

OM NAMO
VENKATESAYA



18-02-2026
Total pilgrims: 63,804
Tonsures: 24,142
Hundi kanakulur: 3.90 CR
Waiting Compartments: 14

Approx. Darsan Time for Sarvadarshanam
(with out SSD Tokens): 10-12H

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HYDERABAD | BENGALURU | CHENNAI | VIJAYAWADA | KOCHI

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Create AI Ministry, India must lead: CM Revanth

Hyderabad TSIT BUREAU:

Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has called for the creation of a dedicated Ministry for Artificial Intelligence (AI) at the Centre, asserting that India must position itself as a global AI powerhouse. Speaking at an AI Summit in New Delhi, the Chief Minister said Artificial Intelligence is one of the most transformative technologies in human history. Comparing AI to groundbreaking innovations such as fire, the wheel, agriculture, electricity, and the internet, he said AI represents a decisive turning point in human evolution. Unlike earlier technologies, AI systems can learn, analyse, and make decisions independently, and when combined with robotics, they possess both cognitive and physical capabilities.



Call for National AI Roadmap
Revanth Reddy emphasized the urgent need for a comprehensive National AI Roadmap. He stated that India must adopt a clear strategy covering every stage of AI development - semiconductor chip manufacturing, GPU capacity, data centres, green energy integration, AI platforms, and application ecosystems. Warning that the global AI race has already begun, the Chief Minister said India should not repeat the missed opportunities of past industrial revolutions. While India has achieved global recognition in services and software, it must now lead in core technology innovation and production, he asserted. The Chief Minister proposed the establishment of a national "AI War Room" with coordination between the Centre and States to closely monitor global AI developments. He stated that Telangana is ready to host such a war room in Hyderabad if the Centre approves. He also suggested setting up a world-class AI University in India to promote advanced research and innovation in emerging technologies. Addressing concerns about job

losses due to AI expansion, Revanth Reddy acknowledged that certain sectors may face disruptions. However, he expressed confidence that with proper reskilling and upskilling initiatives, AI would create far greater employment opportunities in new domains. He called upon policymakers to prepare India's youth for an AI-driven future.

Telangana Ready for AI Startup Village
To boost innovation, the Chief Minister proposed the creation of a National AI Fund to support startups. He announced that Telangana is ready to establish an "AI Startup Village" that can serve as a national hub for AI-driven entrepreneurship. He further urged the Prime Minister to consider forming an India AI Council as a premier body to guide policies, legal frameworks, and ethical standards in the AI sector. Revanth Reddy concluded by stating that AI development must contribute to social justice, poverty alleviation, improved public services, and national security. He called upon global experts, institutions, and governments to collaborate in building a responsible, inclusive, and future-ready AI ecosystem, asserting that this is the moment for India to take global leadership in the AI era.

India, US sign Pax Silica declaration to deepen strategic tech partnership



PAX SILICA

Securing the Silicon Supply Chain

New Delhi (TSIT): India and the United States on Friday signed the Pax Silica Declaration, marking a major step forward in their strategic technological and economic partnership. The agreement was signed in the presence of union Minister for Electronics and Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnaw and US Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs Jacob Helberg.

At the signing ceremony of the Pax Silica Declaration between both countries, US Ambassador to India, Sergio Gor,

announced India's formal entry into Pax Silica, describing it as a "defining move that will help shape the 21st-century economic and technological order."

Referring to the recently concluded Interim Trade Agreement, Gor said the pact goes beyond trade flows and tariff schedules, reflecting a shared commitment by "two great democracies" to build together rather than merely buy from one another. The declaration underscores deepening strategic convergence between New Delhi and

Washington, positioning India as a key partner in shaping global technology standards and driving next-generation economic growth.

India's participation in Pax Silica is being viewed as a long-term investment in shared prosperity, technological leadership, and democratic cooperation in a fast-evolving global landscape. Ashwini Vaishnaw, union Minister for Electronics & Information Technology extended special thanks to External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal, and the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

He credited their leadership for making the AI Impact Summit and the evolving silicon supply chain partnership possible. "This entire AI impact summit, the silicon supply chain that we are building, and that huge set of new opportunities that are coming for the young population," he said.

UNICC to set up AI-Quantum Centre in Amaravati



Amaravati (TSIT): The United Nations International Computing Centre (UNICC) will establish a Centre of Excellence for artificial intelligence (AI) and quantum at the Amaravati Quantum Valley in Amaravati, the capital city of Andhra Pradesh. A letter of intent to this effect was signed between at the AI Impact Summit 2026 in New Delhi on Friday in the presence of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu. He posted on social media platform X that the

Centre of Excellence will position Amaravati as a Digital Embassy for secure AI, enabling sovereign, cybersecure AI deployments aligned with UN grade standards. "This collaboration will bring international best practices and global partnerships, placing Andhra Pradesh on the global map of trusted AI and quantum readiness," Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu said, who interacted with Sameer Chauhan, UNICC Director, and Anusha Dandapani, UNICC's AI Hub Chief.

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E-Tender Notice

CE/C-ISC, CE/C-II/SC & CE/C-III/SC & Sp/SC Construction Organisation, S.C. Railway, Secunderabad, respectively, invites e-tender on behalf of the President of India for the following works:

S.No: 1, NIT No.: PMS 01-CAO-C-SC-2026 Date: 19/02/2026 Name of work: SCR Construction Organization - Appointment of Authority Engineer for providing Project Management Services for Construction of new railway BG line between Chagnareddy 77.000 Km and Chagnareddy 147.500 Km between Siddipet (Excl.) & Pro. Kothapalli (Excl.) Stations. Details Estimated Cost: Rs. 12,95,06,110.00, EMD: Rs. 7,97,500.00 Completion Period: 30 (Thirty) Months. Date of Opening: 26/03/2026 15:00 hrs.

S.No: 2 NIT No.: 13-CAO-C-SC-2026 Date: 19/02/2026 Name of work: SCR Construction Organisation: New BG Line Construction - Nambur in Amaravathi - I) Erupalem yard remodelling and integration with Amaravathi line, II) Earthwork in formation including blanketing to GE: IRS-0004 specifications, III) Construction of minor bridges, RUBs, extension of L.C, IV) Proposed Laying and linking of BG track, Assembling and insertion of Points and crossings, Leading and dumping stone ballast, transportation of P.Way materials and other miscellaneous works from Km: 0.00 to Km: 3.525 between Erupalem (including) and Peddapuram (excluding) stations. Details Estimated Cost: Rs. 36,20,15,783.00 EMD: Rs. 19,60,100.00 Completion Period: 15 (Fifteen) Months. Date of Opening: 17/03/2026 15:00 hrs.

S.No: 3 NIT No.: EPC 02-CAO-C-SC-2026 Date: 17/02/2026 Name of work: SCR Construction Organization: Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) contract for Tripling of track between Srikalahasti and Renigunta Stations with Electrification, Signalling & Telecommunication Electrification and augmentation of 1x25kv TSS/SP/SSP in total GDR-RU section to suit three line in connection with Tripling of Gudur-Renigunta section in Guntakal division in the State of Andhra Pradesh. Details Estimated Cost: Rs. 232,55,22,169.52 EMD: Rs. 1,16,27,600.00 Completion Period: 24 (Twenty Four) Months. Date of Opening: 21/04/2026 15:00 hrs.

S.No: 4 NIT No.: 07-CAO-C-SC-2026 Date: 11/02/2026 Name of work: SCR Construction Organization: Construction of office for Dy. CE/CG/TPTT & CSI/CPTT near Tumpati West Station in Guntakal Division. Details Estimated Cost: Rs. 9,00,11,782.16 EMD: Rs. 5,00,100.00 Completion Period: 12 (Twelve) Months. Date of Opening: 05/03/2026 15:00 hrs.

S.No: 5 NIT No.: 12-CAO-C-SC-2026 Date: 13/02/2026 Name of work: SCR Construction Organization: Guntakal Division - Major Upgradation of Renigunta station under Amrit Bharat station Scheme-Construction of 12.0m & 6.0m wide FOB, COPs, Improvements to Platforms and Relocation of Buildings on PF No.4/5 duly demolishing existing Buildings. Details Estimated Cost: Rs. 31,73,84,430.12 EMD: Rs. 17,36,900.00 Completion Period: 18 (Eighteen) Months. Date of Opening: 16/03/2026 15:00 hrs.

For bid document and other details, please login to website https://ireps.gov.in.

i) Tenderers can submit their offers online during tender submission period which is the Fifteen days period prior to closing of tender.

ii) Tenderers should watch for any corrigenda (issued online only) up to the date of commencement of the tender submission period.

iii) Tenderers should watch for any corrigenda (issued online only) up to the date of commencement of the tender submission period.

Dy.Chief Administration Officer/Secunderabad

E-Tender Notice No. GNT/SG/38367, Dated: 17.02.2026

The undersigned invites e-tenders for the works mentioned below up to 16:00 hrs of 12.03.2026.

ID.No.: 367. Name of the work: Telecom arrangements in connection with replacement of defective quad cable between GNT-NL PD, MAG-KCC & BMMP-PDOP sections for improving reliability of communication over Guntakal Division. Advertised Tender Value (Rs.): 1,75,55,042.00, E.M.D./Bid Security (Rs.): 2,37,800/-, Cost of Tender Document (Rs.): NIL

1. If the date of opening of tenders happens to be declared holiday at later date, the tenders will be opened on the next working day at the stipulated time.

2. Last dates for online submission of E-bids are 12.03.2026 up to 16:00 hrs. For detailed information login to our website at www.ireps.gov.in.

3. Any further communication/corrigendum shall only be intimated through E-portal www.ireps.gov.in.

Sr. Divisional Signal Telecom Engineer, Guntur

E-Tender Notice No. N-SG-36-2025-26-CCTV-42 dated 17.02.2026

Sr. DSTE/NED acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders for the following work.

Tender Number and Date: N-SG-36-2025-26-CCTV-42 dated 17.02.2026, Name of Work: Provision of IP based Video Surveillance System (CCTV Cameras) at Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar, Jalna and Parbhani Goods Sheds over Nanded Division. Estimated Project Cost Rs.: 77,08,707/- Bid Security Rs.: 1,54,200/- Completion Period of Work: 12 Months, Bid Closing Date (Bid Due Date): 11.03.2026 at 15:00 hrs., Bid Opening Date: 11.03.2026 after 15:00 hrs., Validity of Offer: 60 Days from Bid Closing Date, Cost of Tender Booklet: Rs.0/-

All bidding is in Indian Railway e-tendering portal www.ireps.gov.in. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender. Further details can be seen in www.ireps.gov.in

Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer/Nanded

E-Tender Notice No. N-SG-36-2025-26-TOWER-41 dated 17.02.2026

Sr. DSTE/NED acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders for the following work.

Tender Number and Date: N-SG-36-2025-26-TOWER-41 dated 17.02.2026, Name of Work: Replacement of Overaged Existing Rooftop 25W VHF Mast with Tripod Towers Type and Associated Accessories over Nanded Division. Estimated Project Cost: Rs. 54,56,542/- Bid Security Rs.: 1,09,100/- Completion Period of Work: 12 Months, Bid Closing Date (Bid Due Date): 11.03.2026 at 15:00 hrs., Bid Opening Date: 11.03.2026 after 15:00 hrs., Validity of Offer: 60 Days from Bid Closing Date, Cost of Tender Booklet Rs.: 0/-

All bidding is in Indian Railway e-tendering portal www.ireps.gov.in. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender. Further details can be seen in www.ireps.gov.in

Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer/Nanded

CHANGE OF NAME

I, BETHI SUDHARANI W/o. BETHI SANTHOSH KUMAR (Old Name) R/o. H.No: 11-23-2096/3, Teachers Colony, Ganeshnagar, Deshaipet Road, Warangal Dist. T.G., I have changed my name BETHI SUDHARANI to KANDAGATLA SHANTHA, D/o. KANDAGATLA MALLAIAH for all future purposes.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that my client Sri. Hiralal Barfa, S/o. Sri. Dana Ramji had lost his original link document i.e. Sale Deed, Document No. 2220/2022 dated 01.04.2022, registered in the Office of Sub-Registrar Vallabh nagar in respect of part of Residential House bearing Nos. 5-70/358 & 5-23/358 on Plot No. 356 Part, in Survey Nos. 9 & 10, admeasuring 112.75 Sq. Yards or equivalent to 94.25 Sq. Mtrs., situated at Citizen Colony, Jonnabanda, Old Alwal, Alwal Circle, under GHMC Alwal Circle, the then Malkajgiri Mandal, Ranga Reddy District, now newly formed as Alwal Mandal, Medchal-Malkajgiri District. The General Public is hereby cautioned not to deal with the person/persons who are in illegal possession of the documents. If any person / persons entering into any transaction with respect to the above mentioned property based on the lost document shall be doing so at their risk and such transactions shall not be honoured.

If anyone has any claim/interest/dispute over the said property, the same may be reported to the undersigned within 7 days from the publication of the notice, failing which no further claim over the said property will be entertained and shall be deemed there is no Encumbrance pending against this document.

Mereddy Narasimha Reddy (Advocate), Panel Advocate Can Fin Homes House No. 11-13-194/14, Plot No. 5 Road No. 3, Green Hills Colony Kothapet, Ranga Reddy District-034, Phone No. 6301426732

All bidding is in Indian Railway e-tendering portal www.ireps.gov.in. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender. Further details can be seen in www.ireps.gov.in.

Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer/Nanded

Tender Notice No: G/E.29/Tr./ Tender Notice/56/2025-26 Dt. 20.02.2026

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

Tender No.: GTL-TRD-29-eTN-87-2025-26. Name of Work : Provision of Retro-reflective Sigma Boards prior to ABS signals and number plates in WD-GTL-MOO-RU Section. Approximate Value : Rs. 70, 93, 700/- EMD: Rs. 1,41,900/-

Note: 1. Tender Document may be downloaded from www.ireps.gov.in by tenders, free of cost.

For Bidding the tender and other details login to http://www.ireps.gov.in. Corrigendum if any will be issued online only.

Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/Traction/Guntakal

Tender Notice No. 60/2026 Dt. 20.02.2026

Supply of Stores Items. E-Procurement Tender Notice- The Following Tenders Have Been Floated Online. Tenders Are Requested To Visit The Website www.ireps.gov.in And Submit Their Offers Online. The Tender Description, Qty, EMD, SD May Be Seen In Website. Offers Submitted Manually Will Not Be Accepted. Offers By Post Will Not Be Entertained. Tender Closing Time Is 14.30 Hrs Of The Due Date Of The Tender. For All Indigenous Offers, EMD Will Be Accepted Only Via Online System as Available On www.ireps.gov.in.

3261590 Earthing Cable Complete

6625752C Procurement of spares of Deutz make for Track machines.

33261384 Spring Pot

66265129 Track Machine spares of plasser make

29265002 Set of Labyrinth and Bearing Cap

30262431 Lower spring Beam Arrangement

66258539B Procurement of spares for Track machines.

30263621A Set of Upper Flange.

30263628 Non-Asbestos Based 'k' type

38261006 22-22mm Dia Lock Bolt with Collar

66265282 Procurement of HARSCO make spares for Track machines.

Note: Due dates of tender opening SL.No. 01 on dt.06.03.2026. SL.No. 02 on dt. 25.02.2026. SL.No. 03 & 04 on dt. 11.03.2026. SL.No. 05 on dt. 12.03.2026. SL.No. 06 to 08 on dt. 16.03.2026. SL.No. 09 on dt. 18.03.2026. SL.No. 10 on dt. 23.03.2026. SL.No. 11 on dt. 02.04.2026.

CORRIGENDUM 1) Tender Notice No.57/2026 dt. 30.01.2026 Tender No. 6025PT044 due on dt. 25.02.2026. Briefly, Supply, Metal liners RDSO Drg No T-3740 may be read as Due date 04.03.2026 instead of existing.

2) Tender Notice No.57/2026 dt. 30.01.2026 Tender No. 6025PT046 due on dt. 26.02.2026. Briefly, Supply, Metal liners RDSO Drg No T-8748 may be read as Due date 05.03.2026 instead of existing.

Beside Above Mentioned Tenders There Are Other Tenders Having Value Above Rs. 50 Lakhs for details Please Visit Railway Website Above.

Principal Chief Materials Manager/ Secunderabad A2527

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

KOMATIREDDY VENKAT REDDY CONDOLES DEMISE OF VENNAM RAGHAVENDER REDDY



Hyderabad: Roads & Buildings and former TPC State Secretary and State Constitution Member Komatireddy Venkat Reddy paid homage to late Vennam Raghavender Reddy during the Dashadina Karma (tenth-day ritual) held on Friday at Kotha Reddy village in Mahabubabad district. Vennam Raghavender Reddy, father of Big TV Groups Chairman Vennam Vijay Reddy and former TPC State Secretary and State Constitution Member Vennam Srikanth Reddy, recently passed away.

CM Revanth Attends Wedding Reception of Prof. Y.L. Srinivas' Daughter in New Delhi



Hyderabad: Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy attended the wedding ceremony of Ananya, daughter of Prof. Y.L. Srinivas, Vice Chancellor of Sammakka Sarakka Central Tribal University, and blessed the newlywed couple. The wedding was held at a hotel in New Delhi, where the Chief Minister conveyed his best wishes to the bride and groom for a happy and prosperous married life. Several dignitaries and well-wishers were present on the occasion. The Chief Minister interacted with guests and extended his congratulations to Prof. Y.L. Srinivas and his family during the ceremony.

Vennam Vijay Reddy and extended his heartfelt sympathies, offering words of comfort and strength to the family. Speaking on the occasion, the Minister described late Raghavender Reddy as a dedicated farmer and a well-wisher of the agricultural community. He said his demise is an irreparable loss.

Recalling his life, the Minister noted that despite opportunities elsewhere, Raghavender Reddy chose to remain in his native village, dedicating himself to agriculture and rural life until his last days. Among those present were TPC Vice President Jhansi Reddy, former Adibatla Municipal Chairman Niranjan Reddy, Mahabubabad district leaders, and several party workers and well-wishers.

50 Lakh Donated to Telangana Women Safety Wing



Hyderabad: The Women Safety Wing of the Telangana Police has received a donation of 50 lakh to support initiatives aimed at ensuring the safety and protection of women across the State. Vijayalakshmi, on behalf of the Tarnaka Mahila Samajam, met Director General of Police B. Shivadhar Reddy on Friday and formally handed over the cheque. Speaking on the occasion, Vijayalakshmi said the donation was extended as a mark of support to the government and the police department's efforts in strengthening women's safety mechanisms. She stated that the Tarnaka Mahila Samajam decided to contribute towards initiatives that enhance security, awareness, and response systems for women. Expressing appreciation, the DGP thanked the Tarnaka Mahila Samajam for its socially responsible gesture.

Canara Bank BHONGIR BRANCH (0658) OPP : MUNICIPAL OFFICE STATION ROAD, BHONGIR, TELANGANA - 508116

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

Date & Time of Auction : 26.03.2026, 11:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. (with unlimited extension of 5 minutes duration each till the conclusion of the sale) Last Date of Deposit of EMD is 25.03.2026, at 5:00 PM.

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the construction/physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Bhongir Branch will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on 26.03.2026, for recovery of Rs.55,24,503.19/- (Rupees Fifty Five Lakhs Twenty Four Thousand Five Hundred Three and Nineteen Paise Only) (Contractual dues as on 24.11.2025) due to the Bhongir Branch of Canara Bank

Name of Address of the Borrower(s) & Guarantor (s) : Mrs Chinthakayala Indiramma, W/o. Chinthakayala Sathyanarayana, and Co-obligant : 1. Mr Chinthakayala Praveen Kumar, S/o. Chinthakayala Sathyanarayana, 2. Mr. Chinthakayala Sai Kumar, S/o. Chinthakayala Sathyanarayana, all are above addresses : H.No. 1-7-2242, R.B. Nagar, Bhongir Town, Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District - 508116. M/s. Sri. Renuka Boutique, Prop : Ch. Indiramma

Reserve price : Rs. 55,00,000/- Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) : Rs. 5,50,000/- No/None Encumbrances to the Knowledge of the Bank. Auction will be held through online Portal : https://eikray.in/ EMD amount of 10% of the Reserve Price is to be deposited in E-Wallet of M/s PSE Alliance Private Limited (BANKNET) portal directly or by generating the challan therein to deposit the EMD through NEFT/RTGS in the account details as mentioned in the said challan.

Date : 18.02.2026 Place : Hanamkonda Authorised Officer / Canara Bank

SHIRAM FINANCE LIMITED DEMAND NOTICE

Whereas the borrowers/co-borrowers/guarantors mentioned hereunder had availed the financial assistance from SHIRAM FINANCE LTD. (Formerly known as Shiram City Union Finance Limited, amalgamated with Shiram Transport Finance Company Limited, subsequently Shiram Transport Finance Company Limited name Changed as Shiram Finance Limited) We state that despite having availed the financial assistance, the borrowers/guarantors have committed various defaults in repayment of interest and principal amounts as per due dates. The account has been classified as Non-Performing Asset in accordance with the directives/guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India, consequent to the Authorized Officer of SHIRAM FINANCE LTD. under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 & in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notices on respective dates mentioned herein below under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act, 2002 calling upon the following borrowers/guarantors/mortgagors to repay the amount mentioned in the notices together with further interest at the contractual rate on the amount mentioned in the notices and incidental expenses, cost, charges etc. until the date of payment within 60 days from the date of receipt of notices. The notices issued to them on their last known addresses have returned un-served and as such they are hereby informed by way of public notice about the same. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Table with columns: NAME OF THE BORROWER(S)/ Co-Borrower(S)/Guarantors, NPA DATE, DATE OF DEMAND NOTICE, OUSTANDING AMOUNT, LOAN AMOUNT

PROPERTY ADDRESS OF SECURED ASSETS- DLSKNTF220280007- DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

All That The Open Plot In Survey No. 403 Part, Admeasuring 500 Sq Yards, Equivalent To 418 Sq. Mts. Situated At Jangaon Village And Municipality, Jangaon Mandal Jangaon District And Bounded As Follows: Towards East: Open Place Of M/s. Inliss, Present: Neighbours Open Land. Towards West: 30 Wide Road, Present: 30 Wide Feet Road, Towards North: Plot No K. Ramadevi, Present neighbours House No. 2-5-1/15/Sq. Towards South: 30 Wide Road, Present: 30' Feet Road.

Date: 20.02.2026 Place: YADADRI-BHUVANAGIRI Authorised Officer SHIRAM FINANCE LTD.

SHIRAM FINANCE LIMITED DEMAND NOTICE

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

Table with columns: Name of the Borrower(s)/Co-Borrower(s)/Guarantors, NPA DATE, Date of Demand Notice, Outstanding Amount, Loan Amount

SHADNTF2305290012 - DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY: SCHEDULE: Property on the name of Muejeb Ur Rahman @Alias Muejeb Ur Rahman, All That The Open Plot In Sy. No.11/A Ranga Extent 228.00 Sq. Yards, or 190.63 Sq.Mtrs Situated At Ferozganj (Shadnagar) & Municipality, Ferozganj Mandal, Ranga Reddy Dist. Ward No. 10, Block 20. And bounded as follows: Towards East: Yadagiri & Others Plots, Towards West: Plot of G. Srisaillam, Towards North: Road, Towards South: Gundu Narasimha.

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

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

Date: 19.02.2026 Place: RANGA REDDY Authorised Officer SHIRAM FINANCE LTD.

ICICI Home Finance Corporate Office: ICICI Home Finance Company Limited ICICI HFC Tower, Andheri - Kurla Road, Andheri (East), Mumbai - 400059, India

Branch Office: Ground floor, Usha Kiran Complex, S.D.Road, Secunderabad -500001. Branch Office: 2nd floor, Plot No.141, VDO Colony, Gattai Centre, Khammam 507001.

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of ICICI Home Finance Company Ltd. will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is", as per the brief particulars given hereunder:

Table with columns: Sr. No., Name of Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantors/ Legal Heirs, Loan Account No., Details of the Secured Asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any, Amount Outstanding, Reserve Price Earnest Money Deposit, Date and Time of Property Inspection, Date & Time of Auction, One Day Before Auction Date, SARFAESI Stage

The online auction will be conducted on website (URL: https://BidDeal.in) of our auction agency ValueTrust Capital Services Private Limited. The Mortgagors/Link are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest till March 09, 2026 before 05:00 PM else these secured assets will be sold as per above schedule.

The Prospective Bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) RTGS/ Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at ICICI Home Finance Company Limited Branch Office Address mentioned on top of the article on or before March 09, 2026 before 04:00 PM. The Prospective Bidder(s) must also submit signed copy of Registration Form & Bid Terms and Conditions form at ICICI Home Finance Company Limited Branch Office Address mentioned on top of the article on or before March 09, 2026 before 05:00 PM. Earnest Money Deposit Demand Draft (DD) should be from a Nationalized/Scheduled Bank in favor of "ICICI Home Finance Company Ltd. - Auction" payable at the branch office address mentioned on top of the article.

For any further clarifications with regards to inspection, terms and conditions of the auction or submission of tenders, kindly contact ICICI Home Finance Company Limited on 9928073003. The Authorized Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any further reasons. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please visit https://www.icicifh.com. Date: February 21, 2026 Place: Medchal-Malkajgiri, Khammam Authorised Officer, "ICICI Home Finance Company Limited", CIN Number:- U65922MH1999PLC120106

SHIRAM FINANCE LIMITED DEMAND NOTICE

Whereas the borrowers/co-borrowers/guarantors/ mentioned hereunder had availed the financial assistance from SHIRAM FINANCE LTD. (Formerly known as Shiram City Union Finance Limited, amalgamated with Shiram Transport Finance Company Limited, subsequently Shiram Transport Finance Company Limited name Changed as Shiram Finance Limited) We state that despite having availed the financial assistance, the borrowers/guarantors have committed various defaults in repayment of interest and principal amounts as per due dates. The account has been classified as Non-Performing Asset in accordance with the directives/guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India, consequent to the Authorized Officer of SHIRAM FINANCE LTD. under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 & in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notices on respective dates mentioned herein below under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act, 2002 calling upon the following borrowers/guarantors/mortgagors to repay the amount mentioned in the notices together with further interest at the contractual rate on the amount mentioned in the notices and incidental expenses, cost, charges etc. until the date of payment within 60 days from the date of receipt of notices. The notices issued to them on their last known addresses have returned un-served and as such they are hereby informed by way of public notice about the same. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Table with columns: NAME OF THE BORROWER(S)/ Co-Borrower(S)/Guarantors, NPA DATE, DATE OF DEMAND NOTICE, OUSTANDING AMOUNT, LOAN AMOUNT

PROPERTY ADDRESS OF SECURED ASSETS- VANASTF1707310020- DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

All That The House G.p.no.9-199, Within Survey No. 229, Inside Residential Zone, Comprising Total Area 323.89 Square Yards Or Equivalent To 270.81 Square Meters Situated At Santhosh Nagar, Chityal Village And Mandal, Nalgonda District. S/o: Nalagonda (ob). And Bounded As Follows: Towards East: Lane, Actual: Neighbours House, Towards West: 12' 0" Wide Road, Towards North: Lane, Towards South: 20' Wide Road.

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

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

Date: 20.02.2026 Place: NALGONDA Sd/-Authorized Officer SHIRAM FINANCE LTD.

SHIRAM FINANCE LIMITED DEMAND NOTICE

Whereas the borrowers/co-borrowers/guarantors/ mentioned hereunder had availed the financial assistance from SHIRAM FINANCE LTD. (Formerly known as Shiram City Union Finance Limited, amalgamated with Shiram Transport Finance Company Limited, subsequently Shiram Transport Finance Company Limited name Changed as Shiram Finance Limited) We state that despite having availed the financial assistance, the borrowers/guarantors have committed various defaults in repayment of interest and principal amounts as per due dates. The account has been classified as Non-Performing Asset in accordance with the directives/guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India, consequent to the Authorized Officer of SHIRAM FINANCE LTD. under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 & in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notices on respective dates mentioned herein below under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act, 2002 calling upon the following borrowers/guarantors/mortgagors to repay the amount mentioned in the notices together with further interest at the contractual rate on the amount mentioned in the notices and incidental expenses, cost, charges etc. until the date of payment within 60 days from the date of receipt of notices. The notices issued to them on their last known addresses have returned un-served and as such they are hereby informed by way of public notice about the same. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Table with columns: NAME OF THE BORROWER(S)/ Co-Borrower(S)/Guarantors, NPA DATE, DATE OF DEMAND NOTICE, OUSTANDING AMOUNT, LOAN AMOUNT

PROPERTY ADDRESS OF

www.thesouthindiatimes.com

info.southindiatimes@gmail.com

BARKATPURA BRANCH
 3-4-499 & 3-4-764 Near Barkatpura Chaman Barkatpura,
 Hyderabad - 500027, 040-27564472, 27568152; 99481 23041
 e-mail: barkatpura@indianbank.co.in

APPENDIX- IV-A* [See proviso to rule 8 (6) / 9(1)]*
Sale notice for sale of immovable properties
 E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) [9(1)] [Retain whichever is applicable] of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical/Constructive (whichever is applicable) possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Indian Bank, Barkatpura Branch, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on 31.03.2026 for recovery of Rs. 20,71,261/- (Rupees Twenty Lakh Seven Thousand Two Hundred and sixty one only) (as on 15.02.2026) with further interest, costs, other charges and expenses thereon from 16.02.2026, due to the Indian Bank, Barkatpura Branch, Secured Creditor, from Mr. Gatta Srinivas S/o G. Narayana (Borrower/Mortgagor) H No 13-130/12, Plot No 12, In survey No 4, 5 and 20 Part, Bita Sahab Maqta Village, Paeerzadiguda Gram Panchayat, Ghatkesar mandal, Rangareddy District, Telangana - 500088, Mr. Gatta Vijay Kumar S/o G. Narayana (Borrower/Mortgagor) H No 62, Muthyampet, Malappuram Karimnagar-505331 and Mr. Gatta Venu S/o G. Narayana (Borrower/Mortgagor) H No 4894 CD OT, HOUSUR ROAD ELECTRONIC CITY - PHASE I, BENGALORE SOUTH, BANGLORE- 560100 (Name and address of the borrower/guarantor). The specific details of the property intended to be brought to sale through e-auction mode are enumerated below:

Details/Description of Mortgaged Assets:	All that the piece and parcel of (H.No. 13-130/12) Plot No 12, In survey No 4, 5 and 20 Part, admeasuring 222 Sq.Yds., or 185.59 Sq.Mtrs, Situated at Bita Sahab Maqta Village, Paeerzadiguda Gram Panchayat, Ghatkesar mandal, Rangareddy District, Under S.R.O. Uppal and Bounded by: Boundary: North: Open Land, South: Plot no 13, East: 25'-0" Wide Road, West: Plot No 24
Encumbrances on property	NIL
Reserve Price	Rs. 1,65,70,000/- (Rupees One Crore Sixty Five Lakhs Seventy Thousand Only)
EMD Amount	Rs. 16,57,000/- (Rupees Sixteen Lakhs Fifty Seven Thousand Only)
Bid incremental amount	Rs. 30,000/-
Date and time of e-auction	Date: 31.03.2026, Time: From 10.00 AM to 5.00 PM Property ID No. IDIB6223534822
Property ID No.	IDIB6223534822

Bidders are advised to visit the website (https://banknet.com) of our e auction service provider PSB Alliance Pvt. Ltd. to participate in online bid. For Technical Assistance, please call 8291220220. For Registration status and EMD status, please email to support.banknet@psballiance.com. For property details and photograph of the property and auction terms and conditions, please visit: https://banknet.com and for clarifications related to this portal, please contact PSB Alliance Pvt. Ltd. Contact No. 8291220220. Bidders are advised to use Property ID Number mentioned above while searching for the property in the website with https://banknet.com

Contact Person: 1. Mr. Umesh Kumar Singh - Authorised Officer - 9948123054
 2. Mrs. J. Sangeetha - Branch Manager/Barkatpura - 9948123041

ZONAL OFFICE - KARIMNAGAR
 3-1-8660, CVRN Road, Opp. CCS Mission Hospital KARIMNAGAR - 505 001-E
 e-mail : zokarimnagar@indianbank.co.in

ANNEXURE-A
APPENDIX- IV-A* [See provision to rule 8 (6)]
Sale notice for sale of immovable properties
 E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Constructive/Symbolic (whichever is applicable) possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Indian Bank, Amoor Branch, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on 25.03.2026 for recovery of Rs. 597718/- (Rs. Five Lakhs Ninety Seven Thousand Seven Hundred Eighteen Only) as on 12.11.2025 with further interest, costs, other charges and expenses thereon due to the Indian Bank, Amoor Branch, Secured Creditor, from Borrower/mortgagor: 1. Mr. Onnaji Satyanarayana, S/o Late Onnaji Gangaram Alias Ponna; Gangaram, Address: H No 4-1-12, Ashoknagar, Amoor Town and Mandal, Nizamabad District, Telangana-PIN 503224. Co-Borrower: 2. Mr. Onnaji Jyothi, W/o Onnaji Satyanarayana, Address: H No 4-1-12, Ashoknagar, Amoor Town and Mandal, Nizamabad District, Telangana-PIN 503224. Guarantor: 3. Mr. Mohammed Mohith Dadi, S/o Mohammed Ibrahim Address: H No 1-3-30, Husnabad, Amoor Municipal, Amoor, Nizamabad District, Telangana-PIN 503224. The specific details of the property intended to be brought to sale through e-auction mode are enumerated below:

Details/Description of Mortgaged Assets:	All that the RCC Roofed ground floor house constructed over the part of the dismantled old house bearing MCLH No. 4-1-12, Ashok Nagar, Amoor Town and Mandal, Nizamabad Dist - 503224 Property Extent: Plinth area 447.87 Sq.ft belonging to Onnaji Satyanarayana and bounded by:- North: Part 3 of House No 4-1-12, South: Part-1 of H No 4-1-12, East: 30' 0" Wide Road, West: Open place of Bodamide Nareish.
Encumbrances on property	NIL
Reserve Price	18.00 Lacs
EMD Amount	1.80 Lacs
Bid incremental amount	0.10 Lacs
Date and time of e-auction	25.03.2026 10.00 AM to 5.00 PM
Property ID No.	IDIB069049564330

Bidders are advised to visit the website (https://banknet.com) of our e auction service provider PSB Alliance Pvt. Ltd. to participate in online bid. For Technical Assistance Please call 8291220220. For Registration status and for EMD status please email to support.ebkay@psballiance.com. For property details and photograph of the property and auction terms and conditions please visit: https://banknet.com and for clarifications related to this portal, please contact PSB Alliance Pvt. Ltd. Contact No. 8291220220. Bidders are advised to use Property ID Number mentioned above while searching for the property in the website with https://banknet.com

Contact Person: 1. Authorised Officer (Ranjeet Singh 7800100304)
 2. Branch Manager (Shiva Kumar Dasari 9390272223)

Karnataka Bank Ltd.
 Your Family Bank. Across India
 Regd. & Head Office, P.B. No.599, Mahaveera Circle, Kamkarady, Mangaluru-575 002.
 Phone : 0824-2228103, E-Mail : legal.recovery@tkbank.com
 Website : www.karnatabank.com
 CIN : L5510KA1924PLC001128

DEMAND NOTICE
 Hyderabad-Nampally Branch
 1. M/s. Sri Dhanalaxmi Enterprises Represented by its Partners: 1) Mr. Sridhar Rao Nerambally 2) Mr. N S Asha Rao 3) Mr. Mithun Rao N 4) Mr. Muralidhar H S 5) Mr. Hodrali R Rasmihars 6) Mr. H S Sushindra Aras. Addressed at: Ground Floor, Sy. No. 90 92 93 / 57/90/2 Adjaocent to Kinara Grand Hotel, Madinaguda-500049, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh. 2. Mr. Sridhar Rao Nerambally, S/o Mr. Sridhar Rao Nerambally, SI Nos. 2, 3 and 4 are addressed at # 157/9, Plot No. 3, Vahini Nagar, Lane 1, Near Diamond Point, Hyderabad-500009, Telangana State. 5. Mr. H S Sushindra Aras, S/o Mr. H K Srinivasa Aras Addressed at: H. No. 6-1-16 16A and 17, Flat No. 111, Dundoo Classic Towers, Padmaranagar Himnagar, Secunderabad-500025, Telangana State. 6. Mrs. Hodrali R Rasmihars Aras, W/o Mr. Raghavendra A R Addressed at: House No. 2, Maruthi Nilaya, Ganesh Colony, 1" Cross S N Pet, 6" Cross, Ballari-583101, Karnataka State. 7. Mr. Muralidhar Aras H S S/o Mr. H K Srinivasa Aras Addressed at: Vedashree 60 Feet Road, Opposite Shubha Mangala Kalyana Mantapa, Vinobanagar, Shivamogga-577204, Karnataka State. The PS Over Draft A/c 0320702400002021 dated 15.05.2024 for Rs.44.00 Lakhs availed by You No. (1) M/s. Sri Dhanalaxmi Enterprises, represented by its Partners as Borrowers and You No. (2) Mr. Sridhar Rao Nerambally, You No. (3) Mrs. N S Asha Rao, You No. (4) Mr. Mithun Rao N, You No. (5) Mr. H S Sushindra Aras, You No. (6) Hodrali R Rasmihars Aras and You No. (7) Mr. Muralidhar Aras H S as co-borrowers at our Hyderabad-Nampally Branch has been classified as Non Performing Assets on 26.11.2025 and that transaction under SARFAESI Act has been initiated by issuing a detailed Demand Notice under Section 13(2)&(3) of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 by the Authorised Officer of the Bank on 03.02.2026 to the parties concerned. The said Demand Notice sent by speed post with acknowledgments to above mentioned address, has been returned undelivered. Hence, we have published the contents of the Demand Notice by way of this Notice by observing the procedures laid down in the SARFAESI Act 2002. The aggregate balance as on 02.02.2026 is Rs.44,48,881.53 (Rupees forty four lakh four thousand eight hundred eighty one and fifty three paise only) under

Nature & Account No.	Balance Outstanding (In Rs.)	Rate of Interest	Interest calculated up to	Interest to be added from
PS Overdraft A/c 0320702400002021	44,48,881.53	9.37%	31.01.2026	01.02.2026

within 60 days from the date of this paper publication.
Brief description of mortgaged property (secured asset)
 All that part and parcel of residential property on Plot No. 3 and 4 comprised in Sy. No. 157/9, New No. 157/10 with land measuring 253.33 sq. yards and 220.00 sq. yards (total extent of 473.33 sq. yards) along with building constructed thereon, situated at Thokata Village, Sikkh Village, Vahini Nagar, Secunderabad Cantonment, under Registration Sub-District, Bowenpally Telangana.
 Note: The above said property is also common security to the credit facilities bearing:
 a) A/c No. 320700060075901 of M/s. Hotel Sandarshini
 b) A/c No. 320700060076001 of M/s. Sandarshini Udipi Pure Veg.
 c) A/c No. 320700060075701 of M/s. Sandarshini Veg Fine Dining AC Restaurant (Sridhar Rao Enterprises)
 The aforesaid accounts mentioned under Sl. No. a), b) and c) were also classified as NPA on 28.04.2025, 25.06.2025 and 28.03.2025 respectively.
 The Bank reserves its rights to initiate separate recovery action for the same in the above accounts.
 Please note that I, the Authorised Officer of the secured creditor Bank intend to enforce the aforesaid security in the event of failure to discharge your liabilities in full on or before the expiry of 60 days from the date of this publication.
 Further, your attention is drawn to the provisions of Section 13 (3) of the Act, wherein the time for redemption of mortgage is available only up to the date of publication of notice for public auction or inviting tenders.
 Date: 19.02.2026
 Place: Mangalore
 Sd/-Chief Manager/Authorised officer
 Karnataka Bank Limited.

TELANGANA POLICE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION MOURNS GOPAL REDDY

Hyderabad (TSIT) : The Telangana Police Officers' Association has expressed deep grief over the untimely demise of A. Gopal Reddy (Retd. IPS), who served as Secretary for Security & Health Security. In a condolence statement issued on Friday the Association described Gopal Reddy as a dedicated and compassionate officer who worked tirelessly for the health and welfare of police personnel. Even at the age of 80, he continued to devote his life to ensuring health security for members of the police force. The Association noted that he managed the Health Security initiative with honesty, commitment, and a strong sense of purpose. He was known for his prompt response to police personnel in need, often attending to their concerns even at midnight. His cordial relations with the Director General of Police, the State Government, the Finance Department, and hospital managements helped strengthen the health support system for police employees.



KISHAN REDDY SLAMS CONGRESS OVER AI SUMMIT PROTEST

Hyderabad: Union Minister for Coal and Mines G. Kishan Reddy criticised the Congress party over protests during a recent AI Impact Summit, calling it a "national shame." He said the summit highlighted India's growing strength in technology and innovation. However, he alleged that Congress workers disrupted the event, affecting the country's image before an international audience.

FORM DIRECT CONTACT ACCREDITATION PANELS IN A WEEK: IGPR

Hyderabad: I&PR Commissioner Ch. Priyanka directed District Public Relations Officers to form district-level accreditation committees within one week. Speaking at a training programme at Telangana Media Academy, she instructed officials to follow government guidelines and ensure transparency in issuing accreditation cards. She said any technical issues should be reported immediately and assured full support from the State headquarters.

JEEVAN REDDY SHIFTED TO KIMS AFTER ILLNESS

Jagityala, February 20 (TSIT): Former minister and senior Congress leader Tatiparthi Jeevan Reddy fell ill on Thursday night and was shifted to KIMS Hospital in Hyderabad for better treatment. Doctors said he was suffering from low blood pressure and is under medical care.

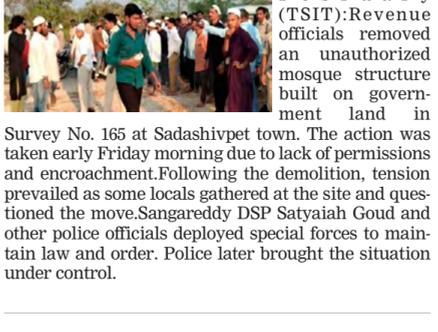
OIL PALM TO BOOST FARMERS' INCOME: MINISTER TUMMALA

Hyderabad: Agriculture Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao said oil palm cultivation will bring long-term prosperity to farmers in Telangana. He spoke at a Mega Oil Palm Plantation Programme in Kamareddy district, where he planted saplings in a farmer's field. The Minister said oil palm gives assured income for 30-40 years and can earn up to Rs.2 lakh per acre annually. The government has allocated Rs.456 crore this year to expand cultivation and is providing subsidies, saplings and drip irrigation support. He urged farmers to take up oil palm cultivation and make full use of government incentives.



Illegal mosque on govt land removed in Sadashivpet

Sangareddy, February (TSIT): Revenue officials removed an unauthorized mosque structure built on government land in Survey No. 165 at Sadashivpet town. The action was taken early Friday morning due to lack of permissions and encroachment. Following the demolition, tension prevailed as some locals gathered at the site and questioned the move. Sangareddy DSP Satyaiah Goud and other police officials deployed special forces to maintain law and order. Police later brought the situation under control.



WARANGAL ACPs WIN BADMINTON GOLD

Warangal (TSIT): Warangal Commissionerate ACPs Jitender Reddy and Madhusudan won the gold medal in badminton at the 4th Telangana State Police Sports Meet held at the Cyberabad Commissionerate. The duo secured first place in the 55-year-old gazetted officers category with an impressive performance.



FOR ADVERTISEMENT PLEASE CONTACT: 9948480279, 7330778889

THE SOUTH INDIAN BANK LIMITED
 Branch Address: SIB KANDLAKOJI, NAGAMANNILAYAM BLDG MEDICAL MARGA REDDY, KANDLAKOJI, HYDERABAD, ANDHRA PRADESH-INDIA Branch Mail ID: br0697@sib.co.in

Gold Auction for Mortgages at Bank
 Whereas, the authorized officer of The South Indian Bank Ltd., issued Sale notice(s) calling upon the borrower to clear the dues in gold loan availed by him. The borrower had failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned will conduct online auction of the gold ornaments strictly on "As is What is Basis" & "Whatever there is Basis" & "Without recourse Basis". The auction will be conducted online through https://sibegold.auctiontender.net on 24.02.2026 from 12:00 pm to 03:00pm for the borrower Mr. RALLABANDI KARUNAKR account number 069765300038860.
 Please contact: Auction Tigger on 6352632523 for more information.

Sd/- Manager
 The South Indian Bank Ltd

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

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorised officer of Shriram Finance Limited, (Shriram City Union Finance Limited, amalgamated with Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited, subsequently Shriram Transport Company Limited name Changed as Shriram Finance Limited, by its Incorporation Certificate dt. 30-11-2022) a corporate body registered and incorporated as a company under the Indian companies Act 1956, is doing Non-Banking financial activities, having its Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No. 14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai - 600032 and having its administrative office at 6th Floor (level 2), Building No. Q2, Aurum Q Parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Ghatnsoli, Navi Mumbai-400710, under the provisions of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (said Act) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (said Rules) issued demand notices to the Borrowers details of which are mentioned in the table below to repay the amount mentioned in the said demand notices.
 The Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said Rules, on this 17TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2026.

Borrower Name and Address	Amount due as per Demand Notice
(1) B. Ravi Kumar, S/o. Bheemappa, Aged About 42 Years, Occ: Rice And Dal Wholesale Business, R/o. H.No: 4-2-107, Showkarpet (Vi), Tandur (Mdi), Vikarabad Dist., Pin: 501141, Ph: 703666013. (2) B. Bheemappa, S/o, Chennappa, Aged About 74 Years, Occ: Rice And Dal Wholesale Business, R/o. H.No: 4-2-107, Showkarpet (Vi), Tandur (Mdi), Vikarabad Dist., Pin: 501141, Ph: 9490020781. (3) Mandanpally Ravi Kumar, S/o, M. Bandaiah, Aged About 42 Years, Occ: Kirana & General Store Business, R/o. H.No: 4-2-184, Gumastanagar, Tandur (Mdi), Vikarabad Dist., Pin: 501141, Ph: 6301738316.	Rs. 19,25,828/- (Rupees Nineteen Lakhs Twenty Five Thousand Eight Hundred and Twenty Eight only)

Barrowers/Co-Borrower/Guarantors/Legal heirs
 VIKRBT2303160007 - DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY: All that the Open Plot No. 5, admeasuring 478.67 Sq.Yards., in Sy. No. 25 of Saipur Village, Tandur Mandal, Rangareddy District (Presently Vikarabad District) bounded as: North: P.W.D. Ranga; South: Sy. No. 26, Road and Plots. East: Sy. No. 25, West: Plot No. 5/Part of Vnod Kumar & Umesh Plot.

This notice is also hereby to caution the general public at large that the authorized officer of SFL is in the lawful Symbolic Possession of the immovable property mentioned herein above and the Borrowers or any person shall not after receipt of this notice transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise deal with/alienate any of the above mentioned secured assets referred to in this notice, without prior written consent of SFL.
 Place: Tandur (Mdi), Vikarabad (Dt)
 Date: 17.02.2026

Indian Overseas Bank

HYDERABAD-ADARSH NAGAR BRANCH
 (Address: 5-9-305A Basheer Bagh, Himayathnagar, Telangana-500029,
 Phone No: 040-23421559 & Email id: iob1301@iob.in)

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE
 (for immovable property) [(Rule 8(1))]

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Himayathnagar Branch, Hyderabad-Adarsh Nagar, 5-9-305A Basheer Bagh, Himayathnagar, HIMAYATHNAGAR, Telangana-500029, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated 03/12/2025 calling upon the Borrowers / Mortgagors / Guarantors Shri ANANTHULA SRIKANTH H No 3-9-553-72 Meela Nivas, Ground Floor Mallikarjuna Nagar LB Nagar, Kamareddy, Hyderabad, Telangana, 500070, (hereinafter referred as 'borrowers') to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs 50,98,305.80 (Rupees Fifty Lakh Ninety Eight Thousand Three Hundred Five And Paise Eighty Only) as on 03/12/2025 with further interest at contractual rates and rests, charges etc till date of realization within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.
 (1) The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on this 20th day of Feb of the year 2026
 (2) The borrowers 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 Indian Overseas Bank for an amount of Rs 51,73,568.80 (Rupees Fifty One Lakh Seventy Three Thousand Five Hundred Eighty Eight And Paise Eighty Only) as on 19.02.2026 with interest thereon at contractual rates & rests as agreed, charges etc, from the aforesaid date mentioned in the demand notice till date of payment less payments, if any, made after issuance of Demand Notice. The dues payable as on the date of taking possession is Rs 51,73,568.80 payable with further interest at contractual rates & rests, charges etc., till date of payment.
 (3) The borrowers attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section(8) of the Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to them, to redeem the secured assets.

Description of the Immovable Property
 All that piece and parcel of the residential house bearing H. No. 2-178/ P-13 (PTIN No: 1200801426), built on Plot No. 13, admeasuring an area of 180 Sq. Yds or 150.55 Sq. Mtrs and having with built up area of 900 Sq. feet with RCC Roof in Free Standing Enclave-II in Survey No. 68/AAA-E, situated at Torru Village, Abdulapurth Revenue Mandal (formerly Hayathnagar Revenue Mandal), under Turkyamajri Municipality (formerly Torru Grampanchayat), Ranga Reddy District, Telangana 500511. Bounded By: North: Plot No. 14; South: 30'-0" Wide Road; East: Plot No. 20; West: 30'-0" Wide Road.

Date: 20-02-2026
 Place: Hyderabad
 Authorised Officer
 Indian Overseas Bank

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

DEMAND NOTICE

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

Loan Account Number	Borrower/s & Co-borrower/s Name	Demand Notice date / NPA date / Outstanding Amount (₹) As On		Description of the Immovable Property (Mortgaged)
		NPA Date	Outstanding Amount (₹) As On	
HYDHL17000642	1. Fresh N Frozen Food Tech (Through Its Proprietor Ahmed Abdul Waseem)	Demand Notice Date: 09/02/2026 NPA Date: 05/01/2026	Rs. 24,88,068.69/- (Rupees Twenty-Four Lakh Eighty-Eight Thousand Sixty-Eight and Paise Sixty-Nine Only) As on Date 07/02/2026	Schedule-I All Thate Piece And Parcel Of The Unit No.24, Bearing Municipal No.6-2-27/77A & 28/2F-24, (Ptn No.1100631712), in Second Floor, Of The Building Named As "Down Town", Admeasuring 666 Square Feet (Including Common Areas), Together With Undivided Share Of Land Measuring 20 Square Yards Out Of 5005 Square Yards, In Premises Bearing Municipal Nos.6-2-27 And 27/A And 6-2-28, Situated At Lakdi-Ka-Pul, Hyderabad, Telangana State., And Bounded By: East By Corridor West By Open To Sky North By Unit No: 25 South By Open To Sky East By Road Boundaries: West By Neighbours Property of Land North By Neighbours Property South By Neighbours Property

Date: 21.02.2026
 Place: Hyderabad
 Sd/-
 Authorized Officer
 For L&T FINANCE LIMITED

AXIS BANK LIMITED
 Axis Bank Limited # 5-2-183/184 I
 3rd Floor I Modi Square I Ranigunj I
 Secunderabad - 500 003

POSSESSION NOTICE UNDER RULE 8 (1) [FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY]

WHEREAS
 The Authorized Officer of the Axis Bank Ltd (Formerly known as UTI Bank Ltd.), having its Registered Office: TRISHUL*, Opposite Samartheer Temple, Near Law Garden, Elisbridge, Ahmedabad, 380006, among other places its Branch office at Axis Bank Ltd., Retail Asset Centre, D.No.5-2-183/184, 3rd Floor, R.P. Road, Secunderabad Branch, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act on 24-11-2025 calling upon the
 1. Mr. Bejanki Durghai (applicant), S/o. Bejanki Venkat, H.No. 7-81, Near Govt School Ramajpet, Elanthakunta Karimnagar, Telangana - 509103
 2. Mrs. Thaduri Rajamani (co-applicant) W/o. Thaduri Rajesham, H.No. 7-81, Near Govt School Ramajpet, Elanthakunta Karimnagar, Telangana - 509103
 3. Mr. Thaduri Rajesham (co-applicant), S/o. Thaduri Rajesham, H.No. 2-29/4, Veljupuram Village, Elanthakunta Mandal, Sircilla Karimnagar, Telangana - 505402.
 Also, At: Mrs. Thaduri Rajamani, W/o. Thaduri Rajesham, H.No. 2-29/4, Veljupuram Village, Elanthakunta Mandal, Sircilla, Karimnagar, Telangana - 505402.
 3. Mr. Thaduri Rajesham (co-applicant), S/o. Thaduri Rajesham, H.No. 7-81, Near Govt School Ramajpet, Elanthakunta Karimnagar, Telangana - 509103
 Also, At: Mr. Thaduri Rajesham, S/o. Thaduri Eliah, H.No. 2-29/4, Veljupuram Village, Elanthakunta Mandal, Sircilla Karimnagar, Telangana - 505402. Loan No. 916030085550736 & 91603008555071
 To repay the amount mentioned in the notice being of Rs. 21,28,785.20/- (Rupees Twenty One Lakh Twenty Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Eighty Five and Twenty Paise Only) as on 05-11-2025 being the amount due on termination of the agreement this amount includes interest plus charges till 05-11-2025 with further interest on 06-11-2025 and other consequences, damages etc., including the expenses for the said takeover and sale of assets within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.
 The borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of Sub Section (8) of Section 13 of the SARFAESI Act, 2002 in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.
 Where the amount of dues of the secured creditor together with all costs, charges and expenses incurred by him is tendered to the secured creditor at any time before the date of publication of notice for public auction or invitations of quotations or tender from public or private treaty for transfer by way of lease, assignment or sale of the secured assets.
 I. The secured assets shall not be transferred by way of lease, assignment or sale by the secured creditor; and
 ii. In case, any step has been taken by the secured creditor for transfer by way of lease or assignment or sale of the assets before taking of such amount under this sub-section, no further step shall be taken by such secured creditor for transfer by way of lease or assignment or sale of such secured assets."

Survey No.	Area Ac.Gs.	Equ. To Htrs	Area in sq.y.	Area in sq.m
287/3a/2/2	0-00 1/2	0-00 1/2	060.50	050.58
288/6/1	0-02 1/4	0-02 1/4	272.25	227.63
288/6/2	0-01 3/4	0-01 3/4	117.75	177.05
	0-04 1/2	0-01 3/4		

Sant Sewalal Maharaj Jayanti celebrations



WARANGAL TSIT : Sant Sewalal Maharaj Jayanti celebrations were organized in Narsampet Constituency. Narsampet MLA Donthi Madhava Reddy, District Collector Dr. Satya Sharada and Narsampet RDO Umarani participated in this programme. Speaking on the occasion, the MLA said that Sant Sewalal Maharaj was a pioneer of the Banjara community and a great man who developed the sense of unity, ethics and service in the community. He said that his teachings are exemplary for today's generation as well. District Collector Dr. Satya Sharada said that everyone should work together for the development of the society on the path shown by Sewalal Maharaj. She hoped that the Banjara community would develop by using the government schemes effectively. In this programme, RDO Umarani, local public representatives, representatives of Banjara Sanghas and a large number of devotees participated and paid tributes to the statue of Sewalal Maharaj.

Sports bring out youth talent: MLA Yennam

Mahabubnagar, February 20: "Sports are a powerful tool to bring out the hidden talent in youth," said Mahabubnagar MLA Yennam Srinivas Reddy. He inaugurated the 2nd State Level CM Cup-2025 (Boxing & Netball) at the District Sports Ground indoor stadium. The MLA said sports help develop discipline, leadership and mental strength along with physical fitness. He added that the state government is giving priority to sports development by providing infrastructure and facilities. He encouraged youth to participate actively in sports and assured support to organize more national-level events in the district. Several public representatives and sports officials attended the event.



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WHEN A HOME BECOMES A CRIME SCENE



Dr. Jithender Rao Thanugula

A wife killing her husband shocked the community—not only because a life was lost, but because the place where trust should live turned into a site of irreversible violence. Homes are meant to shelter love, disagreement, forgiveness, and growth. When they instead produce death, society must pause and look beyond the headline. Such incidents are often reduced to a single sentence in crime reports: who killed whom. But human relationships are never that simple. Behind one violent act actually lies a long history of unresolved conflict, emotional isolation, power struggles, silence, or suffering that went unnoticed or ignored. This does not mean violence can ever be justified. Taking a life is the gravest of crimes, regardless of gender, pain, or provocation. The law must act firmly and fairly. Justice for the dead cannot be compromised by sympathy for the circumstances. Yet justice also demands understanding not to excuse the act, but to prevent its repetition. What truly shocks the community is not only the crime itself, but the realization that warning signs were missed. Neighbors heard arguments but stayed silent. Families advised "adjustment" instead of intervention. Institutions that could have offered counseling or mediation remained distant or inaccessible. Slowly, pressure built up until it found a catastrophic release. Turning such tragedies into gender debates only deepens the damage. This is not a battle between men and women. It is a failure of communication, compassion, and timely support. When relationships become prisons instead of partnerships, when seeking help feels shameful, and when suffering is normalized, violence finds space to grow. Every such incident is a warning. It asks uncomfortable questions of all of us: Do we listen when someone is in distress? Do we take domestic conflict seriously enough? Do we value mental health and dialogue before it is too late? A wife killing her husband is not just a crime—it is a mirror held up to society. If we look away, the reflection will return, again and again, in different homes, under different names. Violence is never the answer. The only real solutions lie in empathy, early intervention, strong legal awareness, and the courage to speak before silence turns deadly.

By: Dr. Jithender Rao Thanugula
Senior Journalist

Medicover Strengthens Emergency Readiness Ahead of New Hospital Launch with Strategic Air Ambulance Collaboration

Hyderabad: ebruary, 2026: In a move that underscores its focus on preparedness even before opening its doors, Medicover Hospitals has entered into a strategic collaboration with Evergreen Healthcare to strengthen air ambulance services and coordinated patient transfers across India and key international corridors. While Medicover's upcoming hospital is yet to be formally launched, the collaboration reflects a clear intent: to ensure that when the facility becomes operational, it is seamlessly integrated into a robust emergency and critical-care transfer ecosystem from day one. The partnership focuses on structured refer-



ral pathways covering air ambulance operations, intercity critical-care transfers, and international patient movement for complex cases requiring advanced tertiary and quaternary care. In time-sensitive medical situations—where minutes often determine outcomes—such preparedness can make a life-

saving difference. For families facing sudden trauma, cardiac emergencies, organ failure, or other critical conditions, access to swift and well-coordinated transport is often the first crucial step in the care journey. By aligning with Evergreen Healthcare, Medicover aims to enable smoother clinical handovers, faster response times, and continuity of care across geographies. Dr. Nayan Sriramula, Head of Emergency Medicine, Medicover Hospitals, said, "Emergency care does not begin at the hospital door—it begins at the point of first response. Structured transfer systems, especially air ambulance and international coordination, are essen-

tial to ensuring patients reach the right care at the right time." The collaboration was spearheaded by Mahesh Degloor, Chief Business Officer, Medicover Hospitals, whose efforts were instrumental in shaping the partnership as part of Medicover's ongoing efforts to strengthen its emergency preparedness framework and reinforces its commitment to patient safety, clinical coordination, and long-term system readiness.

Medicover Doctors Save 41-Year-Old Accident Victim from ICU to Independent Recovery

Secunderabad, February 20, 2026: A 41-year-old man who suffered life-threatening injuries in a road traffic accident has made a remarkable recovery, thanks to timely intervention and coordinated multidisciplinary care at Medicover Hospitals. Mr. Ravi Goenka was rushed to the emergency department after his two-wheeler was hit by a four-wheeler and he was run over, sustaining multiple critical injuries. He was unable to stand or walk and soon slipped into a coma due to severe trauma and blood loss. Doctors diagnosed him with a complex fracture of the right hip socket (acetabulum), fractured collarbone, multiple rib fractures with lung injury, and a spinal fracture—injuries that were collectively life-threatening. Following intensive stabiliza-



tion in the ICU with ventilator support and multiple blood transfusions, doctors focused on restoring his mobility. The most complex injury—the acetabular fracture—was treated through an eight-hour surgery performed by Dr. Uday Krishna Myneni, Head of Department and Chief Consultant – Trauma & Robotic Joint Replacement. "This was a demanding surgery, as the hip joint plays a crucial role in independent living. Our goal was not just survival but ensuring meaningful recovery," Dr. Myneni said. The intricate procedure involved precise reconstruction of the fractured hip socket using specialised plates and screws. Despite the patient's obesity and the complexity of the fracture, the surgery was successful. Early physiotherapy and rehabilitation were initiated, and he was discharged in stable condition. However, days later, Mr. Goenka developed sudden breathlessness and dizziness at home and was immediately readmitted. Advanced imaging revealed an

acute pulmonary embolism, a potentially fatal complication following major trauma and prolonged immobilisation. The cardiology team, led by Dr. Pramod Kumar Kuchulakanti, acted swiftly by performing mechanical clot removal and placing an IVC filter to prevent further embolism. "Pulmonary embolism can be silent and sudden, especially in post-trauma patients. Timely detection and intervention are critical to saving lives," Dr. Pramod Kumar stated. Today, Mr. Goenka has returned to walking independently, climbing stairs, and performing his daily activities without support. His recovery stands as a testament to surgical expertise, vigilant monitoring, and the power of coordinated, patient-centric care that extends well beyond the operating theatre.

Best Friends Foundation Condolences Demise of Journalist's Mother

Warangal : Best Friends Foundation members visited Nallabelli mandal in Warangal district on Friday to offer condolences to the family of senior journalist Kodeti Ashok (Adam), Narsampet Nava Telangana RC In-charge, following the demise of his mother, Kodeti Saramma.

Kodeti Saramma passed away ten days ago due to illness. On the occasion, Founder of Best Friends Foundation, Puli Devender



Mudhiraj, along with senior journalist friends, visited the bereaved family, paid floral tributes to the portrait of the departed soul, and expressed

their heartfelt sympathies. Speaking on the occasion, Puli Devender Mudiraj said that Kodeti Ashok is a journalist who belongs to everyone and has rendered valuable service to society through his writings. He praised Ashok's commitment and contribution to journalism and extended moral support to the family during the time of grief.

No compromise on ration rice quality: Stephen Ravindra

Hyderabad: Principal Secretary and Civil Supplies Commissioner M. Stephen Ravindra conducted a surprise inspection at the Civil Supplies godown in Bagh Lingampally on Friday. He said there will be no compromise on the quality



ty of ration rice supplied to the public and warned

of strict action against any negligence. The Commissioner checked rice bags, stock records and quality standards during the inspection. Officials were directed to ensure only quality rice reaches ration shops without delay.

Collector assures support for Sangareddy development

Sangareddy, (TSIT) : District Collector P. Praveenya assured full support for the development of Sangareddy Municipality. She said the administration will stand by the new municipal body in carrying out development works. The newly elected governing



body, led by TGIC Chairperson Nirmala Jaggarreddy, met the Collector and discussed plans for sanitation, drinking water supply, CC roads and civic amenities. The Collector advised members to stay connected with the public and work for quick resolution of issues.

Jamuna calls for women's social security at GRC training



Mahabubabad : State Director of SERF Gender Project, Jamuna, addressed a training program at the Gender Resource Center organized by the District Rural Poverty Eradication Organization (SERF). She stressed the need for social security and protection of women, especially in rural areas. She said Gender Resource Centers will be set up at district, mandal and village levels to support women facing issues like domestic violence, dowry harassment and other crimes. She urged federation members to ensure justice with police and legal support when needed. District officials, federation leaders and staff participated in the program.

Sudha Reddy, MEIL Foundations Upgrade Classrooms at Rabintra Niketan School



Hyderabad (TSIT): On World Day of Social Justice, the Sudha Reddy Foundation and MEIL Foundation upgraded classroom infrastructure at Rabintra Niketan High School, Irrum Manzil, Hyderabad. As part of the initiative, 224 new student benches, classroom storage cabinets, and furniture for teachers and the principal were provided to create a more comfortable and organised learning environment for students from underprivileged backgrounds. Speaking on the occasion, Mrs. Sudha Reddy said every child deserves a respectful and stable space to learn and grow. The event was attended by around 250 students, teachers, and alumni, and featured a lamp-lighting ceremony, ribbon cutting, and student performances. The initiative reflects the commitment of the foundations, including the philanthropic arm of Megha Engineering & Infrastructure Limited, to strengthening education and community development in Hyderabad.

Yashoda Hospital Doctor Saves Woman with Rare Hypokalemic Periodic Paralysis

Khammam | February 20: Doctors at Yashoda Super Specialty Hospital successfully treated a rare and complex case of Hypokalemic Periodic Paralysis, saving the life of a 33-year-old woman from Bhadradi Kothagudem district. Marumulla Priyanka, a resident of Ramavaram, was shifted to Yashoda Hospital, Malakpet, Hyderabad, after her condition worsened despite initial treatment at hospitals in Kothagudem and Khammam. Following detailed investigations, Dr. Suriseti Bharat Kumar, Consultant Neurophysician, diagnosed her with Hypokalemic Periodic Paralysis associated with Primary Sjögren's Syndrome, Distal Renal Tubular Acidosis, Myelinolysis, and epilepsy — a rare and life-threatening combination. Doctors stated that the condition can cause severe potassium loss, extreme limb weakness, paralysis-like symptoms, unconsciousness, and kidney complications. With timely and expert medical intervention, the patient responded well to treatment and has now fully recovered. Priyanka expressed her heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Bharat Kumar and the medical team for saving her life.



APOLLO LAUNCHES 'SAKHI' CLINIC TO ADDRESS WOMEN'S SILENT PELVIC HEALTH ISSUES

Hyderabad, Feb 20, 2026: Marking International Urogynecology Day, Apollo Hospitals has launched the 'Sakhi' campaign and a dedicated urogynecology clinic to help women seek timely and specialised care for pelvic health problems that often go unspoken. Many women silently suffer from conditions such as urine leakage, involuntary loss of stools, repeated urinary infections, vaginal bulge due to prolapse, pelvic pain and intimacy-related concerns. These are frequently dismissed as a normal part of ageing or childbirth, leading to delayed treatment and avoidable distress.



The Sakhi clinic, led by Senior Urogynecologist Dr Nirmala Papalkar and Dr Shreeja Gurrula, aims to provide confidential, compassionate and expert care under one roof. The all-women team ensures privacy and comfort, and even offers telephone consultations for those hesitant to visit in person. The campaign is anchored around the S-A-K-H-I journey Speak, Assess, Know, Heal and Improve encouraging women to voice their concerns, undergo proper evaluation, understand treatment options, receive personalised care and achieve long-term recovery. Speaking on the occasion, Mr Tejesvi Rao Veerapalli, CEO, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, Apollo Hospitals, said the initiative is a focused, trust-based effort designed to create awareness and provide specialised solutions rather than a mass outreach programme. With Sakhi, Apollo Hospitals is encouraging women to speak up, seek medical advice and regain their comfort, confidence and dignity.

GITAM PAYS TRIBUTE TO SHANTI SWARUP BHATNAGAR WITH INSPIRING KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Hyderabad (TSIT) : The GITAM Deemed to be University School of Science, Hyderabad, commemorated the birth anniversary of Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar with a keynote address highlighting the importance of research and innovation in national development. Prof. G. Narahari Sastry from the Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad, an S.S. Bhatnagar Awardee, delivered the keynote lecture and paid rich tributes to Dr. Bhatnagar, revered as the "Father of Research Laboratories" in India for laying the foundation of the country's scientific research infrastructure.

In his address, Prof. Sastry emphasized the transformative power of technology and research in shaping national economies. He noted that countries which embraced technological advancements during and after the Industrial Revolution witnessed rapid progress. Expressing concern over the decline in India's R&D expenditure as a



percentage of GDP, he called for renewed investment in both fundamental and applied sciences.

Recalling the contributions of eminent Indian scientists such as Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya, Jagadish Chandra Bose, and Satyendra Nath Bose, Prof. Sastry urged students to draw inspiration from their legacy of excellence, integrity, and nation-building. He encouraged youth to see India's large population as a strength and to transform knowledge into wealth

through innovation, entrepreneurship, and industry-ready skills. At least 20 percent of graduates, he suggested, should aspire to become entrepreneurs and job creators. He underscored the importance of asking meaningful questions, pursuing scientific experimentation and modelling, and applying knowledge for societal benefit. "The future of Bharat lies in your hands," he told students, motivating them to think like leaders and contribute to national progress. Earlier, Dr. S. Chandrasekhar, Distinguished Professor of the School of Science and former Secretary of DST, welcomed the chief guest and felicitated him in the presence of Dr. M. Reza, Principal of the School of Science, Heads of Departments, and faculty members. Dr. Gousia Begum, Head of the Department of Chemistry, delivered the vote of thanks. Around 200 students from Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan Degree College, Sainikpuri, participated in the programme.

GITAM Pharmacy Hosts National QbD Conference

Hyderabad, February 20, 2026: The GITAM Deemed to be University School of Pharmacy organized a National Conference on "Quality by Design (QbD): Integrating Design of Experiments (DoE) in Pharmaceutical Research" at its Hyderabad campus. The conference highlighted the use of DoE and advanced statistical tools in drug discovery, formulation, quality assurance, and regulatory science. Experts from academia and industry shared



insights, and the abstract book was released during the event. The programme concluded with poster presentations and distribu-

tion of participation certificates, reaffirming GITAM's focus on innovation and industry-academia collaboration.

www.southindiatimes.com

info.southindiatimes@gmail.com

No increase in divisions in Khammam



growing population within the civic body limits, no official clearance has been issued so far, putting an end to the expectations at least for the present. In recent years, the corporation limits were expanded with the merger of several surrounding gram panchayats, leading to a substantial increase in population in many areas. As a result, voter strength in certain divisions has reportedly risen to between 8,000 and 10,000, raising concerns over equitable representation and administrative convenience. Municipal authorities are learnt to have forwarded a proposal to the state government seeking reorganisation and increase in the number of divisions to address these imbalances.

Khammam (TSIT): The number of divisions in the Khammam Municipal Corporation will continue to remain at 60, as the state government has not accorded approval for their enhancement. Though there was widespread speculation that five to eight new divisions might be added in view of the

Sarpanch role key for village development: Additional Collector

Karimnagar, February 20 (TSIT): Additional Collector Ashwini Tanaji Wakade said Sarpanchs play a crucial role in the overall development of villages. She spoke at a five-day training program for newly elected Sarpanchs at Wageshwari Engineering College, Timmapur Mandal. Around 50 Sarpanchs from Choppandani, Chigurumamidi and Gunneruram mandals are attending the training. She advised them to understand the Panchayat Raj Act, government schemes, and focus on village development, public health, education and use of technology to make villages ideal.



10-Day Sustainability Upskilling Workshop Successfully Conducted at HITAM

A 10-day employability skill development workshop on the theme "Sustainability Through Data-Driven Decision Making" was successfully conducted at Hyderabad Institute of Technology and Management (HITAM), Hyderabad.



During the inaugural session, the Principal, Dr. S. Arvind, addressed the students and emphasized the importance of sustainability and data analytics in today's technological and environmental landscape. Throughout the workshop, participants were provided with practical exposure to Data Analytics, Business Intelligence, Circular Economy concepts, and Sustainable Waste Management practices. The Head of the Department of CSE, Dr. S. V. Hemanth, stated that the program significantly enhanced students' data-driven thinking abilities and strengthened their understanding of sustainable technologies.

SHE TEAM HOLDS AWARENESS PROGRAM AT GUNDRATHIMADUGU SCHOOL



Mahabubabad: SHE Team organized a Bharosa and Cyber Crime Awareness program at ZPHS High School, Gundrathimadugu, under Kuravi Police Station limits on the instructions of the District SP. She Team SI Sunanda explained about the POCSO Act and laws related to crimes against women and children. She said strict action will be taken against harassment, ragging, social media abuse and online crimes. Students were asked to report issues without fear, assuring confidentiality. Officials shared helpline numbers including 1930 for cyber crimes and 1098 for child-related complaints. School staff and students attended the program.

4th Telangana State Police Sports and Games Meet-2026 Intensifies on Day Three

Hyderabad : The 4th Telangana State Police Sports and Games Meet-2026 continued with great enthusiasm on its third day at the Cyberabad Police Parade Grounds, witnessing intense and spirited competitions among police personnel from across the State.



Hundreds of athletes representing various districts, zones, commissionerates, and special forces units showcased their sporting excellence in a range of events. Major disciplines such as athletics, volleyball, and kabaddi drew significant attention, while group events also witnessed fierce and closely fought contests.

who displayed remarkable skill, determination, and sportsmanship. Their strong presence added vibrancy and inspiration to the ongoing competitions.

A notable highlight of the meet has been the impressive participation of women police personnel,

Senior officials observed that such sporting events not only enhance physical fitness among police personnel but also strengthen mental resilience, discipline, and team coordination. The friendly yet competitive atmosphere among different units has fostered camaraderie and unity within the force.

Canara Bank ARB BRANCH, Ground Floor, Circle Office Building, Beside Rail Nilayam, Secunderabad - 500 026. E-MAIL: cb2752@canarabank.com, PH: 040-27725260, 27725259

SALE NOTICE

Ref: HYD/ARM/TKMUR/2025-26/10/MAV Date: 19.02.2026

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) & 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Canara Bank, Miryalaguda, of the Canara Bank presently with ARM Branch, Hyderabad for follow up, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on 10.03.2026 for recovery of Rs.22,96,144.62/- (Rupees Two crores twenty two lakhs ninety six thousand one hundred forty four and paise sixty two only) (Contractual dues as on 31.01.2026) along with further interest, charges, expenses and costs from 01.02.2026 due to Miryalaguda Branch, of Canara Bank from M/s MSR Air Filters Pvt Ltd Represented by its directors: Smt Meenakshi Ramavath & Smt Munavath Anitha Regd Office at Industrial Plot No.37 situated in Sy No.63/2 of Venkatadripalem Village, Miryalaguda Mandal, Nalgonda-508207

DATE & TIME OF AUCTION : 10.03.2026 & 11:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. (With unlimited extension of 10 minutes duration each till the conclusion of the sale)

Details and full description of the properties: All that Land & Building at Industrial Plot No.37 measuring plot area of 1025.62 Sq Mts (1225.26 Sq Yards) situated in Sy No.63/2 of Venkatadripalem Village and Revenue limits and Miryalaguda Mandal, Nalgonda-508207 and bounded by North : Plot No.36, South : Plot No.38, East : Plot No.44, West: 40' feet wide Road.

RESERVE PRICE Rs.1,40,00,000/- EMD Rs.14,00,000/-

THE EARNEST MONEY DEPOSIT SHALL BE DEPOSITED ON OR BEFORE 09.03.2026 BY 5:00 pm.

"No Known Encumbrances to the Knowledge of the Bank. However, the intending bidders should make their own independent inquiries regarding the encumbrance, title of the properties put for auction and claims/rights/affecting the property, prior to submitting their bid.

EMD amount of 10% of the Reserve Price to be deposited in E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Pvt Ltd (Baanknet) portal directly or by generating the challan therein to deposit the EMD through RTGS/NEFT in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before 5:00 pm of 09.03.2026. For further details/registration the intended bidders shall contact the service provider M/s PSB Alliance Pvt Ltd (Baanknet) Web site: https://baanknet.com/ Contact number 8160205051 and E-mail: support.baanknet@psballiance.com

Date: 19.02.2026, Place: ARM, Hyderabad Authorized Officer, Canara Bank

Congress Govt Taking Steps to Prevent Fire Accidents in Hyderabad Dr. Kota Neelima



Hyderabad: Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (PCC) Vice President and Sanathnagar Constituency Congress In-charge Dr. Kota Neelima stated that the Congress government is taking proactive measures to prevent fire accidents in Hyderabad city. Dr. Neelima visited the site of the recent fire accident at a coaching centre located in Aditya Enclave building, Maitrivanam, Ameerpet, and reviewed the situation. Speaking on the occasion, she said that Ameerpet and SR Nagar are densely populated and constantly busy areas, requiring heightened safety vigilance. She emphasized that the government is not remaining indifferent and is conducting advance inspections to ensure that such fire mishaps are prevented in the future. She appreciated the swift response of the Fire Department and police personnel, who reached

the spot immediately after receiving information about the incident and began rescue operations. Using ladders, firefighters safely evacuated students who were stranded on the fourth-floor balcony and seeking help. Wearing protective masks, the personnel courageously entered the smoke-filled premises and carried out rescue operations. Dr. Neelima added that the authorities acted promptly by cutting off the power supply to prevent the fire from spreading further. She also strongly condemned the remarks made by MLA Talasani Srinivas Yadav, who alleged that the government had failed to control frequent fire accidents in the city. Questioning the previous decade of governance under the BRS, she asked what preventive measures were taken during that period. She criticized attempts to politicize the incident instead of expressing solidarity with the victims.

Illegal teak wood seized at Thapalapur check post

Mancherial, February 20 (TSIT): Forest officials under the Kawal Tiger Reserve intercepted a lorry at Thapalapur check post and seized illegal teak wood during vehicle inspections. The vehicle was shifted to the Forest Range Office for investigation. In a separate raid at Chintapalli village, officials found illegal-



ly stored teak wood at a house and seized 5 teak rough squares and 3 planks worth Rs.24,821. Forest officials said strict action will continue against illegal transport and storage of forest produce.

Uma Rani assumes charge as Nizamabad Mayor

Nizamabad: Uma Rani took charge as Mayor of Nizamabad Municipal Corporation at a grand function. Salma Tahseen also assumed office as Deputy Mayor. Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar and PCC President Mahesh Kumar Goud attended as chief guests and congratulated the new Mayor and Deputy Mayor. The Minister said the government will focus on employment and municipal development and



assured support for Telangana's progress. Leaders called for united efforts beyond party lines for the development of Nizamabad city.

SBI STATE BANK OF INDIA Stressed Asset Recovery Branch (Code-05172) 2nd Floor, TSRTC Computer Amenty Centre, Bus Terminal Complex, Koti, Hyderabad-500095, T.S. E-Mail: sbi.05172@sbi.co.in

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

[Under Rule 8(6) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002]

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical Possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of State Bank of India, the secured creditor, will be sold on "As is Where is", "As is What is" and "Whatever there is" on 25-03-2026, for recovery of Rs.25,62,84,496/- (Rupees Twenty Five Crores Sixty Two Lakhs Eighty Four Thousand Four Hundred and Ninety Six only) as on 20-02-2026 together with further interest, expenses from 21-02-2026 at DRT Decree rate and future charges/costs etc., due to the secured creditors State Bank of India from Borrower: M/s. Triumph Wires Pvt. Ltd., H.No.2-137 to 154, Flat No. 306, 3rd Floor, Minerva Complex, Secunderabad-500003, and Guarantors: Shri. Hitesh R Jain, S/o. Sri Ramesh Kumar Otramal Jain, H.No.2-3-421, F.No.B-303, Sri Sai Residence, Gayadeen Bagh Colony, Nallagutta, Secunderabad-500003. (2) Shri. Ramesh Kumar Otramal Jain, H.No.2-3-421, F.No.B-303, Sri Sai Residence, Gayadeen Bagh Colony, Nallagutta, Secunderabad-500003. (3) M/s. R.E.Cables and Conductors Pvt Ltd., H.No.2-137 to 154, Flat No. 306, 3rd Floor, Minerva Complex, Secunderabad-500003. The Reserve Price will be Rs.7,85,00,000/- (Rupees Seven Crores Eighty Five Lakhs Only) and the earnest money deposit will be Rs. 78,50,000/- (Rupees Seventy Eight Lakhs Fifty Thousand only).

SHORT DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY WITH KNOWN ENCUMBRANCES IF ANY.

All that the land with sheds bearing No 7 & 9, ad-measuring 3368 Sq. yds out of 17000 Sq.yds (with plinth area 19,933 Sft., i.e. Shed No. 7 area 9,352 Sft& Shed No 9 area 10,581Sft.A.C.C.) in Sy No 133, situated at Seetharampur, New Bowenpally, Secunderabad, Contonment, Telangana - 500011 covered by Registered Document No.3598/2014 dated 15.12.2014 & a rectification deed bearing document No.117/2015 dated 13.01.2015 registered at Joint Sub-Registrar 1, Hyderabad (RO) and Bounded by: North: 05' 0" wide passage, South: 25' 0" wide road and vendors Property, East: 10' 0" wide passage and Vendors Property, West: 03' 0" wide Passage and Shed No.6

Reserve Price: Rs.7,85,00,000/- EMD: Rs.78,50,000/- EMD Last Date: 24-03-2026; BID Increment: Rs.5,00,000/-; Auction Date: 25-03-2026; Time: 11.00 am to 2.00 pm.

Property ID: SBIIN200011555128

Note : (1) The property is being auctioned on "as is where is, as is what is and whatever there is" basis. Description of the property is given as per the title deeds deposited with the bank. However, when the bank attempted sale, on an earlier occasion, the immediate neighbor on the eastern side filed a writ petition claiming 25 feet road on the eastern side of the property, whereas, the documents deposited indicate only 10 feet passage. The said Writ Petition No. 4008/2020 before the Hon'ble High Court at Hyderabad was closed as infructuous in view of no sale. Therefore, the intending bidders are advised to take note of the said dispute and only after examining the property in all respects, they may participate in the auction. The Bank shall not entertain any grievance or claim in respect of total extent of area, passage width and other issues and the bidders shall only be responsible for sorting out all the issues. (2) The property is subject to the attachment by Department of Enforcement Directorate against which bank has filed Cr.MP/24/2024 before Nampally Metropolitan Session Court at Hyderabad for release of such attachment order and the same is still pending for disposal. Consequently registration of the property will take time after securing favourable orders from Hon'ble Court. (3) All applicable taxes, power bills, applicable stamp duty, registration charges, taxes, GST, fees etc., will be borne by the successful bidder. (4) If the auction or sale is cancelled by any reason, the buyer's recourse is limited to, refund of the bid amount without interest or additional compensation.

The e-auction will be conducted through Bank's approved service provider M/s. SISL Infotech Pvt. Ltd. at their web portal https://www.baanknet.com. The interested bidders shall ensure that they get themselves registered on the e-auction website and deposit earnest money in the virtual wallet created by service provider as per guidelines provided on https://www.baanknet.com.

The interested bidders who require assistance in creating Login ID & Password, uploading data, submitting Bid documents, Training/ Demonstration, Terms & conditions on online Inter-se Bidding etc., may visit the website https://www.baanknet.com.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in State Bank of India, the Secured Creditor's website https://www.sbi.co.in/ and website https://www.baanknet.com.

For further details please contact the following officials on any working day with prior appointment before 5.00 pm 24-03-2026. Smt K. Geetha Lakshmi, Manager, Mobile No. 8019129092. Shri T.M. Jayaramudu, Chief Manager, Mobile No. 9494431902

Date: 20-02-2026, Place: Hyderabad Sd/- Authorized Officer, State Bank of India, SARB-1, Hyd.

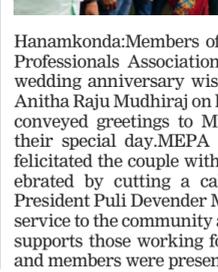
Warangal Police Commissioner who won the bronze medal in table tennis

WARANGAL TSIT : Warangal Police Commissioner Sunpreet Singh bagged the bronze medal in table tennis gazetted officers category in the fourth state level police sports and games meet organized by Cyberabad Commissioner.



MEPA greets Neerati Anitha Raju on wedding anniversary

Hanamkonda: Members of the Mudhiraj Employees and Professionals Association Telangana (MEPA) extended wedding anniversary wishes to State Secretary Neerati Anitha Raju Mudhiraj on her 17th anniversary. They also conveyed greetings to Mutyala Rajesh and Rajitha on their special day. MEPA leaders visited her residence, felicitated the couple with shawls and bouquets, and celebrated by cutting a cake. MEPA Founder and State President Puli Devender Mudhiraj praised Anitha Raju's service to the community and said the association always supports those working for social welfare. Other leaders and members were present at the celebration.



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

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorised officer of Shriram Finance Limited, (Shriram City Union Finance Limited, amalgamated with Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited, subsequently Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited name Changed as Shriram Finance Limited, by its Incorporation Certificate dt. 30-11-2022) a corporate body registered and incorporated as a company under the Indian companies Act 1956, is doing Non-Banking financial activities, having its Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No. 14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai - 600032 and having its administrative office at 6th Floor (level 2), Building No. Q2, Aaram Q Parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Ghatol, Navi Mumbai-400710, under the provisions of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (said Act) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (said Rules) issued demand notices to the Borrowers details of which are mentioned in the table below to repay the amount mentioned in the said demand notices.

The Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said Rules, on this 17TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2026.

Borrower Name and Address	Amount due as per Demand Notice
(1) Syed Saber Pasha, S/o. Jabbar Pasha, Aged About 52 Years, Occ: Stone Polishing Unit Business, R/o. H.No: 6-8-128, Murshad Darga, Tandur (Md), Vikarabad Dist. Pin: 501144, Ph: 9848084786. (2) Syed Tanveer Fathima, W/o. Syed Saber Pasha, Aged About 49 Years, Occ: Stone Polishing Unit Business, R/o. H.No: 6-8-128, Murshad Darga, Tandur (Md), Vikarabad Dist., Pin: 501144, Ph: 9989340667. (3) Praveen Goud, S/o. Ramulu Goud, Aged About 40 Years, Occ: Govt. Employee (Line Man), R/o. H.No: 1-12, Chengole (Vi), Tandur (Md), Vikarabad Dist., Pin: 501141, Ph: 9951577309.	Rs. 22,08,315/- Rupees Twenty Two Lakhs Eight Thousand Three Hundred and Fifteen only

.....Borrowers/Co-borrower /Guarantors/Legal heirs

TNDURTF2309160005 - DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY: All that the House No. 6-8-128/2, Covered with Shabad stone Stopped roof, Plinth area 1110 Sq.feet, with Open Place totally admeasuring 160 Sq.Yards, equivalent 133.77 Sq.Meters Situated at Shamshergunj, Tandur, Ward No. 6, Block No.8, Tandur Municipality, Vikarabad District and bounded by: North: 60 feet Wide Chengapur Road and House of A. Razak, South: House of Late S.A. Salam Pasha, East: House of Late S.A. Salam Pasha, West: House of Late A. Razak.

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

Place: Tandur (Md), Vikarabad (Dt) Sd/- Authorised Officer Shriram Finance Limited Date: 17.02.2026

PROTIUM FINANCE LIMITED (Formerly known as Growth Source Financial Technologies Ltd.) Registered & Corporate Office Address: 7th Floor, Block B2, Phase-1, Murpurpally Rajaparthi Mandali, Warangal, Telangana 506314 (Borrower's) Cama Industrial Estate, Goregaon(E), Mumbai-400063, Maharashtra.

PUBLIC NOTICE (Under Rule 3 (1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002)

SUBSTITUTED SERVICE OF NOTICE U/s 13 (2) OF SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the Borrowers as mentioned below, who have defaulted in repayment of the Credit facility availed by them from Protium Finance Limited (Formerly known as Growth Source Financial Technologies Ltd. and before that known as Growth Source Financial Technologies Pvt. Ltd.), their loan credit facility has been classified as Non-Performing Assets in the books of NIFRC, as per RBI guidelines thereon. Thereafter, NIFRC has issued demand notices below mentioned respective borrower under section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFESI Act) on the last known addresses of the said borrowers thereby calling upon and demanding from them to pay the amounts mentioned in the respective Demand Notices within 60 days from the date of the respective Notice/s, as per details given below, together with further interest at the contractual rate on the below mentioned amount and incidental expenses, cost, charges etc. as stated in the said demand notices. However, the service is also being done by us by way of this publication as per Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (SARFESI Rules).

Sr. Loan Account No./Name and address of Borrower and Co Borrower/s	Date of NPA	Demand notice date
1. LOAN ACCOUNT No. - GS005EDS1936540 (Borrower) ST Marys Educational Society Through its President Ramesh Reddy Kunduru S/o Sudarshan Reddy & Vice President Somaiah Kathiyo S/o Bixapathi & General Secretary Shibu Paul Peddiackal S/o Pm Poulouse & Joint Secretary Venkat Reddy Kunduru S/o Janardhan Reddy, (Co-Borrower) 1. Shibu Paul Peddiackal S/o Pm Poulouse, 2. Anusha Educational Society, 3. Ramesh Reddy Kunduru S/o Kunduru Sudarshan Reddy, 4. Raveena Penthala W/o Shibu Paul Peddiackal. Addresses: House number 3-25 Murpurpally Rajaparthi Mandali, Warangal, Telangana 506314 (Borrower); 6/91/2 Katrapalle, Rayaparthi, Warangal (Rural), Telangana 506314 (Borrower); 6/91/2 Katrapalle, Rayaparthi, Warangal, Telangana 506314 (Borrower); (Co-Borrower 1); 191/194/1 Sahakar Nagar near Mahabubabad TL, Warangal, Telangana 506163 (Co-Borrower 1); 191/194/1 Sahakar Nagar near Warangal Public School, Hanamkonda, Warangal, Telangana 506001 (Co-Borrower 3); H number 1-5 Street Katrapalle Sector Rajaparthi Village Warangal Telangana 506314, Warangal, Telangana 506314 (Co-Borrower 4).	03.02.2026	11th Feb 2026
2. LOAN ACCOUNT No. - GS005EDS2429723 (Borrower) ST Marys Educational Society through its president Ramesh Reddy Kunduru S/o Sudarshan Reddy & vice president Somaiah Kathiyo S/o Bixapathi & general secretary Shibu Paul Peddiackal S/o Pm Poulouse & joint secretary Venkat Reddy Kunduru S/o Janardhan Reddy, (Co-Borrower) 1. Ramesh Reddy Kunduru S/o Kunduru Sudarshan Reddy, 2. Shibu Paul Peddiackal S/o Pm Poulouse, 3. Kathiyo Somaiah S/o Kathiyo Bixapathi, 4. Anusha Educational Society, 5. Raveena Penthala W/o Shibu Paul Peddiackal. Addresses: House number 3-25 Murpurpally Rajaparthi Mandali, Warangal, Telangana 506314 (Borrower); 6/91/2 Katrapalle, Rayaparthi, Warangal (Rural), Telangana 506314 (Borrower); (Co-Borrower 1); 191/194/1 Sahakar Nagar near Warangal Public School, Hanamkonda, Warangal, Telangana 506001 (Co-Borrower 1); H number 1-5 Street Katrapalle Sector Rajaparthi Village, Warangal, Telangana 506314 (Co-Borrower 5).	03.02.2026	11th Feb 2026

DESCRIPTION OF THE SECURED ASSETS/MORTGAGED PROPERTIES:- All That Part And Parcel Of Rcc Building Bearing H.No.7-51/2 With Ground Floor 4090.00 Sft And First Floor Plinth Area 4090.00 Sq.feet On Land Admeasuring 1936 Sq Yards Or Ac.00-16 Guntas (Nala Order No.22/20040297) In Survey No.24/A/1 Situated At Rayaparthi Village, Rayaparthi Mandal, Guntur Panchayat, Warangal (Rural), District-506314 Having Td-Cum-Passbook No.22120060127, Within The Limits Of Local Body And Bounded By: North: Others: Agriculture Land Of Kunta Narsaiah South: Others: 20 Feet Daan East: Others: Agriculture Land Of Kunta Narsaiah West: Others: Agriculture Land Of Kunta Kumarsawary

We hereby call upon the borrower stated herein to pay us within 60 days from the date of this notice, the outstanding amount of more particularly stated in respective Demand Notices issued, together with further interest thereon plus cost, charges, expenses, etc. thereto falling which we shall be at liberty to Sale proceed against the above Secured Asset(s)/Immovable Property (ies) under Section 13(4) of the said Act and the applicable Rules not limited to taking possession and selling the secured asset entirely at the risk of the said borrower(s)/co borrower (s)/Legal Heir(s)/Legal Representative(s) at their own cost and consequences.

Please note that as per section 13(13) of the SARFESI Act, all of you are prohibited from transferring by way of sale, lease or otherwise, the aforesaid secured assets without prior written consent of the Bank. Any contravention of the said section by you shall invoke the penal provisions as laid down under sub-section (8) of the SARFESI Act, and / or any other legal provision in this regard. Please note that as per section 13(1) of section 13 of the Act, if the dues of Protium Finance Limited (Formerly known as Growth Source Financial Technologies Ltd) together with interest, charges and expenses incurred by Protium Finance Limited (Formerly known as Growth Source Financial Technologies Ltd) are tendered to Protium Finance Limited (Formerly known as Growth Source Financial Technologies Ltd) before the date fixed for sale or transfer, the secured asset shall not be sold or transferred by Protium Finance Limited (Formerly known as Growth Source Financial Technologies Ltd) and no further step shall be taken by Protium Finance Limited (Formerly known as Growth Source Financial Technologies Ltd) for transfer or sale of that secured asset.

Date: 21.02.2026, Place : Telangana Sd/- For Protium Finance Limited, Authorized Officer

EDITORIAL

IN BANGLADESH, A STORY OF MANY WINS

As a member of the Indian Parliament, I have watched the unfolding events in Dhaka with a mix of cautious optimism and profound respect for the democratic resilience of our neighbour. The 2026 general election in Bangladesh, which saw the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) return to power with a sweeping mandate, is not merely a change in government; it is a seismic shift in the political landscape of South Asia.

I find myself in complete agreement with the recent reflections of my dear friend Mahfuz Anam, a veteran Bangladeshi editor, who characterises this election as the moment that has truly "saved" his country. From my vantage point in New Delhi, I believe it is essential for us Indians to understand and respect the core arguments he has made: that this transition represents a triumph of public will over authoritarianism, a rejection of regressive extremism, and a unique opportunity for India to reset its relationship with a democratic and stable Bangladesh.

The Civic Engagement Must Be Applauded

The foundation of this new era was laid long before the first ballot was cast. The transition began with the extraordinary student-led uprising in 2024 (the "Monsoon Revolution"), which dismantled an autocratic regime that many believed was immovable. As an Indian lawmaker, I am struck by the sheer scale of civic engagement that has followed.

The 2026 polls recorded a turnout of 60%, a sharp and healthy rise from the 42% seen in the previous, widely boycotted electoral cycle. This is the clearest evidence that the people of Bangladesh have reclaimed their stake in the state. For years, the narrative in the region was one of "democratic backsliding", but Dhaka has proven that when institutions are pushed to the brink, the collective will of the general populace, led by the youth, can forge a path back to legitimacy. The youth didn't gain politically from their own revolt. Instead, the BNP, led by Tarique Rahman, triumphed after twenty years in the political wilderness, in a comeback of historic proportions. Critics often pointed to the party's past baggage, but this campaign was markedly different. Under Rahman's leadership, the BNP positioned itself as the guardian of the "July National Charter", a package of sweeping constitutional and institutional reforms designed to prevent the return of one-party rule. It disavowed some of its previous transgressions and promised to govern from the centre.

A Reassurance For India

By securing a two-thirds majority (212 seats), the BNP has been given the mandate it needs to govern effectively. However, the most significant takeaway for us in India is the party's conscious pivot toward inclusivity. In his maiden address as Prime Minister, Tarique Rahman vowed to make Bangladesh a safe haven for "all faiths - Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists, and Christians." For those of us in India (including the Parliamentary Standing Committee on External Affairs) who have raised concerns about the safety of minorities in Bangladesh, these words are a welcome and necessary assurance.

The Jamaat Snub

One of the most insightful points made by Bangladeshi observers like Mahfuz Anam relates to the rejection the voters delivered to the more regressive elements of the political spectrum. While the Jamaat-e-Islami saw an increase in its seat share, the electorate ultimately placed them in the opposition. The voters, particularly women and the youth, demonstrated a sophisticated discernment. They supported the call for reform but rejected the regressive rhetoric concerning women's rights and religious conservatism that surfaced in the Jamaat's statements during the campaign.

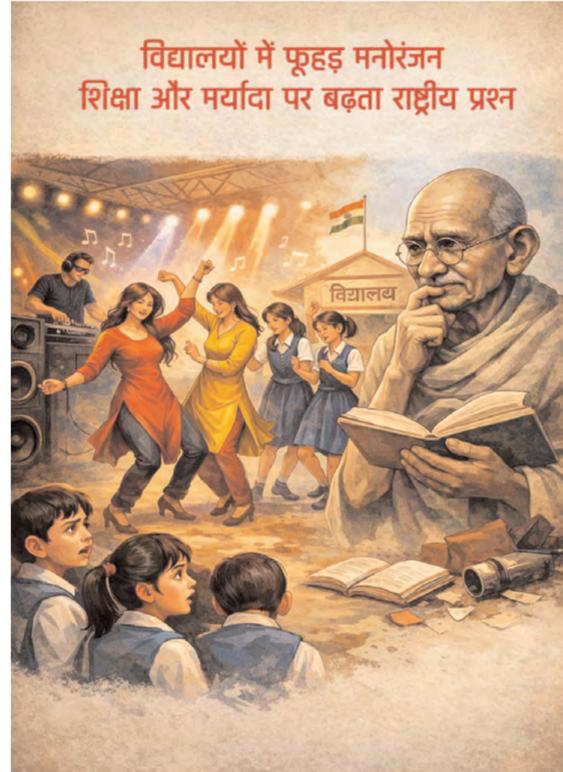
VULGAR ENTERTAINMENT IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS:

A growing national question about education and dignity



PRIYANKA SAURABH

(Serious concern over the basic objective of children's values, discipline and education amidst DJ culture and indecent performances) Schools form the soul of any nation. (Serious concern over the basic objective of children's values, discipline and education amidst DJ culture and indecent performances) Schools form the soul of any nation. They are the places where society's direction is determined, shaping the thoughts, values, and behaviors of future generations. A civilized society is defined by its schools, for it is here that children are taught not only literacy but also discipline, morality, sensitivity, and responsibility. Therefore, if indecent dances, vulgar entertainment, and indecent performances are witnessed on school campuses, it is not merely the fault of a single institution, but a serious warning to the entire nation's education system. In recent years, scenes have emerged from various parts of the country where cultural programs in schools have featured songs and dances that have no connection to education and values. These incidents force us to wonder whether we are surrendering our schools to the same commercial culture that has placed entertainment above decorum? Are we unwittingly subjecting the innocent psyche of children to influences that could have long-term effects on their character and thinking? Today, it's true that DJ culture, social media, and the race for instant popularity have impacted every segment of society. The language of songs and entertainment has changed, the level of presentation has evolved, and the race to go viral has overtaken discretion. But



school is not a public forum or a place of entertainment. It is the place where children should be taught what is appropriate and inappropriate, what is acceptable and what is not. If schools themselves begin to erase these distinctions, how will children develop an understanding of moral boundaries? Another aspect of this whole question is that sometimes such events involve the involvement of outside DJs or organizers. It's possible that such music was played in a school without prior planning, or that children, in their excitement, chose an inappropriate song. But in every such scenario, the greatest responsibility lies with the school administration and teachers. Teachers aren't just textbook teachers; they are living examples of ideals, discipline, and

dignity. Their silence or indifference becomes tacit approval for the children. The purpose of cultural programs in schools is to channel children's creativity in a positive direction. Dance, music, and drama boost children's self-confidence, provide a platform for their talents, and connect them to their culture. But when this platform becomes a medium for vulgarity, its very purpose is defeated. Folk dances, patriotic songs, classical or light music, and inspirational plays—these not only entertain but also connect children to their roots. In contrast, vulgar performances may garner momentary applause but do not enrich children's personalities in any way. Equally important is the role of society and parents. Today, parents often expect only results and

competition from schools, while relatively little attention is paid to value-based education. If such incidents occur in a school, it is not enough to simply blame the teachers or the administration. Society must also decide what kind of environment it wants to provide for its children. Do we want schools to adopt the same culture that is being served on TV and mobile screens, or do we expect something better, something more responsible from them? On the other hand, it's also essential that each incident be responded to with a balanced approach. Putting the entire teaching community on trial or demanding harsh punishment based on a single lapse is not a permanent solution to the problem. Teachers are human and can make mistakes. If an incident occurs for the first time and is not malicious, corrective warnings, clear guidelines, and sensitive training may be more effective. However, if such incidents occur repeatedly, or if the decorum is deliberately violated, strict action is equally necessary to maintain discipline. Today, there is a need for clear and consistent guidelines for school cultural programs across the country. These guidelines should not remain confined to paper, but should be scrupulously followed. Clear rules should be in place regarding prior approval of programs, review of songs and performances, costume decorum, and stage management responsibilities. Regular training for teachers is also essential so that they can understand changing social influences and provide appropriate guidance to children. It's also worth noting that morality and culture don't mean rigidity or the suppression of creativity. Cutting children off from modernity isn't the solution; rather, teaching them to embrace modernity with discretion is more important. Schools should create an environment where children can freely showcase their talents, while also understanding that every platform has its own limits. A balance of freedom and discipline is the hallmark of a healthy education system. Looking at it from a broader perspective, this issue isn't limited to schools. It's a reflection of the social direction we're moving in.

THE PARADOX OF INDIA'S 'YOLO' CONSUMER

Do India's statisticians believe that the Indian citizen is becoming increasingly vain, hedonistic and imprudent? An analysis of the new inflation index indicates they do. It's not their fault. They have inferred those characteristics from the way Indians spend. Let's see how. Last week, the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MosPI) released the first Consumer Price Inflation (CPI) number that uses 2024 as the base year, replacing the previous series with 2012 as the base year. January 2026 inflation clocked at a healthy 2.75%, slightly above the floor level that the Reserve Bank of India likes it to be and well below the ceiling when the governor starts frowning. The number itself is transient and hence not critical to this analysis, though it deepens the story. What offers a clue into the statisticians' thinking is the weightage assigned to each of the goods and services that are measured to build the index. Changing Consumption Trends It is necessary to change the building blocks of the CPI periodically to reflect changing consumer choices. The previous index, which was built on patterns of 2012, had six groups and included then widely used items such as video and audio cassettes, used clothing and rope. The new index removes such stuff and brings in now-common services such as video streaming and babysitters. Its 12 divisions of goods and services are selected on the basis of Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purpose (COICOP), a principle laid down by the United Nations' Statistical Division in 2018. COICOP keeps pace with changing consumption patterns and helps sketch a more accurate profile of the consumer. MosPI statisticians have relied on the Household Consumption Expenditure Survey (HCES) of 2023-24 to imagine the new Indian CPI basket based on consumer choices. A nation climbing out of widespread poverty while harbouring ambitions of becoming a superpower would be expected to spend more on superior foods, education and asset creation. But



the weightage for food, education, sports, recreation and culture is sharply lower, indicating a relatively lower consumer preference for them. Instead, the higher weightage for personal care, transport and intoxicants draws the picture of a consumer with a YOLO (you-only-live-once) approach. Rural-Urban Divide The HCES 2023-24, released in December 2024, showed that food expenditure in rural areas fell below half of households' average monthly spending. In the food basket, the sharpest spike was in the consumption of beverages, refreshments and processed foods instead of proteins, fruits and vegetables. The trend was the same in rural as well as urban areas. Similarly, the share of expenditure on education saw a drop in both rural and urban areas, while that of conveyance, entertainment and intoxicants shifted up. The breakup accompanying the new CPI series shows the deepening of the trend. Personal care, social protection and miscellaneous goods and services jumped by 19.02%. The next fastest price rise was for education at 3.35%. One reason for low household food expenditure is the free and highly subsidised distribution of essentials such as cereals, pulses and sugar to over 800 million Indians. That should logically free up household budgets for judicious expenditure, such as on education and protein-rich foods.

That does not seem to be the case. For instance, India has high internet penetration but low ownership of personal computers, crucial for upgrading knowledge and acquiring skills such as programming. Instead, internet connectivity is largely deployed to consume entertainment content on mobile phones. The 'Middle Class' Factor Consumption behaviour in India is also skewed by inequality, and weightages in the new CPI series appear to tilt towards middle-class consumption, even though most of India can hardly be categorised as that. A report of broking firm CLSA from November 2025, which slices the country by per capita income, found that 90% of Indians survive on \$900 annually, while the average national annual per capita income is a respectable \$2,400. The Rupee Road report, prepared from the perspective of identifying equity investment opportunities, says that, measured by affordability, shopping by the poorer cohorts rarely goes beyond basic essentials. And incomes are not rising enough to beat inflation. Analysing jobs data, Niti Aayog member Arvind Virmani had remarked last year that salaries had not kept pace with inflation in the past seven years. Real wages were stagnant even though the number of jobs was rising faster than the population growth rate, Virmani had said.

The 'Quiet Panic' That Led To Trump Blinking On Anti-India Tariffs

In recent years, India has concluded several bilateral trade agreements, including with the UK, Oman, and the EU. Another notable development is the announcement of an interim trade agreement between India and the United States. Although early discussions centred on a comprehensive, multi-sector agreement focused on market access and reducing trade barriers, the decision to settle for an interim deal appears influenced by broader factors. Rising inflation in the US, particularly following tariffs in sectors such as household durable goods, food and beverages and textiles, may have prompted a recalibration of trade relations. US Inflation Was Rising India has become an increasingly important supplier within the United States' import structure. In 2024-25, Indian exports to the US totalled approximately USD 86.51 billion, representing around 2.6% of total US imports. This role is particularly evident in several sectors, with India supplying approximately 9.2% of US textile and apparel imports, roughly 3.2% of housing-related consumer durables, and nearly 5% of food and beverage imports during that period. These figures indicate India's growing integration into key segments of the US consumption market. At the same time, the United States has implemented a series of tariff increases affecting a broad range of Indian exports. Inflation within the sectors under consideration, as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), remained positive throughout this period.



Specifically, for January 2025-26, CPI inflation was approximately 2.9% for food and beverages, 1.7% for textiles and apparel, and 3.9% for housing-related consumer durables. Notably, larger movements in inflation were observed following the tariff notifications issued in August 2025. While multiple factors likely contributed, the timing suggests that recent trade measures may have played a role alongside other domestic and global influences in shaping observed price trends. Americans Felt The Pinch Recent inflation forecasts highlight concerns regarding tariff pass-through for domestic policymakers. According to RBC Economics, core goods inflation in the United States is expected to increase this year, peaking at approximately 3%. These figures are comparable to levels observed during the 2008 financial crisis in the United States. Empirical research increasingly supports the link between tariffs and price

pressures. Research from Federal Reserve organisations, including the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, has provided evidence that the recent increase in tariffs indeed contributed significantly to the growth in consumer prices. This observed link between tariffs and inflation has prompted the US to deploy compensatory measures. One example has been the expansion of federal support packages for American farmers as agricultural producers were among the most visible casualties of retaliatory tariffs, prompting administrations to authorise significant amounts in relief and subsidy programmes. These transfers acknowledge that trade restrictions can generate domestic economic stress requiring fiscal mitigation. Federal Reserve data indicate that overall consumer goods production increased modestly in 2025, with output rising by approximately 0.7% in December 2025 compared to earlier months. Food and beverage manufacturing, a non-durable good,

recorded mild gains consistent with short-term adjustments in domestic supply. Production of household durable goods, including appliances and furniture, also edged upward, reaching an industrial production index of approximately 81.9 in December 2025, slightly higher than levels earlier in the year. In contrast, textiles and apparel production remained subdued, with available data indicating stagnation or decline through 2024-25, reflecting longer-term structural constraints within the sector. Overall, the data suggest that while certain industries experienced short-run increases in domestic production, these gains were modest and uneven, and do not indicate a broad-based or sustained expansion in US manufacturing capacity. There's More To The Tariff Rollback Than Diplomacy Against this backdrop, the newly announced US-India trade adjustments assume increased economic significance.

PM'S ADVISOR FLAGS PRIVATE SECTOR INERTIA AS INDIA'S GROWTH HURDLE

Bengaluru, Feb 20 (UNI) India cannot afford hesitation in private investment if it is to reclaim its historical economic prominence, Dr Mahendra Dev, Chairman of the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council, said on Friday. Speaking at the Ecofluence 3.0 conference organized by the Indus Business Academy (IBA) here, he warned that private sector inertia, often blamed on "uncertainty," must give way to decisive investment and strategic action.



"India cannot afford hesitation in private investment if it wants to reclaim its place as a global economic powerhouse. Private sector inertia, often blamed on 'uncertainty,' must give way to decisive investment and strategic action," he said. "The government has laid the groundwork with policies like Make in India, production-linked incentives, GST simplification, labor code reforms, and Atmanirbhar Bharat initiatives, but without bold participation from the private sector, growth will remain slow, and the opportunity to achieve developed-nation status by 2047 will be jeopardised," Dr Dev warned.

He framed his remarks with a clear historical perspective. In 1700, India accounted for 24.5 percent of global GDP, ahead of China's 22.3 percent. The Industrial Revolution abroad, colonial subjugation, and early post-independence policy choices caused a steep decline.

Between the 1950s and 1970s, India's GDP growth averaged only 3.5 percent, with per capita income barely rising. The reasons were avoidable: an obsession with heavy industry over labor-intensive manufacturing, and chronic neglect of human capital through education and health. Attempts at agricultural-led growth and other alternative models were sidelined, leaving India behind its East and Southeast Asian peers, he noted.

Domestically, Dr Dev emphasized, the opportunity exists if India acts decisively. Investment and exports are the twin engines of growth. India's investment rate is currently 31-32 percent, but private sector lethargy has slowed progress. Government reforms have laid the groundwork: Make in India, production-linked incentive (PLI) schemes, GST simplification, labor code reforms, and Atmanirbhar Bharat policies have strengthened competitiveness. Results are tangible: mobile phone imports fell from 78 percent to 4 percent, and domestic electronics manufacturing has surged. Yet structural transformations remain the real challenge. India's manufacturing sector suffers from a "missing middle": too many micro firms and too few mid-sized enterprises. MSMEs, long heralded as engines of employment, need scale, investment, and support. Services growth complements manufacturing, but without robust industrial development, India cannot generate sufficient quality employment for its rapidly urbanizing, digitally connected population.

Human capital development remains critical. India has world-class higher education institutions, yet basic education and health services, particularly in rural areas, lag far behind. Climate change adds urgency. India has pledged net-zero emissions by 2070, with renewable energy growth ahead of schedule, but achieving sustainable, low-carbon growth will require coordination at the state and district levels.

Demographics provide both opportunity and challenge. With a median age of 28, India is one of the youngest major economies, unlike Japan or Germany. States such as Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, with younger populations, will drive future growth, while older states like Kerala face demographic headwinds. Digital infrastructure — the JAM trinity and UPI — offers the means to leverage this advantage efficiently.

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"Learn from Mistakes, Promote Workplace Wellness for Higher Productivity," Says MP Dr. C.N. Manjunath

Bengaluru: Member of Parliament, Bangalore Rural, Dr. C.N. Manjunath, delivered an impactful address at the Southern Regional Conference 2026 organized by the National Institute of Personnel Management (Karnataka Chapter) at NIMHANS Convention Centre, Bengaluru.

He further noted that every third mobile phone and every fourth generic pharmaceutical tablet sold in the U.S. is manufactured in India, showcasing the nation's industrial and technological capabilities. Dr. Manjunath stressed that while managing industries and innovation is crucial, managing people



In his speech, Dr. Manjunath emphasized India's remarkable economic progress, noting that India has recently overtaken Japan and is projected to surpass Germany by 2027. He stated that the country is currently experiencing a transformative phase driven by technological innovation and digital advancement. Highlighting India's global footprint, he pointed out that a significant percentage of doctors, engineers, and scientists in the United States are of Indian origin.

remains one of the most challenging aspects of leadership. He called for improved organizational systems, accountability, and responsible leadership at all levels. Sharing an example from global best practices, he emphasized that mistakes should be treated as learning assets. Citing corporate models where weekly meetings are held to openly discuss errors, he stated that organizations must respect, correct, and learn from mistakes to achieve sustained growth.

Walk for 6.0 km clean, safe footpaths at Kodigehalli

10TH EDITION OF PROJECT "WALKALURU" IN BENGALURU NORTH CITY CORPORATION

Bengaluru : North City Corporation Commissioner Pommala Sunil Kumar will flag off "Project Walkaluru" at 7:00am on this Sunday, 22nd Feb, 2026 . A 6.0 km walk is organised for local residents, officers and staff of the corporation. Purpose of this Footpath Walk:

The purpose of the Walkaluru project is to have citizens walk on footpaths and identify major obstacles along the way, even pedestrians are stopped at all major junctions to take photographs and identify the number of jeopardized foot paths themselves. This is Walk No 10 of Project Walkaluru, and will cross 80km distance since its inception on Nov 1st. 10th Footpath walk will start at 7:00am, 22nd Feb at Rekha Govindam Cafe, Railway Parallel Rd, Kodigehalli. There will be no prior registration required to participate in this unique initiative.

Bengaluru North Civic Body Resolves 865 Grievances Through Commissioner's Phone-In Drive



Bengaluru: In a continued effort to strengthen public outreach and improve civic services, Bengaluru North City Corporation Commissioner Pommala Sunil Kumar conducted a Phone-In programme at the Commissioner's Office on Amrutahalli Main Road at 7.00 AM on Friday. The initiative aims to directly hear citizens' grievances and ensure prompt redressal.

During the session, the Commissioner received 60 calls, registering 77 grievances from various wards. He reviewed each complaint and issued directions to concerned officials for immediate action.

Since the programme's launch on September 26, it has completed 21 weeks. A total of 1,177 grievances have been registered so far, of which 865 have been resolved. About 72 complaints falling outside the North City Corporation's jurisdiction were transferred to respective departments, while officials were instructed to expedite action on the remaining 203 cases.

Road maintenance topped the list with 35 complaints, followed by 16 grievances related to waste collection and disposal. Six complaints were received regarding hazardous trees and overhanging branches. The Commissioner directed officials to prioritize road repairs, ensure timely waste management, and take preventive measures to address tree-related risks. The weekly Phone-In programme will continue every Friday to ensure direct interaction with citizens and effective governance.

Government Support to Those Who Insulted Shivaji Maharaj is Condemnable: MP Basavaraj Bommai

Bengaluru: Former Chief Minister and Member of Parliament Basavaraj Bommai has alleged that the State government has extended support to those who insulted Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj.

He said Bagalkot is known as a land of harmony where all communities have coexisted peacefully. In such a district with this background, it is extremely unfortunate that religious fanatics are receiving the patronage of the government. The recent incident clearly shows that the government is fully backing those who pelted stones, threw footwear, and showed disrespect to Shivaji Maharaj.

In a post on X, Bommai stated that Shivaji Maharaj is an unparalleled leader in the history of India and is respected across the country. Insulting him is highly condemnable, he said. Referring to the incident in Bagalkot, he pointed out that despite visuals showing the district Superintendent of Police bleeding after being hit by stones, the SP



reportedly claimed that nothing had happened. He further alleged that no action is being taken against those who threw stones and footwear or those who conspired behind the incident, and that only symbolic arrests are being made.

Bommai accused the State government of reaching the peak of appeasement politics, stating that there is no value for justice, righteousness, or ethics under the present administration. According to him, it has become clear that only appeasement, corruption, and divisive politics are being given importance. He further said that by forgetting the responsibilities entrusted to it by the people, the government is engaging in actions that could cause long-term harm to the State. If such a situation continues, people will inevitably be forced to protest against it. He termed the incident highly condemnable.

Action under Goonda Act should be taken against Muslim fanatics: Opposition leader R. Ashok demands

Congress's appeasement politics is the reason for Bagalkot communal riot

Bengaluru : Opposition leader R. Ashok demanded that action should be taken under the Goonda Act against the Muslim fanatics who pelted stones at the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj procession.

Speaking to reporters, he said that in Bagalkot, Muslim fanatics pelted stones at the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj procession and the cutout, thereby insulting him. Shivaji Maharaj fought for Hindu religion. All this is a pre-planned act. Previously, in Mandya, stones were pelted at the Ganesh immersion procession, Shri Ram's flex was torn down, and in similar ways, Muslim fundamentalists had attacked. The Congress government has instructed the police not to arrest such fanatics, he said. Those who explode cooker

bombs are our brothers, those who say Pakistan Zindabad in Vidhana Soudha are our relatives, Congress leaders have said. They have instructed the police not to register cases against them. Because of this, such incidents are happening in all districts. Shivaji Maharaj's family members themselves built a temple in Bengaluru. The Congress government is responsible for the incident where such a great person has been insulted. Home Minister Dr. G. Parameashwar is telling lies. No action will be taken against them. In previous cases, cases have been withdrawn. Knowing this, Muslims are doing such things. The Congress government is anti-Hindu. The government should apply the Goonda Act against such miscreants and put

them in jail. Otherwise, it will have to be assumed that the government itself is involved in this and is appealing for votes, he warned.

It should be checked if these fanatics have links to Pakistan or Bangladesh. Previously, after the encroachment clearance at Kogilu Cross, Pakistanis had tweeted condemning it. Therefore, in this incident too, what links are there should be examined, he said.

Provide 15 thousand crore in the budget to eliminate discrimination

The government has accepted the Prof. Govindarao report. In this report, more areas have been identified as backward compared to the taluks in the previous Nanjundappa Commission report. The report has recommended providing a total of

45,000 crore Rs. to eliminate this discrimination. In this year's budget, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah should allocate at least 15,000 crore, I demand. I have also written a letter regarding this. Shedding crocodile tears is of no use. Allocation should be reserved as per the report's recommendation. Otherwise, people will conclude that the Congress government is against the development of backward areas, he said.

Murder of democracy
Thousands of crores have come back due to the MUDA scam being exposed. By arresting activist Snehamayi Krishna, the government has strangled democracy. It is not right to try to suppress social activists who expose the government's irregularities, he said.

When Pakistan slogans were raised in Vidhana Soudha, the government remained silent. Now, restrictions have been imposed on media in Vidhana Soudha. A situation has been created where even press conferences cannot be held in my office. It is said that law will be violated by media. According to Minister Mahadevappa, even dogs can roam in Vidhana Soudha, but media representatives should not perform their duties? To prevent their scandals from coming out, CM Siddaramaiah and other ministers have taken such a bad decision, which reminds of the dark days of emergency. One can roam in Vidhana Soudha with money and gold. During emergency, Congress imposed restrictions on media. Siddaramaiah,

Action Initiated for Auction of 107 Properties in North City Corporation Zone-1 & Zone-2 on February 21: Pommala Sunil Kumar



Bengaluru : Commissioner Pommala Sunil Kumar has informed that auction proceedings will be conducted on February 21 for properties with pending property tax dues in the jurisdiction of Bengaluru North City Corporation. In Zone-1, arrears amounting to Rs.1,65,30,717 are pending from 66 properties, and in Zone-2, Rs.84,69,037 are pending from 41 properties. In total, Rs.2,49,99,754 in property tax arrears is pending from 107 properties across the North City Corporation limits, necessitating auction proceedings.

Property tax collected from properties within the corporation limits is utilized

for the development and maintenance of essential civic infrastructure and public services. As per the Greater Bengaluru Governance Act, 2025, all property owners within the corporation jurisdiction are required to pay property tax every financial year.

In cases of non-payment of property tax, action is being taken in accordance with the Property Tax Assessment, Collection and Enforcement Rules-2024. Show-cause notices and demand notices have already been issued to defaulters as per the relevant Act and Rules. Details of defaulters are available on the official website https://bbmp.gov.in, where

property owners can also pay their dues. Despite providing sufficient opportunities, notices have been served through mobile messages, in person, and by affixing notices at the property locations.

Since adequate time has been provided and dues remain unpaid, it has been decided to initiate auction proceedings (Distress Sale) against such defaulting properties as per the provisions of the Act and Rules (list of defaulters attached).

The auction of the identified properties will be conducted on 21-02-2026 at 3:00 PM at the 3rd Floor Hall, Yelahanka Mini Vidhana Soudha, near N.E.S., Bengaluru-560064, in the presence of the Joint Commissioners of Zone-1 and Zone-2. Members of the public and interested bidders are requested to participate in the auction process.

If the property tax dues are cleared before the auction date, the concerned property will be removed from the auction list. Property owners will also have the opportunity to submit their objections to the Commissioner's office prior to the auction proceedings.

Instructions to Complete Ejipura Flyover by End of July: Maheshwar Rao

Bengaluru : Chief Commissioner Maheshwar Rao has directed the contractor to complete the entire Ejipura Flyover project by the end of July. During an inspection of various development works under the GBA limits today, he reviewed the progress of the Ejipura Flyover and expressed concern over the slow pace of work. He instructed the contractor to deploy additional machinery and manpower and to execute all components simultaneously to ensure timely completion.

Noting that three weeks had passed since obstacles related to the installation of pillars near St. John's were resolved, and that piling work had commenced only yesterday, he reprimanded the contractor. He directed that piling works be expedited and completed within 15 days. He further instructed that pile cap and pillar construction be carried out alongside piling works and that superstructure segment casting be undertaken in parallel to accelerate progress.

The contractor was directed to make all necessary preparations and carry out work round the clock to meet the deadline. Immediate Completion of Ramp Works: The down ramp on the Madiwala side must be completed at the earliest. Permission from the Traffic Police should be obtained to restrict traffic on one side of the road to facilitate rain water pipeline works. Directions were also issued to take possession of land belonging to Kendriya Sadan and the Astrophysics premises for the construction of a footpath, and to expedite ramp works near the Ejipura signal.



Filling of Potholes: Observing potholes on the grade-level road beneath the flyover, he directed the contractor to immediately undertake pothole filling and implement necessary safety measures.

Inspection of White Topping Works: Sarjapur Road: White topping works are underway on a 1.06 km stretch. One section has been completed and opened to traffic, while approximately 50 percent

of the remaining stretch is pending. Officials were instructed to construct footpaths with a minimum width of 2.5 metres as per norms and complete the entire project by the end of March. Koramangala 80 Feet Road: White topping works are in progress, and officials were directed to execute footpath works simultaneously. Noticing waste dumped along the roadside and in the stormwater drain, he instructed that the issue be resolved within a week. Marshals should patrol at night and impose fines on offenders to prevent further dumping. He also directed that brushed or stamped concrete be used instead of paver blocks for footpaths. Palm Grove Road: Of the 700-metre stretch, work has been completed on one portion, while 300 metres remain pending. Footpath works are in progress and must be completed by the end of March. Sultanpete Road: White topping work covering 1.15 km has been planned.

DMK stealing credits, driving TN debt trap: Edappadi

Thangam says borrowing within limits despite Centre not following Finance Commission recommendation to share Rs 3.17 lakh crore

CHENNAI: The Tamil Nadu Assembly witnessed an intense face-off on Thursday as the ruling DMK and the AIADMK traded charges over rising debt, election-linked welfare disbursements, law and order, vacancies and the demand for State autonomy during a two-and-a-half-hour debate on the interim Budget 2026.

The Leader of the Opposition, Edappadi K Palaniswami, spiced up the debate, accusing the ruling government of pasting its own stickers on successful schemes of the previous government. He accused the DMK of claiming credit for AIADMK-era initiatives, including the 7.5% internal reservation for government school students in medical admissions and the 3% quota for sportspersons, and challenged the ruling party to seek a mandate on its own record. Palaniswami questioned the State's fiscal tra-



jectory and the role of the committee headed by former RBI Governor Raghuram Rajan. He flagged the rise in public debt from Rs 4.85 lakh crore in 2021 to over Rs 10 lakh crore now, alleging that nearly Rs 5 lakh crore had been borrowed in five years. "Revenue deficit has increased under this regime. Was the Raghuram Rajan committee consulted before every major policy decision?" he asked, demanding a white paper

on its recommendations, investments attracted and jobs generated.

Palaniswami also alleged that the recent Rs 5,000 disbursement under the Kalaingar Magalir Urimai Thogai scheme and the Rs 2,000 summer cash assistance were timed with electoral considerations.

Finance Minister Thangam Thennarasu rejected the charges, asserting that borrowings remained within Finance Commission limits.

Tamil Nadu grants Rs 2,446 cr for busmen retirement dues

CHENNAI: The State government sanctioned Rs 2,446.47 crore as special financial assistance to clear pending terminal benefits payable to 6,867 retired, voluntarily retired and deceased employees of eight State Transport Undertakings from August 2024 to March 2026.

The move follows sustained pressure from trade unions, including a 62-day

Transport Department order dated February 18, the assistance will cover provident fund, gratuity, surrender leave salary and commutation dues, excluding contributions under the Contributory Pension Scheme.

The State government will provide an interest-free Ways and Means Advance of Rs 1,246.468 crore to the transport



sit-in protest by the CITU, during which the issue was raised in the Assembly by a CPM legislator. Transport Minister SS Sivasankar held talks with CITU leaders and assured that full terminal benefits from May 2024 to March 2026 would be settled.

According to the

undertakings. In addition, the Tamil Nadu Transport Development Finance Corporation will mobilise Rs 1,200 crore as a loan to settle terminal benefits. The government will extend Rs 175 annually for 10 years to service the loan at a 7.5% interest rate.

AIADMK-led NDA alliance will finish third, says Manickam Tagore

SIVAKASI: The AIADMK-led alliance in Tamil Nadu would only finish in third place in terms of vote share in the upcoming Assembly polls, Congress MP Manickam Tagore said on Friday.

According to him, even those BJP leaders planning to contest would eventually withdraw, fearing defeat in the polls.

Citing a study, the MP from Virudhunagar constituency asserted that the alliance, whether contesting from Sivakasi or anywhere else, would only fare better than third place.

Addressing reporters, he said, "Our survey indicates that the AIADMK-led alliance will secure



only 18-20 per cent (of the total votes polled in Assembly elections). This is an undeniable truth."

According to him, even those BJP leaders planning to contest would eventually withdraw, fearing defeat in the polls. "In this election, it is very clear that the AIADMK-BJP alliance will be rejected by the people. They will come in third place. (Actually) We are

talking about two parties that are not even in the race," he said. On his earlier statement that he would not contest again from the Virudhunagar constituency, Tagore reiterated his decision. "My relationship with Virudhunagar is one of love and affection. I will continue to raise my voice in the Parliament for the welfare of people of Virudhunagar," he added.

Private Universities Amendment Bill withdrawn in TN



CHENNAI: The State government on Friday (February 20) withdrew the contentious Tamil Nadu Private Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2025, which had been passed by the Assembly last year.

The Bill, which proposed reducing the minimum land requirement for establishing private universities in the State, was passed by the House on October 17, 2025.

It was then sent for review on a directive from Chief Minister MK Stalin on October 25, following stiff opposition from various

quarters, including political leaders and academics. The amendment was introduced to ease procedures for private institutions seeking private university status and for proposals to establish new private universities. It also sought to insert the concept of 'brownfield universities' into the Tamil Nadu Private Universities Act, 2019, allowing existing government-aided and private colleges with established infrastructure to be converted into universities. However, the Bill retained the requirement of a minimum contiguous land area of 100 acres for establishing private universities, posing a major hurdle for setting up new private universities and upgrading existing colleges, officials had said.

OPS, loyalist MLA praise DMK, CM Stalin; spark buzz



CHENNAI: After meeting Chief Minister M K Stalin at the Assembly, expelled AIADMK leader O Panneerselvam on Friday (February 20) said the ruling Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam has a strong chance of return-

ing to power, even as his supporter, MLA P Ayyappan, publicly endorsed Stalin's return as Chief Minister during Assembly proceedings.

Earlier in the day, Panneerselvam visited the Chief Minister's chamber in

the Assembly and presented him with a bouquet. Speaking to reporters after the meeting, Panneerselvam said he had called on Stalin to convey his greetings on the successful conclusion of the current session of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly. Responding to questions on Ayyappan's remarks backing Stalin's return as Chief Minister after the next elections, Panneerselvam said the MLA had articulated the sentiments of the people of Tamil Nadu. "Considering the present political situation in Tamil Nadu and the performance of the DMK government over the last five years, its achievements have reached the people.

Vijay demands Minister Nehru's exit after HC orders DVAC probe in Rs 1,020 Cr case

CHENNAI: Actor-politician Vijay on Friday stepped up his attack on the DMK government hours after the Madras High Court directed the Directorate of Vigilance and Anti-Corruption (DVAC) to register a case against Municipal Administration Minister K N Nehru and his associates in connection with an alleged cash-for-jobs scam.

Responding to the court's direction, the Tamilaga Vetti Kazhagam (TVK) president said the Enforcement Directorate (ED) had long ago exposed the Rs 1,020 crore corruption in the Municipal Administration department and recommended action against the Minister. "But the DMK government, which



thrives on hollow publicity, chose to ignore the evidence placed by the ED and instead allowed the roots of corruption to spread wider," Vijay said in a statement.

He said the High Court had now shaken the very top of a government that is more focused on political manoeuvres and electoral calculations than governance. "The court has held that there is prima facie material in the evidence submitted by the Enforcement Directorate

regarding the corruption allegations against the Municipal Administration Minister and has directed that a case be registered immediately," Vijay said.

Calling it a major embarrassment for Chief Minister M K Stalin's government, he said the ruling added to a series of corruption allegations confronting the regime. "The DMK government, already facing charges of a Rs 1,000 crore scam in TASMAR, now stands accused of a Rs 1,020 crore scam in the Municipal Administration department. Every corruption trail unravelled by the Enforcement Directorate runs into thousands of crores," he alleged.

H5N1 detected in Gentoo Penguins on Heard Island, first avian case in Australian External Territory

Australia, Feb 20: Gentoo penguins have become the first bird species confirmed to be infected with the highly pathogenic H5 avian influenza in an Australian external territory, after testing positive on Heard Island, the Australian government has announced.

The virus has also been detected in southern elephant seals and Antarctic fur seals on the remote sub-Antarctic island. While southern elephant seals were confirmed to have contracted the disease in November 2025, the latest findings mark the first known infection of birds in Australia's external territories.

The deadly H5N1 strain (clade 2.3.4.4b) has infected and killed millions of seabirds, wild birds and poultry worldwide.

Preliminary testing was conducted at the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation's Australian Centre for Disease Preparedness. Samples were collected during a research voyage to Heard Island on February 3, 2026.

According to a government statement, Heard Island lies more than 4,000 kilometres south-west of Perth and about 1,700 kilometres north of Antarctica in the Southern Ocean, making it one of Australia's most remote territories.



Authorities said the additional detections do not substantially increase the risk to mainland Australia beyond current elevated levels.

Australian Chief Veterinary Officer Beth Cookson said preliminary laboratory results indicated that species beyond southern elephant seals had been impacted. "Preliminary laboratory results indicate that species beyond southern elephant seals have been impacted by H5 bird flu, with a small number of confirmed additional detections in species including the southern elephant seal, Antarctic fur seal and gentoo penguin from the second voyage," she said.

However, scientists aboard the RSV Nuyina reported no signs of ongoing mass mortality events in the areas visited.

The government noted that the findings were consistent with current scientific understanding of how H5N1 spreads among wildlife populations.

Officials stressed that Australia's H5 bird-free status for mainland poultry remains unchanged. Nevertheless, the detections highlight the need for continued vigilance, coordinated biosecurity measures and preparedness.

The government said it is investing more than A\$100 million to strengthen national bird flu preparedness and response capabilities, including rapid response equipment across all states and territories and targeted measures to protect vulnerable native species.

Environment and Water Minister Murray Watt said experts have been closely monitoring the global spread of bird flu, including researchers stationed in Antarctica, the Southern Ocean and sub-Antarctic regions.

Agriculture Minister Julie Collins added that the government takes the threat of H5 bird flu seriously and that additional funding reflects strengthened preparedness and response planning. Monitoring efforts will continue as authorities work to safeguard wildlife and biodiversity in the region.

New York, Feb 12: Reading, writing and learning new languages throughout life could reduce the risk of dementia by nearly 40%, according to a new study that suggests millions of people may be able to delay or even prevent the condition through sustained mental activity. Dementia is among the world's fastest-growing health challenges, with the number of people living with the condition projected to triple to more than 150 million globally by 2050. Experts warn that it poses a major and escalating burden on health and social care systems worldwide.

Researchers in the United States found that individuals who consistently engaged in intellectually stimulating activities — such as reading books, writing, visiting libraries or learning a foreign language — were less likely to develop Alzheimer's disease, the most common form of dementia, and experienced slower cognitive decline. The study, led by Andrea Zammit of Rush University Medical Center in Chicago, suggests that cognitive health in later life is "strongly influenced" by lifelong exposure to mentally enriching environments.

"Our findings are encouraging, suggesting that consistently engaging in a variety of mentally stimulating activities throughout life may make a difference in cognition," Zammit said. She added that public investments in early education programmes and access to libraries could play a significant role in reducing dementia incidence. The study tracked 1,939 participants with an average age of 80 who did not have dementia at the outset.



They were followed for an average of eight years and completed surveys about cognitive activities during childhood, midlife and later years. Early-life enrichment — before age 18 — included being read to, reading books, access to newspapers and atlases at home and learning a foreign language for more than five years. Midlife enrichment involved income level at age 40, access to resources such as mag-

azines, dictionaries and library cards, and cultural activities like visiting museums. Later-life enrichment, beginning at around age 80, included reading, writing, playing games and financial stability.

During the study period, 551 participants developed Alzheimer's disease and 719 developed mild cognitive impairment (MCI), an early stage of memory loss. Among those in

the highest 10% for lifetime cognitive enrichment, 21% developed Alzheimer's disease, compared with 34% in the lowest 10%. After adjusting for factors such as age, sex and education, researchers found that higher lifetime enrichment was associated with a 38% lower risk of Alzheimer's disease and a 36% lower risk of MCI.

Participants with the highest enrichment levels developed Alzheimer's at an average age of 94, compared with 88 among those with the lowest levels — a delay of more than five years. Similarly, mild cognitive impairment developed at an average age of 85 in the high-enrichment group, compared with 78 in the low-enrichment group. Autopsy data from participants who died during the study also indicated that those with higher lifetime enrichment maintained better memory and thinking skills and experienced slower cognitive decline before death.

However, researchers noted limitations, including reliance on participants' recollection of early-life experiences and the fact that the study shows an association rather than direct causation.

Dr Isolde Radford of Alzheimer's Research UK, who was not involved in the study, said the findings reinforce the idea that dementia is not an inevitable part of ageing. "This new research shows that staying mentally active throughout life can cut the risk of Alzheimer's disease by nearly 40%," she said, adding that it supports existing evidence about the preventive steps individuals can take to reduce dementia risk.

India's oil import shift signals structural energy security pivot: Global Data

New Delhi: India's recalibration of crude oil imports marks a structural shift from opportunistic discount buying to disciplined geopolitical risk management, according to analytics firm GlobalData. With oil accounting for roughly a quarter of India's primary energy consumption and import dependence at about 87 per cent, the country is prioritising compliance resilience, supply diversification and stronger US energy linkages as part of a more strategic energy security doctrine, the firm said. India, the world's third-largest oil consumer, is projected by the International Energy Agency to see demand rise from 5.5 million barrels per day (mbpd) in 2024 to 8 mbpd by 2035. Import dependence could increase to 92 per cent by 2035 despite ongoing domestic exploration, widening exposure to external supply shocks. Arnab Nath, Associate Project Manager of Economic Research at GlobalData, said the growing gap between demand and domestic output is driving efforts to broaden the supplier base and



reduce reliance on concentrated or politically constrained supply corridors. India's crude sourcing has shifted significantly since 2022. Russia's share of India's oil imports rose from 2.7 per cent before the Ukraine conflict to 25.9 per cent in 2024 on the back of discounted cargoes. However, imports from Russia fell more than 40 per cent year-on-year in January 2026 amid tightening trade and sanctions dynamics. At the same time, the United States and Venezuela have re-emerged in India's crude mix. While Venezuelan

volumes are expected to remain limited due to heavy grades and production constraints, they are seen as a tactical alternative as India seeks to rebalance geopolitical risks, GlobalData said, adding the shift is also influenced by US tariff threats linked to Iran-related trade. According to Nath, the recalibration could ease near-term friction between New Delhi and Washington and open space for deeper cooperation in liquefied natural gas (LNG), critical minerals and clean-technology supply chains. However, he noted that India will

continue to prioritise price competitiveness and supply security, maintaining sourcing flexibility, including from the Middle East and select sanctioned-origin barrels where feasible. For Washington, the move reinforces the effectiveness of tariffs and sanctions as negotiating tools, potentially making energy a recurring element in bilateral trade discussions, the report said. Following the India-US trade agreement announced on February 2, India faces stronger incentives to reduce sanctions exposure and tariff risks

while preserving access to competitively priced crude. The US had imposed an additional 25 per cent tariff in August 2025 linked to Russian oil purchases and signalled the possibility of further increases. GlobalData said refiners are now optimising for compliance resilience and supply continuity. While Russian crude may remain part of the mix when commercially viable, India's overall direction points to a broader supplier base anchored by stronger US energy ties and selective engagement with alternative sources. "India's crude strategy is evolving from opportunistic discount capture to a more structured approach to managing geopolitical risk," Nath said, adding that energy trade with the US is likely to remain transactional in oil but increasingly convergent in long-term transition areas such as grid modernisation and nuclear cooperation. India, the world's third-largest oil consumer, is projected by the International Energy Agency to see demand rise from 5.5 million barrels per day (mbpd) in 2024 to 8 mbpd by 2035.

Gold climbs to Rs 1.59 lakh/10g; silver trades flat at Rs 2.64 lakh/kg



New Delhi: Gold prices appreciated by Rs 850 to Rs 1,59,500 per 10 grams in the national capital on Friday, February 20, while silver stayed flat at Rs 2.64 lakh per kilogram, tracking a firm global trend, according to marketmen. The yellow metal of 99.9 per cent purity had closed at Rs 1,58,650 per 10 grams (inclusive of all taxes) on Thursday. However, silver prices remained unchanged at Rs 2,64,000 per kilogram. In the international market, spot gold gained USD 30.83, or 0.62 per cent, to USD 5,027.13 per ounce, while silver was trading 2.55 per cent higher at USD 80.5 per ounce. "Gold has rebounded above USD 5,020 per ounce, while silver has also surged to around USD 81 driven by

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rising concerns over a potential US-Iran conflict," Kaynat Chainwala, AVP Commodity Research, Kotak Securities, said. She added that investors remained cautious ahead of key economic releases, including Personal Consumption Expenditures (PCE) inflation, Q4 GDP,

and flash PMI data. Gaurav Garg, Research Analyst at Lemonn Markets Desk, said the uptick in bullion prices comes after recent consolidation, with buyers stepping in on dips following sharp volatility earlier this month. Global cues, including geopolitical tensions and expectations around US interest rates, continue to drive near-term sentiment, he added. "Despite intermittent corrections, the broader trend for precious metals remains supportive. Investors are viewing current moves as part of a consolidation phase rather than a reversal," Garg said. The yellow metal of 99.9 per cent purity had closed at Rs 1,58,650 per 10 grams (inclusive of all taxes) on Thursday.

INDIA-US INTERIM TRADE PACT LIKELY TO BE OPERATIONALISED IN APRIL: GOYAL

New Delhi: An interim trade agreement between India and the US is likely to be signed in March and operationalised in April, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said on Friday, February 20. Earlier this month, India and the US released a joint statement announcing a framework for an interim trade agreement. To finalise the text of the first phase of the bilateral trade agreement, the chief negotiators of the two countries will meet in Washington next week. The three-day meeting between the two teams will begin on February 23. Goyal told reporters here that the pact is expected to be signed next month and may be implemented in April. US Trade Representative (USTR) Jamieson Greer is likely to visit India in March to sign the agreement. In an event at the AI Impact Summit here, US Ambassador Sergio Gora said that the India-US trade deal is set to be inked soon. India on Friday joined the US-led strategic alliance Pax Silica aimed at building a resilient supply chain for critical minerals. "From the trade deal to Pax Silica to



defence cooperation, the potential for our two nations to work together is truly limitless," Goyal said in his remarks. The joint statement, released separately by the two nations earlier this month, lays down the contours of the deal. These now need to be translated into a legal agreement, for which the two sides will meet next week. The Indian team will be headed by chief negotiator Darpan Jain, who is a joint secretary in the Commerce Ministry. Under the pact, both sides would extend duty concessions to each other on a number of goods traded between them. The US has announced that it will reduce

the reciprocal tariffs on Indian goods from 25 per cent to 18 per cent. It has already eliminated the 25 per cent punitive tariffs on India for buying Russian crude oil. The move is a big relief to the domestic industry as they were facing steep 50 per cent tariffs by the US. Goyal expressed hope that an executive order to cut the tariffs to 18 per cent would be issued by the Trump administration this month. While speaking at the launch of seven components of the Rs 25,060-crore export promotion mission (EPM), Goyal said the India-US trade agreement has opened huge business opportunities for Indian exporters.

He said that India has protected all the sensitive sectors, including agriculture. "Now once that rate (50 per cent tariff) comes out to lower than any of our competitors, we are lower than anybody else who is an emerging market or a developing economy, and plus having safeguarded all the sensitive sectors, it's a great win-win solution for both countries," he said. The minister said that labour-intensive sectors like apparel, leather and marine were suffering from high tariffs. He also criticised Congress leader Rahul Gandhi for raising concerns about the deal. Stepping up his attack on the government over the interim US trade deal, Gandhi on Friday said the answer to why Prime Minister Narendra Modi agreed to a deal, where India gives so much and appears to get so little, and makes an "abject surrender" lies in the "grips" and "chokes" placed on him. Gandhi questioned that why the government has agreed to increase US imports by USD 100 billion a year without a reciprocal promise. "I think he (Gandhi) lives in a world very detached from reality.

AMAZON OVERTAKES WALMART AS WORLD'S BIGGEST COMPANY BY REVENUE

Amazon has surpassed Walmart to become the world's largest company by revenue, marking a significant milestone for the e-commerce and cloud computing major that began as an online bookseller in Jeff Bezos' garage in 1994. Walmart, which had held the top spot for more than a decade, reported sales of \$713.2 billion for the 12 months ended January 31. Amazon, which follows a December-ending fiscal year, earlier this month posted 2025 revenue of \$717 billion, according to a Bloomberg report. Over the past decade, Amazon's revenue growth has outpaced Walmart's by nearly 10 times, driven by a shift in consumer spending from brick-and-mortar stores to online platforms, as well as the rapid expansion of its cloud arm, Amazon Web Services (AWS). Amazon and Walmart remain direct rivals in retail. Amazon is the largest online retailer, with its website and mobile applications drawing about 2.7 billion visits each month. On the other hand, Walmart is the world's biggest physical retailer,



operating more than 10,000 stores and shopping clubs globally. Amazon's rise to the top in revenue terms is largely attributable to its dominance in cloud computing, a segment where Walmart has no presence. Excluding AWS, Amazon's 2025 revenue would have stood at \$588 billion, Bloomberg reported. Before Walmart, Exxon Mobil and General Motors had held the distinction. In terms of market capitalisation, Nvidia is currently the world's most valuable company at \$4.5 trillion, more than double Amazon's valuation and more than four times that of

Walmart, according to Bloomberg. Amazon's rise to the top in revenue terms is largely attributable to its dominance in cloud computing. — Amazon has surpassed Walmart as the world's largest company, measured by sales, breaking Walmart's 13-year streak at the top of the list. Amazon posted \$717 billion in sales in 2025. Walmart, the largest company in the world for more than a decade, recorded \$713 billion in sales in 2025, the retailer announced Thursday. Although the two companies are significant competitors in consumer retail, Amazon's revenue

growth in cloud computing, advertising and other businesses helped it overtake Walmart. Jeff Bezos started Amazon in 1994 as an online bookstore, but the company brought in nearly \$129 billion in sales last year from its Amazon Web Services division. AWS provides a vast network of computing, storage and artificial intelligence options to companies and governments around the world. AWS is also a key profit driver for Amazon and helps the company offset losses from its retail business. The majority (\$464 billion) of Amazon's revenue last year came from sales on its online and physical stores as well as from third-party sellers. Amazon also brought in more than \$100 billion combined from advertising and Prime subscriptions. By contrast, more than 90% of Walmart's sales come from its physical stores and websites. Despite Amazon's rapid rise, Walmart has adapted and is in its strongest shape in years. Walmart's stock recently surpassed \$1 trillion in value, the first traditional retailer to hit that mark.

Tata Punch EV facelift launched: price range, specs and details

Mumbai: Tata Motors on Friday, February 20 launched the facelift version of the Punch EV and said it expects the latest offering to democratise the adoption of entry-level EVs, which account for almost two-thirds of electric car demand. The company, which commanded 40 per cent of the total 1.76-lakh electric car sales in India in the 2025 calendar year, also said that the entry of more players, including bigger players in the space, will be beneficial to the country's overall EV mission of green mobility. India has set a target of achieving 30 per cent electric vehicle penetration by 2030. With a starting price of Rs 9.69-lakh (ex-showroom Mumbai), Punch.ev comes with an alternate financing option with BaaS at a starting price of Rs 6.49 lakh plus battery EMI of Rs 2.6 per km, the company said. "We have been very committed to the entry EVs, because this is where 65 per cent of the demand lies. Until we don't crack this, we will not be able to mainstream EVs and that's why Punch EV



becomes one of the critical launch in the journey of the progress and evolution of electric vehicles in India," Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles (TMPV) Managing Director and CEO, Shailesh Chandra said in a media interaction. Among 16 lakh passenger cars priced above Rs 12 lakh that are sold annually, EVs number stands around 1.60 lakh, or 10 per cent penetration, he said and added that on the contrast, the share of EVs in the 30 lakh cars priced below Rs 12

lakh is around 50,000 or just 1.6 per cent. "This is the real challenge of mainstreaming electric vehicles in the country. And if this segment does not get electrified, then you will never achieve the objective of EV mainstreaming," Chandra said. Citing factors such as "very less" real-world range and lower charging speed, among others as the factors for the 12 lakh segment not progressing towards a 10 per cent penetration, where mid as well as high segment are, he said.

GOVT ANNOUNCES SEVEN MEASURES TO HELP BOOST EXPORTS

New Delhi: The government on Friday, February 20, announced seven measures, including credit assistance for e-commerce exporters and support for alternative trade instruments, with an aim to promote the country's outbound shipments. These measures are part of the Rs 25,060 crore export promotion mission. Out of 10 components of the mission, three have already been rolled out in January. To support exporters using digital channels, the commerce ministry announced credit facilities with interest subvention and partial credit guarantees. The Direct E-Commerce Credit Facility will provide support up to Rs 50 lakh with 90 per cent guarantee coverage. The Overseas Inventory Credit Facility will extend support up to Rs 5 crore with 75 per cent guarantee coverage, and an interest subvention of 2.75 per cent will be available, subject to an annual ceiling of Rs 15 lakh per applicant, the commerce ministry said. To promote export factoring as an affordable working capital solution for MSMEs, an interest subvention of 2.75 per cent will be provided on the factoring cost for eligible transactions undertaken through RBI/IFSCA-recognised entities.



Assistance is capped at Rs 50 lakh per MSME annually and will be processed through a digital claim mechanism to ensure transparency and timely disbursement. To support emerging export opportunities, the ministry said this intervention enables exporters to access new or high-risk markets through shared-risk and credit enhancement instruments such as Letters of Credit confirmation and negotiation. For Trade Regulations, Accreditation and Compliance Enablement (TRACE), support will be extended to exporters in meeting international testing, inspections, certifications and other

conformity requirements. Under this, partial reimbursement of 60 per cent under the Positive List and 75 per cent under the Priority Positive List will be provided for eligible testing, inspection and certification expenses, subject to an annual ceiling of Rs 25 lakh per IEC (import export code). Facilitating Logistics, Overseas Warehousing and Fulfilment (FLOW) will enable exporters to access overseas warehousing and fulfilment infrastructure, including E-Commerce Export Hubs integrated with global distribution networks, it said. Under this, an assistance of up

to 30 per cent of the approved project cost will be provided for a maximum of three years, subject to prescribed ceilings and MSME participation norms. For exporters from northeastern and hilly regions, Logistics Interventions for Freight and Transport (LIFT) was announced. LIFT mitigates geographical disadvantages faced by exporters in remote, hilly, northeastern and landlocked districts. Under this, there will be partial reimbursement of up to 30 per cent of the eligible freight expenditure, subject to a ceiling of Rs 20 lakh per IEC per financial year. Financial assistance will also be extended for an integrated Support for Trade Intelligence and Facilitation (INSIGHT). It is generally limited to 50 per cent of project cost, with up to 100 per cent support for proposals from central and state Government institutions and Indian Missions abroad, subject to notified ceilings. Through these coordinated financial and ecosystem interventions, the government aims to reduce the cost of capital, diversify trade finance instruments, enhance compliance readiness, address logistics constraints and strengthen overseas market integration for MSMEs.

Trump says world has 10 days to see if Iran agrees deal or 'bad things happen'

US President Donald Trump says the world will find out "over the next, probably, 10 days" whether the US will reach a deal with Iran or take military action. At the first meeting of his Board of Peace in Washington DC, Trump said of negotiations with the Islamic Republic about its nuclear programme: "We have to make a meaningful deal otherwise bad things happen." In recent days, the US has surged military forces to the Middle East, while progress was reported at talks between American and Iranian negotiators in Switzerland. The Iranian government has told the UN Secretary-General that it will regard US bases in the region as legitimate targets if used in any military aggression against Iran. Tehran's UN mission said in a letter to UN Secretary-General António Guterres that Trump's rhetoric sig-

nalled a real risk of an attack - but it said Iran did not want a war. Democratic lawmakers, and some Republicans, have voiced opposition to any potential military action in Iran without congressional approval. In his remarks, Trump noted that Special Envoys Steve Witkoff and Jared Kushner, who is also Trump's son-in-law, had "some very good meetings" with Iran. "It's proven to be, over the years, not easy to make a meaningful deal with Iran," he said. "Otherwise bad things happen." One day earlier, White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt warned that Iran would be "very wise" to make a deal with the US, adding that Trump was still hoping for a diplomatic solution over Tehran's nuclear programme. When Trump first announced the Board of Peace, it was thought to be aimed at helping end the two-year war



between Israel and Hamas in Gaza and oversee reconstruction. But in the last month its mission has appeared to go beyond one conflict, with many wondering if the Trump-chaired board, made up of about two dozen countries, is meant to sideline the United Nations. US missile and aircraft struck three Iranian nuclear facilities in June last year,

and the White House was reportedly discussing new attack options this week. American forces have been ramping up their presence in the region in recent weeks, including the deployment of the USS Abraham Lincoln aircraft carrier. However, the BBC understands that the British government has not given permission for the US to use UK

military bases to support any potential strikes on Iran. In previous military operations in the Middle East, the US used RAF Fairford, in Gloucestershire, and the UK overseas territory of Diego Garcia, in the Indian Ocean. Satellite images have also shown that Iran has reinforced military facilities, and the country's Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, has posted messages to social media threatening US forces. "The US President constantly says that the US has sent a warship toward Iran. Of course, a warship is a dangerous piece of military hardware," one of Khamenei's posts read. "However, more dangerous than that warship is the weapon that can send that warship to the bottom of the sea." Several members of US Congress have expressed opposition to any military action against Iran. California Democrat Ro

Austrian climber found guilty after girlfriend froze to death on mountain



An Austrian climber has been found guilty of gross negligent manslaughter after his girlfriend froze to death on Austria's highest mountain last year. The man, named only as Thomas P in line with Austrian privacy laws, has been given a five-month suspended sentence and fined 9,600 (£8,400). His girlfriend, Kerstin G, died of hypothermia during a climbing trip on the Grossglockner mountain in January 2025. In a statement sent to the BBC, the court said it considered Thomas P's previous clean record and the loss of a person close to him "to be mitigating factors". It said it also took into account "the public discussion on social media, which was incriminating for the defendant". The judge, Norbert Hofer, himself an experienced climber who works with mountain and helicopter rescue teams in Tyrol, said Thomas P was an excellent Alpinist, but that his girlfriend was light-years behind him in terms of her climbing abilities. He said the couple should have turned back as Kerstin G did not have enough experience in winter conditions. Although the judge decided Thomas P had misjudged the situation, he said he had not left her behind "wilfully": "I don't see you as a murderer, I don't see you as cold-hearted."

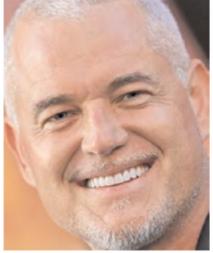
Venezuelan opposition politician released after amnesty law passed



Venezuelan opposition politician Juan Pablo Guanipa has announced on social media that he has been freed after "almost nine months of unjust imprisonment". His comments come shortly after the country's interim President, Delcy Rodríguez, signed an amnesty bill approved by its National Assembly that could lead to the release of hundreds of political prisoners. Rodríguez's interim government has faced pressure from the US to speed up the release of Venezuela's remaining political prisoners after delays to the law. However, Guanipa described the bill as a "flawed document" that excludes many Venezuelans who remain "unjustly" behind bars. Guanipa is the leader of Venezuela's centre-right Justice First party and was a former vice-president of the National Assembly. He went into hiding after being accused of terrorism and treason for challenging Venezuela's disputed 2024 election result, and was tracked down by security forces and detained in May 2025. Guanipa was initially released from prison earlier this month, but was then rearrested and placed under house arrest for allegedly

breaching the terms of his release. He is now among hundreds of political prisoners that have been freed since US forces seized Venezuela's President Nicolás Maduro in a raid on 3 January. Venezuela's socialist government has always denied holding political prisoners but first announced days after Maduro's capture, on 8 January, that "a significant number" of prisoners would be freed as a goodwill gesture. Opposition and human rights groups have said the government under Maduro for years used detentions of political prisoners to stamp out dissent and silence critics. Interim President Rodríguez has described the amnesty bill as being intended for the offering and receiving of forgiveness. But activists within the South American country have denounced delays to the amnesty law and a lack of transparency over who is being freed. Guanipa is a close ally of Venezuela's exiled opposition leader María Corina Machado, who won last year's Nobel Peace Prize. Machado has vowed to lead the country "when the right time comes", after giving US President Donald Trump her Nobel Peace Prize medal last month.

Grey's Anatomy star Eric Dane dies at 53 after ALS diagnosis



Eric Dane, the actor best known for his roles on Grey's Anatomy and Euphoria, has died less than a year after revealing he had amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). He was 53. Dane starred as family patriarch Cal Jacobs on hit HBO teen drama Euphoria. Before that, he was perhaps best known as Dr Mark Sloan, or "Dr McSteamy", on medical drama Grey's Anatomy. The California-born actor

shared his ALS diagnosis in April 2025 and spent his final months raising funds and awareness for the most common form of motor neurone disease (MND). His family said in a statement: "With heavy hearts, we share that Eric Dane passed on Thursday afternoon following a courageous battle with ALS." Dane was married to fellow actress and model Rebecca Gayheart, with whom he had two children. The statement said he spent his final days surrounded by friends and his devoted wife, and his two daughters, Billie and Georgia, "who were the center of his world". "He will be deeply missed, and lovingly remembered always. Eric adored his fans and is forever grateful for the outpouring of love and support he's received."

ASOS CO-FOUNDER DIES AFTER THAILAND APARTMENT BLOCK FALL

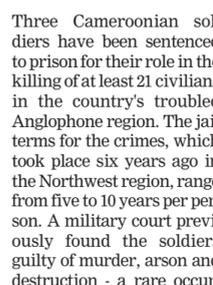
A co-founder of online fashion giant Asos died after falling from a high-rise apartment block in Thailand, police have said. Quentin Griffiths has been named by Thai police as the man found dead on the ground in the eastern seaside city of Pattaya on 9 February. A police investigator told the BBC Griffiths, a British passport holder, was by himself, his room was locked from the inside, and there was no trace of any break-ins at the time of the death. An autopsy did not reveal any evidence of foul play. Griffiths co-founded Asos in 2000 and remained a significant shareholder after leaving the firm five years later. An Asos spokesperson said: "We're saddened to hear



about the passing of Quentin, one of our original co-founders. "He played an important role in Asos's earliest days and we're forever grateful for his contribution. "Our thoughts are with his family and friends." A Foreign Office spokesperson said: "We are supporting the family of a British national who has died in Thailand and are in

contact with the local authorities." Police in Pattaya told the BBC Griffiths was found dead outside a luxury hotel where he had been staying in as a long-term resident in a suite on the 17th floor. He was involved in two ongoing court cases that might have caused him stress, police also told the BBC. Griffiths was separated from his second wife, a Thai national, and had reportedly been engaged in a legal dispute with her over a business they ran together, the BBC understands. He co-founded Asos in London with Nick Robertson, Andrew Regan and Deborah Thorpe. Its name originally stood for As Seen On Screen as it sold fashion inspired by clothing worn by TV and film stars. It grew to become an online fashion marketplace stocking hundreds of brands as well as its own lines and at one time was valued at more than £6bn. Its largest shareholders include Danish billionaire Anders Holch Povlsen - who owns Danish clothing giant Bestseller and Mike Ashley, owner of Frasers Group.

RARE PRISON SENTENCES HANDED TO CAMEROON SOLDIERS AFTER KILLING OF 21 CIVILIANS



Three Cameroonian soldiers have been sentenced to prison for their role in the killing of at least 21 civilians in the country's troubled Anglophone region. The jail terms for the crimes, which took place six years ago in the Northwest region, range from five to 10 years per person. A military court previously found the soldiers guilty of murder, arson and destruction - a rare occurrence in a country where military personnel are seldom convicted of crimes against civilians. Nevertheless, lawyers for the victims told the BBC they were disappointed with the length of the jail terms handed down on

Thursday, calling them "insignificant". The convictions centre on the events of 14 February 2020, when soldiers, supported by a local militia of ethnic Fulanis, raided the village of Ngarbuh and killed civilians. The victims included

Anglophone regions, which have been wracked by a separatist conflict for nearly 10 years. The authorities initially denied responsibility for the attack on Ngarbuh but later backpedalled following international pressure and the findings of an investigation ordered by the country's President, Paul Biya. Alongside the three soldiers sentenced on Thursday evening, a militia member also received a jail term for murder, arson and destruction. One of the victims' lawyers, Sother Menkem, told the BBC: "The sentence was so mild, I even qualify it as friendly because we are talking of a massacre."

HAMAS HOLDS VOTE TO CHOOSE NEW INTERIM LEADER



Hamas is holding an election for a new interim leader, a senior Palestinian official familiar with the armed group's affairs has told the BBC. Voting is taking place across Gaza, the occupied West Bank and among Hamas's members elsewhere. The outcome may signal which direction the movement intends to take - particularly as the US and other mediators discuss post-war governance of Gaza, reconstruction efforts and the future status of armed groups there. The elections come after most of Hamas's senior leadership were killed in Israeli strikes following the group's 7 October 2023 attacks on Israel, in which about 1,200 people were killed and 251 others taken hostage. People in Gaza have already cast their votes in secret, according to the source, but it is unclear whether the process has concluded elsewhere. When announced, the new leader will hold office for a year. Hamas governs the Gaza Strip and in recent years has had growing support in the West Bank, though its activities there are heavily constrained by the Israeli military and Palestinian Authority security forces. A US-backed ceasefire in Gaza

came into effect in October, and negotiations continue over the deal's later phases. Under the proposed terms of the US plan, Hamas would have no role in the future governance of the territory. Governance would eventually be handed over to the Palestinian Authority, which administers parts of the West Bank, once it has undergone reforms. Yahya Sinwar, the overall head of Hamas, was killed by Israeli forces in Gaza in October 2024, and its political leader, Ismail Haniyeh, was killed in an Israeli attack in Iran in July that year. Hamas's military chief Mohammed Deif was also killed that July, in an Israeli air strike on Gaza. The position of overall head of Hamas has remained vacant since the deaths of Haniyeh and Sinwar, with the movement being led by an interim committee headed by Qatar-based Mohammad Darwish after the latter was killed. Under the movement's rules, the head of Hamas is chosen by an electoral college of around 86 members drawn from the General Shura Council, Hamas's top decision-making body representing Gaza, the West Bank, Palestinian prisoners in Israel, and officials based abroad.

MOTHER AND INFANT BURNT TO DEATH IN INDIAN STATE OVER WITCHCRAFT ALLEGATIONS

Four people have been arrested in the eastern Indian state of Jharkhand for allegedly burning to death a woman and her 10-month-old son on suspicion of practising witchcraft earlier this week. The woman's husband, who was also attacked, suffered severe burns and is in hospital. Police say they are searching for more people who may be involved. The accused are in custody and haven't commented publicly yet. According to the National Crime Records Bureau, more than 2,500 people, mostly women, were killed in India on suspicion of witchcraft between 2000 and 2016. Tuesday's murder of Jyoti Sinku and her son occurred months after five members of



a family in neighbouring Bihar state were brutally killed and allegedly burned alive on accusations of practising witchcraft. Such cases are often reported from areas inhabited by disadvantaged

tribal communities, where superstition is rife and a non-existent public health system leads to dependence on quacks for medical advice. The murders in Jharkhand occurred in the Kudsai ham-

let, a remote tribal settlement of around 50 mud houses located 250km (155.3 miles) from the state capital, Ranchi. The violence appears to have been triggered by recent incidents in

the village, including rumours of sudden cattle deaths and the illness and death of a local man named Pustun Birua. His wife Jano Birua says she consulted an informal healthcare provider - common in villages where no doctors are available - when he began suffering from anxiety and fainting spells. He told her that her husband was not suffering from any physical illness. Asked why she did not take him to a hospital, she said: "We are poor people, so it wasn't possible to take him that far." Meanwhile, rumours spread that Jyoti Sinku was practising witchcraft and was responsible for the man's illness. Pustun Birua died on Tuesday

evening. That night, according to Jyoti's husband Kolhan Sinku who is in hospital, a mob of about a dozen people, including five women, stormed their home and set fire to his wife and child. Recalling the horror from his hospital bed, he said: "I pleaded with folded hands to have the matter resolved in the village council but the attackers didn't listen to me." Based on the testimonies of Kolhan Sinku and another family member, the district police have registered a complaint of murder and criminal conspiracy. Police say four men have been arrested and a special police team has been set up to track down other members of the mob.



PAK PLAYERS NOT TO BE BOUGHT FOR IPL-LINKED THE HUNDRED FRANCHISES OVER 'UNWRITTEN RULE': REPORT

After being barred from participating in the Indian Premier League (IPL), Pakistani players are set to face a 'partial boycott' in England's The Hundred. Though Pakistani players have registered for The Hundred auction, a report has claimed that an 'unwritten rule' bars IPL owners-owned franchises from buying Pakistani players in the auction despite the fact that the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) has no IPL-like ban on these players. According to a report by the BBC, a senior official at the ECB has signalled that interest in Pakistan players would be limited to teams that do not have ties with IPL owners. Another agent, aware of the situation, described this as an "unwritten rule" in The Hundred auction books. Not just that, this 'rule' is in place across various leagues where there is Indian investment. Since its inaugural season in



2021, England's The Hundred has seen its eight franchises draw investment in some form or other from the IPL owners. At present, Manchester Super Giants, MI London, Southern Brave, and SunRisers Leeds are four franchises with ownership ties to the Indian Premier League. Asked about this

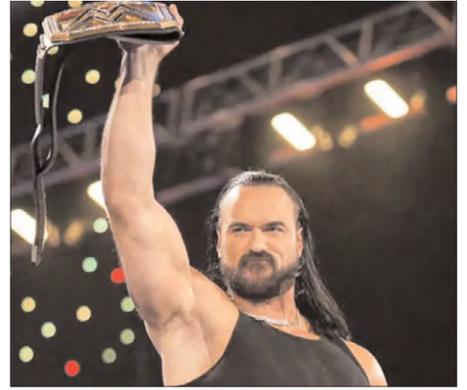
development, James Sheridan, the deputy chair of Manchester Super Giants, told BBC: "The only conversations we've had are to pick the two best squads to give us the best possible chance of winning the two competitions." On the surface, even an ECB spokesperson said that players would be picked

from all teams in the world. "The Hundred welcomes men's and women's players from all over the world, and we would expect the eight teams to reflect that," the spokesperson said. "Almost 1,000 cricketers from 18 nations have registered for The Hundred auction, with representation on the longest

of over 50 players respectively from Australia, South Africa, New Zealand, Pakistan and West Indies," the spokesperson added. Shaheen Shah Afridi, Shadab Khan, and Haris Rauf are some of the top players to have featured in earlier seasons of the men's competition in The Hundred.

DREW MCINTYRE NAMES WWE SUPERSTAR HE DOESN'T WANT TO FACE IN WRESTLEMANIA 42

The countdown for WrestleMania 42 has begun, with all eyes on the match-ups the storyline is going to put inside the ring at the big event. As fans share their preferences and predictions, the Undisputed WWE Champion Drew McIntyre has named the performer he doesn't want to face at WrestleMania. Speaking his mind, McIntyre said that he is open to facing anyone in the world, barring Cody Rhodes. While the challenger for the championship is yet to be officially announced through the upcoming Elimination Chamber match, McIntyre is clear on what he doesn't want. "Anybody but Cody Rhodes. I'm concerned, considering how the first two matches went, and the referees bailing him out. Then for Cage match, I won but people were like 'it was because of Jacob'. Was it, though? I haven't said this because I don't have to, but Jacob said it himself, 'wasn't Drew on his way out of the Cage when I got there?'," he said during an



appearance on Busted Open Radio. Some of the storylines are already in the final stage, with Roman Reigns reportedly set to challenge for the World Heavyweight Championship against CM Punk. The likes of Randy Orton, LA Knight, and Jeyvon Evans could be McIntyre's opponents, but Rhodes can't be ruled out yet. Explaining why he doesn't want to face Rhodes, McIntyre said: "I didn't just overcome Cody, I

overcame Cody and Jacob, I can't let the title back on Cody where he's protected again and back in the golden boy spot." McIntyre said that it is crucial for him to retain the WWE Championship title at WrestleMania 42 as he wants to remain the leader of the blue brand. "I liberated this title for everybody, but mostly me, because I believe I'm the man that needs to carry it forward into the future."



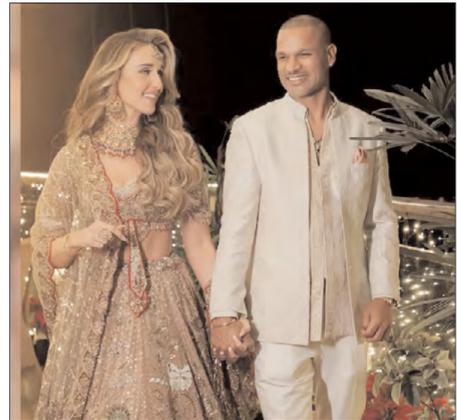
'BLESSED' BALL STARS FOR HORNETS ONE DAY AFTER CAR CRASH

Charlotte Hornets guard LaMelo Ball says he feels 'blessed' after featuring against Houston Rockets a day after being involved in a car accident. The 24-year-old's custom-made Hummer was in a collision with an oncoming vehicle in Charlotte, North Carolina on Wednesday. The American put up 11 points and recorded seven rebounds and seven assists in his side's 105-101 loss - but Ball was just thankful to participate. "I'm alive and blessed," he said. "God is great." The front left tyre of Ball's vehicle came off during the accident but nobody suffered any serious

injuries. Ball was spotted being picked up by a black Lamborghini shortly after the accident. Police were on the scene at the time. "Fortunately everybody is cool, so blessings," added Ball. Ball joined the Hornets in 2020, when he was the third pick in the overall draft. In 2021, he was named Rookie of the Year after a standout debut season in North Carolina, while he was named an NBA All-Star in 2022. In November 2024, Ball was fined \$100,000 (£79,000) by the NBA for making an "offensive and derogatory" homophobic comment during a court-side interview.

"Almost The Dhawans": Shikhar Dhawan Posts 'Sangeet Night' Photo With Fiancee Sophie Shine

Shikhar Dhawan, former Indian cricket team star, posted photos from his Sangeet night with fiancée Sophie Shine on Thursday. "Sangeet night. Almost the Dhawans," Dhawan wrote on Instagram. He had confirmed his engagement to Sophie in January. "From shared smiles to shared dreams. Grateful for the love, the blessings, and every good wish for our engagement as we choose togetherness forever - Shikhar & Sophie," he had written in an Instagram post then. The wedding ceremony is likely to take place in the Delhi-NCR region, with big names from both the cricketing world and Bollywood expected to attend. Preparations for the lavish event are already underway.



Reports suggest that Sophie worked as a product consultant and holds a degree in Marketing and Management

from the Limerick Institute of Technology. While cricketing celebrities are often linked with personalities from the

world of social media and entertainment, Sophie's case is quite different. The Ireland-born professional has an impressive academic background at Casterley College, along with credentials that can impress anyone. She currently serves as Second Vice President at Northern Trust Corporation, based in Abu Dhabi. Sophie completed all her education in Ireland. She now heads the Shikhar Dhawan Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Da One Sports. Sophie has close to 367,000 followers on Instagram and has been posting pictures and videos with Shikhar for a while now. She has been spotted with Dhawan on multiple occasions, watching cricket matches with the former India opening batter.

USA SUPERSTAR LIU WINS WOMEN'S SKATING OLYMPIC GOLD



American superstar Alysa Liu added Olympic figure skating gold to her world title as she beat a standout field in the women's final. Liu came into the free skate in third place following a couple of errors in the short program, but produced a performance for the ages. Appropriately wearing a sparkly gold dress and performing to Donna Summer, she scored a staggering 150.20 in her free skate. It pushed her to the top of the leaderboard with an overall score of 226.79, narrowly beating Japan's Kaori Sakamoto - who Liu beat to the world title last year. Sakamoto, in her final performance before retirement, won silver with 17-year-old compatriot Ami Nakai claiming bronze. Japan's Mone Chiba finished fourth, ahead of Amber Glenn - who rose from 13th to fifth after an excellent free skate - while Russian skater Adelina Petrosian came sixth following a fall. Liu, 20, becomes the first American Olympic champion in women's figure skating since Sarah Hughes in 2002,

and the first USA medallist since Sasha Cohen in 2006. She was playing catch up on Nakai - leader after the short program - and Sakamoto after Tuesday night following a mistake on her triple lutz where she failed to fully rotate in the element. But there were no mistakes here with a truly showstopping routine that drew deafening cheers from the crowd. It was a much needed boost for the USA, as their only gold in singles figure skating following Ilija Malinin's collapse in the men's event. Malinin was among those in the crowd who gave Liu - the alt girl with her iconic halo hair and lip piercing - a standing ovation as she wrote herself into Olympic folklore. "My family is out there, my friends are out there. I had to put on a show for them," she said. "When I see other people smiling, because I see them in the audience, I have to smile, too. I have no poker face." It completes a remarkable comeback for Liu, who previously quit the sport aged 16 after missing out on a medal at Beijing 2022.



Hodgkinson smashes women's indoor 800m world record

MOURINHO MADE 'UNACCEPTABLE, HUGE MISTAKE' - KOMPANY

Jose Mourinho made a "huge mistake" with his "unacceptable" post-match comments after the alleged racial abuse of Real Madrid winger Vinicius Jr, says Bayern Munich boss Vincent Kompany. The Brazil forward scored the only goal in Real Madrid's 1-0 Champions League win against Benfica on Tuesday. Vinicius was booked for his goal celebration and the match was halted for 10 minutes shortly afterwards when the player reported alleged racist abuse from Benfica winger Gianluca Prestianni. Uefa has since opened an investigation into the claims, which Prestianni denies. Speaking after the match, Benfica boss Mourinho - who was sent off late in the game for arguing with the referee - said Vinicius had been "disrespectful" with his goal celebration and pointed to the



club's legendary striker Eusebio as proof that Benfica is not a racist club. On Friday, Kompany spoke passionately and emotionally for more than 10 minutes when asked about Mourinho's comments at his pre-match news conference before Bayern's game with Eintracht Frankfurt on Saturday. "After the game you have leader of an organisation, Jose Mourinho, who basically attacks the character of

Vinicius Jr by bringing in the type of celebration to discredit what Vinicius is doing in this moment," added Kompany, who answered in English "so I can be a bit clearer about what I'm saying." "For me, in terms of leadership, it's a huge mistake and it's something that we should not accept." Kompany was also critical of Mourinho for using Eusebio's name as supposed proof that Benfica is not a racist club.

"Do you know what black players had to go through in the 1960s?" added the former Manchester City captain and Burnley boss. "Was he (Mourinho) there to travel with Eusebio to every away game? "Probably at the time the only option they had was to be quiet, to say nothing, be above it and to be 10 times better in order to get a little bit of credit for people to say 'actually, he is good.' "That was Eusebio's life." Kompany, who also spoke about racial abuse he experienced as a player, said talk of Vinicius' celebration should not distract from the player's immediate response to Prestianni's alleged remarks. "I'm just thinking when Jose Mourinho is doing the knee slide at Old Trafford, when he does his celebration in front of the [Barcelona] fans in the Champions League semi-final with Inter Milan.

FOUR TEENAGERS CHARGED AFTER DRIVE-BY SHOOTING OF UTAI



New South Wales Police has charged four teenagers over the drive-by shooting of former NRL player Matt Utai and the alleged arson attacks targeting his family in Sydney. Utai sustained gunshot wounds to his leg and shoulder during a drive-by shooting in Sydney suburb Greenacre on Tuesday. A 16-year-old boy and a 19-year-old man have both been charged with "accessory after the fact to shoot at with intent to murder". A 18-year-old and another 19-year-old have both been charged with damaging property by fire, while the latter was also charged with supplying prohibited drugs. Utai, 44, remains in a serious condition after undergoing surgery for his injuries. Police said the shots had been fired from a white SUV, which was later found burned out in nearby Wiley Park. On Wednesday, police attended a further incident after shots were fired at a house in St Clair. A woman in her

50s was at home but was not injured. A short time after they found a car on fire in Colyton and later the same day a house and vehicle were found ablaze in Guildford West. New South Wales Police department said a task force was assembled to investigate the incidents - all of which are believed to have been targeting the same family. On Thursday, police executed six search warrants - during which they seized three vehicles, 1kg of cocaine and knuckle dusters - and made four arrests. The 16-year-old boy was refused bail and will appear at a children's court on Friday 20 February. The two 19-year-old males were refused bail, while the 18-year-old man was granted conditional bail. Utai played for Canterbury Bulldogs and Wests Tigers during his domestic rugby league career and won caps for New Zealand and Samoa. Police say Utai is not suspected of any wrongdoing.

Theaters rock with entertainment at Hey Balwanth: Film unit at Successmeet

Hilarious entertainer 'Hey Balwanth' is made by promising protagonist Suhas and Shivani Nagaram. Directed by Gopi Acchara, this film was produced by B. Narendra Reddy under the banner of Trishul Visionary Studios. The successful duo of Bunnyvas and Vamsi Nandipati brought this film to the audience under the banners of Nandipati Entertainments and Bunny Vas Works. This film, which was released in front of the audience on Friday 20th of this month, will be hailed by the audience as a hilarious entertainer and will be praised by the critics, and it will be a blockbuster talk. In this context Vamsi Nandipati said that wherever the shows were performed, there was an excellent response. It collected up to 100k for the premieres in overseas. Very positive. Premieres in Telugu states are full. Matinee collections have increased as compared to morning. For those who are under a lot of stress, Hey Balwanth movie is like medicine and it will ease the mind very comfortably. Everyone is enjoying watching it with their families. You get the feeling of watching a good movie. He said he hopes to break even this weekend. Director Gopi said thanks for everyone's support. Good response is coming from paid premieres. Everyone is appreciating



it as a fantastic movie. Everyone smiles and says that they are relaxing. Collections are also growing. I definitely hope that the audience will appreciate the film more', he said. Producer Narendra Reddy said, "The response is very good. I am happy that everyone who has seen it says it is a good movie. Our banner said this is a blockbuster film. Actress Sravanti.. Everyone is not only laughing hilariously but also feeling emotional. Everyone watch the movie in theaters and enjoy. Said. Actor Sudarshan

said theaters are rocking with hilarious comedy. After watching the response of the movie, we slept happily. Families are enjoying the movie very much. Those who have not seen it said they want to see the movie in theaters. Heroine Shivani said that she is happy to come before the audience once again with a good movie. Watch with all the families. Everyone is enjoying the movie. They are laughing happily. Hero Suhas said it was the biggest opening in Knockerr. I can't believe the collec-

tions. Everyone is laughing and watching the movie. He said that Ranu Ranu collections are increasing. Naresh said, "I am happy to see the premiere theatrical experience. Such an experience is very rare in my career. I saw theaters swaying with laughter. No one is sitting in the seats. Getting up and falling down laughing. Seeing the joy of the audience brought tears to my eyes. I have not seen the audience give a standing ovation in the theater when the famous scenes of

Same Time ended with an emotional scene of a quarter of an hour. It is a complete family entertainer. Showku Showku collections are increasing. I am enjoying this success very much. The response of this movie is less than the buzz. I could not bear the joy of watching the movie and kissed the director and hero Suhas. Everyone should watch this rare movie. I will never get a film like this again, a role like this. The director has made a blockbuster movie with a new concept", he said.

Havish, Trinadha Rao Nakkina, Nikhila Koneru, Harnix India LLP complete shooting of 'Nenu Redi'



Young hero Havish is teaming up with blockbuster director Trinadha Rao Nakkina for a complete entertainer called 'Nenu Redi'. Produced by Nikhila Koneru under the banner of Harnix India LLP, the film stars Kavya Thapar as the female lead opposite Havish. The film has already created a good buzz with its posters, title and teaser glimpses. The shooting of this film was completed today. Yesterday, the climax was shot at Ramoji Film City. The entire shooting was completed today. The film turned out very amazing. This movie is a marked out and out entertainer directed by Trinadha Rao. "Nenu Redi" is being prepared to entertain all sections of the audience. Nenu Reddy is going to be

Highlights

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a wonderful entertaining film in the career of hero Havish. The makers will kick start the promotions soon after the shooting is completed. In this movie, a prominent cast like Brahmanandam, Vennela Kishore, Murali Sharma, Srilakshmi, GTV Ganesh, Rohini, and Hariteja are ready to make the audi-

ence laugh. It is a special moment that 'Nenu Redi' has such a good star cast in recent times. Star composer Mickey J Meyer has composed the chartbuster album for this film. Nizar Shafi is working as the DVP and Praveen Pudi is working as the editor. The film is set to hit the screens this summer.

PADDINGTON BEAR SET TO ATTEND AND PRESENT AT BAFTA FILM AWARDS

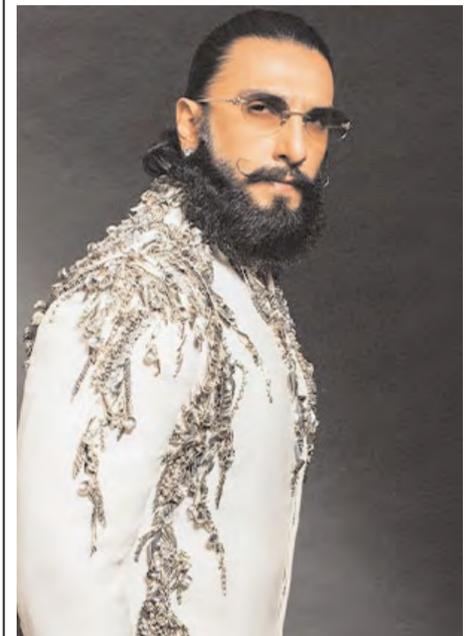


AYYAPPA SHARMA CHANGES HIS LOOK AFTER 14 YEARS

Tollywood character actor Pudipeddi Ayyappa Sharma has become a hot topic on social media with his new makeover. After a long gap of nearly 14 years, he has changed his signature style, which has now become a major talking point in industry circles. Known for always appearing with long hair and a thick beard in a rugged look, the actor has now gone clean-shaven and looks like a perfect police officer. He took this bold decision for the Kannada film 'Pabbar', in which he is playing a powerful SP (Superintendent of Police) role. Having maintained the same image for more than a decade, Ayyappa Sharma did not hesitate to completely transform his visual appeal to meet the character's demands. Fans are loving his new look. Looking at his career graph, his villain roles have always stood out. He particularly excelled in rural dramas and faction-based films. His intense eyes and commanding voice earned him a separate fan base. With his unique mannerisms, he not only frightened audiences but also impressed them in every film. While his past roles were remarkable, this new police role is on another level. The actor, who left his mark even in big films like KGF, now appears in a police uniform with a next-level screen presence.



Ranveer Singh threat case: Lawrence Bishnoi gang demands Rs 10 crore



Mumbai: In a fresh development in the case, Bollywood star Ranveer Singh reportedly received a threat from the Bishnoi gang, which demanded Rs 10 crore through a voice note sent to his manager from an American number. A senior Mumbai Police official said the crime branch is contacting the concerned agency in the United States through official protocol to obtain details about the number. During its probe, the Mumbai crime branch found that one of the Bishnoi gang's close aides, Harry Boxer, reportedly sent the voice note threatening Ranveer Singh and demanding Rs 10 crore as extortion. In the preliminary investigation, the crime branch confirmed that the voice note received on Ranveer Singh's manager's WhatsApp bore Harry Boxer's voice. Officials are

currently gathering further evidence in the case. According to the crime branch, the voice note was sent after the firing incident at filmmaker Rohit Shetty's residence. The threat was sent to Ranveer's manager's mobile number following the firing at Rohit Shetty's house. After the threat surfaced, security around Ranveer Singh was tightened. The crime branch has recorded the statement of his manager and is continuing the investigation. Police have not yet registered an FIR in the matter, but have initiated a preliminary inquiry. On the professional front, Ranveer will soon be seen in the sequel to the blockbuster Dhurandhar, Titled 'Dhurandhar: The Revenge', the film is slated to release on March 19. Dhurandhar also stars R. Madhavan, Akshaye Khanna, Sanjay Dutt, and Arjun Rampal.

Yash's Toxic teaser released: Fans say 'Dhurandhar 2 is in danger'



Hderabad: Yash's upcoming film Toxic: A Fairytale for Grown-Ups has created a storm online after the release of its teaser. The intense visuals and action-packed sequences have generated massive buzz, especially with Yash in the lead role.

The film is set for a major box office clash with Ranveer Singh's Dhurandhar 2 on March 19, 2026, creating a highly anticipated competition. The teaser has sparked excitement among Yash's fans, with many praising the scale and action of the film. Comments like "Dhurandhar is in danger" and "Rs 2000 crore loading" flooded the internet. However, not everyone is impressed. Some fans of Dhurandhar 2 argue that Toxic is relying too much on style and swag, while Dhurandhar 2 offers a more grounded narrative that the teaser for Toxic lacks substance, with one

comment stating, "This is not even one and a half of Dhurandhar 2's teaser." The Toxic teaser opens with dark visuals and quick shots of Raya, played by Yash, who refuses to back down, even when warned about a more dangerous enemy. The teaser features brutal action, with graphic scenes of fights, beheadings, and shattered bones, making it clear that mercy is not an option. The film's antagonist, portrayed by Malayalam actor Tovino Thomas, enters the frame with a direct challenge, saying, "I'm home, Daddy!" Fans are already speculating about a possible double role for Yash, with some hinting that he could be playing both a father and a son.

DHURANDHAR 2 Dhurandhar 2, starring Ranveer Singh, also has an intense teaser that has been met with positive reactions. However, some fans feel that Toxic is relying too much on style and swag, while Dhurandhar 2 offers a more grounded narrative. The competition is particularly fierce in the Hindi markets, where Dhurandhar 2 is expected to dominate. Both films will be releasing on the same day, making March 19, 2026, a significant date in Indian cinema. While Toxic is expected to perform well in Kannada markets, Dhurandhar 2 seems to have a stronger fan base in the Hindi belt. The box office battle is still to be decided, but the teaser war is already in full swing.

■ THE CLASH WITH