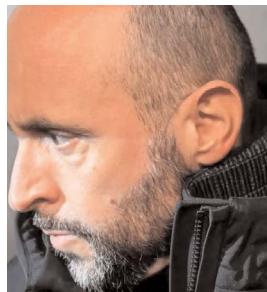


Hungary has granted political asylum to Poland's former Justice Minister Zbigniew Ziobro who is facing charges of embezzlement. Ziobro is facing 26 charges related to embezzling money from a fund meant to be spent on crime victims and rehabilitating criminals. Instead, he is accused of authorising the purchase of spyware that was allegedly used to hack political opponents' phones. He says he is a victim of political persecution. Granting asylum to a citizen of a fellow EU member state goes against the spirit of EU standards. But in the case of Hungary it is neither new nor surprising. Ziobro is the second politician of the former Justice and Law-led government to be granted this status - last year it was his former deputy Michal Romanowski who fled to Budapest to seek protection. Both are accused of corruption and misusing their power - most notably by using the money of the state-controlled Foundation for Justice

which was under their oversight in order to fund their party and its cronies. Ziobro was justice minister between 2015 and 2023 under the previous right-wing PiS-led government, which is politically aligned to Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban. If found guilty he could face up to 25 years in prison. Writing on X, Ziobro said: "I have decided to accept the asylum granted to me by the government of Hungary due to the political persecution in Poland." "I have chosen to fight against political banditry and lawlessness. I stand in opposition to a creeping dictatorship," Ziobro added, accusing Prime Minister Donald Tusk of waging a "vendetta" against him. Ziobro is accused of authorising a 25m złoty (\$7m; £5.15m) purchase from of Israeli-made Pegasus spyware, which Poland's current coalition government and a European Parliament investigative team found was used to secretly hack the phones of political opponents.

CUSTODY EXTENDED FOR OWNER OF SWISS SKI BAR AFTER DEADLY FIRE

A judge in Switzerland has ordered that one of the two co-owners of the ski resort bar where 40 people died in a fire on New Year's Eve be kept in detention for 90 days. Swiss prosecutors have argued that Jacques Moretti, a French national, is a potential flight risk. He and his wife Jessica, who is also French, are suspected of manslaughter by negligence, bodily harm by negligence and arson by negligence. The blaze at Le Constellation bar in Crans-Montana also left 116 people injured. Many of the victims were aged under 20. The fire is believed to have been started by sparklers in champagne bottles raised too close to the ceiling during celebrations.



Authorities acknowledged last week that the bar in the popular ski resort had not undergone safety checks for five years. Jacques Moretti was first detained on Friday for an initial period of 48 hours. On Monday, a judge at what is known as a court of coercive measures ruled that he should be kept in custody for three months - a period that can be renewed under Swiss law.

Referee and student among hundreds killed in Iran protests



A referee and a student are among hundreds of people reportedly killed during massive anti-government protests in Iran. Coach Amir Mohammad Koohkan, 26, was hit by live ammunition on 3 January during protests in the town of Neyriz, his friend told BBC Persian. "Everyone knew him for his kindness", they said, adding his family is grieving and "angry because he was killed by the regime". Five days later, student Rubina Aminian, 23, was shot from behind during a protest in Tehran, according to human rights groups. "She fought for things she knew were right", her uncle told CNN. Nearly 500 protesters and 48 security personnel have been killed in two weeks of

protests, a US-based rights group says. Sources in Iran have told the BBC the death toll is likely higher than reported. Demonstrations began on 28 December over the economy in the capital Tehran and have spread to 186 cities and all 31 provinces, according to the Human Rights Activist News Agency (HRANA). The

described hospitals overwhelmed with dead and injured patients. BBC Persian verified that 70 bodies were brought to Poursina Hospital in Rashed city on 9 January, and the BBC counted 180 body bags in footage from one morgue near Tehran thought to have been filmed on the same night. The BBC and most other international news organisations are unable to report from inside Iran, and the Iranian government has imposed an internet shutdown since Thursday, making obtaining and verifying information difficult. Among the protest victims was Koohkan, who was killed in Neyriz in southwest Fars Province, his friend told BBC Persian.

Fed chair Powell hits out at 'unprecedented' probe by US justice department



Federal prosecutors have opened a criminal investigation into Federal Reserve chair Jerome Powell, he said on Sunday. In a highly unusual move, Powell disclosed that the US Department of Justice (DoJ) served the agency with subpoenas and threatened a criminal indictment over testimony he gave to a Senate committee about renovations to Federal Reserve buildings. Calling the probe "unprecedented", Powell said he believed it was opened due to Donald Trump's anger over the Fed's refusal to cut interest rates despite repeated public pressure from the president. Trump said he did not "know anything" about

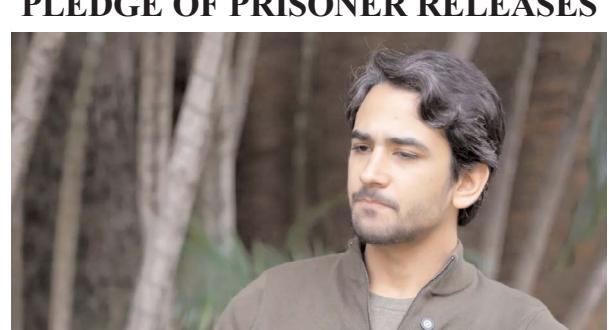
the investigation. The DoJ has been contacted for comment. Until now, the long-running feud between Trump and Powell has been largely one-sided with the US president calling the banker "Mr. Too Late" and a "numbskull". Powell's statement on Sunday is the first time he

has publicly and robustly pushed back against Trump as he warned that the independence of the US central bank is at stake. "This is about whether the Fed will be able to continue to set interest rates based on evidence and economic conditions, or whether instead monetary policy will be directed by political pressure or intimidation."

Powell said: "I have deep respect for the rule of law and for accountability in our democracy. No one, certainly not the chair of the Federal Reserve is above the law, but this unprecedented action should be seen in the broader context of the administration's threats and

ongoing pressure," he went on to say. Trump said in an interview with NBC News on Sunday that he did not have any knowledge of the DoJ's investigation into the Fed. "I don't know anything about it, but he's certainly not very good at the Fed, and he's not very good at building buildings," he said of Powell. The Fed is undertaking the first renovation of two buildings, the Eccles and 1951 Constitution Avenue buildings, since their construction in the 1930s. The "overhaul and modernisation" of the buildings includes health and safety work such as the removal of asbestos and lead contamination.

JAILED VENEZUELAN POLITICIAN'S SON SAYS TRUMP SHOULDN'T BE 'FOOLED' BY PLEDGE OF PRISONER RELEASES



The son of a jailed Venezuelan opposition leader has warned Donald Trump to "not be fooled" by the country's government, amid accusations it has not kept its promise to release a significant number of political prisoners. Ramón Guanipa, the son of Juan Pablo Guanipa, said he believed the US president was unaware that only about 40 releases out of more than 800 political prisoners had reportedly been confirmed so far. On Saturday, Trump thanked the Venezuelan authorities, saying they had "started the process, in a BIG WAY". The Venezuelan government announced on Thursday it would release detainees considered political prisoners by human rights groups as a "goodwill gesture". The move came after the US seized Venezuela's President Nicolás Maduro in a raid on the capital, Caracas, on 3 January, and took him to New York, where he has been charged with drug trafficking. Jorge Rodríguez, Venezuela's

Chalamet beats DiCaprio to Golden Globes glory



Timothée Chalamet was among the main winners as Hollywood's finest gathered for this year's Golden Globe Awards. Chalamet, 30, continued his pursuit of greatness, and an Oscar, by beating stars including Leonardo DiCaprio and George Clooney to the award for best actor in a musical or comedy for *the* *BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA*. Despite DiCaprio missing out, his film *One* *Battle* *After* *Another* won the most awards overall, with four prizes including best musical or comedy film and best director. Irish actress Jessie Buckley was named best drama actress for *Hamnet*, which also scored a surprise win in the best drama film category. Vampire thriller *Sinners* had been considered the frontrunner, but it instead

went home with the box office achievement prize as well as best score. The Golden Globes are a key stop on the road to the Academy Awards, and other acting winners on Sunday included Teyana Taylor, Rose Byrne, Wagner Moura and Stellan Skarsgård. Unlike the Oscars, the Globes also reward TV shows, and the night saw British actors Stephen Graham, Owen Coop and Erin Doherty pick up more honours for their performances in Netflix drama *Adolescence*. With all eyes on the Oscars race, Timothée Chalamet's victory has given him a boost over his rivals. "I'm in a category with many greats," he said when accepting his trophy. It was Chalamet's fifth Globes nomination, but his first win. "My dad

instilled in me a spirit of gratitude growing up, always be grateful for what you have," he said. "It's allowed me to leave this ceremony in the past empty handed, my head held high, grateful just to be here. But I'd be lying if I didn't say those moments make this moment that much sweeter. "For my parents, for my partner, I love you so much," he added, looking at girlfriend Kylie Jenner. Jessie Buckley was named best actress for her role in the adaptation of Maggie O'Farrell's best-selling novel *Hamnet*, about the death of William Shakespeare's son. "This is not a normal feeling or situation to be in," she said in her acceptance speech. "It was such an extraordinary set to be part of, because we were telling the story of probably the most famous Brit that ever lived, and we had a

Chinese director, a lot of Irish, a mostly Polish crew, beside our British family." She concluded: "This is a real honour, I love being part of this industry." Shortly afterwards, *Hamnet* director Chloe Zhao looked visibly shocked when the movie was announced as the winner of best drama film. Accepting the prize, producer Steven Spielberg said he had "loved the book" by O'Farrell, but felt Zhao was "the only filmmaker on the face of the planet who could tell the story". Zhao said: "The village of Hamnet that made this film together. Some of them lost their loved ones while we were making this film, and some of them are still struggling, and I just wanted to say we're thinking of you, we're here because of you, we love you." Elsewhere, singer and actress Teyana Taylor, whose career started when she choreographed a Beyoncé music video at the age of 15, cemented her Hollywood breakthrough by winning best supporting film actress for *One* *Battle* *After* *Another*. After tearfully thanking a list of people, she used her acceptance speech to send a message to "my brown sisters and little brown girls watching tonight". "Our light does not need permission to shine," she told them. "We belong in every room we walk into. Our voices matter and our dreams deserve space." Swedish actor Stellan Skarsgård, 74, won best supporting actor for *Sentimental Value*, and joked that he hadn't prepared a speech "because I thought that I was too old".



"No Problem If Pakistan, UAE Host Bangladesh's T20 World Cup Matches": Top Government Official On Venue Row

Less than a month remains for the 2026 T20 World Cup to start, yet there is uncertainty over Bangladesh's four group-stage matches in India (three in Kolkata and one in Mumbai). Bangladesh does not want to play in India, citing a 'security threat' in the country. The tussle began after the release of Bangladesh pacer Mustafizur Rahman from IPL franchise Kolkata Knight Riders on the instructions of the BCCI for unspecified reasons. The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) has asked the International Cricket Council (ICC) to shift its matches to Sri Lanka (the hosts of the tournament). In the meantime, a report in Geo Super claimed that the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has now shown interest in hosting the Bangladesh games. Bangladesh government's



Sports Advisor Asif Nazrul, known for his hardline stance against India, has reacted to the report. He was responding to a question on whether the BCB would accept a proposal where Bangladesh matches are shifted from Kolkata and Mumbai to another Indian city. "We are talking about

India, we are not talking about Kolkata. If the venue is changed from India to Sri Lanka, there is no issue. I saw a report, which I don't know is true or not, that claimed Pakistan has offered to host our matches. No problem if Pakistan or UAE host our matches," Nazrul said on Wednesday. Nazrul also

claimed that the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) has received a letter from the ICC's security team. Following is what Nazrul said in a press conference on Monday: "We are yet to receive any reply to the two letters sent to ICC. Also, in the meantime, the ICC security team, those in charge of

security, have given a letter to the BCB. In that letter, it is said that if three things happen, the security threat to the Bangladesh team will increase: If Mustafiz is included in the Bangladesh team. If the supporters of the Bangladesh team roam around wearing the national jersey of Bangladesh, which is our national jersey. As the national elections are forthcoming, the security threat to the Bangladesh team will increase. "This statement by the ICC security team has proven that Bangladesh is in no position to play the T20 World Cup in India."

The ICC is yet to confirm or deny the existence of the letter from its security team. According to sources, this letter was part of an inter-departmental note, and not ICC's official response to BCB over its request to relocate its T20 World Cup matches from India.

Former Indian cricket team star Shikhar Dhawan confirmed his engagement to long-time girlfriend Sophie Shine on Wednesday. "From shared smiles to shared dreams. Grateful for the love, the blessings, and every good wish for our engagement as we choose togetherness forever - Shikhar & Sophie," Dhawan wrote in the caption of an Instagram post, which featured a photo of the two wearing their engagement rings. According to reports, Dhawan is set to marry Sophie Shine in February. The ceremony is likely to take place in the third week of February in Delhi-NCR, with big names from both the cricketing world and Bollywood expected to attend. Preparations for the lavish ceremony are already underway, though no further details have emerged. Reports suggest that Sophie worked as a production consultant and holds a degree in Marketing and

Shikhar Dhawan Gets Engaged To Sophie Shine



Management from the Limerick Institute of Technology. While cricketing celebrities are often linked with personalities from the world of social media and entertainment, Sophie's case is quite different. The Ireland-born professional has an academic background at Castleroy College, with credentials that can impress anyone. She currently serves as Second Vice President at Northern Trust Corporation, based in Abu Dhabi. Sophie completed

all her education in Ireland. She now heads the Shikhar Dhawan Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Da One Sports. Sophie has close to 341,000 followers on Instagram and has been posting pictures and videos with Shikhar for a while now. She was spotted with Dhawan on multiple occasions, watching cricket matches with the former India opening batter, but the news about their relationship status was only confirmed after the southpaw himself made it public.

Afghanistan's Mohammad Nabi Blasts Reporter Over Mustafizur Rahman-KKR IPL Controversy

Former Afghanistan captain Mohammad Nabi lashed out at a reporter over a question surrounding the Indian Premier League (IPL) controversy involving Bangladesh pacer Mustafizur Rahman and the Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR). KKR released Mustafizur from their squad for IPL 2026 following directives from the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). While a lot has been said and written about KKR and Mustafizur, a Bangladeshi reporter, during a press conference, asked Nabi about the controversy. Nabi, who is currently playing for Noakhali Express in the Bangladesh Premier League (BPL), lost his cool at the journalist, saying that he has nothing to do with the controversy.



"Iska merese kya lena dena bhai. Mera Mustafizur se kya kaam hai? Politics me kya kaam hai mera? (What do I have to do with it? How am I related to Mustafizur? I don't have anything to do with politics)," Nabi responded. The veteran all-rounder insisted that he shouldn't have been asked about the controversy

in the first place. "I know he is a good bowler, all these things. But the way you are questioning, it's not related to me," he added. The 30-year-old drew significant attention after KKR acquired him for a record Rs 9.20 crore at the December mini-auction, making him the highest-paid Bangladeshi cricketer in IPL history. He was purchased from a starting bid of Rs 2 crore amid a fierce bidding war between the Chennai Super Kings and the Delhi Capitals. The decision to release Mustafizur was made following reports of violence against members of the Hindu community in Bangladesh in December. Additionally, critics had voiced their disapproval of Rahman's involvement in the IPL. The 30-year-old player has claimed 65 wickets over 60 matches, maintaining an economy rate of 8.13 since his IPL debut with Sunrisers Hyderabad in 2016. He has represented several franchises: Mumbai Indians in 2018, Rajasthan Royals in 2021, Delhi Capitals during 2022-23, and Chennai Super Kings in 2024.

Shubman Gill Told To Follow Virat Kohli's 'Single-Mindedness' By Ravi Shastri: "It Is A Routine"

Indian cricket's next generation is being reminded that talent alone isn't enough to reach the top; discipline and obsession matter just as much. Ahead of India's ongoing ODI series against New Zealand, former India head coach Ravi Shastri highlighted the unparalleled work ethic of Virat Kohli, saying that young captain Shubman Gill should chase that same drive to take his own game to the next level. Shastri said Kohli's excellence stems not just from talent, but from a daily routine of hard work, discipline, and an unyielding focus on the "little things" that often go unseen—the kind of habits that build champions over time. Shastri made these remarks during commentary on the first ODI between India and New Zealand in Vadodara, where Gill and Kohli batted together early in the innings. He didn't dwell on technique or batting mechanics; instead, he talked about Kohli's obsession with cricket, pointing out how the veteran goes



above and beyond in training, fielding drills, and fitness work, day after day. That kind of "single-minded hunger," Shastri said, sets a standard that rising stars like Gill can learn from as leadership responsibilities grow. "The single-mindedness, the hunger. The willingness to push that body to the limits. And I have seen that in my time when I was with the team, his work ethics probably second to none. I have seen just the way he goes about his job."

CARRICK FAVOURITE FOR MAN UTD CARETAKER ROLE



Michael Carrick has emerged as favourite to be appointed Manchester United caretaker head coach, according to sources close to the process. Club chiefs are hoping to have an appointment in place for when players return to training on Wednesday. While a final decision is yet to be reached, talks are said to have progressed with the 44-year-old over the position. Carrick previously had a three-game stint as United's temporary boss following Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's dismissal in 2021. He won two and drew one of those matches but left after Ralf Rangnick's arrival as interim manager. Solskjaer held face-to-face discussions with the club on Saturday about a return. United sacked Ruben Amorim as manager after 14 months in the job on 5 January. Darren Fletcher, a former United and Scotland midfielder, was initially handed temporary responsibility for first-team affairs following Amorim's departure. United suffered an FA Cup



third-round defeat at the hands of Brighton on Sunday in what looks set to be Fletcher's second and final game in charge. He led the side to a draw at struggling Burnley in the Premier League last Wednesday. Former England midfielder Carrick played 464 games in all competitions for United between 2006 and 2018, having been signed from Tottenham by Sir Alex Ferguson. He has been out of work since he was sacked by Championship club Middlesbrough last June after two and a half years in charge.

Carrick guided Boro to the Championship play-offs in the 2022-23 campaign, only for them to lose to Coventry in the semi-finals. His side then narrowly missed out on the top six in successive campaigns, resulting in Carrick losing his job. Wallsend-born Carrick does not boast the same managerial experience as Solskjaer, given he has had only one permanent role with Middlesbrough.

'PGA TOUR FACES HUGE DILEMMA OVER KOEPKA RETURN'



How should the PGA Tour react to Brooks Koepka's application to rejoin its lucrative and prestigious circuit of tournaments? Within days of leaving the breakaway LIV Golf League, the five-time major champion signalled his intention to switch back to the leading establishment tour by reapplying for membership on 9 January. Koepka, 35, left LIV one year early, wanting to spend more time with his family. But the Floridian, who remains eligible for all four majors courtesy of his 2023 US PGA Championship victory, is clearly keen to rejoin the tour he dramatically left four years ago. And for the PGA Tour this provides a huge dilemma. 'Get Koepka back ASAP' Koepka is the past decade's most prolific winner of men's majors and an attractive draw for sponsors, television and fans alike. Such appeal brought a gargantuan signing on fee from the Saudi Arabia-backed LIV organisation

Washington Sundar Ruled Out Of New Zealand ODIs Due

To Injury. This Star Receives Maiden Call-Up



down a target of 301 in 49 overs against New Zealand in Vadodara on Sunday, with captain Shubman Gill and Virat Kohli playing pivotal roles in the run chase. Gill led from the front with a composed 56 off 71 balls, which included three fours and two sixes, anchoring the innings at the top. He found solid support in Kohli, who was the stand-

out performer of the chase, scoring a fluent 93 off 91 deliveries to steer India close to the target. Reflecting on the win, Gill emphasised the importance of contributing during a chase and staying mentally grounded. "Always feels great to chip, especially when you're chasing. Staying in the present is most important, esp for ath-

letes. That's what I try to do," Gill said after the match, as quoted from ESPNcricinfo. The India skipper was full of praise for Kohli, acknowledging the difficulty of batting on the surface. "At the moment, Kohli's making batting look easy, it's tough to start on these pitches. Tough to replicate what he does. Hope he keeps piling on runs," he added. Gill also spoke about the team's bowling combinations and the decision-making around squad rotation, given the limited number of ODIs. "Arshdeep did well last series, (Mohammed) Siraj wasn't there, we want to keep rotating as there aren't that many ODIs," he said, explaining the rationale behind giving opportunities to different players.

BCB Breaks Silence On Bangladeshi Umpire Officiating During 1st India vs New Zealand ODI



A Bangladeshi Cricket Board (BCB) official stated that umpire Sharfuddoula Ibne Shahid Saikat did not need a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the board to officiate in the first ODI between India and New Zealand in Vadodara on Sunday. Saikat's involvement in the match comes as the BCB has requested the International Cricket Council (ICC) to shift its T20 World Cup 2026 matches out of India, citing "security concerns." While the BCB remains steadfast in its stance regarding the T20 World Cup, Umpire Department Chairman Iftekhar Rahman clarified

that whenever he has an ICC assignment, he is automatically on leave from his duties with us. I don't need to issue any NOC. The contract states that if he has any ICC engagement, he must be automatically released. I have no authori-

Prime Video Unveils the Gripping Trailer of its Latest Telugu Crime Thriller Movie Cheekatilo

A Prime Original movie, Cheekatilo is an edge-of-the-seat crime thriller, directed by Sharan Kopishetty, produced by D. Suresh Babu under the banner of Suresh Production Pvt Ltd, and written by Chandra Pemmaraju and Sharan Kopishetty Prime Video, India's most-loved entertainment destination, today unveiled a riveting trailer of Cheekatilo, an emotionally charged Telugu crime suspense drama. Against the backdrop of a dynamic, fast-growing Hyderabad, the narrative follows Sandhya, a true crime podcaster portrayed by SOBHITA Dhulipala as she uses her podcast to uncover the two-decade-old secrets of a long-dormant serial killer. Directed by Sharan Kopishetty and produced by D Suresh Babu under the banner of Suresh Productions Pvt Ltd, the thrilling narrative is written by Chandra Pemmaraju and Sharan Kopishetty. The movie stars Sobhita Dhulipala and viswadev Rachakonda in lead roles, alongside Chaitanya visalakshmi, Esha Chawla, Jhansi, Aamani and Vadlamani Srinivas in pivotal roles. The Telugu movie will premiere exclusively on Prime Video across India and in over 240 countries and territories worldwide, on January 23. The trailer for Cheekatilo offers a gripping glimpse



into Hyderabad's underbelly, where Sandhya—a criminology graduate and true crime podcaster—is drawn into a dangerous game of cat and mouse. The shocking murder exposes a trail of past crimes, setting off a tense pursuit of truth and justice. Using her podcast as an investigative tool, Sandhya attempts to challenge and draw out a cold-blooded killer. As the tension escalates, the narrative builds toward a chilling revelation. But will the truth come to light, or will Sandhya become the killer's next victim? Packed with suspense and emotion, the trailer sets the stage for a nerve-racking hunt that begins January 23, only on Prime Video. Sharan Kopishetty, director and co-writer of Cheekatilo, shared, "Directing Cheekatilo has been a

deeply rewarding journey—one that pushed me to explore the darker, more human layers beneath a seemingly straightforward crime story. At its heart, this movie is more than a crime suspense—it is a reflection on resilience, the fight against silence and power, and the courage it takes to bring justice to the front. With the trailer now out, audiences can glimpse the tense, suspenseful world we have created. Partnering with Prime Video has been immensely rewarding, allowing us to bring this vision to a global audience, united by our commitment to bold, authentic, and relatable storytelling. The film's talented cast, with their exceptional performances, has been central in shaping this vision. I can't wait for viewers to experience it when it

premieres exclusively on Prime Video on January 23." Sobhita Dhulipala, who plays the lead character of Sandhya in Cheekatilo, shared, "Playing 'Sandhya' has been a superb experience - she's a front-footed young woman who is an independent thinker, deeply committed to standing by her belief system no matter the resistance. Her choices are shaped by a unique stubbornness that has a history of its own. Playing a character rooted in the by-lanes of Hyderabad and other Telugu localities and coming from a cultural background as my real self, the integration between the character and my own expression was seamless and utterly enjoyable. Grateful for this wonderful experience and our exceptional cast and crew - everyone brought their heart to the set every single day. Being part of a Prime Original project is special in many ways. From Made in Heaven to now Cheekatilo, it has been an intentional and inspiring journey—our shared growth, commitment towards entertaining storytelling as well as the keenness to push the envelope each time is a rare joy. Looking forward for the audiences to see a different side of me as Sandhya when the movie premieres exclusively on Prime Video on January 23"



"Nenu Ready Teaser Promises a Wholesome Summer Comedy Riot"

Presenting An Absolute Fun Riot Havish, Thrinadha Rao Nakkina, Nikhila Koneru, Harniks India LLP's Nenu Ready Fun-Filled Teaser Unveiled, Theatrical Release In Summer. Young hero Havish teamed up with director Thrinadha Rao Nakkina for an out-and-out entertainer Nenu Ready. Kavya Thapar is the leading lady opposite Havish in the film being produced by Nikhila Koneru under the Harniks India LLP banner. After making initial buzz with its posters and title glimpse, the makers today unveiled the teaser, which

Archana Puran Singh diagnosed with 'rare' health condition, breaks down

Mumbai: In her latest London vlog, Archana Puran Singh, known for her infectious laughter on The Kapil Sharma Show, shared a deeply personal moment with her fans. Her son, Ayushmaan Sethi, paid tribute to her resilience amid her health struggles. Ayushmaan expressed his pride in his family, including his parents, brother, and even their dogs. However, it was Archana who topped the list, bringing her to tears. Ayushmaan's Praise for Archana Ayushmaan praised his mother for her strength and determination in the face of a tough year.

He spoke about how Archana broke her hand and developed a rare condition, Complex Regional Pain Syndrome (CRPS), which left her hand permanently damaged. Despite the pain, Archana shot for several movies and a web series, working tirelessly for 30 consecutive days without complaints. Ayushmaan also admired her for starting a YouTube channel at the age of 60, which he described as incredible. Archana's Emotional Response Visibly moved by her son's words, Archana choked up as she responded, "I am so proud of

you. You didn't even mention yourself." She shared that while her children sometimes made her cry out of frustration, these were happy tears, filled with pride and gratitude. Archana's Health Struggles In 2025, Archana suffered a severe injury on the set of a film, which later developed into CRPS. The pain and slow recovery were documented in her vlogs, where she shared her struggles and determination to stay positive despite the challenges. The Family's Day in London After the emotional moment, the family ventured out to Borough Market in London to sample local delicacies.



Priyanka Chopra Jonas makes stylish red carpet appearance at Golden Globes 2026

Los Angeles: Actor Priyanka Chopra Jonas and her husband, singer-actor Nick Jonas, turned heads as they arrived on the red carpet of the Golden Globe Awards 2026. Jonas wore a double-breasted tuxedo with subtle pinstripes, opting for a polished and understated silhouette that stood out for its sharp tailoring. At the ceremony, Chopra Jonas presented the award for Best Performance by a Male Actor in a Television Series – Drama alongside global pop star Lalisa Manobal, popularly known as Lisa of South Korean girl band BLACKPINK. The duo announced actor Noah Wyle as the winner for his performance in medical drama series "The Pitt". The Golden Globe Awards 2026 are being held at the Beverly Hilton in Los Angeles, honouring outstanding achievements in film and television and have drawn leading names from the global



entertainment industry. On the work front, Chopra Jonas has an impressive slate of projects ahead. Chopra Jonas was most recently seen in the Hollywood action comedy "Heads of States", co-starring Idris Elba and John Cena. She will next feature in the pirate action film "The Bluff", in which she stars opposite "The Boys" actor Karl Urban. The movie will be released on Prime Video in February. The actor will also be seen in "Judgement Day", starring alongside Will Ferrell, Zac Efron, Regina Hall, Jimmy Tatro, Billy Eichner and Michael Peña, among others. Besides, Chopra Jonas is set to make her much-anticipated return to Indian cinema with "Varanasi", the next feature project from ace filmmaker S S Rajamouli. She is part of an ensemble cast which also includes Telugu superstar Mahesh Babu and acclaimed actor Pritviraj Sukumaran.

Mumbai: If industry buzz is to be believed, actress Isha Malviya might be on the verge of stepping into the biggest phase of her career yet. The young actress, who rose to fame with her show Udaariyaan, according to reports is all set to venture into films. IANS has exclusively learnt that the production house and the film's details are being kept tightly under wraps, adding to the growing curiosity around the project. Insiders reveal to IANS, that this is not just any film, but a high-scale project that could mark Isha's transition into Bollywood in a big way. A source close to the development shares with IANS, "Isha Malviya is expected to begin shooting for a big project soon. Preparations are already underway, and if things fall into place, this could mark her major Bollywood debut." The secrecy around the project

is also being maintained deliberately, as the makers reportedly want to unveil everything at the right time.

Mana Pandaga, Mana Entertainment, Mana Telugu ZEE5, Unveils Sankranthi Campaign with Rocking Star Manchu Manoj



Telugu ZEE5 has unveiled a Sankranthi brand film featuring Rocking star Manchu Manoj, celebrating the spirit of the festival while reinforcing the platform's promise of delivering entertainment that truly belongs to Telugu audiences. With the communication line 'Mana Pandaga, Mana Entertainment, Mana Telugu ZEE5', the campaign reflects the platform's deep cultural connection with the region and its viewers. Set in a traditional village mandava house during Sankranthi, the brand film captures the warmth, humour, and emotional bonding of a festive family gathering. The narrative follows Manoj's journey from a bus ride back to his village to a lively homecoming filled with playful moments, and humorous banter between family members.

and Nayanthara's starer 'Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu', and Ravi Teja's featuring Bhartha Mahasaylaku Wignyapti, and Gurram Papireddy ensuring a steady flow of high-impact entertainment for its viewers. Speaking about the campaign, Anuradha Guru, Business Head - Telugu ZEE5, said, "At Telugu ZEE5, our focus is on bringing a diverse mix of entertainment that truly reflects the tastes of Telugu audiences, from rooted family dramas and festive entertainers to gripping thrillers and big-ticket star films. With our previous and upcoming films featuring stars like Chiranjeevi, Nayanthara, and Ravi Teja, we are building a strong, consistent content pipeline. This Sankranthi campaign reflects what we stand for: culturally rooted stories, mass entertainment, and content that families can enjoy together on Mana Telugu ZEE5." Actor Manchu Manoj, the face of the Sankranthi campaign, shared, "Sankranthi is all about family, laughter, and togetherness. This film brought back memories of the fun, light-hearted roles I've enjoyed earlier, and it felt refreshing to revisit that space. I loved how naturally the story captures the festive mood, and being part of a Zee5 Telugu campaign that celebrates family emotions made it even more special." With its culturally rooted storytelling, strong content lineup, and festive brand communication, Telugu ZEE5 continues to strengthen its position as a platform

that celebrates Telugu entertainment in all its forms, making this Sankranthi truly special for its audiences. About ZEE5: ZEE5 is Bharat's largest homegrown video streaming platform and the multilingual storyteller for millions of entertainment seekers. ZEE5 stems from the stable of ZEE Entertainment Enterprises Limited (ZEE), a Global Content Powerhouse. An undisputed choice of video on demand platform for consumers, it offers an expansive and diverse library comprising 4,071+ films, 1,800+ TV shows, 422+ web originals, 4,492+ music videos, and over 1.35 lakh hours of on-demand content. The content is now offered to our varied audience through 7 personalized and hyper-local subscription packs spread across 12 languages - Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Bengali, Malayalam, Kannada, Marathi, English, Oriya, Bhojpuri, Gujarati, and Punjabi. This encompasses our large repertoire of Originals, Indian and International Movies, TV Shows, Kids shows, News and Live TV. A strong deep-tech stack, stemming from partnerships with global tech disruptors, enables ZEE5 to deliver a seamless experience across multiple devices, ecosystems, and operating systems.

Isha Malviya set to venture into Bollywood with a major film project

