



## No personal agenda, will meet anyone for State's development: CM Revanth Reddy

January 16 TSIT : Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy on Friday asserted that he had no personal agenda and would meet anyone, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah, solely in the interest of Telangana's development and for securing funds and projects for the State. Addressing a public meeting at Nirmal after laying foundation stones and inaugurating several development works in the erstwhile Adilabad district, the Chief Minister said politics should be confined to elections and that collective focus should thereafter shift to development. He recalled that the people of Nirmal had placed their trust in him, enabling him to become Chief Minister. Describing Adilabad as a land of valour and struggle, he referred to



the legacy of Kumuram Bheem and the historic fight for 'jal, jangal and zameen', and said the district had not received the level of development it deserved. Mr. Reddy assured that funds on par with those allocated to the Palamuru region would be sanctioned for Adilabad district as well. He announced that a university would be established at the Basara IIIT

and sought the cooperation of all public representatives for the project. The district would also be developed as an industrial hub, he said. The Chief Minister proposed the establishment of an airport in Adilabad district and said about 10,000 acres of land would be required for the project. He suggested that Prime Minister Modi be invited for the inauguration



once the airport becomes operational. Stressing the need to ensure irrigation water for the region, he said the Tummidihatti project must be taken up and completed. Mr. Reddy said he had been meeting the Prime Minister once every three months to seek central assistance for State projects. Responding to criticism over his frequent meetings with

Mr. Modi, he said it was the Centre that had to provide funds and projects, and that unless the State's requirements were conveyed, the Union government would not be aware of them. He alleged that the previous government had failed for a decade to effectively pursue Telangana's demands with the Centre, resulting in significant losses to the State. He

urged BJP leaders in Telangana also to approach the Prime Minister and help secure projects and financial assistance for the State. Announcing further initiatives, the Chief Minister said an Advanced Technology Centre would be sanctioned for Nirmal district, 22 crore would be allocated for the development of the Nagoba Jatara, and 300 crore had already been spent on the reconstruction and development of the Sammakka-Saralamma Jatara.

Mr. Reddy said Hyderabad had emerged as a global destination for investments and accused his critics of spreading false propaganda by alleging that the government was indulging in real estate business when it was, in fact, striving to attract investments.

## RBI issues revised Integrated Ombudsman Scheme 2026



**Mumbai:** The central bank on Friday, January 16, issued the revised Reserve Bank – Integrated Ombudsman Scheme, 2026, aimed at further improving the efficiency of the resolution of complaints filed by aggrieved customers of banks and other regulated entities. It will come into force on July

1, 2026. "As the intent of the Scheme is to provide a cost-effective and expeditious grievance redress, the proceedings under the Scheme shall be summary in nature and shall not be bound by any rules of evidence," according to the circular on the revised Scheme. The Reserve Bank will appoint one or

more of its officers as RBI Ombudsman and RBI Deputy Ombudsman, to carry out the functions entrusted to them under the Scheme. The central bank on Friday, January 16, issued the revised Reserve Bank – Integrated Ombudsman Scheme, 2026. The appointments will be

made generally for a period of three years at a time. The Reserve Bank said it will establish a Centralised Receipt and Processing Centre at one or more locations, as may be decided, to receive complaints filed under the Scheme and process them. Complaints can also be filed online.

Israel kills 11 Palestinians despite ceasefire agreement entering Phase 2



Israel continued to attack Gaza, killing at least 11 Palestinians and wounding several others on Thursday and Friday, January 15 and 16, even as the ceasefire agreement with Hamas entered the second phase. The United States on Thursday announced Phase 2 of the ceasefire agreement between Israel and Hamas. This phase will focus on demilitarisation, technocratic governance and the reconstruction of Gaza. On Thursday, Israeli air strikes targeted areas like the central city of Deir el-Balah, killing 10. On Friday, as it continued its drone strikes, Israel killed a 62-year-old Palestinian woman in al-Mawasi in southern Gaza. Data by the Gaza Health Ministry showed that Friday's attack took the tally of Palestinians killed since the initiation of the US-brokered ceasefire in October 2025 to 452, Al Jazeera reported. Phase 2 of ceasefire Representatives of Hamas and other Palestinian factions were in Cairo, Egypt, for a discussion on the ceasefire agreement. Most of the objectives set during the first phase of the ceasefire brokered by the United States were not met. The first phase of the ceasefire was supposed to immediately halt the fighting and facilitate the exchange of Israeli and Palestinian hostages. Apart from this, a timeline for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from parts of Gaza was also supposed to be drawn.



57<sup>th</sup> Edition of

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# MASAURHI REVENUE EMPLOYEE DISMISSED OVER CORRUPTION CHARGES

**Masauryhi** : A revenue employee posted at the Masauryhi Circle Office has been dismissed from service after being found guilty of serious corruption charges. The action was taken by Patna District Magistrate Tyagarajan S M under the Bihar Government Servants (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 2005. The dismissed employee, Raja Kumar, was accused of demanding illegal gratification in exchange for clearing mutation-related applications. He was arrested on December 23, 2025, by a vigilance department raiding team from the Masauryhi Block Office premises while allegedly demanding Rs 1 lakh for processing applications.

A departmental inquiry revealed that Raja Kumar



had deliberately kept applications pending and

failed to provide any satisfactory explanation during the disciplinary proceedings. The inquiry report submitted by the Additional Collector-cum-Conducting Officer, Patna, found all charges to be fully proven. Taking into account the inquiry findings and public interest, the competent authority concluded that retaining the employee in government service would be

against public interest and accordingly issued the dismissal order. Reacting to the action, Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Vijay Sinha said that the decision sends a strong message to officials and employees involved in corruption. He asserted that any officer or staff member found harassing the public or indulging in corrupt practices will not be spared under any circumstances.

## BBG Ram Ji Act Aligns With Mahatma Gandhi's Vision of a Developed India: Lajvanti Jha

AGENCY

**Bihta**: A one-day workshop for party workers on the effective implementation of the BBG Ram Ji Act-2025 was organised on Thursday at Hotel Atul Inn in Bihta under the chairmanship of Patna Rural district president Rajnish Kumar. The workshop was held with the objective of formulating strategies to take the provisions of the Act down to the booth and panchayat levels. State General Secretary of the Bharatiya Janata Party, Lajvanti Jha, attended as the chief guest, while former Bikram Assembly candidate Atul Kumar was present as the special guest. Addressing the workshop, Lajvanti Jha said that it is essential to ensure that the BBG Ram Ji Bill-2025 reaches every booth and panchayat so that the general public becomes fully aware of its benefits. She stated that the Act removes



the earlier shortcomings of the MGNREGA scheme and makes it completely transparent. Under the new provisions, the number of guaranteed workdays has been increased from 100 to 125, which will provide more employment opportunities to labourers and farmers. She further noted that earlier, even people residing in cities such as Mumbai and Delhi were fraudulently registered as MGNREGA workers, but under the new system only genuinely eligible beneficiaries will receive work and wages, thereby curbing cor-

ruption. She said the Act is fully aligned with the spirit and vision of Mahatma Gandhi for self-reliance and dignity of labour. District president Rajnish Kumar said that leaders of the Mahagathbandhan are unsettled by the renaming of MGNREGA as BBG Ram Ji, as it will put an end to the role of middlemen. He alleged that although the Act is entirely beneficial for farmers and labourers, Congress and alliance leaders are attempting to mislead people due to their vested interests. Former Bikram Assembly candidate Atul Kumar said that the law would play a significant role in achieving the goal of a developed India by 2047 and urged party workers to take its message to every household. Former district president Ashutosh Kumar said the scheme would help curb migration and promote economic empowerment. Regional co-charge Ravindra Ranjan emphasised the need to spread awareness about the new law to the remotest villages, describing it as a boon for the poor and the beginning of a new social and economic transformation.

## HIGH-LEVEL BRIEF TRAINING SESSION HELD ON DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

**Patna**: A high-level brief training session on disciplinary proceedings was organised on Thursday at the auditorium of the Old Secretariat in Patna. The session was chaired jointly by Chief Secretary Pratay Amit and Director General-cum-Chief Vigilance Commissioner Deepak Kumar Singh. The meeting was attended by Development Commissioner Mihir Kumar Singh, Chairperson-cum-Member of the Revenue Board Harjot Kaur Bamra, Additional Chief Secretary of the General Administration Department B. Rajendra, Additional Chief Secretary of the Home Department Arvind Kumar Chaudhary, along with several other



senior state government officials. Disciplinary action procedures formed the central theme of the session. Addressing the gathering, Deepak Kumar Singh stated that the General Administration Department has compiled all circulars issued from time to time and released a comprehensive master circular on disciplinary proceedings. He further informed that a reference

book has also been prepared, incorporating Article 311 of the Constitution along with other relevant legal provisions and important judgments of the High Courts and the Supreme Court, with the objective of ensuring a clear and comprehensive understanding of procedures to be followed in disciplinary cases. The meeting emphasised that the use of correct terminol-

## ROAD SAFETY AWARENESS RALLY ORGANISED



**Samastipur**: Under the road safety programme, an awareness rally was organised under the leadership of headmaster Mukesh Kumar and Mahipal of the Middle School and Higher Secondary School, Bela Panchrakhi. The rally passed through the main road of Rupnarayanpur Bela with high-spirited slogans accompanied by a school band, drawing the attention of commuters and local residents. As the rally moved along the

**DCB Bank Limited**  
Jyoti Majestic, Banjara Hills,  
Hyderabad, Telangana 500 034

**DCB BANK**

### POSSESSION NOTICE

The undersigned being the authorized officer of the DCB Bank Ltd., under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice on below mentioned dates calling upon the borrower(s) (Borrower and Co-Borrower) to repay the amount mentioned in the notice as detailed below in tabular form with further interest thereon from within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower and Co-Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower, Co-Borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub-section (4) of section 13 of Act read with rule 8 also r/w section 14(1) of the Security Interest Rules 2002 on 12th January, 2026.

The borrower, Co-Borrower and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property (Description of the immovable property) and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the DCB Bank Ltd., for respective amount as mentioned here below.

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.

1. Demand Notice Dated: 01-11-2025  
Name of Borrower(S) and (Co-borrower(S)) MR. BHAKTULA RAMESH KUMAR, MRS. BAKTULA LAKSHMI KANTHAMMA, M/S. SREE VAISHNAV TRADERS IT'S AUTHORISED SIGNATORY AND MRS. BHAKTULA JYOTHI

Loan Account Number DRBLVIA00436608  
Total Outstanding Amount. Rs.37,03,614.20/-Rupees Thirty Seven Lakh Three Thousand Six Hundred Fourteen and Twenty Paise Only) as on 1st November 2025

Description of The Immovable Property All The Piece And Parcel Of Property Admeasuring An Extent Of 116.0 Sq. Yards With Ground, First Floors R.C.C Building In Municipal Ward No.28/3 Door No.40-21/85, Old Assessment No.26186 New Assessment No.223156 R. S. No.29/2 Matamata Vijaywada, Patamata Sub-Registry Vijaywada District Registry Krishna Dist Bounded By: East- Municipal Corporation Road 28' 3", South- Property Of Me Esala Chennaihal Sold To Others 37' 0", West- Property Of Chintu Nagarathanam 28' 3", North- Property Of Bakhula Gopala 37' 0".

Date: 17-01-2026  
Place: Vijayawada

For DCB Bank Ltd  
Authorised Officer

**Muthoot Homefin (India) Ltd.**

**Muthoot Homefin**

Corporate Office : Unit No. 19-NF, 19th Floor, The Ruby, Senapati Bapat Marg, Near Ruparel College, Dadar (West), Mumbai, Maharashtra- 400 028

info.southindientimes@gmail.com

**POSSESSION NOTICE** (As per Appendix IV read with rule 8(1) of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of **Muthoot Homefin (India) Ltd.** (MHIL) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, Demand Notice(s) issued by the Authorised 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)/ Co-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 Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules. 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 **Muthoot Homefin (India) Ltd.** for an amount as mentioned herein under with interest thereon. The Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets

Sl. No.	Name of the Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s)/ Branch	Loan Account No./Branch	Brief details of secured assets	Date of Demand Notice & Total Outstanding Dues (Rs.)	Possession Taken Date
1.	Ganguri Yerramma/ Ganguri Basavaraju/ ANA-NHL-000364/ Anantapur		All That Part And Parcel Of Plot Measuring Two Points Zero Nine Cents Or 101.11 Sq. Of Bearing S.No.284, D.No.4-293, A.C.029, H.s.: 0.0083 Asst No 355 Vadipatyma Village & Panchayat Area, Bikkunna Samudram Mandal, Anantapur District, Andhra Pradesh, Pin: 515731 East: Road, South: Hari Gar's Rake Shed, Shil West: Road, North: Vacant Land And Canal, East-west: 35 Feet Or 10.67 Meters. Shil North-south: 26 Feet Or 7.92 Meters.	25-Oct-2025/ Rs. 8,39,48/-Rupees Eight Lakh Thirty Nine Thousand Four Hundred Eighty Only.	12-Jan-2026

Date: January 17, 2026

Place: Anantapur

Sd/- Authorized Officer,  
Muthoot Homefin (India) Limited

## NIWAS HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED (Formerly, Niwas Housing Finance Private Limited)

Regd. Office: - Unit No. 305, 3rd Floor, Wing 2/E, Corporate Avenue, Andheri- Ghatkopar Link Road, Chakala, Andheri (East), Mumbai - 400093

**NIWAS**  
HOUSING FINANCE

### POSSESSION NOTICE [Rule 8 (1) and (2)]

Whereas, The Authorized Officer of the Secured Creditor mentioned herein, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (Act), 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with (Rule 3) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice calling upon the borrower(s) to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower(s) having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower(s) and the public in general that the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of NHLF has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub-section (4) of section 13 of Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002 on the date mentioned against each property.

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(s) in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the NHLF for the amount mentioned below and interest and other charges thereon.

Loan Account Number	Borrower(s) & Property Details	Amount & Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession	Possession Status
LNRAJ0HL-10230036478	1. BHUSHANAM BOMMOTHI (BORROWER) 2. RAJANI BOMMOTHI (CO-BORROWER)	Rs. 5,02,508/- (Rupees Five Lakh Two Thousand Five Hundred Eight Only) DATE: 14-Oct-2025	13-Jan-2026	SYMBOLIC POSSESSION

**PROPERTY BEARING:-** ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF THE PROPERTY BEARING EAST GODAVARI DISTRICT, SEETHANAGARAM SUB REGISTRAR, SEETHANAGARAM MANDAL, KATAVARAM GRAM PANCHAYAT, KATAVARAM, HOUSE NO: 5-28, R.S.NO.50/1, VACANT HOUSE SITE OF AN EXTENT OF 113-77 SQ.YDS NEAR DOOR NO.5-28 BOUND BY-EAST- PANCHAYAT CC ROAD 16'-0". SOUTH- DONOR LAND 64'-0". WEST- AKUMURI RANI HOUSE 16'-0". NORTH- IRELLI NAGESWARARAO HOUSE 64'-0". EXTENT-113-77 SQ.YDS VACANT HOUSE SITE.

LNGUNOHL-1218008270, LNGUNOHL-1218008271	1.ALLABAHKSHU SHAIK (BORROWER) 2.JAREENA SHAIK (CO-BORROWER)	Rs. 13,00,836/- (Rupees Thirteen Lakh Eight Hundred Thirty Six Only) DATE: 08-Oct-2025	13-Jan-2026	SYMBOLIC POSSESSION
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**PROPERTY BEARING:-** ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF THE PROPERTY BEARING AT GUNTUR DISTRICT, TENALI REGISTRATION DISTRICT, TENALI SUB-DISTRICT, WITHIN THE LIMITS OF TENALITON MUNICIPAL AREA WARD NO.7, BLOCK T.S.NO.181/2 OUT OF A.C.0-63CTS, TENALI TOWN, ISLAMPET, SHAMSHAREKH VEDIH, AN EXTENT OF 36 SQ.YDS, WHICH IS SOUTHERN IN 72 SQ.YDS WITH GROUND AND FIRST FLOORS RCC HOUSE THEREIN BEARING DR.NO.17-2-47(PART) WITH ALL FIXTURES AND FITTINGS THE FOLLOWING BOUNDARIES ARE EAST- MUNICIPAL BAZAAR 16-00, SOUTH- OWN WALL OF THIS PROPERTY APPURTENANT TO PROPERTY OF ALAVALAPATI SARKARARAO AND OTHERS 20-03, WEST-HOUSE WALL OF SHAIK SHAJADI 16-03 AND, NORTH- REMAINING PROPERTY OF THE VENDOR/SHAIK MASTANBI 20-03 TOGETHER WILL ALL PRESENT AND FUTURE CONSTRUCTION BUILDINGS AND SUPERSTRUCTURES

LNCHROHL-06220025431	1.BHASKARA RAO YANAMADALA (BORROWER) 2.LALITHA YANAMADALA (CO-BORROWER)	Rs. 5,41,996/- (Rupees Five Lakh FortyOne Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety Six Only) DATE: 14-Oct-2025	13-Jan-2026	SYMBOLIC POSSESSION
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**PROPERTY BEARING:-** ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF THE PROPERTY BEARING PRAKASAM DISTRICT VETAPALEM MANDAL, CHALLAREDDY PALEM PANCHAYAT, NAYUNIPALLI VILLAGE SURVEY NO.8/2, SURVEY NO.82/3, SURVEY NO.82/1, SURVEY NO.85/4, SURVEY NO.81/2, SURVEY NO.81/3, SURVEY NO.81/4, SURVEY NO.81/5, SURVEY NO.81/1, SURVEY NO.80/1, SURVEY NO.80/2B, PLOT NO.679 WITH RCC UNDER CONSTRUCTION BUILDING BEING BOUNDED BY- EAST- PLOT NO.680 SITE, SOUTH- ROAD, WEST- ROAD, NORTH- PLOT NO.664 SITE.

LNKURLAP-11230037240	1.NEDUGONDA ESWARYA (BORROWER) 2.BHARATHI NEGUKONDA (CO-BORROWER)	Rs. 7,04,633/- (Rupees Seven Lakh Four Thousand Six Hundred Thirty Three Only) DATE: 14-Oct-2025	13-Jan-2026	SYMBOLIC POSSESSION
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**PROPERTY BEARING:-** ALL THAT PIECE AND PAR

## EDITORIAL

### Kumaraswamy's State Comeback Sparks BJP Leadership Jitters, Exposes Weak Opposition

Kumaraswamy's re-entry into state politics has turned the gun on Congress, but the target is only BJP leaders! Vadra. The idea that Kumaraswamy will re-enter state politics has created a stir in state politics. It has made leaders sleepless nights, even in the ruling party, even in the alliance party BJP. If we look at the current political situation in the state, it seems that the strongest opposition party fighting against the government has declined. The reason for this is the lack of leadership in the opposition party. When it comes to the BJP issue, those in their own party are sharpening their swords against state president Vijayendra. Behind-the-scenes efforts to change the leadership continue. The high command is already considering bringing Union Minister Somanna to the state BJP by giving him the title of state president. Now, when it comes to the issue of opposition leader R Ashok, the lack of leadership is evident. The support that should be received within the party is not being received. There is a doubt that he has failed to take any issue against the government to the people so effectively. It does not seem like many within the party have accepted Ashok as a leader. The reason for this is that the label of adjustment politics is haunting him. Thus, there is a lack of strong opposition leaders to fight the government. Kumaraswamy, who was a dream come true for the BJP government. As for Kumaraswamy, was a toughest opposition leader for the previous BJP government. Even in the session, Kumaraswamy's style of presenting documents and evidence had disturbed the ruling party. In the last session, the way he exposed the BMS Educational Institution scam and documents against Minister Ashwath Narayan had attracted everyone's attention. Moreover, Kumaraswamy's words are still respected by people, forgetting party differences. Kumaraswamy also became a strong reason for the BJP's defeat in this assembly election. Prime Minister Modi himself recognized Kumaraswamy's political acumen and honored him by giving him the influential position of Steel and Heavy Industries Minister in the Union Cabinet. Kumaraswamy has also become successful though in national politics. But if we look at the current state political situation, the weakness of a strong opposition party to fight against the government is evident. In such a situation, the issue of Kumaraswamy's re-entry into state politics has now become a new weapon for the opposition party. Yes, the opposition parties should oppose everything that the ruling government stumbles. But it has been said that the opposition party has failed to demonstrate it so effectively in the state. Especially when the government takes any wrong decision, the opposition party has failed to protest effectively. However, even though a series of allegations have been made against the Congress government, it has been accused that the BJP has completely failed to use it as a weapon in the right way. In the last 2 years, despite many allegations including serial corruption and zero development, it has failed to use the issue of questioning and fighting it as a right weapon. Even when 18 BJP party members were suspended for a long period, the BJP had completely failed to protest effectively against the government. The recent government land encroachment clearance operation in Kogilu Layout of Yelahanka in Bengaluru had made an international splash. The Karnataka government's demolition of 200 illegally constructed Muslim houses was accused of being a dictatorial attitude of the Deputy Chief Ministers. There were also suspicions that the accused not only helped encroach on government land, but also created fake documents and distributed plots to people and received money. Even though the people who lost their houses were directly accusing the government, the opposition parties were not very effective in using it, and limited it by only forming a fact-finding committee and preparing a report and demanding an NIA investigation. An influential leader is necessary for state politics.

## Editorial

Vijayawada  
saturday january 17 2026

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## 'It'll Divide Society': Why Congress Buried The Mandal Report For Years

Rahul Gandhi would rue reading how, between 1980 and 1982, Indira Gandhi was vetoed four times by her cabinet colleagues from implementing the Mandal Commission report, something that could have been a game-changer for the Congress.

In an engaging autobiography of P Shiv Shankar, soon to be published by Simon & Schuster India, the veteran legal luminary gives a graphic account of how PV Narasimha Rao, R Venkatraman, Pranab Mukherjee and Giani Zail Singh, who were holding external affairs, defence, finance and home portfolios and were part of the Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs (CCPA), repeatedly rejected and stonewalled a report meticulously prepared by Bindeshwari Prasad Mandal. Rahul Gandhi would rue reading how, between 1980 and 1982, Indira Gandhi was vetoed four times by her cabinet colleagues from implementing the Mandal Commission report, something that could have been a game-changer for the Congress.

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#### • ADVERTISEMENT-SCROLL TO CONTINUE

#### How The Congress Lost Out

The implementation of the Mandal Commission report, which discussed jobs and quotas in educational institutions, by the VP Singh government in 1990 altered the grammar and arithmetic of Indian politics. "Mandal politics" or the process of 'Mandalisation' of society, led to a seismic shift in social and caste dynamics, redefining power structures and solidifying caste as a central factor in Indian politics. It initially benefited regional outfits and backward class leaders such as Lalu Prasad Yadav, Nitish Kumar, Mulayam Singh Yadav, but eventually consolidated the BJP at the expense of the Congress. Although VP Singh's tenure lasted for barely 343 days, his



actions made the "Mandal" identity a permanent and irreversible feature of the Indian political landscape. So, even when the Congress government under PV Narasimha Rao put the Mandal report to action, it didn't get any political dividends - both because it failed to get the first-mover advantage, and because Rao had always been against caste-based reservation.

Decades later, in 2023-24, Sonia Gandhi would tell the Congress Working Committee, "I am 100% with the caste census, we must get it done. This is our highest priority." The comment came when the Congress's apex decision-making body passed a resolution to back conducting a caste-based census and implement a quota within quota in line with numerical strength. The question that needs to be asked is, have Congress leaders - particularly those belonging to the upper caste - had a change of heart, or are they overwhelmed by Rahul's leadership qualities? After all, right from the Indira years to the UPA era, particularly in

#### Indira Gandhi Was For It

Shiv Shankar was the Union Law Minister in the Indira cabinet. The second Socially and Educationally Backward Classes Commission, which popularly came to be known as the Mandal Commission, had conducted a detailed study of the status of those sections of society that were defined in the Constitution as 'socially and educationally underdeveloped'. Rao, Mukherjee and Venkataraman kept telling Indira, both personally and in writing, that a decision taken to implement the Mandal Commission's suggestions may prove detrimental to the country by bringing about "irreversible fissures between the people of the country and lead to law-and-order problems throughout the country with riots erupting down to the village level". Shiv Shankar writes how he went numb when Indira Gandhi

showed him the letters of her communication with the CCPA. "These contained the back and forth between her and the committee. I very categorically told the PM that rejecting the report would not only mean letting down a large section of the people who have faced neglect and discrimination since times immemorial, but also denying them a chance of redeeming their lives. Implementation of the Mandal Commission's recommendations would give them access to better education and employment opportunities, and through those, economic as well as social development. I explained to Mrs Gandhi that the Backward Classes were a dejected lot because they feel they have remained underdeveloped for far too long." "I agree with every word you have spoken, Shiv Shankerji. In fact, I have been thinking exactly along the same lines. That is the reason I have sent the matter back to the Cabinet Committee of Political Affairs every time they have rejected it," Shiv Shankar writes, recounting Indira Gandhi's response. The Law Minister explains how he kept arguing that Backward Classes were losing faith in the Congress "because of a perception, right or wrong, that the party is not attentive to their interests". He said to Indira Gandhi, "They probably think the Congress has not stood by them, Madam. No doubt we have been winning elections all along, except in 1977. But our percentage of votes has always hovered around 40%. I strongly suspect that the majority of the 60% (who did not vote for us) would be from the Backward Classes. If we have their support, we would not only increase our vote share, we could become invincible."

#### BP Mandal's Scepticism

Indira, Shiv Shankar repeats, was personally keen to implement the report. She gave two extensions to the Mandal Commission, even though the panel was set up by the Morarji Desai government. In fact, when Desai and Charan Singh governments fell in quick succession and Shiv Shankar spoke to BP Mandal to check the Commission's progress, Mandal's scepticism was barely concealed: "I am grateful, Shiv Shankerji, but please pardon me. I don't think I would like to come. The government has changed, and I do not think the new government would be in favour of the Commission completing its work. I

## Pak Blames India For 'Losing' Afghanistan. Numbers Tell A Different Story



So finally, a Taliban diplomat is officially in charge in Delhi. The Taliban's newly appointed ambassador to India, Noor Ahmad Noor, took charge of the Afghan Embassy in Delhi last week. A statement issued by the Taliban's embassy in India on Monday said he met Anand Prakash, Joint Secretary of the Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran Division at the Ministry of External Affairs, with discussions focusing on strengthening political and trade ties, including easing visa procedures. Interestingly, just about a year ago, on January 8, India's Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri had met Mullah Akbar, the Taliban foreign minister, in Dubai for "detailed discussions" on bilateral relations. This was the first high-level meeting between the two sides following the Taliban's sweep to power in Kabul in August 2021; it came after a gap of four years. Following the meeting, the Taliban Foreign Ministry termed New Delhi a "significant regional partner." By then, the rift between the Taliban and Pakistan had come to the fore - it was a time when Pakistan had launched airstrikes in Afghanistan's bordering regions to flush out terrorists, but which, according to the Taliban, had instead ended up claiming more civilian lives. The spokesperson for the Indian Ministry of External Affairs had criticised the Pakistani air strike on Afghanistan and the loss of civilian lives. A Slew Of Visits Since then, ties between India - which had been reluctant till then to extend recognition to the Taliban - and the Taliban have been dynamically developing. Three high-level visits have taken place by Taliban officials to Delhi in quick succession. The acting Taliban foreign minister, Mullah Amir Khan Muttaqi, visited India in October, followed by trade minister Haji Nooruddin Azizi, and, more recently, in December, the acting Health Minister Noor Jalal Jalali. New Delhi announced that it was upgrading its representative office in Kabul to a full-fledged embassy. And now, it has welcomed the first official Taliban

envoy to be stationed in Delhi. Noor's arrival coincided with a diatribe by the Pakistani Information Minister, Attaullah Tarar. Lashing out at the growing diplomatic engagement between the Taliban and India, he questioned the nature of their cooperation. While accusing the Taliban of allowing Afghan soil to be used for attacks against Pakistan, funded by "foreign designs", he bluntly asked, "What kind of Islam is this where you take money from India to carry out explosions here?" Islamabad continues to accuse the Taliban and India of supporting Baloch separatist groups and the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP). Pak Needs To Look Within The accusations come as Pakistan faces a surge in militant violence, with over 5,000 terror incidents reported in 2025. However, to allege that India was behind them is a pathetic reflection of Pakistan's own desperation. After all, even in a world of constant geopolitical realignments and strategic shifts, the speed with which India-Taliban and Pakistan-Taliban relations have redefined themselves is rare. The only consistency is that Islamabad continues to be at odds with whoever happens to be in power in Kabul. The appointment of Noor Ahmad Noor is significant for the Taliban's efforts to expand diplomatic presence abroad and gain greater international

engagement. In this, India is neither the first nor the only country to accept a Taliban envoy. It is following a regional consensus. China was technically the first one to accept an official Taliban envoy in Beijing, followed by Moscow, Tashkent, Astana, Jakarta, and, of course, Pakistan. India's View In fact, Afghanistan is perhaps the only foreign policy success for India in its turbulent neighbourhood. As Bangladesh deepens relations with Pakistan, whose intelligence and army are now actively playing a role in bilateral relations, India's presence in Afghanistan gives it strategic depth there. On the other hand, India, as recently stated by External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, is continuing with its time-tested humanitarian and people-centric approach to Afghanistan, building on the already existing goodwill in the country towards India. But cultivating ties with the Taliban also opens up enormous economic opportunities for India. Afghanistan requires massive investments in almost all sectors of the country. It is seeking India's help and expertise in textiles and pharmaceuticals, but requires investment and technology in its trillion-dollar mining and infrastructure sectors, in some of which India has successfully implemented under the previous government.

## Why India Can't Close Key Submarine and Fighter Deals



**Chandigarh:** India remains perpetually on the cusp of major defence deals, the latest being long-delayed agreements with Germany for six submarines and France for 114 multi-role fighter aircraft (MRFA) - both still unsigned, and emblematic of the services' and the Ministry of Defence's chronic inability to convert intent into action. The Indian Navy's over Rs 70,000 crore or USD 8 billion Project P75(I) submarine programme, now centred on a German-designed platform, has been more than two decades in gestation, tracing its origins to the late 1990s and early 2000s. The proposed MRFA buy, valued at between USD 25-30 billion, was formally launched in 2019 after the collapse, three years earlier, of the Medium Multi-Role Combat Aircraft (MMRCA) tender for 126 Dassault Rafales. It had, however, been under discussion for much of the preceding decade, as the Indian Air Force grappled with worryingly declining fighter squadron numbers. But years of platform evaluations, tender revisions and procedural resets for both procurements were yet to translate into contractual closure. One unresolved technical or commercial issue after another continued to surface - whether from the Services, the

MoD or both. High-level political engagement between India, Germany and France repeatedly raised expectations of a breakthrough, only to fade without result. German Chancellor Olaf Scholz's recent visit to Ahmedabad, for instance, fuelled expectations that the long-pending submarine joint venture between Thyssen Krupp Marine Systems (TKMS) and Mazagaon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) to domestically construct six advanced Type 214 boats might be clinched, but to no avail. After more than two years of negotiations, the project remains stalled over issues that were evident from the outset - pricing, the scope of technology transfer and the level of indigenous content to be incorporated in the boats. Alongside, in recent days, focus has shifted to the impending visit of French President Emmanuel Macron on February 19, for the AI Impact Summit in New Delhi. This has also raised expectations that the stalled MRFA negotiations, with the Rafale widely seen as the frontrunner, could see some progress. A two-star Indian Navy veteran, involved with the P75I project while in service, said the operational gaps are widening as the clock keeps ticking. The prolonged uncertainty surrounding these two critical platform acquisitions reflected a procurement system paralysed by procedure and loath to take timely decisions. "Postponement, it seems, remains the default option in such cases, rather than any urgency to shape outcomes," he said, declining to be named. The result, he added grimly, was that the Indian military's capability gaps were being managed - but not closed. Few materiel procurements in recent years better reflect the systemic dysfunction within the MoD and the two services than the P75I and the MRFA buys. Initiated years ago under different governments, and driven by operational urgency to arrest looming capability gaps in two critical domains - undersea warfare and air superiority - both had morphed into case studies in drift. The P75I was formally launched 19 years ago, in 2007, and the MRFA in 2017-18. Yet, mired in a labyrinthine and over-engineered acquisition process and constantly shifting qualitative requirements, both programmes had badly faltered. It seems that as India's maritime and aerial threats mounted, the platforms meant to counter them remained stuck in files at the MoD and at respective Service headquarters.

## Ria Tirk Commences Pilgrimage from Sadma Sarna to Sirsi-Ta Nale; Mass Worship Scheduled on January 23

AGENCY

Ranchi: In an effort to preserve tribal faith and religious traditions, the pilgrimage from Sirsi-Ta Nale (Gumla) was inaugurated on 15 January 2026 at 11 AM from Gram Sadma Sarna. The journey was formally flagged off by Ria Tirk, wife of Rajesh Kachhap, Deputy Leader of the Legislative Party and MLA from Khijri. Around 300 tribal devotees, including men and women, are participating in this foot pilgrimage, covering sacred



sites from Sirsi-Ta Nale to Kankardolha, Gumla district. The pilgrimage aims to strengthen awareness and protection of the Sarna faith, nature worship traditions, and tribal religious sites. The journey includes multiple stops: 15 January – Tila, Ratu (first stop); 16 January – Chachgura, Itki (second stop); 17 January – Lamkana (third stop); 18 January – Nagpheni, Sisai (fourth stop); 19 January – Bhamni, Kudukh Bhawan, Gumla (fifth stop); 20 January – Manjha Toli

(sixth stop); 21 January – Chainpur (seventh stop); and 22 January – Sirsi-Ta Nale (final stop). A mass worship ceremony will be

conducted at Sirsi-Ta Nale on 23 January 2026. The event was attended by prominent tribal and political leaders, including

Ormanjhi MLA representative Harimohan Mahto, District Council member Komisonar Munda, Baboolal Mahli (Chairperson of the 22-Pardha Sarna Committee), Ramesh Chandra Uraon (Patron), Kudhiya Kachhap (Youth Congress President, Khijri Assembly), and Lalita Pahan (President of 22-Pardha Sarna Prayer Assembly). In addition, numerous tribal intellectuals, social workers, and devotees, including Anjan

Munda, Pammi Munda, Shani Pahan, Sadhan Uraon, Lalo Tirk, Ravi Munda, Sunil Lohra, Shumeswar Munda, Prateet Kachhap, Binod Lohra, Disco Munda, Khudan Munda, Surendra Uraon, Sukra Uraon, Dinesh Uraon, Shanu Munda, Jethu Munda, Bigoo Munda, Roshan Munda, and Pushpa Uraon, were present, making the pilgrimage a significant cultural and religious event for the tribal community.

## MP and MLA Inaugurate Newly Constructed SDPO Office, Residence, and Geo Petrol Pump in Maheshpur

AGENCY

Maheshpur: A grand inauguration ceremony was held today for the newly constructed SDPO office and residence in Maheshpur block, along with the opening of a Geo petrol pump at Nandarpada. The event was graced by the popular Rajmahal MP Vijay Kumar Hansda and Maheshpur MLA Professor Stephen Marandi, who jointly inaugurated the facilities by lighting a ceremonial lamp, cutting the ribbon, and breaking a coconut, marking the beginning of these development initiatives aimed at public welfare. The ceremony saw the presence of Pakur Deputy Commissioner Manish Kumar, SP Nidhi Dwivedi, district vice-presidents Haji Samad Ali and Harivansh Chaubey, central committee members Shyam Yadav, Upasana Marandi, Motilal Hansda, CO Sanjay Kumar Sinha, local police



officials, elected representatives, social workers, and a large number of local residents.

Addressing the gathering, MP Vijay Kumar Hansda highlighted that the newly opened M/S ABC Fuel Services petrol pump will provide convenient fuel access to the public and generate employment opportu-

nities locally, boosting economic activity in the region. He emphasized that the government aims to ensure basic amenities reach even remote rural areas. MLA Professor Stephen Marandi noted that the new SDPO office and residence represent a significant step in strengthening law and order. These facilities will provide an improved working environment for police personnel, enabling faster resolution of public grievances. He assured that the government remains committed to maintaining peace, security, and development in the region. District vice-presidents Haji Samad Ali and Harivansh Chaubey added that the infrastructure will also support enhanced law enforcement in the area. The local community expressed enthusiasm for the inauguration and welcomed the leaders, appreciating the ongoing development work in the block. Residents noted that the new SDPO office, residence, and petrol pump are significant milestones for Maheshpur block, strengthening administrative efficiency and providing direct benefits to the public. Hundreds of JMM workers, including Soren and other local leaders, were also present at the event.

## Three-Day Football Tournament Kicks Off in Dhatapada Village



AGENCY

Barharwa: The three-day football tournament organized by Siddho Kanhu Youth Club in Dhatapada village commenced on Thursday with much enthusiasm. The tournament, scheduled from 15th to 17th January, features 16 participating teams. The opening event drew a large crowd of spectators from surrounding villages, who enjoyed the thrilling matches. The

organizers highlighted that four women's teams will compete in the final matches, adding a special attraction to the event. Club President and District Council member Prakash Toppo, along with Secretary Rajen Kujur and other committee members, were actively involved in ensuring the smooth execution of the tournament. President Prakash Toppo also announced that on the final day.

## 'Saas-Bahu-Pati' Conference Held at Ayushman Arogya Mandir, Focus on Family Planning and Health



AGENCY

Taljari: To promote health awareness and family planning in rural areas, a 'Saas-Bahu-Pati' conference was successfully organized on Thursday, 15 January 2026, at Ayushman Arogya Mandir in Ambadri village. The event witnessed active participation from village dignitaries and numerous families. The main objective of the conference was to directly inform villagers about various welfare schemes run by the Health Department. During the conference, representatives from the Health Department provided detailed information on the event.

## Echoes of Rajmahal Fossils to Resonate in Lucknow:

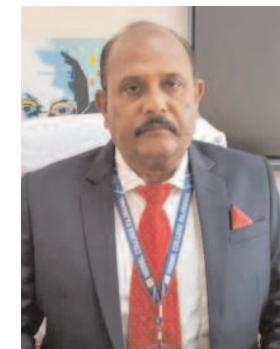
### Dr. Ranjit Kumar Singh to Participate in International Round Table Discussion

AGENCY

Sahibganj: A significant step is being taken to preserve India's natural history and fossils dating back millions of years. The Paleontological Society of India is organizing an important Round Table Discussion in Lucknow, the capital of Uttar Pradesh, on 16 January 2026. For this high-level scientific dialogue, Dr. Ranjit Kumar Singh, Principal of Model College, Mundli, Rajmahal, Sahibganj, and a renowned geologist, has been specially invited. The event is being organized with the support of the Shiv Nadar Foundation. Dr. Anju Saxena, Secretary of the Paleontological Society of India, requested

■ A significant step is being taken to preserve India's natural history and fossils dating back millions of years. The Paleontological Society of India is organizing an important Round Table Discussion in Lucknow

Dr. Ranjit to bring along samples of rare fossils from the Rajmahal hills for scientific discussion. Speaking before his departure, Dr. Ranjit Kumar Singh stated that eminent geologists, researchers, and representatives from academic institutions across India and abroad will participate. The discussion will focus on Geo-Heritage (preservation of



historical geological sites), Geo-Tourism (developing fossil sites as tourist attractions), and Scientific Research (fresh studies on Jurassic and Cretaceous period fossils). Importantly, this dialogue could open avenues to explore the presence of dinosaurs in the Rajmahal hills. Conservation of these ancient fossils will not only boost tourism but

also establish Sahibganj as a hub for international geological events. Dr. Ranjit Kumar Singh has been actively working on Rajmahal fossils since 2008. His contributions in constructing the Fossils Park, supporting researchers, and safeguarding these priceless geological treasures have been pivotal. He emphasized that the round table will pave new ways for preserving geological heritage and bringing the millions-of-years-old history of Rajmahal hills to global attention. Dr. Ranjit Kumar Singh departed for Lucknow on Thursday, with expectations that this visit will place Sahibganj prominently on the global geological map.

## Mukesh Kumar Shah Appointed as Madhupur Nagar INTUC President; Organization to Receive New Energy: Rakeshwar Pandey

AGENCY

Madhupur: Under the guidance of Jharkhand State INTUC President Rakeshwar Pandey, Anant Mishra, the District President of Deoghar INTUC, has appointed Mukesh Kumar Shah as the President of Madhupur Nagar INTUC. This appointment is being seen as a significant step toward strengthening the organization and advancing workers' interests. Following the announcement, a wave of enthusiasm has swept through the organization. Leaders at both the state and district levels expressed confidence in Shah's leader-



ship, noting that his experience and active approach would provide new direction and strengthen INTUC's presence in Madhupur Nagar. The ceremony was attended by notable leaders including Jharkhand State INTUC Secretary Ajay Kumar, Margomunda Block INTUC President, Jaishankar Sharan, Mohanpur Block INTUC President Ajaykant Thakur, and Congress leaders Mohammad Raja Shah, Saroj Singh, Bablu Ramani, Santosh Vishwakarma, Amit Pandit, among others.

## Headlines

Sky Filled with Colors on Makar Sankranti: New Jharkhand Yuva Club Organizes Grand Kite Competition

AGENCY

Sahibganj: On the occasion of Makar Sankranti, the New Jharkhand Yuva Club organized a grand kite competition at the Railway General Institute under the leadership of Club President Vinod Kumar Yadav. The chief guest for the event was Bindu Didi, in charge of the Sahibganj Brahma Kumaris Service Center. The event was inaugurated by jointly flying kites by Uttam Kumar, Principal of LCC Computer Center, along with Sushila Devi, Ranjit Kesari, and Neetu. A large number of children and youth participated enthusiastically in the competition. Principal Uttam Kumar highlighted that the event promoted brotherhood, cultural tradition, and encouraged youth talent on this auspicious festival. In the competition, Rehana Ansari secured first place, Saif Ansari came second, Aman Raj third, followed by Himanshu Yadav in fourth and Krishna Kumar in fifth place.

Tribute Paid to Freedom Fighter Arjun Yadav in Sahibganj; Hundreds Gather in Bhartiya Colony

Sahibganj: A tribute ceremony was held on Thursday at Ayodhya Dham in Bhartiya Colony, Sahibganj, on the occasion of the eighth death anniversary of freedom fighter Arjun Yadav. The event saw the participation of Arjun Yadav's family members, including his son Amarnath Yadav and Bajrang Yadav, along with well-wishers and hundreds of local residents. Participants paid homage by offering flowers to a painted portrait of the late freedom fighter with folded hands and teary eyes. The ceremony began with a formal ritual conducted by priests, including recitation of prayers and lighting of lamps. Speakers remembered Arjun Yadav's life and contributions, noting that he was not only a freedom fighter but also a dedicated farmer and wrestler. His simplicity, honesty, and courage earned him a distinct place in society, which continues to inspire the public today. It was highlighted that following the ideals and honesty exemplified by Arjun Yadav, Bajrang Prasad Yadav, National Minister of the BJP Kisan Morcha and West Bengal election in-charge, remains actively engaged in social service and plays a significant role in various community initiatives. Other attendees included Baski Yadav, Md. Kalimuddin, Krishna Sharma, Anand Modi, Bablu Tiwari, Jai Prakash Sinha, Manoj Keshri, Kundan Paswan, Lalan Singh, Lalit Kumar, and several others from the local community.

"Learn Safety, Embrace Technology": Sahibganj Hosts Road Safety Awareness Chaupal

Sahibganj: On the 15th day of National Road Safety Month 2026, a grand Road Safety Chaupal was organized at the main Haat Bazar in Sahibganj to raise awareness about road safety. The event aimed to educate citizens, particularly in rural markets and at the panchayat level, about traffic rules and to reduce road accidents. During the program, road safety champions encouraged citizens under the Rahveer Scheme to assist accident victims during the "golden hour" to save lives. Attendees were urged to follow traffic rules, wear helmets and seat belts, avoid overspeeding, and never drive under the influence of alcohol. Speaking at the event, M.V.I. Kumar Utkarsh and Abhishek Munda emphasized that road safety is not just about following rules, but about protecting lives. They highlighted that even small precautions can save countless lives. The program was attended by District Road Safety Manager Neeraj Kumar Sah, Road Engineer Analyst Anuj Parashar, IT assistant Rajhans, and other officials. The event successfully shared critical road safety information with the public and promoted a culture of safe and responsible traffic behavior.

DCB Bank Limited  
Jyothi Majestic, Banjara Hills,  
Hyderabad, Telangana 500 034

DCB BANK

## POSSESSION NOTICE

The undersigned being the authorized officer of the DCB Bank Ltd., under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice on below mentioned dates calling upon the borrowers (Borrower's and Co-Borrower's) to repay the amount mentioned in the notice as detailed below in tabular form with further interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower and Co-Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower, Co-Borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub-section (4) of section 13 of Act read with rule 8 also r/w section 14(1) of the Security Interest Rules 2002 on 12th January, 2026.

The borrower, Co-Borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property (Description of the immovable Property) and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the DCB Bank Ltd., for respective amount as mentioned here below.

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.

1.Demand Notice Dated:	28-09-2025
Name of Borrower(S) and (Co-borrower(S))	MR. ADDIPALLI SIVA PRASAD, MRS. ADDIPALLI LAXMI, MR. BATTULU NAGA CHINABABU, MS. ADDIPALLI KEERTHI AND M/S. SAI TEJA TIFFINS & MEALS IT'S AUTHORISED SIGNATORY
Loan Account Number	DRBLVIS00427484/DRBLVIS005024532
Total Outstanding Amount.	Rs.15,99,710.81/-Rupees Fifteen Lakh Ninety Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Ten and Eighty One Paise Only as on 28th September 2025
Description of The Immovable Property	All That The House Bearing (Old Door No.8-35a) New Door No.4-51, Assessment No.102, Of R.C.C. House Situated At Kothuri H/O Thummapala Village, With In The Limits Of Kothuri Gram Panchayat, Covered By Survey No.5932, Of Anakapalli Mandal, Anakapalli Revenue Division, Anakapalli Registration District, Anakapalli Sro, Visakhapatnam District And Bounded By: East - Property Belongs To Guntu Lakshminarayam, West - Site Belongs To Others, North - Road: South - Site Belongs To Others. Measured By: East To West - Wing: 3feet 9.45mts. North To South - Wing: 5feet 0.167mts. Total Extent Is 189.30 Sq.Yds Or 159.133 Sq.Mts, And Constructed Ground Floor Consisting Of 1500 Sq.Ft And First Floor Consisting Of 1500 Sq.Ft. (The Secured Assets)
Date: 17-01-2026	For DCB Bank Ltd
Place: Vishakapatnam	Authorised Officer

## Two Cyber Fraudsters Arrested from Karhaiya Jungle for Online Scams

AGENCY

Deoghar: In a major breakthrough against cyber-crime, the police arrested two cyber fraudsters from Karhaiya Jungle in the Sarath police station area on 14 January 2026. The operation was conducted under the guidance of Deputy Superintendent of Police Raja Kumar Mitra and on the directions of Superintendent of Police Saurabh. The accused were running scams by impersonating customer care services of Flipkart, Amazon, Airtel Payment Bank, PhonePe, and Paytm. They would post fake mobile numbers on Google to deceive people, offering



cashbacks, PM-Kisan scheme benefits, loans, and credit card links to trick victims into online fraud. The arrested individuals, Saroj Das (28) and Praveen Das (27), are residents of Fulchunwa village under Sarath police station. Both have a prior criminal record and had previously been named in fraud cases at the Deoghar Cyber

## Mukesh Kumar Shah Appointed as Madhupur Nagar INTUC President; Organization to Receive New Energy: Rakeshwar Pandey

AGENCY

Madhupur: Under the guidance of Jharkhand State INTUC President Rakeshwar Pandey, Anant Mishra, the District President of Deoghar INTUC, has appointed Mukesh Kumar Shah as the President of Madhupur Nagar INTUC. This appointment is being seen as a significant step toward strengthening the organization and advancing workers' interests. Following the announcement, a wave of enthusiasm has swept through the organization. Leaders at both the state and district levels expressed confidence in Shah's leader-



ship, noting that his experience and active approach would provide new direction and strengthen INTUC's presence in Madhupur Nagar. The ceremony was attended by notable leaders including Jharkhand State INTUC Secretary Ajay Kumar, Margomunda Block INTUC President, Jaishankar Sharan, Mohanpur Block INTUC President Ajaykant Thakur, and Congress leaders Mohammad Raja Shah, Saroj Singh, Bablu Ramani, Santosh Vishwakarma, Amit Pandit, among others.

## South Indian Bank Scripts Another Record Quarter with Rs. 374 Cr. Net Profit

South Indian Bank had declared the highest ever quarterly Net Profit of Rs. 374.32 Cr. for Q3 FY 2025-26 registering a growth of 9% compared to Rs. 341.87 Cr. in Q3 FY 2024-25.

### Key Highlights of Q3 FY26

Net Profit of the Bank for the quarter is up by 9% from Rs. 341.87 Cr. in Q3 FY25 to Rs. 374.32 Cr. in Q3 FY26.

Net Profit of the Bank for the 9-month ended has increased by 9% to Rs. 1047.64 Cr. for Dec-25 when compared with Rs. 960.69 Cr. for Dec-24.

Pre-Provisioning Operating Profit for quarter is up by 10% from Rs. 528.84 Cr. in Q3 FY25 to Rs. 584.33 Cr. in Q3 FY26.

Non-Interest Income increased from Rs. 409.22 Cr. to Rs. 485.93 Cr., registering a growth of 19% on Y-o-Y basis. The Bank continues to maintain positive operating leverage for the 9-month ended Dec-25 with a 74.4% increase in Net Total Income over 3.61% increase in Operating Expense compared to the 9-month period ended Dec-24.

Gross NPA reduced by 163 bps from 4.30% to 2.67% on Y-o-Y basis.

Net NPA dropped by 80 bps from 1.25% to 0.45% on Y-o-Y basis.



- PCR excl. write off increased by 1177 bps from 71.73% to 83.5% Y-o-Y basis
- PCR including write off increased by 1050 bps from 81.07% to 91.57% Y-o-Y basis

### Return on Assets continued to remain above 1%

### Slippage Ratio reduced by 17 bps from 0.33% in Q3 FY25 to 0.16% in Q3 FY26

### DEPOSITS

- Retail Deposit grew by Rs. 13,142 Cr. from Rs. 1,02,421 Cr. to Rs. 1,15,563 Cr., showing an increase of 13% on Y-o-Y basis
- NRI Deposit grew by Rs. 2,833 Cr. from Rs. 31,132 Cr. to

Rs. 33,965 Cr., showing an increase of 9% on Y-o-Y basis

- CASA grew by 15% on Y-o-Y basis with growth in Savings Bank by 14% and Current Account by 20% respectively

### ADVANCES

- Gross Advances grew by Rs. 9,798 Cr. from Rs. 86,966 Cr. to Rs. 96,764 Cr., showing an increase of 11% on Y-o-Y basis

- Corporate Segment went up by Rs. 3,397 Cr. from Rs. 34,956 Cr. to Rs. 38,353 Cr., showing an increase of 10% on Y-o-Y basis

A and above rated Corporate Advance has increased by Rs. 3,560 Cr. from Rs. 21,068 Cr. to Rs. 24,628 Cr.

- Business segment (incl. ML) went up by Rs. 2,007 Cr. from Rs. 16,546 Cr. to Rs. 18,553 Cr., showing an increase of 12%

- Gold Loan portfolio went up by Rs. 4,337 Cr. from Rs. 16,966 Cr. to Rs. 21,303 Cr., showing an increase of 26% on Y-o-Y basis

- Vehicle Loan grew by 24% Y-o-Y from Rs. 1,938 Cr. to Rs. 2,393 Cr. While announcing the financial results, Mr. P. R. Seshadri, MD & CEO of the Bank, stated that the Bank's well-defined strategy continues to underpin its strong business performance during the period. The Bank recorded healthy growth across all major segments – including Corporate, MSME, Housing,

Auto and Gold loans – with a steadfast focus on maintaining asset quality.

He further highlighted that, in line with the Bank's strategic intent of achieving Profitability through Quality Credit Growth, the Bank successfully onboarded fresh advances with a low risk profile. This approach, he noted, reflects the Bank's continued commitment to sustainable growth, prudent risk management and value creation for all stakeholders. Bank's Capital adequacy Ratio stood at 17.84% in December 2025, indicating a strong capital position, underscoring the Bank's sound capital management practices and capacity to support future business growth. The Bank's financial results include the financial results of its wholly owned subsidiary SIBOSL.

### About South Indian Bank

South Indian Bank is a leading Kerala-based Private Sector Bank with a nationwide presence. The Bank's shares are listed on The Stock Exchange Mumbai (BSE) and The National Stock Exchange of India Ltd., Mumbai (NSE). South Indian Bank has 948 branches, 2 Ultra Small Branches, 3 Satellite branches, 1143 ATMs and 126 CRMs across India.

## Maruti Suzuki commences exports of VICTORIS, badged as 'Across'



New Delhi, 16 January 2026:

Maruti Suzuki India Limited ("Maruti Suzuki") today announced the start of shipment of its premium SUV, VICTORIS, for exports.

Over 450 vehicles have set sail from Mundra and Pipavav

ports for global markets.

The SUV, which embodies the brand's 'Got It All'

philosophy, will be globally sold as 'Across'.

Engineered as a truly modern SUV, VICTORIS combines intelligent technology and indulgent comfort with futuristic styling.

The SUV has demonstrated global

safety credentials, earning a 5-star safety rating in both Global NCAP and Bharat NCAP.

Besides this, the Made-in-India SUV was also showcased to international audience at the Japan Mobility Show 2025.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Hisashi Takeuchi, Managing Director & CEO, Maruti Suzuki India Limited, said, "Maruti Suzuki's export journey is guided by the vision of Make in India, Make for the World. In calendar year 2025, with exports of over 3.9 lakh vehicles, we emerged as India's number one passenger vehicle

exporter for the fifth year in a row. The year also marked our re-entry into Europe with the start of exports of our first Battery Electric Vehicle, e VITARA." He added, "If we look at growth of India's passenger vehicle exports in the past five years from CY2020 to CY2025, while the rest of the industry grew by 1.43 times, Maruti Suzuki exports grew by 4.67 times. The addition of VICTORIS will further support our export ambitions, and we are hopeful it will be well received in international markets."

## PERNOD RICARD INDIA LAUNCHES SEAGRAM'S XCLAMAT!ON IN TELANGANA

Telangana, 16 2026: Pernod Ricard India announces the launch of Seagram's Xclamaton in Telangana, marking the company's most ambitious innovation in 30 years. Seagram's Xclamaton is India's singular brand portfolio having five distinct spirit categories, Whisky, Vodka, Gin, Rum, and Brandy, all at a uniform price point, in the premium admix segment. The brand is strategically positioned in a sizeable white space at the entry-level premium price segment, catering to India's rapidly growing young adult consumer base. The target consumer is 26 – 30 years. These consumers are effortless statement makers and gravitate towards what's distinct. They connect in tribes and when they get together in mixed gender gatherings, everyone has a different preference of beverage. That explains the growth of categories beyond Whisky, such as Gin, Vodka, Rum and Brandy. With over 20 million consumers entering



the legal drinking age category annually, Xclamaton addresses an unmet market need for quality spirits at accessible premium pricing. The brand's proposition, "It's time for Xclamaton", positions it as a catalyst that transforms ordinary moments into extraordinary experiences, for India's new generation of consumers.

Jean Touboul, CEO, Pernod Ricard India, said, "For over three decades, Pernod Ricard India has been at the forefront of shaping the country's premium spirits industry. Xclamaton is a brand born from deep consumer insight, designed for India's next-gen consumer

price point. The unified brand spans five categories, each crafted to deliver unmatched value with distinct design, taste and positioning. The whisky is made from Speyside's Scotch malts matured in dual cask, blended with Indian grain spirits to give a smooth indulgence. The brandy depicts a perfect mixture of Indian and French grape, matured in French Limousin cask to give a refined palate. The rum offers a recherché of India jaggery rum and aged Jamaican spirit, crafted in copper stills to give a bold taste. The vodka is a unique rhythm of Indian terroir, triple filtered with Russian moonstone technology to give unmatched purity. The gin rises from the infusion of the natural flavors of the juniper berries from Germany with mixed botanicals of India to give 7 distinct flavors. Xclamaton is more than a brand; it is a statement of boldness, innovation, and celebration.

## SRM University-AP Shines at 85 th All India Inter-University Athletics Championships 2025-26

SRM University-AP proudly celebrates an outstanding achievement at the 85 th All India Inter-University Athletics Championships 2025-26, held in Mangalore, where athletes brought home three Gold Medals, making it a moment of immense pride for the university. Anamika, MBA student from Paari School of Business (PSB) secured Gold at the Heptathlon with 5158 points. Aditya, B.A. Sociology and Anthropology student from the Easwari School of Liberal Arts (ESLA), won the Gold medal in Javelin Throw with the highest throw of 74.43 m and Mubasina Muhammed, B.Com. student from Paari School of Business (PSB) came first in Long Jump with a remarkable 6.15 m. Director of Sports of SRM AP, Dr Vir Ji Koul, spoke on this remarkable achievement, stating "These gold medals are



not just wins on the podium but milestones in our students' lives." He said that it is the immense hardwork and perseverance that has made them champions and brought glory to their institute and themselves. Highlighting the dedication, discipline, and excellence of the student athletes and the unwavering support and guidance of

## TBZ-The Original celebrates 25 years of presence in Hyderabad. Launches new showroom at Himayatnagar with Inaugural offers Celebrating 161 Years of an Iconic Legacy

HYDERABAD, 16th January, 2026:

In a momentous occasion that intertwines history, culture, and luxury, TBZ-The Original, India's most esteemed jewellery brand, today announced the opening of its new showroom at HIMAYATNAGAR, Hyderabad. Already having built a strong brand and unique connection with the city, this new store will offer its customers a superior experience, located in the prime high street area of Himayat Nagar Main Road. The store also commemorates the celebration of TBZ-The Original's presence in Hyderabad for over 25 years. An integral part of the city's jewellery buying rituals, TBZ-The Original serves a diverse set of clientele located at 3 distinct locations – Punjagutta, Kondapur and now Himayat Nagar. To celebrate its Silver Jubilee, TBZ-The Original announced a month long to celebratory offers valid across its 3 stores in



Hyderabad: Assured Gifts on Purchase + Exciting Inaugural Offers: Upto Rs. 500/- per gram off on Gold Rate Upto 100% off on Making charges of Jewellery Assured Gold Coin on Diamond Jewellery purchase Assured Gift on every purchase - Limited time only Get 100% value on exchange of any Old Gold without any deductions T&C apply. The new showroom at Himayat Nagar, is the brand's largest showroom in the city, with over 5775 sq. ft area and spread across 2 floors. The store is

a haven for jewellery lovers, featuring an extensive range of innovative and attractive designs. From contemporary pieces to traditional jewellery, every creation is a testament to TBZ-The Original's dedication to excellence. Customers can look forward to personalized attention, ensuring a shopping experience that is as unique as their taste. Moreover, TBZ-The Original's Bridal Collection is a harmonious blend of opulent Indian heritage and modern craftsmanship, designed to

enchant every bride. The collection includes mesmerizing engagement rings, beautiful bangles and kangan's, intricate necklaces, and more. Each piece is TBZ-The Original certified and carries the BIS Hallmark, symbolizing purity and quality. Recently, TBZ-The Original also launch their "Dohra Collection", a unique Detachable Bridal Jewellery concept which has been highly commended across stores. Customers can repurpose the jewellery to suit multiple occasions and needs as per their preferences. Customers can look forward to this and many more intricate pieces of work at the new Himayat Nagar store. Inaugurated by renowned actress Raashii Khanna, the store will display a rich collection of Gold, Antique and Temple Jewellery. It will also showcase a stunning collection of diamond jewellery, all crafted in TBZ-The Original's own state-of-the-art manufacturing facilities.

## Thums Up Brings the Iconic ICC Trophy Closer to Cricket Fans Across India at Major Airports

16th January, 2026: Thums Up, India's homegrown cola giant, is bringing the prestigious ICC T20 Men's World Cup Trophy closer to fans through a high-impact ICC Trophy Viewing Experience in partnership with Delhi Airport and Adani Airports across three of the country's busiest airports. Rooted in its long-standing partnership with the ICC, the initiative celebrates India's deep, emotional bond with cricket by transforming everyday transit spaces into moments of national pride and fandom. The initiative is being brought to life in partnership with airport operators. Thums Up has partnered with Delhi Airport and with Adani Airports at Ahmedabad and Mumbai to ensure strong consumer engagement and scale across transit hubs that see millions of Indian travellers every day. The ICC Trophy Viewing Experience begins at Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport, Ahmedabad on 15th January, followed by Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi on 16th January and Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport, Mumbai on 17th January and will be showcased between 6am to 8pm on all days. Delhi Airport will host a dedicated ICC Trophy display, while



Ahmedabad and Mumbai will feature an immersive LED mural photo zone designed for fan engagement. As a long-standing partner of the ICC, Thums Up has consistently played a role in bringing cricket's biggest milestones closer to Indian fans. The partnership is rooted in a shared belief in the power of sport to unite the country and create moments that go beyond the stadium, turning iconic cricketing assets into lived, real-world experiences for consumers. Speaking on the initiative, Abhishek Gupta, Chief Customer Officer, Coca-Cola India and Southwest Asia said, "Cricket is one of India's most power-

ful consumption moments and has a unique way of bringing people together, and Thums Up has always shown up where that passion is strongest. By taking the ICC Trophy experience to India's major airports with our partners at Delhi Airport and Adani Airports, we're meeting fans in the middle of their everyday journeys, turning transit spaces into meaningful touchpoints that reflect the scale, confidence and boldness that define Thums Up." Speaking on the partnership, Arun Bansal, CEO, Adani Airports Holding Ltd. Said, "AAHL proudly collaborates with Thums Up

to bring the ICC Trophy to Ahmedabad and Mumbai airports, turning everyday journeys into vibrant moments of national pride, fan engagement, and innovative travel experiences. We are excited to bring such momentous occasions for our passengers, besides ensuring impeccable infrastructure services. Together, we're redefining transit as a celebration of India's sporting spirit. Rooted in sport as a powerful cultural force, Thums Up has consistently pioneered new ways for fans to experience the game beyond the screen. From flying contest winners to the ICC World Cup 2024 in West Indies to creating high-impact, tech-led moments around cricket, the brand has turned major sporting milestones into real, shared consumption occasions. These experiences reflect Thums Up's belief that sport is not just watched, but lived, on the ground, in the moment and on scale. The ICC Trophy Experience reflects Thums Up's long-standing association with cricket and its intent to stay close to moments that matter to fans. By placing the trophy at key transit hubs, the brand aims to meet fans where their journeys begin, creating memorable touchpoints around the game they passionately follow.



## Men's U19 World Cup: Henil Patel's fifer helps India beat USA by six wickets

**Bulawayo (Zimbabwe), Jan 15 (IANS)** Henil Patel bagged the first five-wicket haul of the tournament and helped multiple-time champion India make a winning start to their campaign in the ICC Under-19 Men's Cricket World Cup with a six-wicket victory (via DLS Method) over the USA at the Queens Sports Club in Bulawayo on Thursday.

Five-time winners India inserted in the USA after winning the toss, and Henil Patel instantly validated that decision by delivering a fiery opening spell that broke the resistance of the USA top order. The right-arm pacer picked up three wickets inside the first 12 overs as the USA were reduced to 35/4.

The Indians then tightened the screws on the USA middle-order



to pick up wickets at regular intervals as DeepeshDevendran, Ambarish RS, Khilari Patel, and VaibhavSooryavanshi all picked up a wicket each. Patel then returned to clean up the tail and bag the first fifer of the

tournament to bowl USA out for just 107 inside 36 overs.

### SOORYAVANSHI SETS RECORD

The USA made a good start to proceedings with the ball, dismissing early Vaibhav

Sooryavanshi, who set a world record by making his debut in the U19 World Cup at the age of 14 years and 294 days, breaking the 18-year-old record held by Indian-origin player Nitish Kumar, who made his debut for Canada at the age of 15 years and 245 days.

Just when skipper Ayush Mhatre and Vedant Trivedi appeared to steady the innings, the game was halted because of the lightning protocols. Rain followed and ensured the game was suspended for long enough for it to be reduced to 37 overs when it resumed after a long break. Chasing a revised target of 96, India were rocked by two quick wickets as skipper Mhatre (19) and Trivedi (2) were dismissed, leaving India struggling at 25/3. But Abhigyan Kundu and Vihaan Malhotra

weathered the storm and slowly turned the tables on the USA bowlers, stitching together a counter-attacking 45-run partnership that got India closer to the target. Malhotra's dismissal didn't prevent the five-time winners from cruising home and putting their first points on the board.

India will be back in action against Bangladesh for their second game in Group A on Saturday. The USA will take on New Zealand on Sunday, with both matches set to take place at the Queens Sports Club in Bulawayo.

**Brief scores:** USA U19 107 all out in 35.2 overs (NitishSudini 36; Henil Patel 5-16) lost to India U19 (revised target 96 - AbhigyanKundu 42 not out; RitvikAppidi 2-24) by 6 wickets (DLS method).

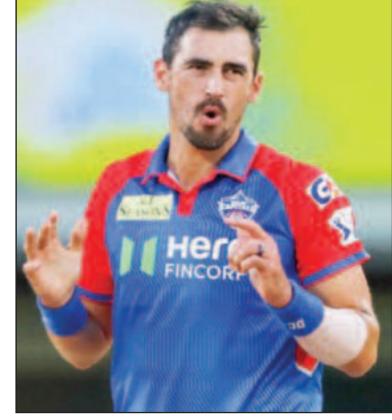
## Mitchell Starc bags ICC Men's Player of the Month Award

**Dubai, Jan 15 (IANS)** Australia's talismanic bowler Mitchell Starc has been named as the winner of the ICC Men's Player of the Month award for December, following his splendid performance against England in the Ashes 2025-26.

The 35-year-old was on a roll in the recently concluded Ashes series, taking 31 wickets and contributing with two half-centuries. His outstanding all-round performance earned him the Player of the Series award.

Australia's left-arm fast bowler was nominated for the Player of the Month award after he took 16 wickets and scored 139 runs across three tests in December.

Starc was proud to have won the award on the back of a successful home Ashes win.



## Adelaide International: Andreeva, Shnaider set up all-Russian semis clash

**Adelaide, Jan 15 (IANS)** World No. 8 Mirra Andreeva stormed into the semifinals of the Adelaide International, setting up an all-Russian clash against Diana Shnaider after a dominant victory over local hope Maya Joint in Adelaide on Thursday.



The Adelaide International serves as a crucial warm-up event ahead of the season's first Grand Slam, offering players a final chance to fine-tune their form for Australian hard courts. Andreeva, the third seed, proved too strong for local hope Maya Joint in a battle between two rising teenagers. The Russian star dispatched the 32nd-ranked Australian with a commanding 6-2, 6-0 victory to book her place in the final four.

## India Open 2026: Lakshya Sen beats Kenta Nishimoto to reach QFs; Srikanth, Prannoy crash out

**New Delhi, Jan 15 (IANS)** Former champion LakshyaSen relied on his strong defence and injection of pace to defeat Japan's Kenta Nishimoto, while KidambiSrikanth and HS Prannoy's inspired performances were not enough in the second round of the India Open 2026 at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium in New Delhi on Thursday. Sen packed off Nishimoto 21-19, 21-11 to advance into the quarterfinals after Srikanth had gone down 21-14, 21-17, 21-17 against BWF World Tour Finals winner Christo Popov of France, and Prannoy lost to eighth seed Loh Kean Yew of Singapore 18-21, 21-19, 21-14.



India's challenge in the women's section of the BWF World Tour Super 750 event being organised by the Badminton Association of India also came to an end after the fifth-seeded Chinese Han Yue accounted for MalvikaBansod 21-18, 21-15. The going was tough even for Sen in the initial stages of the first game against Nishimoto, as the Indian was struggling to find his rhythm and the length of his strokes. The Indian Oil employee trailed the Japanese 11-16 in the opening game and then 14-18, but kept on engaging his opponent in long rallies and came up with some brilliant defensive strokes to parry Nishimoto's smashes to

Nishimoto (Jpn) 21-19, 21-10; 5-Christo Popov (Fra) bt Kidambi Srikanth 21-14, 17-21, 21-17; 3-Jonatan Christie (Ina) btYoshi Tanaka (Jpn) 21-15, 21-19; 8-Loh Kean Yew (Sin) bt HS Prannoy 18-21, 21-19, 21-14; 2-Kunlavut Vitidsarn (Tha) bt Lu GuangZu (Chn) 21-14, 21-16. Women's singles: 1-AN Se Young (Kor) bt Huang Yu-Hsun (Tpe) 21-14, 21-9; 7-Ratchnok Intanon (Tha) bt Mia Blichfeldt (Den) 21-16, 21-11; 5-Han Yue (Chn) bt Malvika Bansod 21-18, 21-15; 4-Chen Yu Fei (Chn) btBusanOngbamrungphan (Tha) 21-11, 21-13; Natsuki Nidaira (Jpn) bt 8-Tomoka Miyazaki (Jpn) 21-19, 8-21, 21-

## Washington Sundar ruled out of NZ T20Is with rib injury

**New Delhi, Jan 15 (IANS)** India all-rounder Washington Sundar has been ruled out of the five-match T20I series against New Zealand, as he is still recovering from a rib injury he suffered during the ODI series opener in Vadodara, sources told IANS on Thursday. The five-match T20I series, which is set to begin on January 21 at the Vidarbha Cricket Association Stadium in Nagpur, is part of India's preparation for the T20 World Cup, which starts on February 7. It remains unclear whether the all-rounder will recover



in time for the marquee tournament. "Washington is ruled out of the T20Is against New Zealand, as he would take at least a few more weeks to recover from the injury suffered in the Vadodara ODI.

It is yet to be known if he will be fully fit in time for the T20 World Cup," said a source familiar with the matter to IANS. The source further said, "Washington is likely to report to the CoE in Bengaluru on Saturday and will know more about his recovery timeline once he reaches there."

## Najmul sacked as players' revolt puts BPL in limbo

**Dhaka, Jan 15:** The crisis-ridden Bangladesh Cricket Board stared at the prospect of its flagship T20 league coming to a halt after senior national players revolted against it for not sacking director Najmul Islam for his disparaging comments against them even though the BCB removed him as head of its finance committee.

Despite the removal of Najmul from the key BCB post, two matches of the ongoing Bangladesh Premier League (BPL) scheduled on the day were postponed and the tournament itself looked in disarray due to the players' firm stance.

The cricketers taking part in the BPL were unified in their demand for immediate removal of Najmul as BCB director. BCB removed Najmul as chairman of the board's finance committee but he remains a Board director, a position that can be taken from him on disciplinary grounds. "...Following a review of recent developments and in the best interest of the organisation, the BCB President has decided to release Mr. Najmul Islam from his responsibilities as Chairman of the Finance Committee with immediate effect," said the BCB in a statement. "Until further notice, the BCB President will assume the role of Acting Chairman of the Finance Committee. The BCB reiterates that the interests of the cricketers remain its highest priority."

## Keys loses to Mboko in Adelaide International QF

**Adelaide, Jan 15 (IANS)** Defending champion Madison Keys suffered a shock exit from the Adelaide International on Thursday, crashing out in the quarter-finals after a three-set defeat to Canada's rising star Victoria Mboko. World No. 17 Mboko, 19, defeated ninth-ranked Keys 6-4, 4-6, 6-2 in one

hour and 53 minutes for her second career victory against a top-10 opponent. Eighth seed Mboko struck first by breaking Keys early to take the opening set but struggled to match the American's powerful serving in the second. In the deciding set, Mboko was clinical on serve, winning 75 percent of points on her first delivery and capitalising on the only break opportunity she earned. "I know she won this tournament last year and, of course, the Australian Open. I knew coming into this

match it had to be a big fight, so I'm glad I got it done," Mboko said on court after the match, as reported by Xinhua. Keys had won the Adelaide International title in 2025 before going on to claim her first career Grand Slam title at the Australian Open weeks later. She will be in action in Melbourne on January 18 to defend her title. Mboko will play Australia's Kimberly Birrell in Friday's semifinal, after the world No. 107 came back from a set down to beat Romania's JacquelineCristian 5-7, 6-1, 7-5 in a three-hour epic. Birrell led 5-2 in the first set and had five set points but could not make the most of the opportunities as Cristian won five games in a row to seal the set. Birrell flipped the momentum in a dominant second set where she won the opening five games.

**Jamshedpur, Jan 15:** The 69th National School Games Championship 2025-26 is currently underway at Khelgaon, Ranchi, with over 300 participants competing in the Under-14 boys' and girls' categories. The prestigious event has drawn participation from 31 sports units, representing states from across the country. Two officials from Jamshedpur, Dr SuchetaBhuyan and Mrs ShwetaKumari, have been invited to serve as match arbiters for the championship. Their selection reflects recognition of their experience and contribution to the sport.

Narendra Kumar Tiwary, General Secretary of the East Singhbhum District Chess Association, extended his best wishes to both officials and the participants for a successful and competitive championship.



## Sabuj Kalyan Sangh to host first Rapid Chess Tournament on Jan 18



**Jamshedpur, Jan 15:** Sabuj Kalyan Sangh, Teclio, will organise its first-ever Rapid Chess Tournament 2026 on January 18 at the Sabuj Kalyan Sangh campus, marking a new milestone for chess promotion in the area.

The event has already received an encouraging response, with over 100 players registered so far. Top seed of the tournament will be Kumar Sankalp, with an Elo rating of 1771, while Ishani Choudhary (rating 1462) will be the top-seeded player in the women's category. The organisers have announced a total cash prize of Rs 40,000, along with 36 trophies for boys and girls across various age groups.

Reporting time for players will be 8:00

am, and the first round will begin at 8:30 am. The tournament will be played in eight rounds.

The entry fee has been fixed at Rs 650. The tournament will be conducted under the supervision of Chief Arbiter Jayant Kumar Bhuyan, with Vishal Kumar Minz as Deputy Chief Arbiter. A final preparatory meeting was held to finalise all technical aspects of the event.

The meeting was attended by office-bearers of Sabuj Kalyan Sangh, including Pradeep Ghoshal, Joy Jyoti Khatua, Deepak Banerjee, Mithilesh Ghosh, Sudhir Bhattacharya and Subroto Bose along with Narendra Kumar Tiwary, General Secretary, East Singhbhum District Chess Association.

## PST-11 clinches Chamber Premier League 2026 title

**Jamshedpur, Jan 15:** PST-11 emerged champions of the Chamber Premier League (CPL) 2026, defeating PRW-11 by a convincing margin of 13 runs in the final match held at the Tube Makers Club Ground. The two-day fifth edition of the tournament was organised by the Singhbhum Chamber of Commerce and Industry on January 13 and 14.

The final began at 7:00 pm and witnessed an impressive performance by PST-11, which dominated the match from start to finish. VikasAgarwal was named Man of the Match for his outstanding contribution in the final. The details were jointly shared by Chamber President ManavKedia and Honorary General Secretary PuneetKanwati.

The closing ceremony took place at 8:30 pm at the same venue. MukulChaudhary, Chief Sports, Tata Steel, attended as the chief guest, while Rajiv Badhan, Secretary of Cricket Country Club, Ranchi, was the guest of honour. They presented trophies to the winning and runner-up teams and distributed consolation

prizes to all participating players. Addressing the gathering, MukulChaudhary appreciated the enthusiasm of business owners and entrepreneurs for sports despite their busy schedules, and praised the Chamber for promoting a healthy lifestyle. Rajiv Badhan also lauded the initiative and encouraged the

Chamber to continue supporting sports activities. President ManavKedia said the Chamber has begun organising sports events alongside its regular activities to promote fitness, camaraderie and sportsmanship among its members. He added that the number of teams is likely to be increased to eight in the next CPL season.

Six teams-PST-11, Executive-11, PRW-11, Trade-11, Industry-11 and Tax & Finance-11 participated in the tournament. The top four teams qualified for the semi-finals played on January 14.

Individual honours went to Vinit Kumar Lala (Man of the Series), Pritam Jain (Best Batsman), AshutoshKabra (Best Bowler), VinitLala (Best Fielder) and SugamSaraiwala (Best Wicketkeeper).



## “Heartfelt thanks to every single audience for giving us such a massive success” – Star Entertainer Naveen Polishetty at the Anaganaga Oka Raju Thank You Meet

“This is the first Sankranti in six years that truly gave me satisfaction” – Producer Suryadevara Naga Vamsi Arriving as a Sankranti gift and showering theatres with nonstop laughter, Anaganaga Oka Raju is racing ahead toward a sensational blockbuster status. Starring star entertainer Naveen Polishetty in the lead, the film is produced by Suryadevara Naga Vamsi and Sai Soujanya under the banners of Sithara Entertainments and Fortune Four Cinemas, and presented by Srikara Studios. The film is directed by debutant Mari, with Meenakshi Chaudhary as the female lead. Released on January 14 amid huge expectations, Anaganaga Oka Raju received an extraordinary response from the very first show. Along with rib-tickling comedy, the film touched hearts with its emotional moments, earning praise as a true festive entertainer. In just two days, the film created a sensation by collecting a massive 41.2 crores worldwide. With collections pouring in at the box office backed by overwhelming audience support, the team organized a Thank You Meet to express their gratitude. Speaking at the event, Naveen Polishetty said, “First of all, Sankranti



greetings to everyone. My heartfelt thanks to each and every audience member who gave us such a big success, and to our media friends who stood by us with immense support. Sithara Entertainments is a blockbuster production house that has delivered many milestone films. Recently, one or two films from the banner did not perform as expected. At such a time, audiences giving a blockbuster in the form of Anaganaga Oka Raju has brought great happiness to all of us. Seeing a smile on Naga Vamsi garu's face especially made me very happy. I wish he always stays smiling like this. I must specially talk about our gurus Trivikram garu and

Chinna Babu garu. They trusted us and encouraged us greatly for this film. The episodes they believed in and allowed us to retain are now receiving tremendous appreciation from audiences. From the very first scene to the interval, audiences are laughing continuously in the first half. The political entertainment in the second half is also getting an excellent response. I always prioritize entertainment in my films, but this time we also wanted to deliver strong emotions along with it. I admire Rajkumar Hirani's films, and with that inspiration, we attempted something similar in Telugu. We watched the film in a mass theatre like Sriramulu, and the way

audiences enjoyed the entertainment and showered applause during the emotional scenes made us feel that our story connected with all sections of viewers. As a hero, this is only my fourth film and my first Sankranti release. Despite competition from big films, audiences made our film a blockbuster. A dialogue from a Trivikram film says there's some power behind you. The power behind me is the audience. They are the ones carrying my films forward. From someone who once went around asking for just one

chance, to receiving four consecutive hits, I sincerely thank every Telugu family for this love. I'll continue to work harder than ever to entertain you. Director Maari's contribution is unforgettable. He also played a key role in the writing. When I was feeling low while writing the story after an accident, our co-writer Chinmayi filled me with motivation. Meenakshi Chaudhary and Rao Ramesh garu delivered outstanding performances. Thanks to Mickey J. Meyer garu for the wonderful music. When writers, artists, and directors are trusted and given creative freedom, this is the kind of output that comes. My heartfelt thanks to Naga Vamsi garu for trusting us and giving us complete freedom. Thanks to everyone who was part of this film. Many film personalities congratulated us saying we delivered a great Sankranti film. Those who haven't watched Anaganaga Oka Raju yet, please book your tickets immediately. You will definitely enjoy it.” Producer Suryadevara Naga Vamsi said, “This is the

Sankranti that gave me true satisfaction after six years. After Ala Vaikunta Puramloo in 2020, this is the first Sankranti to give me that level of fulfillment. My heartfelt thanks to audiences for delivering such a big success this Sankranti. Thanks to the media for the tremendous support. Many producers wished for this film to succeed, and with everyone's blessings, we achieved this level of success. Fans are also showing massive support on social media, and a big announcement that will make them happy is coming soon. Even though two big films released this Sankranti, our distributors stood strongly by us and allotted sufficient theatres, which helped us achieve a ₹41 crore gross in just two days. My thanks to all distributors who trusted me and Naveen and stood by us. Releasing a film during Sankranti and delivering a hit is very special to me. Special thanks to Naveen for being a key part of this success. Meenakshi Chaudhary dedicated an entire year exclusively to this film, and I sincerely thank her. For any script-related doubts, I constantly discussed with creative director Chinmayi, and I promised her that if this film succeeds, I'll introduce her as a director under our banner. Trivikram

## Energetic Mass Track Basavanna From Arjun's Seetha Payanam Unveiled



Multi-talented actor and director Action King Arjun is gearing up with his upcoming film Seetha Payanam. Produced under the Shree Raam Films International banner, the movie marks the silver-screen debut of Arjun's daughter Aishwarya Arjun as the female lead. The film also features Nirjan, Sathyaraj, Prakash Raj, and Kovai Sarala in key roles. Along with directing, Arjun himself plays a special character, while his nephew Action Prince Dhruva Sarja appears in a striking cameo. The newly released song 'Basavanna', introducing Dhruva Sarja's character, has grabbed instant attention. The track hints at Dhruva Sarja portraying a powerful and intense role as Basavanna.

Anup Rubens' composition is packed with high energy, showcasing the importance of the Basavanna character in the film. Kasarla Shyam's lyrics deliver goosebumps, while the vocals by Nakash Aziz and L. Keerthana are vibrant and appealing. Choreographers Lalitha Shobi and Srishti Varma have added dynamic visuals to the song. From the glimpse this track offers, Dhruva Sarja is all set to become one of the film's biggest strengths. The team has now completed the shoot and post-production work. The makers have already announced that the film will release on February 14, hitting screens on a grand scale in Telugu, Kannada, Tamil, Malayalam, and Hindi.

## From a 10-Minute Short Film to a Rs. 10-Crore Feature Film: AVAA International Short Film Contest Season 1 Announced



On the auspicious occasion of Sankranti and Pongal, AVAA Entertainments announces the launch of the AVAA International Short Film Contest – Season One, a unique, director-centric initiative aimed at discovering and encouraging new filmmaking talent across India. The production house extends warm wishes to everyone for a very Happy Sankranti and Pongal. Designed as a director-focused reality format, the contest invites aspiring filmmakers to submit short films with a maximum duration of 10 minutes, judged purely on storytelling and directorial vision. The standout highlight of the contest is its grand reward – the winning director will get an opportunity to direct a ₹10-crore feature film, produced by actor and film producer Mr. Vishnu Manchu. Known for his constant support of emerging talent, Vishnu Manchu's vision behind this initiative is to provide deserving directors a

genuine gateway into mainstream cinema. With this initiative, AVAA Entertainments reinforces its commitment to nurturing fresh voices and shaping the future of Indian cinema.



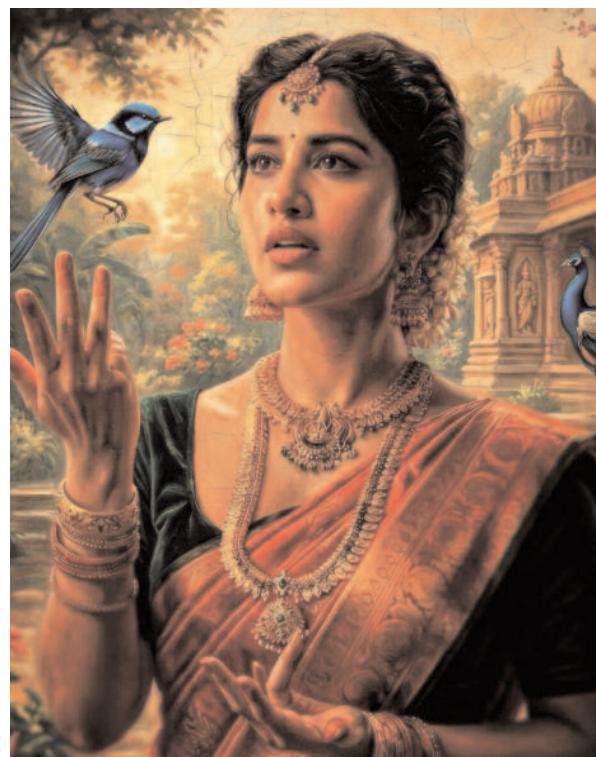
## Kartik Aaryan walks away from his Rs 15 crore paycheck: Reports

**Mumbai:** In an industry where success is celebrated loudly and failures are quickly forgotten, Kartik Aaryan has chosen a different path. The actor is winning hearts not for a blockbuster, but for a bold and generous decision after his latest film struggled at the box office. Kartik's romantic comedy Tu Meri Main Tera Main Tera Tu Meri, co-starring Ananya Panday, released during the festive Christmas season with high expectations. The promotions were energetic, the songs trended online, and fans expected another

crowd-pleaser. However, once the film hit theatres, the response turned lukewarm. Ticket sales dropped quickly, and the movie failed to recover its big budget. **Kartik Aaryan refuses to take remuneration** While most stars walk away from underperforming projects without looking back, Kartik reportedly chose to forego Rs.15 crore from his acting fees to ease the financial burden on the producers. In Bollywood, where star salaries are often fixed regardless of box office results, such a gesture is rare. His decision reflects not just professionalism, but empathy for the team that believed in the project. Industry insiders say the move has earned Kartik

immense respect. Crew members and trade analysts have praised him for standing by his film even when it didn't deliver expected results. It sends a strong message that filmmaking is teamwork and success or failure belongs to everyone involved. Rumours of strained relationships with producers and talent agencies surfaced after the setback, but sources close to the actor have dismissed them. Kartik is already moving forward with new projects and continues to be one of Bollywood's most bankable young stars. While the film may not have worked magic at the box office, Kartik Aaryan's real-life gesture has certainly struck the right chord proving that sometimes character matters more than collections.

## Introducing The Graceful Nabha Natesh As Parvathi From Nagabandham, Pan-India Release In Theaters This Summer



Abhishek Nama's ambitious mythological action drama Nagabandham, starring Virat Karrna, continues to scale new heights as it nears the final stages of production. While the film is already making waves for its massive scale and mystical storyline, the team has now unveiled the captivating first look of lead actress Nabha Natesh as Parvathi. Marking the occasion of Makara Sankranti, the poster showcases the graceful Nabha Natesh in a gorgeous and traditional avatar. Draped in an elegant saree and adorned with intricate jewellery, she radiates poise, purity, and spiritual warmth. Her soulful expression hints at a character deeply rooted in devotion and mythic grace. Adding to the visual richness, a vivid blue bird rests near her hand, complemented by the presence of a majestic peacock and a temple backdrop. This poster perfectly captures the essence of the character and the film's thematic core. Iswarya Menon is the other heroine, with stalwarts like Jagapathi Babu, Jayaprakash, Murali Sharma, and B.S. Avinash in key roles. Nagabandham unfolds against the backdrop of India's ancient Vishnu temples. The storyline explores the sacred mysteries of the Nagabandham tradition, weaving mythology, suspense, and divine legacy into a gripping contemporary narrative. With Soundar Rajan S handling cinematography, RC Pranav overseeing editing, and Ashok Kumar taking care of production design, the film promises visual excellence. Backed by producers Kishore Annappareddy and Nishitha Nagireddy, Nagabandham is gearing up for a grand multi-language release in Telugu, Hindi, Tamil, Kannada, and Malayalam, this summer.

## PRABHAS NIMMALA'S “MIRACLE”: FIRST LOOK RELEASED



Starring Randheer Bheesu – Hebbah Patel as the lead pair, with senior actors Sriram and Suresh in key roles, “Miracle” is being made as an out-and-out action entertainer. Produced jointly by Ramesh Eggidi, Srikanth Mogadasu, and Chander Goud under the Saidha Family Entertainment banner, “Miracle” is directed by Prabhas Nimmala, known for films like “Satya Gang” and “Fighter Shiva.” The first look of the film was released today (January 16) as a Sankranti special. Mrs. Jyotsna is the co-producer of the film. The film's first schedule, packed with high-octane action sequences, has been completed successfully. The second schedule is set to commence from January 22 in and around Hyderabad. In “Miracle,”

Randheer Bheesu plays the hero, while Hebbah Patel stars as the female lead. Akshara Nunna Sujana appears as another heroine. Senior actors

Sriram and Suresh will be seen in crucial roles. Naidu Pendra is being introduced as the villain. Veteran film journalist Dheeraj Appaji will be

seen in a special role as a Forensic Officer. The film also features Janardan, Yogi Katre, Vijay Surya, Inthiyaz, Sai Baba, Dil Ramesh, Jhansi, Suryanarayana, Sridhar, Srikanth, Shiva, Aamani, Haimavathi, Navya (Ammu), Bezwada Mastan, R. Kumar, and several others in important roles. Speaking on the occasion, the producers said:

“After proving his directorial strength with Satya Gang and Fighter Shiva, director Prabhas Nimmala is now coming up with his third film ‘Miracle.’ Hebbah Patel's glamour, powerful performances by senior actors Sriram and Suresh, and high-voltage action blocks will be the major highlights of the film. The second schedule will begin from January 22.”