

GOLD AND SILVER PRICES DIP AMID PROFIT BOOKING AS US DOLLAR GAINS

Mumbai, Feb 24 : Gold and silver prices retreated on Tuesday, amid uptick in US dollar and profit-taking after huge gains in previous session. Investors weighed in tariff uncertainty and ongoing US-Iran peace talks which capped the decline in prices. MCX gold April futures dipped 0.58 per cent to Rs 1,60,664 per 10 grams around 10.50 am on an intraday basis. Meanwhile MCX silver March futures declined 0.33 per cent to Rs 2,64,450 per kg.



GOLD & SILVER

SRI LANKAN NAVY SEIZES 685 KG OF SEA CUCUMBERS



WORLD NEWS

HARRY BROOK'S TON SEALS SEMIFINAL SPOT AS ENGLAND DEFEAT PAK BY 2 WICKETS



T20 WORLD CUP

IN BRIFS

ANDHRA MILK ADULTERATION: SEVEN PEOPLE STILL IN CRITICAL CONDITION

Amaravati (TSIT): The condition of seven persons undergoing treatment at various hospitals in Andhra Pradesh's Rajahmundry after consuming adulterated milk is critical, a top official said on Tuesday. State Health and Family Welfare Department Commissioner Veerapandian said that 15 people are undergoing treatment in various hospitals, of whom three are on ventilators, two on dialysis and three more on ventilator-dialysis. Among those undergoing treatment, there are two children, including a five-month-old baby. He said four people have died so far. No new cases were registered on Tuesday. Veerapandian told the media that necessary steps are being taken to provide better treatment to all those hospitalised. On the suggestion of senior nephrologist Raviraj, medicines required to quickly improve kidney function but not available here are being brought from Chennai and Mumbai.

Rahul reiterates demand to cancel trade deal with the US

Bhopal (TSIT): Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday launched a sharp attack on Prime Minister Narendra Modi, accusing him of "surrendering India's interests" to the United States under pressure for the trade deal.

In his address at the Maha Kisan Sammelan here, Gandhi, citing recent developments, noted that the US Supreme Court had rejected tariffs imposed by the Donald Trump administration and that several countries had walked away from trade deals with the US, yet the Prime Minister had remained silent.

At Congress-organised farmers' convention, which was also attended by party President Mallikarjun Kharge, Gandhi claimed the agreement compels India to buy goods worth Rs 9 lakh crore from America over the next five years, severely damaging domestic industries—especially textiles and agriculture. He alleged that the textile sector has already been crippled, claiming that the US has granted zero per cent tariffs to Bangladesh while pressuring



"The textile industry was destroyed, and after that, America says, look, we will help Bangladesh, so we have zero per cent tariff in textile. Here, the minister says that if India buys cotton from America, then we will also be wiped out from America," Rahul

India to import cotton or risk being sidelined. Gandhi accused PM Modi of "yielding to US demands to safeguard his political image and future, compromising national sovereignty".

"Narendra Modi ji gave it all under pressure... to save his image, to save his political future, to avoid threats," he stated and directly challenged the Prime Minister to cancel the deal. Gandhi also cited sealed evidence, including emails, messages, and videos, that he claimed had not been made public. He urged Congress workers, Youth Congress members, and supporters to stand firm without compromise, invoking the party's historic role in the Green Revolution and nation-building. "You will not compromise with

anyone. You have the blood of the Congress party in you, the blood of patriotism. You brought about the Green Revolution. You gave food to your country, you gave grains to your country, you built your industry," he said.

The Bhopal rally marked the start of a nationwide series of Kisan Sammelans by the Congress to protest the interim India-US trade framework. The Congress leaders argued that the deal betrays farmers by flooding Indian markets with cheaper US imports, endangering key crops such as cotton, soybean, and maize, and undermining food security and rural livelihoods. Similar events are planned in states, including Maharashtra, to mobilise farmers across the country.

LAY DOWN THEIR ARMS

4 Senior CPI (Maoist) Leaders Join Mainstream Before T'gana DGP

HYDERABAD TSIT BUREAU:

In a major development in the State's anti-extremism efforts, four senior underground leaders of the banned CPI (Maoist) organisation joined the mainstream before Telangana Director General of Police (DGP) B. Shivadhar Reddy on Tuesday.

The leaders who surrendered include Politburo Member (PBM) and Central Committee Member (CCM) Tippiri Thirupathi @ Devuji @ Kumma Dada, Central Committee Member Malla Raji Reddy @ Sangram, Telangana State Committee (TSC) Secretary Bade Chokka Rao @ Damodar @ Jagan, and State Committee Member Nune Narsimha Reddy @ Ganganna @ Sannu Dada.

According to police officials, the four leaders had been underground for decades, holding key positions in various committees across Dandakaranya, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, and Telangana regions. Their



return to the mainstream is being viewed as a significant setback to the organisational structure of CPI (Maoist), particularly in Telangana.

Officials stated that sustained security operations, shrinking support networks, internal differences, and leadership fragmentation within the outfit contributed to their decision to renounce violence and rejoin society.

Speaking on the occasion, DGP Shivadhar Reddy said the State Government remains committed to providing full support and protection to those who surrender and choose a

peaceful path. He reiterated that under Telangana's Comprehensive Rehabilitation and Reintegration Policy, surrendered cadres are eligible for financial assistance, rehabilitation support, skill development opportunities, and other welfare measures to help them rebuild their lives.

The DGP also appealed to remaining underground cadres, especially those belonging to Telangana, to lay down arms, return to their families, and contribute constructively to the development of the State within the constitutional framework.

APPROVED PROPOSAL

Union Cabinet clears move to rename Kerala as "Keralam"

New Delhi (TSIT) The union Cabinet, Tuesday approved a proposal to alter the name of the State of "Kerala" to "Keralam," Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw announced. Addressing a press briefing after the Cabinet meeting, Vaishnaw said the decision marks an important constitutional step following a unanimous resolution passed by the State's Legislative Assembly



last year. "The union Cabinet has approved the proposal for alteration of the name of the

State of Kerala as 'Keralam.' The constitutional process under Article 3 will now be followed," he said.

Following the Cabinet's approval, the President of India will refer the proposed legislation — the Kerala (Alteration of Name) Bill, 2026 — to the Kerala Legislative Assembly for expressing its views, in accordance with the proviso to Article 3 of the Constitution.

Under Article 3, Parliament has

the authority to alter the name of any State by law. However, no such Bill can be introduced without the recommendation of the President and unless the proposal has first been referred to the concerned State Legislature for its views within a specified period. After receiving the Assembly's views, the union Government will proceed with the next steps, including obtaining the President's recommendation for introducing the Bill in Parliament.

20 cr Tirupati laddus made with adulterated ghee: CM Naidu

Amaravati (TSIT): Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Tuesday claimed that over 20 crore Tirupati laddus were made with adulterated ghee and sold during the YSRCP rule. He claimed that between 2019 and 2024, 59.71 lakh litres of adulterated ghee were supplied to the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam (TTD), and Rs. 234 crore were spent on this.

Replying to the debate in the State Assembly on the Tirupati laddu adulteration, he said 20.01 crore laddus were made with adulterated ghee and sold to devotees.

He alleged that a syndicate was formed to produce adulterated ghee and supply it to TTD, in violation of all norms and by bypassing the laboratories for testing quality. He clarified that after the coalition government came to power, he cited the NDDB report on ghee adulteration. The Chief Minister said that after the issue came to the government's notice, it was decided to constitute the Special Investigation Team (SIT). "They challenged this, too, and went to the Supreme Court. The court said that there should be no political involvement in this and that an SIT should be formed and an investigation should be conducted under the auspices of the CBI," he said. Chandrababu Naidu revealed that the CBI submitted a report to the state government for



action against the guilty officials. They suggested some rectification in the TTD. The Chief Minister said the government had formed a one-member committee to take action in accordance with the SIT report. He noted that the Supreme Court had dismissed a petition filed by Subramanian Swamy against the one-member committee.

He alleged that the tender rules were changed between January and February 2020 as part of the adulteration conspiracy.

He claimed that, even though the CFTRI issued its report on ghee adulteration in 2022, the then TTD chairman suppressed it. The rules were thrown to the wind to give ghee supply contracts to unqualified companies. CM Naidu said that then TTD Chairman Subbareddy's personal assistant Chinnappanna, took a bribe of Rs 4.5 crore. "It was found that various types of chemicals were used to make adulterated ghee. They even lured the technical experts of TTD with expensive phones and opened the gates for adulterated ghee," he said.

Sudden rains in Telangana destroy crops, leave farmers in despair



Hyderabad: Untimely rains in Telangana caused a heavy blow to red chilli farmers, who woke up on Tuesday, February 24, to a devastating sight of their crops completely soaked and ruined. Of the many visuals that have surfaced is a heart-rending video of an elderly farmer couple — Banoth Anki and Laxma Naik — from Mahabubabad district, trying hard to dry their soaked crops with their bare hands. "What should we do now? We toiled hard, waking early, going hungry for days, only to be ruined by the rains. How will we survive now? What should we do, Oh Lord! Please tell us," a helpless Anki says as she attempts to dry their soaked crop.

INDIA, ISRAEL BEGIN TALKS FOR FTA, AIM TO BOOST COMMERCIAL TIES



New Delhi (TSIT): India and Israel have started the first round of negotiations for a free trade agreement (FTA) here with an aim to further boost commercial ties and promote investments, an official

statement said on Tuesday, February 24. In November last year, the two countries signed the terms of reference (ToR) to formally start the negotiations for the pact. "The first round of negotiations for the India-Israel Free Trade Agreement (FTA) commenced on February 23, 2026 in New Delhi, and is scheduled to take place until February 26, 2026," the commerce ministry said. In such pacts, two sides significantly reduce or eliminate import duties on maximum number of goods traded between them.

KHARGE ACCUSES PM MODI OF SUCCUMMING TO PRESSURE FROM US

Bhopal (TSIT): Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Tuesday, February 24, alleged that Prime Minister Narendra Modi could not stand firm



when threatened with tariffs by the United States. Speaking at a farmers' 'Mahachaupal' rally here, he accused the Prime Minister of "selling out

the country" and "cowardice", and said a trade agreement which "mortgages the country" was not acceptable to the Congress. "A deal is done between two equals.

Modi was made to bend... threatened with tariffs," said Kharge, referring to the Indo-US trade deal. He also contrasted India's stand with that of Brazil, and claimed that its President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva advised Modi during his visit not to give in to US's pressure, and stand for Indian farmers as he (Lula) himself was doing.

'SEWAGE CRISIS'

Toilet war on US warship amid Iran tensions raises a stink

US (TSIT): The USS Gerald R. Ford, the US Navy's flagship aircraft carrier and a symbol of American military might, remains beset by chronic sewage system failures, US media reported. Persistent plumbing problems continue to dog America's newest and biggest supercarrier, nearly a decade after its commissioning.



Recent media reports highlight this ongoing saga, noting that despite years of issues, the Navy insists the problems do not hinder the vessel's operational readiness, even as it prepares for potential strikes against Iran, NPR reported.

that the system's "narrow pipes" have proven inadequate for a crew of over 4,600 sailors, leading to frequent clogs and vacuum failures. Early reports in 2022, Forbes reported that the unclogging required a specialised acid flush costing \$400,000

each time. During its 2025 deployment, which included operations off Venezuela leading to the capture of President Nicolás Maduro in January, the USS Ford averaged one "sewage-related maintenance call per day", the Navy Times reported.

NASSCOM SEES 6.1% GROWTH IN FY26 TECH REVENUES

Mumbai (TSIT): India's technology sector is expected to grow 6.1 per cent in FY26, with total revenues projected to reach USD 315 billion, according to NASSCOM. Despite global geopolitical uncertainties and rapid changes driven by artificial intelligence, the industry is set to maintain steady growth. The sector is also expected to add 1.35 lakh new jobs in FY26, taking the total direct workforce to 59.5 lakh, up from 58.15 lakh in FY25. In FY25, the industry had recorded a net addition of 1.33 lakh jobs. However, the increase of 2,000 additional jobs over the previous year marks one of the slowest growth rates in employment in recent years.

'Superstar-turned-interviewer': Mohanlal 'grills' CM Vijayan

Thiruvananthapuram (TSIT) : In a political season dominated by optics and messaging, it is not often that Kerala's biggest screen icon starts asking the questions instead of facing them. That is precisely what happened when Dadasaheb Phalke award winner and Malayalam cinema's enduring superstar Mohanlal sat down to interview Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan at Cliff House, the official residence of the Chief Minister.

The teaser of the interview is set to be released on Tuesday evening across social media and television platforms, with the full version to follow on leading channels. For decades, it has been Mohanlal who has been at the receiving end of probing questions about cinema, craft, fame and public life. This



time, the roles were reversed. The actor reportedly spent two days in Thiruvananthapuram for the project. The first day was devoted to discussions on the themes to be covered, and the interview took place the next day. The conversation is said to span the Chief Minister's personal journey, political evolution, and the government's record in office. The optics are com-

elling. A Dadasaheb Phalke laureate interviewing a sitting Chief Minister on the eve of an election inevitably invites political readings. The Opposition has already accused the government of ramping up public relations efforts as the state heads to the polls.

The presence of one of Kerala's most popular cultural figures is bound to amplify that debate. This is not entirely unprecedented. Mohanlal had earlier conducted a similar interview with former Chief Minister Oommen Chandy. Photographs of Mohanlal and Pinarayi Vijayan together at Cliff House have already gone viral, fuelling anticipation. Whether the interview reshapes political narratives or remains a high-profile media moment, one thing is certain: when the superstar asks the questions, Kerala watches.

Applications Invited for Transgender Employment & Rehabilitation Scheme

Mahabubabad (TSIT): Applications have been invited under the Financial Rehabilitation Scheme for Transgender in Mahabubabad district. A total of Rs.2.25 lakh has been allocated on 100% subsidy basis for three units at Rs.75,000 each. Eligible transgender persons can download the application from the official website and submit it at the District Welfare Officer's

Office, Women, Children, Disabled, Elderly and Transgenders Department, Collectorate Complex, Mahabubabad. District Welfare Officer M. Sabhata said applicants must be aged 18-55 years, meet income criteria, possess a valid transgender ID issued by the District Collector, and should not have availed similar subsidies in the last five years.

Table with columns: S.No., Survey No., Type of Title, Type of Land, Name of the Patta/Owner, Boundaries (N, S, E, W), and Area. Includes sub-sections for Preliminary Notification and SCHEDULE.

Cyberabad Police Arrest ATM Cash Theft Accused, Rs.34.90 Lakh Recovered

Hyderabad (TSIT): Cyberabad Police solved an ATM cash theft case under Gachibowli Police Station limits and arrested the accused while he was trying to flee the city. The incident occurred on February 12, 2026, when Rs.56 lakh was stolen from a cash transportation vehicle at Gopampalli Thanda. The accused, Badigere Ajith Kumar @ Shiva (34), a driver with Sangam Security Agency,



allegedly drove away with the cash trunk and later abandoned the vehicle at Nallaganla before fleeing across multiple cities.

Acting on technical and human intelligence inputs, police teams tracked and arrested him on February 24 at Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, Shamshabad. Police recovered Rs.34.90 lakh from his possession. He was remanded to judicial custody. Officials said action will also be initiated against the security agency for alleged negligence.

CERTIFICATES DISTRIBUTED TO WOMEN TRAINEES IN MANAKONDUR

Hyderabad (TSIT): In a women empowerment initiative, certificates were distributed to beneficiaries who completed Beautician and Tailoring training at Durga Bai Mahila Shishu Vikasa Kendram in LMD Colony, Thimmapur Mandal under Manakondur constituency. The certificates were presented by Dr. K. V. V. S. Satyanarayana, MLA of Manakondur, along with Bandru Shobharani, Chairperson of the Telangana State Women's Corporation. They emphasized that skill-based training promotes economic independence and self-employment among women. The program concluded with appreciation for the trainees and encouragement to utilize their skills for financial self-reliance.



ENCOURAGE NORMAL DELIVERIES, SAYS ADDL COLLECTOR LENIN VATSAL TOPPO



Mahabubabad (TSIT): District Additional Collector (Local Bodies) Lenin Vatsal Toppo stressed that normal deliveries should be encouraged and cesarean sections performed only when medically necessary. Chairing a review meeting on the implementation of the PCNDT Act at the Collectorate, he directed government and private doctors to strictly follow guidelines and maintain transparency in C-section cases. He emphasized proper counseling for pregnant women and warned of action against violations at scanning centres. District Medical and Health Officer Dr. Ravi Rathod and other health officials participated.

CP SAJJANAR ATTENDS MAA ENT HOSPITAL SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS



Hyderabad (TSIT): C. V. Sajjanar attended the Silver Jubilee celebrations of MAA ENT Hospital as Chief Guest and praised its 25 years of service in specialized healthcare. He lauded the hospital's vision in establishing a dedicated ENT facility at a time when super-specialty care focused on other fields, and appreciated its expansion across India. He congratulated CMD Sunitha G. Kumar and MD Dr. Meghanath for their leadership. On the occasion, the hospital announced health insurance coverage for staff and continued support for free cochlear implant surgeries for underprivileged children. Senior staff members were also felicitated during the celebrations.

TGSRTC Bus Tickets Now Available on Meevea Mobile App



Hyderabad (TSIT): Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TGSRTC) has enabled bus ticket bookings through the Meevea "Me Ticket Mobile" app, marking a major digital initiative to enhance passenger convenience. The service was launched at the Secretariat by Transport Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar in the presence of Special Chief Secretary Vikas Raj, TGSRTC Vice Chairman & MD Y. Nagi Reddy and Meevea Commissioner Ravi Kiran. The app is integrated with TGSRTC's OPRS, covering 1,710 services, including 450 A/C and 1,260 non-A/C buses, with around 13,000 seats booked daily. Major routes include Bengaluru, Tirupati, Visakhapatnam, Vijayawada and other key towns. The app also offers digital monthly city bus passes and the 24-hour T-24 unlimited travel ticket for Greater Hyderabad, further strengthening digital public transport services in Telangana.

FEDBANK FEDBANK FINANCIAL SERVICES LTD. POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Fedbank Financial Services Ltd. under the Securitization 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 mentioned hereunder calling upon the following borrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being also mentioned hereunder within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The following borrowers having failed to repay the amount notice is hereby given to the following borrowers and the public in general that undersigned has taken possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub section (4) of section 13 of the Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Table with columns: Sr. No., Details of the Secured Debt, Reserve Price, Time and Date of E Auction, Earnest Money Deposit, Date & Time of Inspection, Type of Possession. Includes details for Loan Account No. FEDKPPSTL0536162.

DCB Bank Limited, Corporate & Registered Office: 6th Floor, Tower A, Peninsula Business Park, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel, Mumbai - 400 013, Maharashtra

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002

Public E Auction Notice for sale of Immovable Assets Charged to the DCB BANK under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to 8(b) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and to the borrower, co-borrowers and the guarantors in particular, by the Authorized Officer, that the below mentioned property is mortgaged to DCB BANK LTD. The Authorized Officer of the Bank has taken the possession under the provisions of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002. The property will be sold by lender cum E-auction as mentioned below for recovery of the below mentioned dues and further interest, charges etc. as per the details set out in the table:-

Table with columns: Sr. No., Details of the Secured Debt, Reserve Price, Time and Date of E Auction, Earnest Money Deposit, Date & Time of Inspection, Type of Possession.

Name and Details of the Borrower: (1) Mr. KOVOOR PRADYUMNA RAO (Borrower), (2) Mrs. KOVOOR BHARATHI (Co-Borrower)

Details of the immovable property: Schedule: All That Piece And Parcel Of Land Bearing Plot No.301 In Survey No.365 Admeasuring 277 Sq.yards Equivalent To 231.60 Sq.mtrs Rest Of Area Situated At Nadergul And Gram Panchayat Saromagar Rev.mandal Rangla Reddy District Within The Jurisdiction Of The Sub Registrar Champapet And Bounded By: North-plot No.302, south-neighbour's Land, east-30'wide Road West-plot No.300 (The Secured Assets)

Date and time of submission of EMD on or before 30-03-2026 before 5 pm with request letter of participation KYC, Pan Card, Proof of EMD Contact Name & No: A.Venkatesham & 900088092

The intending purchasers/bidders are required to deposit EMD amount either through DD/NET/RTGS in the name of the beneficiary, Bank Name: DCB Bank Ltd, Account Number - 9002955100649, Account Name: SALE REPOSSESSED ASSETS ACCOUNT, IFSC Code DCBL0000037

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE E-AUCTION ARE AS UNDER:

- 1. The properties are being sold on an "as is where is", "as is what is", "as is how is" & on a "No Recourse" basis without any kind of warranties & indemnities.
2. All Statutory Dues/Attendant Charges/Other Dues including registration charges, stamp duty, taxes, etc. shall have to be borne by the purchaser and the Authorized Officer or the bank shall not be responsible for any charges, lien in encumbrances or any other dues to the government or anyone else in respect of the e-auctioned property not known to the bank, the Independent Bidder is advised to make their own independent enquiries regarding the encumbrances on the property including Statutory Liabilities, Areas of Property Tax, Electricity Dues etc...
3. Contact: T.Jaya Prakash Reddy, Mob. No: 8142000064; Back End Office: 8142000066/63/62, Office mail id: info@bankauctions.in & Mail Id: prakash@bankauctions.in at their web portal https://bankauctions.in/ on the dates as mentioned in the table above with Unlimited Extension of 5 Minutes. Bidders are advised to detailed terms and conditions of auction sale before submitting their bids refer to the link https://www.dcb.bank.in/cms/showpage/page/customer-comer.
4. The interested bidders are required to register themselves with the portal and obtain login ID and Password well in advance, which is mandatory for e-bidding, from auction service provider (4closure.com), Mob. No: 8142000064, Back End Office: 8142000066/63/62. Prospective bidders may avail online training on e-auction from their registered mobile number only.
5. The EMD is refundable without any interest if the bid is not successful. The undersigned reserve the rights to accept or reject any or all the offers or adjourned / postpone the sale without assigning any reason therefor. If the offer is accepted, the purchaser will have to deposit 25% (less EMD Amount) of the sale price immediately on the auction day and if the purchaser fails to deposit the same, the amount deposited towards earnest money shall be forfeited and the property shall forthwith be sold again. The balance amount of purchase price shall be payable on or before the 15th day of confirmation of sale and in default of payment within the stipulated period, the deposit towards earnest money will be forfeited and property will be re-sold. Any other statutory dues/taxes/ stamp duty/registration fee/transfer fee has to be borne by the buyer separately.
6. Online E-auction participation is mandatory in the auction process by making application in prescribed format which is available along with the offer tender document on the website.
7. The sale shall be subject to rules/ conditions prescribed under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002

Date: 25-02-2026 Place: Karim Nagar Sd/-Authorised Officer, DCB Bank Limited

CAN FIN HOMES LTD. No. 12-13-416/1, 3 Floor, Mani Mansion, Street No:1, Taranaka, Hyderabad 500 017 Tel: 040-27005553 CIN No: L85110KA1987PLC008699 e-mail: taranaka@canfinhomes.com Ph: 7625079156

APPENDIX-IV-A [See proviso to rule 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 provision to Rule 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 properties mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Can Fin Homes Ltd., Taranaka Branch, will be sold by holding E auction on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on 17-03-2026, for recovery amount of mentioned hereinafter due to Can Fin Homes Ltd. from respective Borrowers and Guarantors as on the respective dates, together with further interest and other charges thereon.

Table with columns: Sl. No., Name of the Borrowers and Guarantors, Amount due as per liability, Reserve Price, Earnest Money Deposit, Type of Possession, Description of the property. Includes details for BIJJALA SAI KIRAN and Mr. JELLY NAGESH S/O YADGIRI JELLY.

The detailed terms and conditions of the sale are provided in the official website of Can Fin Homes Ltd., (www.canfinhomes.com) please refer to the following link https://www.canfinhomes.com/SearchAuction.aspx Link for participating in e-auction: www.bankauctionwizard.com

Date: 24-02-2026 Place: Taranaka Sd/- Authorised Officer, Can Fin Homes Ltd

FOR ADVERTISEMENT PLEASE CONTACT: 9948480279, 7330778889

Journalists Protest in Hanumakonda Seeking Amendment to GO 252

Warangal, Feb 24 (TSIT): Journalists staged a protest in front of the Hanumakonda Collector's office on Tuesday demanding amendment of GO 252 and issuance of accreditation cards to all desk journalists.

DCB BANK

POSSESSION NOTICE

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

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

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

The Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

1.	Symbolic Possession Date - 20th February, 2026
Demand Notice Dated	14-11-2025
Name of Borrower(S) and (Co-borrower(S))	MR. PERUGU SANKARA and MS. PERUGU REDDAMMA
Loan Account No.	DRHLBAJ00638830
Total Outstanding Amount as on	Rs. 50,45,949/- (Rupees Fifty Lakh Forty-Five Thousand Nine Hundred Forty-Nine Only) as on 14th November 2025
Description of the Immovable Property	All That The Semi-finished Residential Flat No 401, Fourth Floor, Of 'Sri Lakshmi Nilayam', Block-I, With Built-up Area Of 1220 Sft., (including Common Area & Car Parking) Along With Undivided Share Of Land To The Extent Of 48.43 Sq. Yds., Or 40.48 Sq. Mtrs., (out Of 387.5 Sq. Yds.), On Plot No. 100, In Survey No. 380, Situated Rampally Village, Under Nagaram Municipality, Keesara Mandal, Medchal-malkajgiri District, And Bounded As Follows: North-lift & Flat No.402, South-stair Case And 7'-9" Wide Balcony, East-lift & 5'-0" Wide Balcony, West-open To Sky. (the Secured Assets)
Date: 25-02-2026	FOR DCB BANK LTD.
Place: Hyderabad	AUTHORISED OFFICER

PROTIUM

PROTIUM FINANCE LIMITED
(Formerly known as Growth Source Financial Technologies Ltd.)

Registered & Corporate Office Address: 7th Floor, Block B2, Phase - I Nirlon Knowledge Park, Paladi Village, Off. Western Express Highway, Cama Industrial Estate, Goregaon(E), Mumbai - 400033, Maharashtra.

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

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 / Co-Borrower / Mortgagee (s) that the below described immovable properties mortgaged to the Secured Creditor, the Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Protium Finance Ltd. the same shall be referred herein after as Protium Finance Ltd. The Secured Assets will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis through E-Auction. It is hereby informed to general public that we are going to conduct public E-Auction through website <http://bankauctions.in>.

1. Account Number	GS06SLAP1498950
2. Name of Borrower, Co-Borrower/ Mortgagees	(A) Need Soft Technologies Private Limited Through its Director Janaki Polepalli W/o Shanthi Bhushan Rao Suguru (B) Suguru Shailaja D/o Shyam Sunder Rao Suguru (C) Janaki Polepalli W/o Shanthi Bhushan Rao Suguru (D) Shanthi Bhushan Rao Suguru S/o Sham Sunder Rao Suguru All Having Address: A1-Plot Number: 58 Saroornagar Ranga Reddy, Telangana 500035 Also Add, Flat No 504 Dwaraka Chandra Residency Bairamalgudaopp Sbi Bank Saroornagar Saroornagar Ranga Reddy, Telangana 500035 Also Add, Survey No 210 ISB Road L Ingampally Rd Manikonda Jagir Near Bus Stop Ranga Reddy, Telangana 500032 Also Add, Plot No 58 Road No 1 Sneha Puri Nagar Colo Ony Near (Co-Borrower) More Market Nagole Saroornagar, Saroornagar KV Ranga Reddy, Telangana 500035 Also Add, Flat No 504 Dwaraka Chandra Residency Bairamalguda Opp Sbi Bank Saroornagar Saroornagar Ranga Reddy, Telangana 500035
3. Date of Demand Notice	29th Oct 2025
4. Amount as per Demand Notice U/s 13(2)	Rs. 2,35,81,445.92 (Two Crore Thirty Five Lakh Eighty One Thousand Four Hundred Forty Five Rupees And Ninety Two Paise Only) As On 29th Oct 2025
5. Date of Symbolic Possession	24-Jan-26
6. Amount as on date	Rs 2,46,14,196.20 Two Crore Forty Six Lakh Fourteen Thousand One Hundred Ninety-Six.
7. Descriptions Of The Immovable Property/Properties:-	All That Premises House Bearing No. 11-12-331 (Ptn No. 103111129), In Plot Bearing No. 271, (Northern Part) Adm 250.0 Sq. Yds., Having Plinth Area Of 1100 Sq. Ft., In Ground Floor, 865.0 Sq. Ft., In First Floor And 905.0 Sq. Ft., In Second Floor, Total Plinth Area Of 2870.0 Sq. Ft., With P.C & Roof In Sy. No. 91, Situated At Income Tax Colony, Saroornagar Village, Revenue Mandal, R.R. District, Within The Limits Of L.B. Nagar Circle, Ghmc And Bounded By: North- Plot No. 272 South- Part Of Plot No. 271 East- Plot No. 278 West- 40' Wide Road
8. Reserve Price	Rs. 2,51,00,000-Two Crore Fifty-One Lakh.
9. Earnest Money Deposit	Rs. 25,10,000-Twenty-Five Lakh Ten Thousand Only
10. Bid Increment Amount (in Rs.)	Rs. 5,000 (Rupees Five Thousand Only)
11. E-Auction Date and Time	31st Mar 2026 At 11:00 AM To 2:00 PM (With Limited Extension Of 5 Min Each)
12. EMD Submission Last Date	30th Mar 2026 up to 5:00 PM.
13. Inspection Date	16 Mar-2026 BETWEEN 11:00 AM TO 5:00 PM

All interested participants / bidders are requested to visit the website <https://bankauctions.in> & <https://protium.co.in/> For details, help, procedure and online training on e-auction, prospective bidders may contact Mr. Nitesh D Pawar Contact number: 8142000725/8142000666, email id: nitesh@bankauctions.in / info@bankauctions.in

FOR FURTHER DETAILS ON TERMS AND CONDITIONS PLEASE VISIT <https://bankauctions.in> & <https://protium.co.in/> TO TAKE PART IN E-AUCTION.

THIS IS ALSO A STATUTORY 30 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER RULE 8(6)/ Rule 9 (1) OF SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002

Date: 25-Feb-2026 Sd/-, For Protium Finance Limited
Place: TELANGANA Authorised Officer

HINDUJA HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

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

APPENDIX-IV [Rule 8(1)] Possession Notice (For Immovable Property)

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Hinduja Housing Finance Ltd., under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (ACT No. 54 OF 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice to below mentioned Borrowers / Guarantor/s. After completion of 60 days from date of receipt of the said notice, the Borrower/s / Guarantor/s having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower/s / Guarantor/s and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Physical Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on them under section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on this.

Application No. Borrower and Co Borrowers Name and Address	Demand Notice and Outstanding amount as on	Total Outstanding amount as on	DATE OF PHYSICAL POSSESSION
1 Mr. MADASU RADHABorrower 2.MADASU SAIRAMCo-Borrower H No 1-4-307 Korutla Semiurban, Jagtial Telangana, India-505326, & Sy.No 1239/1 To 9 rangan, korutla, jagtial 505326. Loan No. AP/KRM/JGTL/A000000078 & CO/CP/CP/POF/A000001374 & CO/CP/CP/POF/A000009307	31.07.2024 & Rs.23,06,380/- (Rupees Twenty Three Lakhs Six Thousand Three Hundred Eighty Rupees Only)	24-02-2026. Rs. 24,61,273/-	19-02-2026

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY : Newly Construction RCC House bearing (House no not allotted) Having Ground floor Plinth area 683.295sq.ft and First Floor Plinth area 683.295sq. feet, in the land measuring 139.885q yards, (Road affected area 13.825sq yards), Total land measuring 153.705q yards or 128.50sq Meters, in Sy no1239/1 to 9, Situated at Korutla town Korutla Municipality, Korutla Mandal, Jagtial district with the Following Boundaries: Bounded By: EAST: 21 feet Wide Road, WEST: Open Place of Neel Chinn Venkata, NORTH: Open Place of Macha Radha Bhai @ Macha Radha, SOUTH: Open Place of Macha Radha Bhai @ Macha Radha

1 Mr. TELU SAI KUMARBorrower
TELU GOUTHAMICo-Borrower
H NO 6-89/2c Sy No 668 Main Road Madhapur, Korutla, Jagtial Telangana, India-505326, & H.No 5-79 peggara, kathlapur mandal korutla jagtial telangana 505326.
Loan No. AP/KRM/JGTL/A000000180 & CO/CP/CP/POF/A000007628

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY : All That The Part of house no:6-89/2c, Admeasuring 220.585sq.yards in sy no 668, Situated Near shivaji vighram, Madhapur village of Korutla mandal of Jagtial district with In the limits of GP madhapur, the Following Boundaries: Bounded By: EAST: Open place of kumta lachanna WEST: Open place of mitlapalle thirupathi NORTH: Open place of badinairamesh and nareesh SOUTH: Road.

The Borrower/s / Guarantor/s in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Hinduja Housing Finance Limited, for an above-mentioned demanded amount and further interest thereon

Date: 19-02-2026 Sd/- Authorised Officer
Place: Jagtial For Hinduja Housing Finance Limited

Ensure Strict Conduct of SSC, Intermediate Exams: CS Ramakrishna Rao

Mahabubnagar, Feb 24: State Chief Secretary K. Ramakrishna Rao directed all District Collectors to conduct SSC and Intermediate public examinations strictly and transparently, during a video conference review from Hyderabad. Intermediate exams will be held from February 25 to March 18, and SSC exams from March 14 to April 16. The Chief Secretary ordered stringent steps to prevent mass copying, malpractice, and question paper leaks. CCTV cameras,



police security, flying squads, and closure of nearby xerox centres during exam hours were mandated. Mobile phones are strictly prohibited. District Collector Vijayendra Boi said all necessary arrangements have been made in coordination with education, medical and police departments to ensure smooth conduct of examinations.

Employee Unions Thank CM Revanth Reddy for Launching Historic Insurance & Health Schemes



Hyderabad: Employee unions across Telangana expressed heartfelt gratitude to Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy for announcing comprehensive Accident Insurance and Health Schemes for government employees and pensioners. Leaders of TGO, TNGO, Revenue, Teachers, Pensioners, and other associations met the Chief Minister at his residence and thanked him for fulfilling a long-pending demand of employees. They stated that the new initiatives would provide much-needed social and financial security to lakhs of families dependent on government service. Representatives of the Telangana Employees, Teachers and Pensioners Joint Action Committee (JAC), along with Telangana

Employees JAC leaders Maram Jagadishwar, Eluri Srinivasa Rao, V. Latchi Reddy, Ramesh Paka, K. Ramakrishna and others, personally conveyed their appreciation to the Chief Minister. Union leaders described the two schemes as historic decisions that would be remembered for years to come. They particularly welcomed the provision of cashless treatment for 1,988 diseases in 652 recognized government and private hospitals, calling it a landmark step in employee welfare. The employee representatives praised the state government for prioritizing their safety, health, and financial protection, and expressed confidence that the schemes would be implemented effectively across the state.

Tension in Khammam as Demolition Drive Displaces Families



Khammam (TSIT): Tension prevailed on the outskirts of Khammam after officials carried out a demolition drive in Vinoba Nagar of Velugumatla, where poor families had been residing on Bhoodan lands for nearly a decade. Thousands of police personnel were deployed as houses were demolished using heavy machinery. Residents alleged that no prior notices or rehabilitation were provided. A brief scuffle occurred when some youths resisted, and a few persons were detained. Leaders of BRS, CPM and CPI condemned the drive. BRS district president and MLC Tata Madhusudhan was taken into custody. CPM leader Nunna Nageswara Rao and CPI leader Dandi Suresh demanded house sites and rehabilitation for the affected families.

Dr. Kota Neelima Urges GHMC to Reconsider Pattigadda Flyover Alignment



Hyderabad: Dr. Kota Neelima, Vice President of the Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) and Congress in-charge of Sanathnagar Constituency, has urged the Greater Hyderabad authorities to reconsider and realign the proposed flyover project from Pattigadda Colony to Rasoolpura Junction to minimise hardship to residents. Accompanied by local residents, Dr. Neelima met GHMC Commissioner R. V. Karnan and submitted a formal representation seeking revision of the current flyover alignment plan. Speaking to the media after the meeting, Dr. Neelima stated that the proposed alignment from Necklace Road to Pattigadda would severely affect hundreds of families residing in Pattigadda Colony.

GPOs play key role in village-level administration: Additional Collector.

Mancherial, April 24, TSIT : District Additional Collector (Revenue) P. Chandrayya said that Government Programme Officers (GPOs) play a crucial role in strengthening village-level administration and in effective implementation of welfare schemes. Addressing a training programme on the GPO/RI App at the Integrated District Offices (IDOC) meeting hall in Nasapur, he said former VROs and VRAs were



appointed as GPOs to utilise their experience in handling village records and public services. He explained that caste, income and other certificates, beneficiary selection and grievance redressal are being handled through the app, ensuring transparency and saving time. He also highlighted the importance of field-level verification, assisting surveyors in land matters, and conducting on-the-spot inquiries in inheritance and mutation cases. He warned that negligence in duties would invite strict action.

L&T Finance

L&T Finance Limited
(erstwhile, 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

PUBLIC AUCTION FOR SALE OF MORTGAGED PROPERTY

The Authorised Officer of L&T Finance Limited under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 [54 OF 2002] and in exercise of powers conferred under the said Act is auctioning the following property on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS CONDITION" by way of "PUBLIC AUCTION" for recovery of its dues and further interest, charges and costs etc.

Name of Borrower and Co-Borrower	Secured Property Address	Loan Account Number(s)	Physical Possession taken	Earnest Money Deposit 10% or more of RP (IN ₹)	Secured Debt	Reserve Price (IN ₹)	Date of Inspection	Date and Time of Auction
1. Karrotu Jagadeeswara Rao 2. Sumitha Karrotu	All That The Piece And Parcel Of The Bearing House No. 5-118 (Ptn No 1119916639 On Plot Nos 118, Ground Floor 1250 Sq. feet, First Upper Floor 1250 Sq. feet, Second Floor 800 Sq. feet., On The Plot Admeasuring 267 Sq.yards Situated in Survey Nos 58/1, Lane No 4, Road No.1 Adarshnagar Colony, Serilingampally, Ranga Reddy District, Having Purchased Through A Registered Sale Deed Document No 7823/2022 Dated: 26-08-2022 At S.R.O. Serilingampally, Ranga Reddy District, Telangana State. And Bounded By: East 30 Feet Wide Road West Plot No. 98 North Plot No 119 South H.No 5-117	H0465320 10221155 H0465320 10221155 22G	22nd December 2025	Rs. 20,07,926.30	As per Demand Notice dated 07-03-2025, Total outstanding of Rs. 1,82,70,665.97/- as on date 04/03/2025	Rs. 2,00,79,263 /-	On all working day from 10.00 A.M to 5.30 P.M with prior appointment.	27/03/2026 from 12:30 P.M. to 2.00 P.M

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF PUBLIC AUCTION

- The E-auction Sale is being conducted online by the Authorised Officer through the website <https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net/EPROC/> under the provisions of SARFAESI Act with the aid and through public e-auction mode.
- The public e-auction will be conducted on the date and time mentioned herein above, when the secured assets mentioned above will be sold on "AS IS WHERE IS" BASIS & "AS IS WHAT IS" CONDITION.
- For participating in the public e-auction, intending purchasers/bidders will have to submit the details of payment of refundable Earnest Money Deposit of 10% of the reserve price of the secured assets along with copies of the PANCARD, Board Resolutions in case of company and Address Proof on or before 26/03/2026.
- The EMD of all other bidders who did not succeed in the public e-auction will be refunded by LTF within 7 days of the closure of the public e-auction. The EMD will not carry any interest.
- The successful purchaser/bidder shall deposit the 25% (inclusive of EMD) of his/its offer by way of by way of D.D./P. O favoring "L&T Finance Limited" payable at Mumbai on or before 18:00 hours on 27/03/2026 i.e., day of e-auction or on the next working day i.e., 28/03/2026, which deposit will have to be confirmed by L&T Finance Limited, failing which the sale will be deemed have been failed and the EMD of the said successful bidder shall be forfeited. The balance amount i.e., 75% of purchase price payable shall be paid by the purchaser to L&T Finance Limited on or before the fifteenth day of confirmation of sale of immovable property or such extended period as per provisions of law.
- For inspection of property or more information, the prospective bidders may contact the authorised officer i.e. Name - Mr. Vikas Singh, Contact No. 8669189048 & Mr. Satheesh R, Contact No. 9738141146, L&T Finance Ltd, Brindavan, Plot no. 177, CST Road, Kalina, Santacruz (East), Mumbai - 400 098, Maharashtra, India, Contact No. 0222-68076666. At any stage of the E-auction, the Authorised Officer may accept/reject/modify/cancel the bid/offer or post-pone the E-auction without assigning any reason thereof and without any prior notice.
- The successful purchaser/bidder shall bear any statutory dues, taxes, fees payable, stamp duty, registration fees, etc. that is required to be paid in order to get the property conveyed/delivered in his/hers/its favour as per the applicable law.
- The Borrower/Guarantor, who are liable for the said outstanding dues, shall treat this Sale Notice as a notice under Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, about the holding of above-mentioned public e-auction sale.
- The Borrower (s) /Co-Borrower (s)/Guarantor (s)/Mortgagor (s) are hereby called upon to pay the entire loan outstanding dues as mentioned above before the said E-auction date failing which the L & T Finance Ltd shall sale the property as per the provisions laid down in the SARFAESI ACT, 2002.
- The Borrower (s) /Co-Borrower (s)/Guarantor (s)/Mortgagor (s) public at large are hereby restrained from transferring by way of sale, lease or otherwise with the secured assets referred to in the notice without prior written consent of L&T Finance Limited.

Date: 25.02.2026 Sd/-
Place: Hyderabad Authorized Officer
For L&T Finance Limited

Tight Security in Sangareddy for Intermediate Exams: SP Paritosh Pankaj

Sangareddy, Feb 24 (TSIT): Stringent security arrangements have been put in place across Sangareddy district for the Telangana Intermediate Public Examinations (IPE) 2026 from February 25 to March 18, District SP Paritosh Pankaj said.



Exams will be held from 9 am to 12 noon. Xerox and photocopy shops within 100 metres of centres will remain closed during exam hours, and Section 144 will be enforced around centres. Mobile phones and electronic gadgets are strictly prohibited.

OFFICE OF THE RECOVERY OFFICER - III DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL HYDERABAD (DRT 2)

1st Floor, Triveni Complex Abids, Hyderabad 500001

DEMAND NOTICE
NOTICE UNDER SECTIONS 25 TO 28 OF THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS & BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1993 AND RULE 2 OF SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961.

RC/890/2024 20.02.2026

Karnataka Bank Limited Versus Smt.Sandhya Bongu and Others

- To (CD 1) Smt.Sandhya Bongu, W/o Ramesh Bongu, Occ: Business, H.No.3-4, Choutuppal Mandal, Thalasingaram, Nalgonda, Telangana-508252.
(CD 2) Sri Ramesh Bongu, S/o Muthyiah Bongu, Occ: Business, H No 3-4, Choutuppal Mandal, Thalasingaram, Nalgonda, Telangana-508252.
(CD 3) Sri Naveen Kumar Erva, S/o Prabhu Erva, Occ: Business, H No 5-35, Bank Colony, Near Digi School, Dammaiguda, Nalgaram, Rangareddi, Telangana-500074.
- This is to notify that as per the Recovery Certificate issued in pursuance of orders passed by the Presiding Officer, DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL HYDERABAD(DRT 2) in OA/458/2023 an amount of Rs. 2297573.67/- (Rupees Twenty Two Lakhs Ninety Seven Thousands Five Hundred Seventy Three And Paise Sixty Seven Only) along with pendentilite and future interest @ 10.75 % Simple Interest Yearly w.e.f. 24/03/2023 till realization and costs of Rs. 108237/- (Rupees One Lakh Eight Thousand Two Hundred Thirty Seven Only) has become due against you (Jointly and severally/ Fully/Limited).
- You are hereby directed to pay the above sum within 15 days of the receipts of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made in accordance with the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 and Rules there under.
 - You are hereby ordered to declare on an affidavit the particulars of yours Assets on or before the next date of hearing.
 - You are hereby ordered to appear before the undersigned on 20/03/2026 at 10:30 a.m. for further proceedings.
 - In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will also be liable to pay: (a) Such interests as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the certificate / execution proceedings. (b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and warrants and other processes and all other proceedings taken for recovering the amount due. Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal, on this date: 20/02/2026

RECOVERY OFFICER DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, HYDERABAD (DRT-2)

DCB BANK

POSSESSION NOTICE

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

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

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

The Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

1.	Symbolic Possession Date - 19th February, 2026
Demand Notice Dated	31-10-2025
Name of Borrower(S) and (Co-borrower(S))	M/S.NAKSHATRA INFRASTRUCTURE THROUGH IT'S PROPRIETOR, MR. ADIDELA SRINIVAS REDDY, MR. ADIDELA SRINIVAS REDDY and MRS.ADIDELA ANITHA REDDY
Loan Account No.	0155960000143
Total Outstanding Amount as on	Rs.28,41,005.95/- (Rupees Twenty-Eight Lakh Forty-One Thousand Five and Ninety-Five Paise Only) as on 31st October 2025
Description of the Immovable Property	All That Open Place Property, Bearing Gwmc.no.1-7-961 To An Extent Of 98.10 Sq. Yards Equivalent To 81.00 Sq. Meters, Situated At Hunter Road, Hansamkonda, Hanumakonda District, (previously In Warangal District), Within The Limits Of Greater Warangal Municipal Corporation, Within The Limits Of Registration District Hanumakonda And Its sub-registrar Office, Warangal (r/o) And Within The Following Boundaries: Boundaries East: House Of Durga Rao, West: H.no.1-7-961/11, North: Grave Yard, South: 100'-0" Hunter Road, (the Secured Assets)
Date: 25-02-2026	FOR DCB BANK LTD.
Place: Warangal	AUTHORISED OFFICER

OFFICE OF THE RECOVERY OFFICER - III DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL HYDERABAD (DRT 2)

1st Floor, Triveni Complex Abids, Hyderabad 500001

DEMAND NOTICE
NOTICE UNDER SECTIONS 25 TO 28 OF THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS & BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1993 AND RULE 2 OF SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961.

RC/766/2025 20.02.2026

Karnataka Bank Limited Versus M/s. Biogene Seed Sciences Private Limited and Others

- To (CD 1) M/s. Biogene Seed Sciences Private Limited, Regd. Office At Plot No.28 To 31, Flat No.501, 5th Floor, Mytri Sri Vishnu Priyam Apartment, Yadav Nagar, Alkapuri, Hyderabad, Ranga Reddy, Telangana State.
(CD 2) Mr. Cheruku Devender, S/o Cheruku Upenderam, Occ: Business, R/O H.No. 10-141/2, Plot No. 45, Gayathri Homes, Jillejiguda, Saroornagar Mandal, Meerpeth, K V Ranga Reddy District, Hyderabad-500097.
(CD 3) Mr. Cheruku Dheeraj, S/o Cheruku Devender, Occ: Business, R/O H.No. 10-141/2, Plot No. 45, Gayathri Homes, Jillejiguda, Saroornagar Mandal, Meerpeth, K V Ranga Reddy District, Hyderabad-500097.
(CD 4) Smt. Cheruku Narmada, W/o Cheruku Devender, Occ: Business, R/O H.No. 10-141/2, Plot No. 45, Gayathri Homes, Jillejiguda, Saroornagar Mandal, Meerpeth, K V Ranga Reddy District, Hyderabad-500097.
(CD 5) Mr. Cheruku Deepak, S/o Cheruku Devender, Occ: Business, R/O H.No. 10-141/2 Plot No. 45, Gayathri Homes Jillejiguda, Saroornagar Mandal, Meerpeth, K V Ranga Reddy District, Hyderabad-500097.

This is to notify that as per the Recovery Certificate issued in pursuance of orders passed by the Presiding Officer, DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL HYDERABAD(DRT 2) in OA/311/2025 an amount of Rs. 20446850.35/- (Rupees Two Crore Four Lakh Forty Six Thousands Eight Hundred Fifty And Paise Thirty Five Only) along with pendentilite and future interest @ 9.91 % Simple Interest Yearly

Kommareddy Pattabhiram Calls for Circular Economy for Sustainable Development



Visakhapatnam: Swachh Andhra Corporation Chairman Kommareddy Pattabhiram said sustainable development can be achieved only through a circular economy. He was speaking at the "Circular Economy & Green Companies" conference organized by the AP Pollution Control Board and Confederation of Indian Industry in Visakhapatnam. Pattabhiram stated that Andhra Pradesh has introduced a comprehensive Circular Economy Policy under Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu. He announced that five Circular Economy Parks will be set up across the state, along with recycling centres and waste management plants in Visakhapatnam and Guntur. AP PCB Chairman P. Krishnaiah stressed the need for modern technology to control pollution. District Collector M.N. Harendhira Prasad highlighted concerns over rising sea levels and air pollution, and emphasized promoting biodegradable products to make Vizag plastic-free.



TTD Additional EO Sri C.H. Venkaiah Chowdhury has instructed the officers to pay special attention to the removal of scrap accumulated over many years in various departments of TTD.

SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED
Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032. & Office Address: Sri Manjunada Complex, Opp L.I.C. Office, Kanigiri Road, Kandukur, Prakasam Dist-500523.

DEMAND NOTICE

DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF THE SECURITIZATION & RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT 2002
We M/s Shriram Finance Limited (formerly known as "Shriram City Union Finance Limited" amalgamated with Shriram Transport Finance Limited and converted as Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited as per the orders of NCLT Bench-II, Chennai, Dated:09-11-2022) and thereafter obtained the approval to rename as Shriram Finance Ltd (Ministry of Corporate Finance letter dated 30-11-2022) is a company registered under the Companies Act, 2013 and also registered with RBI to do Non-Banking Finance business having its registered office at Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032. and branch office at Kandukur (Sri Manjunada Complex, Opp L.I.C. Office, Kanigiri Road, Kandukur, Prakasam Dist-500523) (hereinafter referred as Company/Lender), issue the following notice to you as under.

Whereas the borrowers/co-borrowers/guarantors/mentioned hereunder had availed the financial assistance from Shriram Finance Limited. We state that despite having available 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 consequent to the Authorized Officer of SHRIRAM 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) of SARFAESI Act, 2002 calling upon the following borrowers/guarantors/mortgagors to repay the amount mentioned in the notice and incidental expenses, cost, charges etc until the date of payment within 60 days from the date of receipt of notice.

The notice issued to them on their last known addresses have returned un served as such they are thereby informed by way of public notice on the same. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section(8) of section 13 of the act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

- Name of the Borrower(s) / Co-Borrower (s) / Guarantor (s):**
1. **Tanniru Rajani**, W/o. Srinivasa Rao, D.No:1-28/135, Plot No: 133, 2nd Floor, Jai Kisan Colony, Jammigadda, Kapra, Secunderabad, Hyderabad, Pin: 500062.
2. **Yanamala Bharathi**, W/o. Edukondalu, D.No:12-13-7058/2a, St.No:20, Tarnaka, Nagarjuna Nagar, Secunderabad, Hyderabad, Pin: 500017.
3. **Tanniru Radha**, W/o. Raghava, D.No:12-13-6018/2, Gokul Nagar, Sai Nagar, Near Nagarjuna Community Hall, Tarnaka, Secunderabad, Hyderabad Pin: 500017.
4. **Yanamal Sunitha**, W/o. Venkata Lakshmi Narayana, D.No:5-182/1, Pragathi Colony S.R. Digital School, Meerpet, Saroornagar, Ranga Reddy, Hyderabad, Pin: 500097.
5. **Kunchala Venkata Dattatreya**, S/o. Kunchala Srinu, D.No:7-84/1-1, Near Lakshmi Rice Mill, Singarayakonda (Po&Mo), Prakasam District, Pin: 523201.
6. **Tanneru Srinivasa Rao**, S/o. Koteswara Rao, D.No:1-1-28/35, Plot No: 35, Jai Kisan Colony, 2nd Floor, Jammigadda, Kapra, Secunderabad, Hyderabad, Pin: 500062.

NPA Date : 07.01.2023
Date of Demand Notice: 19.01.2026
Loan Amount : Rs. 15,00,000/- (Rupees Fifteen Lakhs Only)
Outstanding Amount : Rs.22,20,972/- (Rupees Twenty two lakhs twenty thousand nine hundred seventy two only) as on 19.01.2026

Enterprise Finance Loan Agreement No. KNDKRTF2002240003

SCHEDULE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY: KNDKRTF2002240003 - DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY TANNIRU RAJANI W/O SRINIVASA RAO, YANAMALA BHARATHI W/O EDUKONDALU, TANNIRU RADHA W/O RAGHAVA AND YANAMAL SUNITHA W/O VENKATA LAKSHMI NARAYANA VIDE DOCUMENT NO.889/2020, SUB-REGISTRAR OF KANDUKURU.
Prakasam District, Kandukur Sub-District, Kandukur Municipality, Kandukur Town, Kandukur Vialage Accounts, Survey No.865/1A2A1, Further Sub-Division Survey No:865/1A1A2A1 near D.No.8-3-25, Site measuring East to West on Northern side 50 ft, East to West on southern side 55 ft. North to south on eastern side 30 ft. and North to West on Western side 46 ft. total extent of 1995 sq.ft or 221 6/9 sq. yards or 186.199 sq.mts., in that 20 ft x 10 ft = 200 sq. ft. ACC construction along with doors, door frames, windows, electrical fittings, with all accessories, with all easementary rights, bounded on: East: Municipality Road, West: House of Kunchala Kotiah and Lingaiah; North: House of Chennala Akkiah; South: Municipality 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 further 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 Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and the applicable rules there under.

Please notice 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.

Authorized Officer,
Shriram Finance Limited
Place: Kandukur

Telangana Pradesh Mahila Congress Questions PM's Silence on Key Women's Safety Cases; Backs Alka Lamba

Hyderabad (TSIT): Vice President of Telangana Pradesh Mahila Congress, Dr Rekha Boyalappalli, on Monday strongly questioned Prime Minister Narendra Modi over his continued silence on serious crimes against women, including the Ankita Bhandari case and the Prajwal Revanna case.



In a statement issued in Hyderabad, Dr Rekha Boyalappalli expressed full support to All India Mahila Congress National President Alka Lamba, stating that she has raised critical and courageous questions regarding women's safety and accountability of those in positions of power.

Dr Rekha said that Alka Lamba had boldly questioned why the Prime Minister has not spoken with urgency and moral

clarity on cases such as Ankita Bhandari and Prajwal Revanna, as well as other incidents involving leaders associated with the BJP in various states.

"These questions reflect the concerns of millions of Indian women who are seeking justice, accountability, and reassurance from the country's highest leadership," she stated.

She further said that Alka Lamba, through her fearless address, directly asked whether the Prime Minister would break his silence and stand firmly

with victims, or continue to remain silent when women's dignity and safety are at stake.

Describing Alka Lamba as a courageous and inspiring leader, Dr Rekha Boyalappalli said her intervention has strengthened the voice of women across the country.

"The Prime Minister, as the leader of the nation, has a constitutional and moral responsibility to speak and act decisively to protect women's rights. Selective silence on such serious matters raises concerns among women," she added. Reaffirming solidarity, Dr Rekha Boyalappalli stated that the Telangana Pradesh Mahila Congress stands firmly with Alka Lamba and will continue to raise its voice until justice, accountability, and dignity are ensured for every woman in India.

Conduct 10th Exams Strictly and Smoothly: Addl Collector Ashwini Wakade

Karimnagar TSIT : District Local Bodies Additional Collector Ashwini Tanaji Wakade has directed the Chief Superintendents to conduct the tenth class examinations to be held from March 14. Under the auspices of the School Education Department, on Tuesday evening at the Collectorate



Auditorium in Karimnagar, the Superintendents of Class 10 Examination Centres, Department officers conducted a training program for flying squads and vehicle in-charges.

Additional Collector Ashwini Tanaji Wakade, who was the chief guest of the programme, said that students of class 10 will write the exams in 73 regular and 1 private exam centers in Karimnagar district.

He said that all the facilities should be provided in the examination centers as the 10th class exams will be held from March 14 to April 16.

They want to take steps to ensure that fans and drinking water are provided and medical personnel are available. They want to ensure that there is no power interruption. She ordered to take precautions to avoid any mistakes in conducting the

exams.

It is stated that the examinations should be conducted in a very strict manner without the possibility of mass copying. Students should make a special effort to write exams in a calm environment. It has been mentioned that everyone should cooperate so that the examinations go smoothly as per the rules and regulations should not be violated anywhere.

She said that around 650 invigilators are participating in the conduct of examinations in the district. It is the responsibility of the authorities to ensure that there is no disruption to the examinations. They said that the students should be provided vehicle facility to reach the exam centers before time.

Section 163 Enforced at Exam Centres: CP Sanpreet Singh



WARANGAL, February 24, TSIT : Warangal Police Commissioner said that a strong police presence has been arranged at the examination centers to conduct the intermediate examinations smoothly.

He said that Section 163 BNSS (Section 144) will be implemented as part of maintaining law and order at the examination centers within the district.

It is stated that the examination will be con-

ducted from 09:00 AM to 12:00 PM from 25-02-2026 to 18-03-2026 in all 94 examination centers (Hanmakonda 52, Warangal 24, Janagama 16) under Warangal Police Commissionerate.

The CP said that these prohibitory orders will be enforced as a precautionary measure to prevent any untoward incident during the examinations.

1. No gathering of three or more persons in the vicinity of examination centres.

2. Meetings, meetings, rallies, sit-ins are prohibited.

3. CP ordered to close all xerox centers within 500 meters from examination centers from 06:00 AM to 02:00 PM daily from 25-02-2026 to 18-03-2026.

Jalajakka's Death a Huge Loss to Telangana Art World



Mahabubabad (TSIT): The demise of Telangana's noted cultural activist, singer and writer Jalajakka has been described as a great loss to the art fraternity.

District Public Relations Officer Rajendra Prasad and District President Kambalappa Satyanarayana said her untimely death due to illness has deeply saddened

artists across the district. They recalled her fearless voice against oppression and her unwavering support for women artists and marginalized communities. Officials and artists paid floral tributes to her portrait at the Telangana Cultural Council office and at the martyrs' memorial near the district court, praying for her soul to rest in peace...

Minister's assurance to Raykurthi land victims

Karimnagar, February 24, TSIT: On Tuesday Victims led by former corporator Edulla Rajasekhara sought removal of disputed lands in Raykurthi from 22A list handed over the petition to Ministers Ponnampalapati Prabhakar and Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy handed over the petition. Hearing the



Ministers suggested that

the matter should be brought to the attention of the District Collector for a thorough investigation. He assured the victims that a permanent solution to this land issue will be provided soon.

Galaxy Team Registers 140-Run Win in 12th UCC Tournament

Visakhapatnam (TSIT) In the ongoing prestigious '12th UCC Tournament 2026', organized by the United Cricket Club (UCC), Galaxy Team secured a massive victory in the match held on Tuesday. In this clash at the ACA Stadium, Galaxy Team defeated Simand Blues by a margin of 140 runs. Winning the toss and opting to bat first, Galaxy Team posted a formidable total of 243 runs for the loss of 7 wickets in their allotted 20 over.



Opener B. Krishna unleashed a fierce attack from the start, scoring a brilliant century with 106 runs. Towards the end, K. Dheeraj Laxman (45 not out) played a quick-fire knock, propelling the team toward the massive score. Among the Simand Blues bowlers, G. Simhadri claimed 3 wickets, while V. Mahesh took 2 wickets. Chasing a target of 244,

the Simand Blues batting lineup crumbled under the pressure of Galaxy's bowlers. Although Sachin Sharma (54 runs) put up a lone fight, the rest of the batters failed to perform, resulting in the team managing only 103 runs for 9 wickets in 20 overs. Galaxy bowler P. Prashanth delivered an exceptional spell, troubling the opposition batters and picking up 5 wickets while conceding only 17 runs. Another bowler, SDNV Prasad, contributed with 2 wickets for 9 runs. For his outstanding bowling performance, P. Prashanth was awarded the 'Man of the Match'.

Interactive Session on Electronics Packaging Held at GITAM Hyderabad

Hyderabad (TSIT): The Department of ECE at GITAM School of Core Engineering, GITAM Hyderabad, organized an interactive session on "Emerging Trends in Electronics Packaging" on February 24, 2026. The session was delivered by J. Srinivasa Rao, former CEO of Vajra Automation. Addressing students, Srinivasa Rao encouraged young engineers to think creatively, question



assumptions, and adapt to rapid technological changes. He highlighted that innovation and electronics play a key role in future growth and stressed the

importance of collaboration and continuous learning. He also explained the concept of the "Orange Economy," where creative ideas generate economic value, and urged students to treat ideas as intellectual assets. The session was organized under the leadership of Prof. T. Madhavi, Head of ECE, with active participation from students who interacted enthusiastically with the speaker.

DCB Bank Ltd.
Corporate & Registered Office: 6th Floor, Tower A, Peninsula Business Park, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel, Mumbai - 400 013. Jyothi Majestic, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad-Telangana 500 034.

DCB BANK

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002
Sale of Immovable Property
Under Rule 9(1) of Security Interest(Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Public E Auction Notice for sale of Immovable Assets Charged to the DCB BANK under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and to the borrower, co-borrowers and the guarantors in particular, by the Authorized Officer, that the below mentioned property is mortgaged to DCB BANK LTD. The Authorized Officer of the Bank has taken the possession under the provisions of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002. The property will be sold by E-auction as mentioned below for recovery of the below mentioned dues and further interest, charges and cost etc. as per the details set out in the table below. The property will be sold "as is where is", "as is what is" and "whatever there is" condition.

Sl. No.	Details of the Secured Debt	Reserve Price (Rs.)	Time and Date of E Auction	Earnest Money Deposit (Rs.)	Date & Time Inspection	Type of Possession
1.	Rs. 33,99,668/- (As of 07.02.2026)	Rs. 34,88,000/-	From 11:30 am on 31.03.2026	Rs. 3,48,800/-	16.03.2026 (11 am to 4 pm)	Physical

Details Of The Immovable Property: Schedule: All That The Flat No.201, House No.6-25 (ptn No.1260300790) On Second Floor, With Columns, Beams And Roof, Admeasuring 775.00 Square Feet, Of Builtup Area Including Balconies Common Areas Along With An Undivided Share Of Land Admeasuring 33.00 Sq. Yards (out Of Total Land Of 266.6 Square Yards) Of Plot No.20, In Survey Nos.18/1 To 1/83, In The Building Complex Known As "chaitanya Homes Apartments" In Block-ii, Situated At Hydershahkote Village, Bandlaguda Jagir Municipal Corporation, Gandipet Mandal, Ranga Reddy District, Telangana State. **Bounded By:** North : Open To Sky, South : Flat No.202, East : Open To Sky, West : Open To Sky. (The Secured Assets)

Sl. No.	Details of the Secured Debt	Reserve Price (Rs.)	Time and Date of E Auction	Earnest Money Deposit (Rs.)	Date & Time Inspection	Type of Possession
2.	Rs. 41,06,417/- (As of 07.02.2026)	Rs. 42,00,000/-	From 11:30 am on 31.03.2026	Rs. 4,20,000/-	16.03.2026 (11 am to 4 pm)	Physical

Details Of The Immovable Property: Schedule: All That The Residential Flat Bearing No.a-524 In Block No.a In The Fifth Floor With Super Built Up Area 925 Sq.ft (including Common Areas) Along With An Undivided Share Of Land Admeasuring 36.57 Sq.yards Or Equivalent To 30.57 Sq.mtrs In The Building Name Known As "janapriya Arcadia" Constructed On Premises Bearing Municipal House No.4-5-150a-524 (ptn-1160403450) In The Survey Nos. 9, 10, 11, 11/a, 12, 12/a, 12/b, 13, 13/a, 13/b, 13/c, 14 To 20, 21/a, 21/b, 21/c, 27/a, 27/b, 28a, 28aa, 28b, 28c, 28d, 28e, 28f, 28g, 28h, 28i, 28j, 28k, 28l, 28m, 28n, 28o, 28p, 28q, 28r, 28s, 28t, 28u, 28v, 28w, 28x, 28y, 28z, 29, 29/a, 29/b, 29/c, 29/d, 29/e, 29/f, 29/g, 29/h, 29/i, 29/j, 29/k, 29/l, 29/m, 29/n, 29/o, 29/p, 29/q, 29/r, 29/s, 29/t, 29/u, 29/v, 29/w, 29/x, 29/y, 29/z, 30, 30/a, 30/b, 30/c, 30/d, 30/e, 30/f, 30/g, 30/h, 30/i, 30/j, 30/k, 30/l, 30/m, 30/n, 30/o, 30/p, 30/q, 30/r, 30/s, 30/t, 30/u, 30/v, 30/w, 30/x, 30/y, 30/z, 31, 31/a, 31/b, 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EDITORIAL

If You Don't Care About Taj Mahal's Architect, Why Cry

Did you know that there was a bust of the architect Edwin Lutyens outside Rashtrapati Bhavan? I certainly did not.

I knew that Lutyens had designed the building as a palace for the British Viceroy and that it had been inaugurated by the Raj in 1931 with celebrations that had not been attended by most freedom-fighting Indian leaders. In fact, they had been described by Jawaharlal Nehru as being marked by "vulgar, ostentation and wasteful extravagance".

But that they had decided to keep a bust of the architect on display was news to me, as I imagine it was to most Indians. Lutyens is better known in England than he is here, and most Indians can't even pronounce his name (it's nearer "Luchens" than "Lootyens"). If he is ever mentioned in India, then it is in the context of the city of New Delhi, where he designed the buildings in which Prime Minister Modi and his ministers have resided for over a decade. Curiously, the term "Lootyens elite" is used not to describe the elite who actually live in those buildings but as a general abuse for English-language speaking Indians. Did you know that there was a bust of the architect Edwin Lutyens outside Rashtrapati Bhavan? I certainly did not.

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Advertisement - Scroll to continue

So I don't think it matters much to us in India whether a bust whose existence we were unaware of is removed or not. But there has, nevertheless, been some measure of debate over the decision to replace it with a bust of C Rajagopalachari, the first Governor-General of independent India.

Will Every Building Have A Bust?

The argument against its removal runs like this: it's all very well to remove reminders of Raj oppressors such as Viceroys, Generals and Governors, but why extend this principle to architects? Lutyens did no harm to Indians. He only designed buildings.

It's not an entirely unreasonable argument, but it embodies the principle that any-

Why Trump's Deals With South Korea And Japan Should Be A Warning For India

On February 2, 2026, President Donald Trump and Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the finalisation of a framework for an interim agreement between the US and India, ending months of economic uncertainty. However, on February 20, the US Supreme Court struck down most of Trump's tariffs, ruling that he exceeded his tariff authority in using a law reserved for national emergency. India and the US deferred their trade talks following the order, with India saying that it is studying its implications. As for the US Supreme Court ruling, uncertainty still hangs over the question of tariffs, because soon after the order, Trump announced that he would soon sign an order to increase global tariffs to 15%, the maximum allowed under a never-used trade law. As of now, global tariffs of 10% have been in force since 12.01 am on Tuesday. As the world waits for clarity, it may be important to focus on the challenges that could arise if a deal is indeed finalised between India and the US. Based on the current broad outline, foremost among the challenges New Delhi could face is the possibility of changing goalposts and pressure tactics. Trump's dealings with South Korea and Japan have become cautionary tales highlighting the difficulty of negotiating with Trump's America. Trump's America Is Unreliable The US's trade deals and its engagements with South Korea and Japan offer a window into the kinds of challenges India could run into. Three trends are noteworthy: expansive use of tariffs, strategic miscommunication and divergences, and shifting goalposts. As part of the trade deal, South Korea and Japan pledged USD 350 billion and USD 500 billion in investments in the US, respectively, in exchange for a reduction in tariffs on their exports. Nonetheless, despite the deal, their economic relations with the US remain on edge due to the looming uncertainty over tariffs, their expansiveness and the arbitrariness of their application. While much of this can be attributed to President Trump's impulsive personality, an amorphous definition of the US' national security and leaning towards business interests over the administration, these are equally consequential. How Trump Arm-Twisted S. Korea Increasingly under Trump, tariffs have now become a toolkit of coercion to achieve political



objectives beyond trade. This has emerged as the first challenge for the US's allies. Economic ties are no longer isolated from other aspects of bilateral relations. Jamieson Greer, the US Trade Representative, cited South Korea's non-adherence to its digital services commitment as another reason for the tariff increase, indirectly hinting at the investigation against Coupang, a US technology company operating in South Korea. In the case of the India-US trade agreement, one of the biggest impediments is India's import of Russian oil. Section 4 of the Executive Order signed by Trump on February 6 this year establishes a monitoring mechanism as a pressure point. The second challenge is related to strategic communication and divergences. In the

case of South Korea, there has been significant misunderstanding, despite numerous meetings at the highest level, including with foreign and industry ministers, and even the Prime Minister. For instance, Trump's characterisation of South Korea's delay in passing the trade agreement through the national assembly as "not living up to its deal" underscores a lack of understanding of both South Korea's political system and the details of the US-South Korea MoU, which does not mention any clear implementation timelines for the deal. Japan Still Confused While South Korea has faced increased tariffs, Japan has been spared. However, despite close engagement with Japan, confusion persists regarding the agreement's details, particularly

about processes, procedures and decision-making. Howard Lutnick, the US Commerce Secretary, has said that the US [read Donald Trump] can "pick and choose" which projects to select, irrespective of the merits of the project, directly contradicting Ryosei Akazawa, Lutnick's counterpart, who stressed the importance of profitability and the screening process. While mechanisms exist for Japan to turn down projects or delay them, the consequences could be severe: penalties and auto or reciprocal tariffs. The third pertains to shifting goalposts. The Trump administration has often deviated from or changed the terms of agreements it had previously made with its allies. For instance, the deal with South Korea promised "no less favourable" terms than those offered by its adversaries (Taiwan) for semiconductor chips, particularly memory. However, the administration has changed the trade terms, after sealing a deal with Taiwan, exempting it from additional semiconductor tariffs quotas. The new deal links MFN (most favoured nation) status to company-specific investment in US manufacturing, effectively creating new conditions for countries like South Korea, thereby violating the earlier agreement. Following this deal, the administration announced 25% tariffs on chips, putting the South Korean memory chip companies in a difficult position. This new status quo signals the US's growing expectation of increased investment from South Korea even in the chip sector. Such a proposition ignores existing investments already made by South Korean companies such as SK Hynix and Samsung Electronics, which amount to roughly USD 40 billion. Additionally, there is a risk of a second tranche of tariff announcements on semiconductor imports and derivative products. In each of the trade agreements with Korea and Japan, two observations cannot be ignored. Trump has the final authority over decisions, including renegeing on the deal, and the agreements are not legally binding. Violating them has serious repercussions for the other party, but not for the US, given its predominant economic position. New Delhi Must Know What It's Dealing With Drawing from these three critical challenges, New Delhi must understand that it is dealing with a mercurial president and a volatile administration.

Wealth files, questions of trust



PRIYANKA SAURABH

(The disclosure of officials' assets has sparked a new debate on transparency and accountability.)

The public disclosure of the property details of Haryana's IPS officers has once again sparked widespread debate about administrative transparency, accountability, and ethics. When the public is exposed to the fact that many senior law enforcement officers possess assets worth crores of rupees—land, plots, houses, farmhouses, or other investments—it naturally arouses both curiosity and questions. These questions aren't just about statistics, but about the trust the public places in administration and governance. In a democratic system, public office is not only a symbol of authority, but also of responsibility and ethical conduct. Police and administrative officers, in particular, represent the power of the state. They enforce the law, control crime, and protect the rights of ordinary citizens. Therefore, when their financial status becomes a topic of discussion, the public wants to understand how this wealth was acquired, whether it is completely legal, and whether there is an effective system of oversight. Making property details public is certainly a positive step. It increases transparency in governance and empowers citizens to access information about those in power. A fundamental principle of democracy is that power should not be hidden from the public. In India, it has been a tradition for many years that senior government officials disclose details of their movable and immovable assets to the government. But when this information is made public, its importance increases, as society itself can monitor it. However, simply revealing the figures

doesn't solve the problem. The real question is whether these details are thoroughly vetted. Is it ensured that the declared assets match reality? Are the sources of income completely clear? If this process becomes a mere formality, the objective of transparency remains unfulfilled. Transparency is meaningful only when it is accompanied by accountability. It should also be kept in mind that it would not be fair to view all government officials with the same prism. There are many officers in the country who have set an example of honesty, simplicity, and service. They have not compromised on their duties even in difficult circumstances. There are also many officers who work in remote areas for years, striving to bring about positive change in society. Therefore, it is essential to approach any discussion with a balanced perspective. It would not be fair to blame the entire system based on a few cases. But on the other hand, it's also true that public suspicion of the administrative system has grown over the past few decades. Numerous cases of corruption have eroded public trust. When ordinary citizens navigate offices for everyday tasks, hear complaints of bribery, or grapple with the complexities of the system, they develop a sense that the system needs reform. In such an environment, when news of massive wealth acquisitions emerges, suspicion deepens. This is why asset disclosures should not be viewed merely as news, but also as an opportunity to improve the system. The government and relevant institutions should ensure regular and independent audits of asset declarations. If any discrepancies are found, impartial action should be taken. This will boost the morale of honest officials and send a clear message to those involved in corruption. Another important aspect is strengthening ethical values within the administrative system. Laws and rules are essential, but rules alone cannot sustain the entire system. Equally important are a sense of service, a sense of responsibility, and the dignity of public life within officials. When a person reaches a high position, society places greater expectations on them than on ordinary citizens. These expectations extend not only to efficiency but also to character and conduct. The role of the media is also crucial in this context. Newspapers and other media have a

responsibility to uncover facts, but also to present them responsibly. Instead of sensationalizing news, it's crucial to understand its broader social and administrative context. If the media promotes balanced and factual discussions, it will foster a healthy debate in society. The role of civil society is equally important. Democracy isn't solely run by the government or officials; it also requires the active participation of the public. If citizens are aware, ask questions, and demand transparency, the system will naturally become more accountable. Laws like the Right to Information Act are a result of this thinking, and have played a crucial role in making governance more open. It's also worth considering that officials working in government services today face numerous challenges. Working amidst ever-increasing expectations, political pressure, administrative complexities, and social change—all of these are difficult to navigate. Therefore, it's more useful to approach the system from a perspective of reform rather than just criticism. Strengthening the administration requires addressing all aspects—transparency, training, technological improvements, and ethical leadership—simultaneously. The digital age has further enhanced the possibilities for transparency. Corruption can be reduced if property details, administrative decisions, and financial processes are more systematically available online. This system has proven quite effective in many countries. India is also taking steps in this direction, but much remains to be done. Ultimately, it's essential to understand that democracy is founded not only on law but also on trust. Public trust is what gives legitimacy to government and administration. If this trust is weakened, the foundation of the system itself weakens. Therefore, any step that strengthens transparency and accountability actually strengthens democracy. The issue of the assets of Haryana's IPS officers must be seen in this broader context. It's not just a story about a few names or figures. It reflects the relationship that exists between the public and the administration. If this opportunity is used to make the system more transparent, accountable, and ethical, this news can become not just a topic of discussion but also the beginning of positive change.

West Bengal Polls: Why Both Trinamool And BJP Want To Woo The Rajbanshis

The rise of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in West Bengal since the 2019 Lok Sabha polls has been exceptional. From raising its Lok Sabha tally from just two seats to 18 in 2019, to wiping out the Congress and the Left parties in the 2021 assembly polls to emerge as the main opposition in the state, winning 77 of 294 seats, the BJP's march has been powered primarily by the Rajbanshi and Matua communities of the state, spread across the northern and eastern border regions, respectively. The BJP's stunning performance in 2019 was a jolt for Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's Trinamool Congress. Well into her second term then, Mamata wasted no time focusing on north Bengal - both in the context of her government's initiatives and the Trinamool Congress's organisational push. The efforts in north Bengal yielded some results for her party in the 2021 assembly polls. The BJP still gathered most of its strength from north Bengal to make it to 77 seats but had to yield some to the Trinamool. In the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, the BJP went down from 18 to 12 seats in Bengal but continued to derive support from north Bengal, where the Rajbanshis are a dominant SC community, and from Matua-dominated areas across districts on the eastern Bangladesh border. The BJP's Rajbanshi and Matua campaign was largely driven by the citizenship plank. The Centre's NRC-CAA move generated fear



among the Matuas, who came from East Pakistan - or today's Bangladesh - post-Partition. The Rajbanshis have been demanding a separate "Kamtapur" and want their language to be recognised in the 8th Schedule of the Constitution, among other things. They hope that the BJP government at the Centre would be able to deliver these things. But while such issues take time to be resolved, Mamata Banerjee has been trying to sway the Rajbanshis away from the BJP. The community dominated over 22 of the 54 seats in north Bengal. Before the rise of the BJP, the region used to

be a stronghold of the Congress as well as of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) (CPI-M) and Left allies. The Trinamool was a weak player there. In the Matua-dominated Nadia, North and South 24 Parganas, as well as in some other pockets along the eastern border, Mamata has already made her moves. She first divided the Matua vote by sending Mamata Thakur, a family member of the community's spiritual leader Harichand Thakur, to the Rajya Sabha on a Trinamool ticket. This was aimed at countering the BJP's Shantanu Thakur, another member of the

same family. Mamata has also tried to capitalise on the apprehensions around the SIR process - the community is uncomfortable with the exercise and fears getting uprooted after having spent generations in Bengal. Mamata has sought to assure them that she will "not allow anyone to be disenfranchised". The fear of losing "voting rights" has also added to the anxiety, which Mamata seemingly addressed when she went to the Supreme Court to "fight for the rights of the citizens". Since then, there has been no let-up in the Trinamool's messaging. The BJP, in any case, has called it Mamata's "desperation". Between 2019 and 2024, the Trinamool Congress's general secretary, Abhishek Banerjee, also worked on building a strong organisational machinery in the region. Not only did it pick Prakash Chik Barik, who hails from the tribal community in Alipurduar, as its Rajya Sabha member in 2023, but he also contested the 2024 general election from his home seat (though he lost to the BJP). The Bangabushan award conferred on February 21 upon the BJP's Rajya Sabha MP, Ananta Maharaj, alias Nagendra Roy, from Cooch Behar, should be seen in the same light. The idea was to bring the Rajbanshi language into the limelight on World Mother Language Day. All these steps have gradually improved the Trinamool's foothold in the BJP-dominated region. Whether they'll yield results is a question for the polling day.

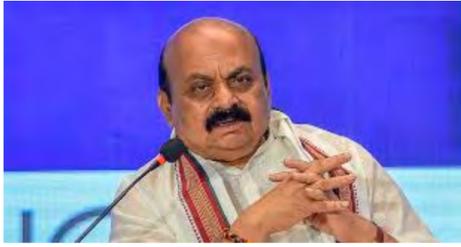
Udupi district Congress stages protest against BJP over MGNREGA

Udupi, Feb 24: The Udupi District Congress staged a protest condemning the alleged anti-people stance of the BJP-led Central Government over the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) at Udupi DC office on Tuesday, February 24. The protest, organized by the Udupi District Congress, accused the BJP-led government at the Centre of diluting and effectively withdrawing key provisions of the rural employment guarantee scheme, which was originally implemented by the Congress-led UPA government to support the livelihoods of the rural poor. Party workers and leaders began a foot march from Coin Circle in Manipal to the Deputy Commissioner's office in Udupi. During the march, protesters raised slogans against the central government. Later, a memorandum addressed to the Centre was submitted through ADC Abid Gadyal.



Addressing the gathering, KPCC Campaign Committee President Vinay Kumar Sorake alleged that the Central Government was depriving the poor of their rights by altering welfare schemes meant for their benefit. He said that a movement on the lines of the farmers' protest would be necessary to safeguard the MGNREGA scheme. District Congress president Ashok Kumar Kodavoor, former minister Jayaprakash Hegde, Coastal Development Authority president M A Gaffoor, Urban Development Authority president Dinakar Heroor, Udupi Taluk Implementation Committee president Ramesh Kanchan, party leaders Uday Kumar Shetty, Prasad Raj Kanchan, Dinesh Hegde Molahalli and working president Kishan Hegde Kolkebil and others were present on the occasion.

Basavaraj Bommai Says Damaging Nature Is Stealing from the Future



Haveri (Savanur): Former Chief Minister and MP Basavaraj Bommai stressed the need to protect nature, stating that harming it out of greed is like stealing from future generations. He said protecting the environment is essential for ensuring a healthy life for children and grandchildren. He was speaking at the 49th memorial of Sri Guru Rachoteswara Mahaswamiji at Sri Dodda Hunase Kalmatha in Savanur. Referring to a 2,000-year-old tamarind tree in the Matha premises, Bommai said its restoration after falling showed the strength and resilience of nature. Quoting the philosophy of Basavanna, he highlighted the principle of "Kayakave Kailasa" (work is worship), emphasizing honest hard work and ethical living. Bommai urged people to balance material progress with spirituality and follow the path of truth and compassion.

Beruru, The Purple Turtles & Oorjaa Announce Exclusive Warehouse Clearance Sale

Bengaluru: Design lovers and home decor enthusiasts have a reason to celebrate as Beruru, The Purple Turtles, and Oorjaa come together for a special Warehouse Clearance Sale, offering exceptional deals on premium furniture, lighting, outdoor pieces, and home accents. Taking place from 26th February to 1st March, between 10 AM and 6 PM, at their Purple Turtles New Warehouse in Whitefield, this limited-time clearance event presents a rare opportunity to shop curated, design-led collections at exclusive warehouse prices.



From sculptural outdoor furniture and planters by Beruru, to refined furniture and décor by The Purple Turtles, and statement lighting by Oorjaa, the sale will feature a wide range of pieces across categories. Shoppers can expect significant mark-downs on display pieces, end-of-line collections, and select ready stock. This is a strictly limited-period warehouse event, open only for five days, making it the perfect opportunity for homeowners, interior designers, architects and décor enthusiasts to invest in timeless pieces at exceptional value.

iQOO 15R Launched with Snapdragon 8 Gen 5, Starts at Rs. 44,999



Bengaluru: iQOO has launched its new flagship smartphone, the iQOO 15R, powered by the latest Snapdragon 8 Gen 5 processor. Designed for young professionals, the phone offers high performance for work, gaming and entertainment in a compact 6.59-inch display suitable for one-hand use. The device features a massive 7600mAh battery packed in a slim 7.90mm design. It also includes a 144Hz AMOLED display, Sony LYT-700V OIS camera, advanced cooling system, and IP68 & IP69 water and dust resistance. The phone runs on Android 16 with long-term software and security updates. The iQOO 15R is priced at Rs.44,999 for 8GB+256GB, Rs.47,999 for 12GB+256GB, and Rs.52,999 for 12GB+512GB variants. Pre-booking starts on February 24, 2026, and sales begin on March 3 via Amazon, iQOO e-store and retail outlets. Customers can avail a Rs.4,000 bank discount and free iQOO TWS 1e during pre-booking.

D. K. Shivakumar Says Mahadevappa May Have Info on CM Change

Bengaluru: Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D. K. Shivakumar on Tuesday said that Minister H. C. Mahadevappa may have raised the Dalit Chief Minister issue as he could have some information about a possible change in the CM post. Speaking to reporters, Shivakumar said he had no information about any leadership change. He added that he is scheduled to visit Delhi regarding



urban development funds and will discuss proposals for tier-2 and tier-3 cities. On ministers making statements, he said it is the Chief Minister's responsibility to control MLAs and

ministers, while he communicates party matters. He described Satish Jarkiholi as a like-minded senior leader and said they discuss party affairs regularly. Shivakumar also supported giving opportunities to new faces in the party, stating that "the party needs new blood." On vacant government jobs, he assured they would be filled soon, adding that delays were due to internal reservation issues.

S. Manohar Demands Arrest of Basanagouda Patil Yatnal Over Remarks on National Leaders

Bengaluru: MEI President and KPCC General Secretary S. Manohar has demanded the immediate arrest of expelled BJP MLA Basanagouda Patil Yatnal for his alleged derogatory remarks against Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru.



Speaking at a protest in Bengaluru, Manohar strongly condemned Yatnal's comments and accused him of disturbing

communal harmony and law and order in Karnataka. He alleged that the MLA's statements insulted national leaders and freedom fighters.

Manohar urged the state government to take strict legal action against Yatnal, including registering appropriate cases. Several Congress leaders and party workers participated in the protest and extended their support to the demand for action.

B. Y. Vijayendra Slams CM, Dy CM Over Vacant Posts, Youth Issues

Bengaluru: BJP State President and MLA B.Y. Vijayendra has alleged that the Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister are playing with the lives of the youth today.



Speaking to the media, he said that the youth have been in tears for the past two and a half years and have been staging protests and agitations. Even during the Belagavi session, when student associations protested, a lathi charge was carried out. Even then, the government did not wake up, he criticized. He also stated that the High Court had to intervene to fix an appointment for a meeting with the Chief Minister.

He criticized that Siddaramaiah and D.K. Shivakumar are busy fighting for the Chief Minister's chair. One is trying to retain the chair, while the other is trying to grab it, but neither has time to listen to the

problems of the youth. Representatives of the student association met him and informed that 2.85 lakh posts are still vacant. He alleged that the Congress government has failed to even begin the recruitment process.

Using Reservation Confusion to Delay... The Congress government in the state has not

been able to fill even a single post. The Chief Minister, Deputy Chief Minister, and cabinet members are delivering speeches across the state, but they have failed to deliver justice to the youth, he said. He accused the government of misusing the reservation issue and deliberately delaying the matter by not arguing properly in the High Court. The government lacks the willpower to fill vacant posts and secure the future of the youth, he charged. Student associations have protested in Bengaluru, Kalaburagi, and Dharwad, and are protesting again today. Meanwhile, the Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister continue to display arrogance. On one hand, there is no development; on the other, even salaries for employees are not being paid. By not initiating recruitment, they are committing injustice, he alleged.

Installation of Signboards at Designated Feeding Spots for Street Dogs – Pommala Sunil Kumar

Bengaluru: With the objective of ensuring humane management of street dogs while balancing public health and environmental cleanliness, the Animal Welfare Division of the Bengaluru North City Corporation has identified 70 specific locations as official Designated Feeding Spots for feeding street dogs within its jurisdiction. Signboards have been installed at all the identified locations, informed Bengaluru North City Corporation Commissioner Pommala Sunil Kumar. This initiative has been undertaken in accordance with the guidelines of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, and the Animal Birth Control (ABC) Rules, to create a structured and regulated sys-



tem of feeding that does not cause inconvenience to the public. The following instructions have been displayed at the designated feeding spots:

- * Food should be given only at the identified locations.
- * Feeding should not be done on main roads, near hospitals, schools, or crowded public places.
- * The person feeding is responsible for maintaining cleanliness of the area after feeding.
- * Causing harm or harassment to dogs is illegal.
- * Feeding must be done in a disciplined manner ensuring public safety. These feeding spots have been identified with the cooperation of ward-level officials, local feeders, veterinary officers, and Animal Husbandry Department staff.

For more information: Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer, Animal Husbandry Division, Byatarayanapura, Bengaluru North City Corporation. Helpline: 1533

Department of Secondary Education Orders Inquiry: Allegations of Anti-National Activities in Private School

Bengaluru: The Director of Secondary Education has ordered an inquiry into allegations of anti-national activities reportedly taking place at Samar International Islamic School in Thanisandra and has directed that a report be submitted. Based on a complaint filed by Abdul Rehman Bin Abdul Salam, a resident of HBR Layout, instructions have been issued to the Deputy Director of the School Education Department to investigate the allegations made against the school's management and submit a report.

The complainant stated that his son is studying in the 10th standard at the same school during the academic year 2025-26. He alleged that the school is functioning in violation of the law and requested a proper investigation into the irregularities and appropriate action against the management.

According to a YouTube channel report dated November 24, 2019, anti-national activities were allegedly taking place at the school. It has been alleged that during a session describing the history of the Muslim community, there were discussions and references suggesting the need to bring the nation under Muslim rule, reportedly made by members of the Jamia Mohammediya Mannur Education Society. It is further alleged that Najia Ansari, who had been serving as the head teacher at Jamia Mohammediya Mansoor School in Malegaon, Nashik district of Maharashtra, had come to Bengaluru to attend a conference at Samar International Islamic School. It was claimed that her husband, who belonged to another religion, was converted to Islam during the event. Following a complaint lodged with the Maharashtra Public Education Department regarding the incident, she was reportedly dismissed from her position.

Bilateral Cooperation Essential for Advancing Quantum Technology: Minister N.S. Boseraju

Bengaluru: Calling for stronger global collaboration in emerging technologies, Minister for Minor Irrigation, Science and Technology, N.S. Boseraju, urged BRICS nations to work together to accelerate the development and application of quantum technologies. Speaking at a high-level bilateral meeting held at Vidhana Soudha with a Brazilian delegation led by Esther Dweck, Minister of Management and Innovation in Public Services, Brazil, Boseraju proposed the idea of convening a BRICS Quantum Summit to institutionalise cooperation among member countries.



casting and flood mitigation. A BRICS Quantum Summit could serve as a strategic platform to jointly address shared developmental challenges," he said.

Highlighting Karnataka's achievements, the Minister noted that the state is home to India's first indigenously built commercial quantum computer. He outlined the government's ambitious roadmap, including the announcement of a \$100 million Quantum Innovation Fund and the

development of a dedicated Quantum City in Bengaluru.

"Our goal is to build a \$20 billion quantum economy by 2035 and generate two lakh jobs in the sector," Boseraju said, adding that quantum technologies are being explored for applications in agriculture, flood management and healthcare. Beyond quantum computing, discussions also covered Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI), Artificial Intelligence (AI), and space technologies.

The Minister highlighted the implementation of a Digital Water Stack under the Minor Irrigation Department, integrating satellite surveillance and AI to monitor water bodies, prevent encroachments, assess water quality and track groundwater levels.

The Brazilian delegation included senior technology leaders such as Rodrigo Assumpção, President of Dataprev, and representatives from the Brazilian AI Observatory.

Earlier yesterday, Minister Boseraju also held a bilateral meeting with a delegation led by Omar Alfredo Penalosa Escalera, Vice Minister for Science and Technology of Bolivia, to explore strategic cooperation in leveraging AI and quantum computing to enhance education, healthcare and overall quality of life. Senior officials, including IT/BT Secretary N. Manjula, participated in the discussions.

Belawal Foundation's One-Crore Tree Plantation Drive Receives Overwhelming Response

Bengaluru: With the support of NGOs and corporate organizations, the Belawal Foundation has undertaken an ambitious mission to plant one crore (10 million) saplings across Karnataka and India. Numerous NGOs, corporate institutions, and volunteers have joined hands in this noble initiative. The large-scale environmental conservation effort has received an encouraging response.

Addressing a press conference, Sanjay Benawal, Founder and CDO of the Belawal Foundation, along with Kalyanamma, Founder of Pragati Foundation, urged everyone to plant at least one tree. They emphasized that this initiative holds immense significance in protecting Mother Earth and the environment, ensuring a healthy life and the right to breathe clean air. According to reports, by March 2024, a total of 86,308.44 hectares of forest land in Karnataka had been encroached upon. Therefore, afforestation has become an urgent necessity



in the present time, they stated.

The Earth is now pleading for help, and trees stand as its silent guardians. Once covered in lush green forests, our planet today is suffocating due to excessive deforestation and pollution. With every tree that is cut down, we move one step closer to an insecure and lifeless future. Rising temperatures, polluted air, drying rivers, and unpredictable climate patterns are clear signs of nature's distress, they added.

Trees are not merely plants; they are life-givers.

Without trees, life on Earth is impossible. Tree plantation is no longer a choice—it is an urgent need of the hour. When we plant a tree, we plant life, nurture dreams, and shape a better future for our children. Planting a tree as a gift in the name of family members, friends, or great personalities—on occasions such as birthdays, wedding anniversaries, marriages, and other celebrations—is highly encouraged. Each sapling will be geo-tagged, and as policies evolve, carbon credits will be accumulated, they informed.

AIADMK releases a third list of poll promises

CHENNAI: AIADMK General Secretary Edappadi K Palaniswami on Tuesday unveiled the third phase of his party's election promises for the upcoming State Assembly elections, outlining a series of welfare measures aimed at providing financial relief to various sections of society.

Speaking to the media, Palaniswami stated that the new announcements were designed to ease the economic burden on families and enhance support for specific sectors. He launched a sharp attack on the incumbent DMK government led by Chief Minister MK Stalin, alleging that the past five years have witnessed a sharp rise in the cost of living. He specifically pointed to increases in property tax, house tax, and drinking water charges as key factors adding to the



financial strain on households. Detailing the third set of promises, Palaniswami assured that if the AIADMK is voted back to power, it will implement the following measures:

Relief for Families: A one-time relief assistance of Rs 10,000 will

be provided to every family to help mitigate the impact of rising prices. Support for Unemployed Youth: Graduates registered with employment exchanges will receive a monthly assistance of Rs. 2,000.

Aid for Fisherfolk: The relief

provided to fishermen during the fishing ban period will be increased from Rs.8,000 to Rs.12,000.

Enhanced Pongal Gift: An additional cash assistance of Rs. 1,000 will be given to families along with the annual Pongal gift package.

Subsidized Power for Weavers: Free electricity for handloom weavers will be increased to 450 units, and for powerloom weavers to 1,400 units.

Relief for Vendors: The party will waive cooperative loans taken by roadside vendors in urban areas.

Palaniswami reiterated that these promises would be fulfilled upon the AIADMK forming the next government. The party had previously released two rounds of assurances leading up to the polls.



Honble Minister for Social Welfare and Women Empowerment distributed prizes to children who won in the sports competitions conducted to identify and encourage the talents of children residing in Government and Government-aided voluntary care institutions at the Nehru Stadium, Periamedu, Chennai...

Never committed any mistakes, OPS says ready to quit politics if proved, rules out forming new party

Chennai, Feb 24 (GNS) Having been isolated by the AIADMK and the NDA from which he had walked out seven months back after being allegedly slighted by the BJP, expelled AIADMK leader O Panneerselvam on Tuesday categorically said that he would not float a new political party as has been speculated widely. Asserting that he had not committed any mistakes and had served the AIADMK for more than four decades, patiently enduring all the insults heaped on him, Mr Panneerselvam said he was ready to quit politics if his mistakes were proved.

Stating that the matter pertaining to the leadership row and he using the AIADMK's name and symbol was pending before the court, he disagreed with AIADMK General Secretary Edappadi K Palaniswami's remarks that he (OPS) should not use the party flag, the party symbol and wear the party dhoti, pointed out that he was currently a MLA and had been CM three times, served as Deputy CM and had also headed the AIADMK party as its Coordinator (during the dual leadership time headed by him and OPS).

Reiterating that he was not committed any mistakes, he said if it was proved, he was ready to quit politics.

With the Assembly elections approaching in a few weeks time, OPS was yet to decide on its future course, though

rumours were rife that he could ally with the ruling DMK for the polls. This had gained traction after he twice met Tamil Nadu Chief Minister and DMK President M K Stalin at his chamber at the State Secretariat on the last day of the final sitting of the 16th Legislative Assembly on February 20.

Ahead of the final day of the last sitting of the 16th Assembly and with the polls a few weeks away, Mr Panneerselvam, who was ousted from the AIADMK and his repeated attempts to get re-elected going in vain, accompanied by his son and former MP Ravindranath, met Stalin and was closetted with him for some time. Again, after the House was adjourned sine die after replies by the Finance Minister and the Agriculture Minister to the debate on the General and Agricultural budgets and after Mr Stalin delivered an emotional farewell address, dwelling on the achievements of his government, OPS and his son again met Mr Stalin for the second time after calling on Speaker M Appavu. With none to support him, OPS was virtually isolated from the Tamil Nadu political scene after some of his supporting MLAs, including senior AIADMK leaders and former Ministers, who had thrown their weight behind him after he was expelled from the party, deserted him and had joined either the ruling DMK or the AIADMK.

Stalin launches 90 houses for inmates of Sri Lankan Rehabilitation camp in Kaniyakumari dist, promises permanent citizenship

Chennai, Feb 24 (GNS) Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin on Tuesday inaugurated 90 houses for the inmates of the Sri Lankan Rehabilitation camp at Perumalpuram in Kaniyakumari district and also vowed to continue his fight to secure permanent citizenship for them.

Speaking after launching the new constructed houses at the Rehabilitation camp, the Chief Minister said his government has been providing permanent houses for the Sri Lankan Tamil brethrens.

He said he would also fight to secure permanent citizenship for the refugees, who were living in Indian soil for a long time and exuded confidence of the Indian government accepting the genuine demand and soon according the same.

"Till then we will continue to raise



our voice in support of our Sri Lankan Tamil brethrens", he added.

Mr Stalin said apart from houses for Sri Lankan Tamil refugees living in Rehabilitation camps in Tamil Nadu, his government has provided educational assistance to the tune of Rs 11.07 crore for 5,771 students in the last three years to enable them to pursue their higher education.

ISRO opens up opportunities for students, space enthusiasts to register for 4th START event Mar 11-Apr 2

Chennai, Feb 24 (GNS) The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) today said it has opened up opportunity for students from Indian academic institutes as well as space enthusiasts to register for the fourth edition of Space science and Technology AwaRecess Training (START) 2026 programme to be held in online mode during 11th March to 2nd April 2026 with the theme 'Observation from Space'.

The programme would be inaugurated by ISRO Chairman and Secretary, Department of Space Dr V Narayanan on March 11 at 1500 hrs, ISRO said in an update on Tuesday.

START would be offering lectures by pan-India experts in the domain of space science and technology and the deliberations comprise introductory level lectures on various aspects of space science and technology, tailored for post-graduate and preferably the final year under graduate students of physical sciences and technology. Registration for student participants from nodal centres and for individuals with minimum age of 20 years is open till 28th February 2026.

Is it OK to eat mango if you're at risk for diabetes? Experts weigh in



In a recent study, mangoes more effectively improved pre-diabetes risk factors in a new study than low-sugar granola bars. The key to mangoes' better results likely lies in their being a whole food with natural fiber, vitamins, and nutrients.

However, experts agree that the best way to avoid type 2 diabetes is to eat a balanced, healthy diet and be physically active, rather than to depend on a single 'superfood' to prevent the condition. A new study suggests that at least one high-sugar tropical fruit, mangoes, may be more likely to help prevent type 2 diabetes than a low-sugar snack. The authors of the study, which appears in the journal *Food*, suggest that the correlation between a preference for mango and a lower risk of diabetes may have to do with mangoes being more than simply a sweet treat, since they are a natural whole food that contains fiber, vitamins, and nutrients. Low-sugar snacks designed to be convenient and tasty, however, may not be as nutritionally rich, may contain additives, and may thus be less likely to be healthy.

For the study, funded by the National Mango Board, 70 dozen participants age 50 to 70 years in age were divided into two groups. None had received

a diabetes diagnosis at baseline. The study was conducted at Florida State University.

Mango vs low-sugar granola bar: Which is healthier?

Individuals in one group received a fresh mango each day containing 32 grams (g) of sugar, while members of the other group were instead provided with a calorically similar low-sugar granola bar containing 11 g of sugar.

During the 24-week trial, researchers tracked participants' blood glucose (sugar) levels, insulin sensitivity, and measured changes in body fat. Higher blood glucose, reduced insulin sensitivity, and increases in body fat are risk factors for type 2 diabetes.

Twenty-three participants completed the study. The authors found improved blood glucose control, enhanced insulin sensitivity, and reduced body fat for the 11 members of the mango group. As a result, the study reports a reduced risk for developing type 2 diabetes, based primarily on improvements in blood glucose levels.

Its authors note that this focus is a limitation of the study. It is also the case, the authors say, that the limited racial and ethnic diversity of the participant sample may

reduce their findings' generalizability. In addition, dietary adherence throughout the trial was self-reported, which is not always reliable.

Whole fruits always better than manufactured sweets

"This study is an interesting contrast on [the] potential effects of natural sugars such as found in fruits, versus sugars from granola bars (in this case) that may be an added sugar, versus [sugars] naturally found in the environment," Jason Ng, MD, told *Medical News Today*.

Ng teaches endocrinology and metabolism in the Department of Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh, and was not involved in the study.

While it may seem surprising that a food with as much sugar in it as a mango could still be a healthy choice when one is trying to avoid type 2 diabetes, the idea makes sense to Ng and to ebem Ünlüer, MSc, genetic engineer and Chief Longevity Officer at the London Regenerative Institute in the United Kingdom, also not involved in the study.

Asked if tropical fruits really make sense as a dietary choice in this context, Ünlüer replied "broadly, yes." "Whole fruits — including mango.

What to eat and drink before and after a flu shot: Expert Q&A

All international and national health organizations, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Trusted Source, agree that it is important to get vaccinated against the flu on a yearly basis, typically in the autumn and winter season, to prevent not just getting ill due to infection with the influenza virus, but also potential serious complications that may arise from getting the flu. Flu shots are both safe and effective, but some people may still worry about potential side effects. The most common side effects are mild and do not last very long, and they can include low grade fever, headache, muscle aches, and nausea. These side effects are expected, and they are often a sign that the vaccine is working — it is teaching the body's immune system to fight the influenza virus, which can result in these mild and temporary inflammatory responses.

Other people might worry about feeling faint during vaccination — this can be due to anxiety around needles or about vaccines. So what can you do to prevent or mitigate these reactions during and after a flu shot? What you eat and drink before getting the vaccine could help your body go through this experience more smoothly. To get some expert tips on how to keep your flu shot experiences positive with the help of healthy dietary choices, *Medical News Today* spoke to Michelle Routhenstein, MS, RD, CDCES, CDN, a preventive cardiologist dietitian at EntirelyNourished, and to Elena Rolt, MSc, DipION, IFMCP, rCNHC, nutritional therapist at Health.Miro, and ebem Ünlüer, MSc, genetic engineer and Chief Longevity Officer at the London Regenerative Institute in the United Kingdom.

For those worried about becoming dizzy and feeling faint during or immediately after a flu shot, Routhenstein recommended hydrating well and eating light, whole foods.



"To help prevent dizziness or lightheadedness, stay well-hydrated and eat a light, balanced snack before a flu shot," she advised. "As a genetic engineer, I often look at how nutrition can support our immune system at a cellular level, particularly around vaccination. While food and drink cannot change the efficacy of the flu jab itself, certain choices may help the body respond more smoothly and ease common side effects," Ünlüer clarified.

She also emphasized the importance of stabilizing blood sugar levels before getting vaccinated, "particularly for those who may feel lightheaded or anxious about needles." Like Routhenstein, Ünlüer recommended a protein- and complex carb-rich snack pre-flu jab, suggesting yogurt with oats or wholegrain toast. She also cautioned that "even mild dehydration can increase feelings of dizziness," recommending drinking "water or an electrolyte-rich drink [as] a simple preventive measure."

What should you eat after a flu shot, and why?

Rolt told us that when it comes to

what to eat and drink after a flu shot, it is important to have a balanced meal filled with an array of nutrients. "After receiving a flu vaccine, the immune system initiates an inflammatory response to process the vaccine antigens, followed by the formation of antibodies by B cells to provide protection against the virus," she explained.

"This process involves oxidative stress and inflammation as part of immune activation and memory cell development, which are essential for effective immunity but can also temporarily challenge the body's balance," the nutritional therapist detailed. "A balanced meal that would include all of these nutrients would be a chicken broth rich in easily digestible protein, garlic, onions, carrots, bok choy or broccoli, or any other leafy greens, and mushrooms (a great source of beta-glucans), paired with berry-based drinks like cranberry or sea buckthorn tea with manuka honey, providing vitamin C and polyphenols to modulate inflammation and oxidative stress," Rolt suggested.

According to Rolt, "this combination helps support the immune system's recovery, reduces potential side effects and optimises the body's response to the flu shot."

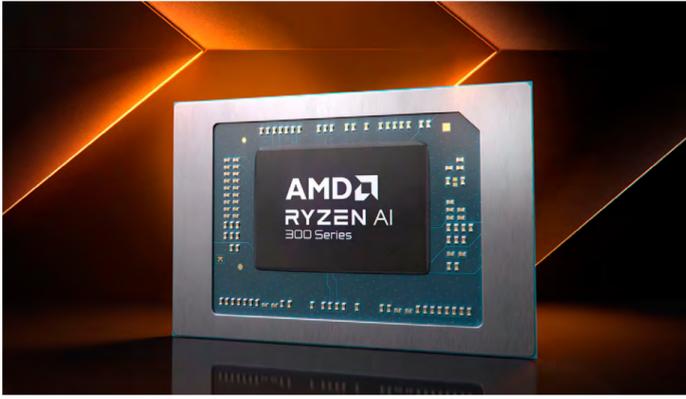
In addition, Ünlüer also recommended "turmeric and oily fish high in omega-3," which help moderate inflammation without blunting the immune system's adaptive response. "A diet with sufficient protein, such as lean meats, legumes, or tofu, also provides the amino acids necessary for antibody production," she added. Furthermore, while hydration is crucial before getting vaccinated, it is equally important after vaccination. "Staying hydrated is another important consideration as optimal blood circulation, as it helps the efficient delivery of nutrients and immune cells required for an effective vaccine response," Rolt explained.

"Hydration may also reduce the severity of side effects such as headache, fatigue, and muscle soreness, while helping the body to regulate temperature," she added. "Water, herbal teas, or broths can assist the body in regulating temperature and managing mild post-vaccine symptoms," said Ünlüer. Is there a diet you should maintain throughout the flu season?

Routhenstein also emphasized the importance of maintaining a healthy diet and favoring whole, nutrient-rich foods throughout the flu season. "While the flu vaccine can help reduce the likelihood or severity of illness, it is not guaranteed to prevent infection, so maintaining a nutrient-dense, anti-inflammatory diet during flu season remains important," she pointed out.

"Foods rich in polyphenols, zinc, selenium, and vitamins A, C, and E support antibody production, immune cell function, and overall immune resilience," the dietitian advised. Complementing preventive strategies like vaccination with healthy dietary choices is key to minimizing the risk of viral infection and supporting the body's immune system should one get the flu. Blackouts, ringing in the ears, fainting, dizziness, hyperventilation, and nausea can be scary events, particularly if they occur after a vaccine. They may lead a person to worry that they are due to an allergic reaction or a side effect of the vaccine.

FACEBOOK OWNER META TO BUY AI CHIPS IN DEAL WORTH UP TO USD 100 BILLION



New York: Facebook owner Meta Platforms will buy artificial intelligence (AI) chips from Advanced Micro Devices (AMD) in a deal that will also give it the opportunity to buy up to a 10 per cent stake of the chip company. Meta will buy AMD's latest chips, the MI450, to help power data centres. The 6-gigawatt agreement will see shipments supporting the first gigawatt deployment set to start during the second half of this year. The agreement could potentially be worth more than USD 100 billion. Shares of AMD jumped more than 9 per cent before the market opened on Tuesday, February 24. The companies said that AMD issued Meta a

performance-based warrant for up to 160 million shares of its common stock at USD 0.01 a piece, structured to vest as long as certain milestones are achieved. The first tranche vests with the initial 1-gigawatt of shipments, with additional tranches vesting as Meta's purchases scale to 6 gigawatts. News of the AMD deal comes just days after Meta announced a long-term partnership where it will use millions of chips and other equipment from Nvidia for its artificial-intelligence data centres. AMD is looking to keep pace with Nvidia in the AI craze that's widely viewed as the biggest tectonic shift in technology since Apple co-founder Steve Jobs unveiled

the first iPhone. NVIDIA carved out an early lead in tailoring its chipsets, known as graphics processing units, or GPUs, from use in powering video games to helping to train powerful AI systems, like the technology behind ChatGPT and image generators. Demand skyrocketed as more people began using AI chatbots. Tech companies scrambled for more chips to build and run them. While the appetite for AI chips is still large, there are some concerns about how much companies like Meta are spending on AI and whether they can make back their huge investments through higher profits and productivity in the future.

Telangana Ease of Doing Business 2.0 soon: Industries Minister Sridhar Babu



Hyderabad: Telangana will soon roll out the Ease of Doing Business 2.0 as part of its strategy to position the state as a preferred global investment destination, said IT and Industries Minister D Sridhar Babu on Tuesday, February 24. He added that the state aims to grow to 1 trillion dollars by 2034 and 3 trillion dollars by 2047. Addressing the Growth X 2026 conference organised by the Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FTCCI), Babu said the proposed policy will be developed through stakeholder consultations with an aim to accelerate industrial growth, strengthen investor confidence and provide

greater assurance to investors. Sridhar Babu also said that growth must be planned and not accidental, and that the Congress government in the state has prepared its "Telangana Vision 2047" to guide a long-term economic expansion. "To achieve these goals and ensure balanced regional development, the government has adopted a three-pronged strategy - "CURE, PURE and RARE." He stated that the government's agenda is to bring every region - from urban centres to rural areas - onto the growth path," he stated. The Industries Minister also said that technologies like artificial intelligence (AI) are reshaping work culture and business models, and that the future will depend on strong ecosystems rather than individual companies. Moreover, he clarified that the Telangana government seeks to function not merely as a regulatory authority granting approvals but as a collaborative partner working alongside industry. The minister further said that technologies like artificial are reshaping work culture and business models

MARKETS SLUMP NEARLY 1 PC; TRUMP TARIFF WORRIES HIT INVESTOR SENTIMENT



Mumbai: Equity benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty slumped nearly 1 per cent in early trade on Tuesday, February 24, dragged down by a sharp selloff in IT stocks amid rising fears of AI-led disruption. Besides, rising crude oil prices and renewed concerns over global trade after US President Donald Trump's latest tariff remarks also weighed on investors' sentiment, traders said. The 30-share BSE Sensex tanked 833.13 points, or 0.97 per cent, to 82,481.53 in early deals. The 50-share NSE Nifty declined 230.15 points, or 0.89 per cent to 25,482.85. Eternal dropped the most from the Sensex pack, declining 3.82 per cent, followed by HCL

Technologies, Infosys, Tech Mahindra, Tata Consultancy Services, Bharti Airtel, Bajaj Finance, Bharat Electronics Ltd, Trent, Adani Ports, ITC, and Titan. On the other hand, State Bank of India, Axis Bank, PowerGrid, Asian Paints, Kotak Mahindra Bank, and Tata Steel were among the gainers. "The trend of weakness in tech stocks stemming from the potential AI impact continues. The weakness in the ADRs of Indian IT companies indicates that this segment will continue to remain under pressure," V K Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Investments Ltd, said. He further stated that US President Donald Trump's

State of the Union address later in the day and the message that he would convey will be keenly watched by markets globally. "The EU freezing the deal with US in the light of the tariff changes following the Supreme Court verdict and Trump's warnings to countries backing away from deals indicate that the tariff drama has more in store for economies and markets. We will have to wait and watch how this drama plays out," Vijayakumar said. In Asian markets, South Korea's Kospi, Shanghai's SSE Composite Index and Japan's Nikkei 225 benchmark were trading higher, while Hong Kong's Hang Seng quoting in the red.

AIRLINE LOSSES TO NARROW TO RS 12,000 CRORE NEXT FISCAL: ICRA

Mumbai: Indian airlines are expected to reduce losses to an estimated Rs 11,000-12,000 crore next fiscal from a projected Rs 17,000-18,000 crore this financial year, ratings agency ICRA said on Tuesday, February 24, even as it maintained a "stable outlook" for the domestic aviation industry. ICRA also estimates the domestic air passenger traffic to grow by 6-8 per cent and touch 175-179 million passengers in FY2026-27. ICRA, in December 2025, had revised its domestic air passenger growth estimates to 0-3 per cent for the current financial year from 4-6 per cent envisaged earlier. The international air passenger traffic growth for Indian carriers is expected to remain relatively stronger, aided by low base effect, expanding e-visa/visa-on-arrival coverage, and the Central Government's focus on developing theme-based and iconic tourist destinations, the ratings agency said. ICRA said the international air passenger traffic is seen growing at 7-9 per cent for this financial year and 8-10 per cent next year, and



added that the current fiscal year has seen a period of modest domestic air passenger traffic growth due to cross-border escalations, weather-related disruptions, travel hesitancy following the June 2025 aircraft accident, the impact on business travel owing to the headwinds stemming from elevated US tariffs and operational disruptions at IndiGo in December 2025. ICRA has maintained a "stable outlook" for the Indian aviation industry, supported by expectations of modest growth in domestic air passenger traffic and a gradually improving operating environment, despite near-term challenges, said Kinjal Shah,

senior vice president at ICRA. "The Indian aviation industry is expected to report a net loss of Rs 170-180 billion (17000-18000-crore) in 2025-26, significantly higher than the estimated net loss of around Rs 55 billion (5,500 crore) in 2024-25. However, the same is likely to reduce to Rs 110-120 billion (11,000-12,000 crores) in 2026-27, led by growth in domestic air passenger traffic and expected normalisation of operations post disruptions seen in 2025-26 that had resulted in flight cancellations and passenger refunds," she said. The industry's debt metric, which weakened in 2025-26 with an estimated interest cover of 0.7-0.9 times from 1.8 times in 2024-25, is

also expected to improve to 1.3-1.5 times in 2026-27, despite increasing debt linked with new aircraft deliveries, according to Shah. The yields of the industry have declined in the April-December period of 2025-26 on a YoY basis due to a series of external events like cross-border escalations, airplane crash and operational disruptions at IndiGo in the first week of December 2025, ICRA said. Despite these challenges, the drop in yields was not as steep as the reduction in fuel cost per Available Seat Kilometre (CASK), as airlines strive to sustain the yield levels amid rising cost pressure from currency fluctuations and operational expenses related to flight cancellations and delays, it said. ICRA expects the yields to improve in the near term as temporary disruptions ease. Nonetheless, the movement in prices of ATF and the USD-INR rate will remain key monitorable. According to the ratings agency, the industry saw around 4 per cent capacity addition in CY2025, and the total number of aircraft stood at 865 as of December 31, 2025.

Trump's new tariff comes into effect at lower than expected rate

US President Donald Trump's new global tariffs have come into effect at 10% despite a pledge to introduce them at a higher rate. After the Supreme Court blocked many of his sweeping import taxes on Friday, the president said he would introduce a 10% global rate. He then said on Saturday that the rate would be 15%. However, according to official documents, the tariffs have been set at the lower rate from Tuesday with no directive to increase the rate issued. The BBC has contacted the White House for comment. The White House is working to update the rate to 15% to reflect Trump's announcement, a White House official told Reuters, without saying when the change might come into force. "I think it simply adds to the chaos and mess," said Carsten Brzeski, an analyst with investment bank ING, referring to the fast-changing tariffs and their effects on businesses. "In terms of uncertainty we're back to where we were last year," he told the BBC's Today programme, adding there was now a higher risk



that the US's trading partners would retaliate. "The risk of a real fully-fledged tariff war - trade war - escalation is clearly higher than last year," he said. An executive order signed by Trump on Friday said the temporary 10% import duty was intended to "address fundamental international payments problems and continue the Administration's work to rebalance our trade relationships to benefit American workers, farmers, and manufacturers". The administration is applying the levy under Section 122 of the 1974 Trade Act, which allows the president to impose the charge for 150 days without congressional approval. The president has

argued that tariffs are necessary to reduce America's trade deficit - the amount by which imports exceed exports. But the deficit reached a fresh high last year, widening by 2.1% compared to 2024 and hitting roughly \$1.2 trillion (£890bn). The US has already collected at least \$130bn in tariffs using the 1977 International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA), according to the most recent official data. On Friday, the Supreme Court said the president had overstepped his authority by introducing sweeping tariffs using IEEPA last year, a decision that raised the possibility that businesses could get billions of dollars

in tariff refunds, Global transportation and postal company FedEx filed a lawsuit on Monday for a "full refund" on the import taxes it has paid under the IEEPA. Meanwhile, campaign group We Pay The Tariffs has said it represents over 900 US "demanding full, fast, and automatic refunds of unlawful IEEPA tariffs" in an open letter to the government. However, experts have raised doubts about the likelihood of the US handing money back, with Trump saying on Friday the issue would be fought in the courts "for the next five years". Supreme Court justice Brett Kavanaugh said in the ruling the refund process was likely to be a "mess". Trump has been highly critical of the Supreme Court's decision, calling it "ridiculous, poorly written, and extraordinarily anti-American". "Good news, but will it stay that way? Fraser Smeaton, chief executive of fancy dress firm Morph Costumes, is a UK-based business that makes costumes in China and exports them to the US.

Chocolate kept in anti-theft boxes as shops warn it's being stolen to order

Chocolate bars are being locked in plastic boxes in some UK shops as retailers and police forces warn thieves are stealing them to order. Sainsbury's said it had begun using "boxes on products which are regularly targeted", with £2.60 bars of Cadbury Dairy Milk locked up in one London branch. Chocolate was more recently being "sold on by criminals and is now being targeted more frequently by prolific offenders," according to the Association of Convenience Stores (ACS). Some individual police forces told us they had seen a specific trend of chocolate being targeted. The National Police Chiefs' Council said it was working to tackle this type of crime. In recent months some police forces have posted videos of chocolate being stolen to highlight the issue. West Midlands Police shared CCTV footage of a man grabbing trays of chocolate from a shop in Stourbridge, while



Wiltshire Police shared a video of a man dragging a whole shelving stand of chocolate out of a shop door. And earlier last year a man was arrested by Cambridgeshire Police with a coat full of Cadbury's Creme eggs. Cambridgeshire Police told the BBC: "Chocolate is one of a number of high-value items thieves often target, along with products such as alcohol, meat and coffee. "Retail theft has a real and lasting impact - not just on businesses, but on the staff who have to deal with related abuse and intimidation."

Meanwhile, the British Retail Consortium's annual crime report found there were 5.5 million detected incidents of shop theft last year, and 1,600 daily incidents of violence and abuse against retail workers. Although this was down by a fifth on the previous year, it was still the second highest on record. "Swiping the whole shelf" Supermarkets have also been stepping up security on chocolate bars, with Tesco and Co-Op as well as Sainsbury's using the transparent boxes which customers have to ask staff to open.

Harpic launches New Harpic Bathroom Ultra Cleaner, its Biggest Innovation in bathroom cleaning in a Decade Welcomes Rohit Shetty as Brand Ambassador

24 February 2026: Harpic, India's No. 1 toilet and bathroom cleaner and a pioneer in home hygiene solutions trusted by over 100 million households*, announced the launch of its most advanced bathroom cleaning innovation yet - New Harpic Bathroom Ultra Cleaner. Marking Harpic's biggest innovation in the bathroom cleaning category in over a decade, the product is designed to remove the toughest and most prevalent bathroom stains to deliver an Ultra Clean bathroom. Bollywood Film-maker Rohit Shetty joins as brand ambassador, reinforcing the product's promise of powerful and confident stain removal. Indian households across urban regions struggle with persistent yellow stains, limescale buildup and tough stains like rust. Over time, consumers increasingly believe that these stains are impossible to remove and with no trusted solution that can truly tackle them, many rely on generic solutions such as detergents, bleach and phenyl. These products, however, are often ineffective against hard water stains and can be abrasive on surfaces, leaving bathrooms looking



dull. Addressing this long-standing consumer need for a trusted, versatile and effective cleaning solution, New Harpic Bathroom Ultra Cleaner has been purpose-built for Indian bathrooms. As India's toughest stain removal specialist, it removes everyday stains like yellow hard water marks and limescale, as well as tough stains such as rust, delivering a visibly Ultra Clean and shiny bathroom. Living up to its promise, "New Harpic Bathroom Ultra Cleaner - Kaisa bhi ho daag, poora bathroom ULTRA saaf," the launch campaign reinforces

Harpic's leadership in the bathroom cleaner category by offering consumers a powerful solution. Speaking about his association with the brand, Rohit Shetty said, "I know what's it like when people associate you with a certain style, it means they trust you to deliver every single time. And that trust pushes you to do more, do better and to raise the bar. Whether it's comedy, action or in the case of Harpic, solid safaai. Harpic has been a trusted name in hygiene for years, even being synonymous with bathroom hygiene. With New Harpic

Bathroom Ultra Cleaner, the brand is taking bathroom cleaning to the next level. I am glad to be associated with a product that is tough, dependable and designed for real Indian homes." Commenting on the launch, Gautam Rishi, Marketing Director, Hygiene, Reckitt - South Asia, said, "Harpic Bathroom Ultra Cleaner is a strong new innovation engineered to tackle India's toughest hard-water stains, where most generic cleaners fall short. This launch strengthens Harpic's stain-removal leadership and raises the bar for bathroom hygiene. With Rohit Shetty onboard, we're delivering a tougher, high-performance solution designed for Indian homes." Anupama Ramaswamy, MD and Chief Creative Officer, Havas Creative India said, "Harpic has a new hero in its universe - Harpic Bathroom Ultra Cleaner. It's tough and effective. And that is why it needed a launch that is unmissable and larger-than-life just like Rohit Shetty, who is the face of the brand. Team Havas Creative India has created yet another power-packed campaign that hits the screens very soon."

More than 5,000 flights cancelled as US east coast digs out of record snow



A major storm hit the US east coast on Monday, bringing record-breaking snow that caused disruptions for millions and thousands of flight cancellations. Parts of Rhode Island and Massachusetts have seen nearly 37in (94cm) of snowfall, with more than 19in in New York City's Central Park, the National Weather Service (NWS) said. Weather warnings stretched from North Carolina to northern Maine, with some in place further north in parts of eastern Canada. More than 600,000 properties on the US east coast endured power outages, while the Boston Globe - a major US newspaper - said it will not go to print for the first time in its 153-year history due to the storm. Travel across the region has been severely limited, with some states and cities implementing travel bans during the worst period of the storm. The so-called "nor'easter" has now moved away from the US and across coastal parts of

eastern Canada - though strong winds are expected to persist, according to the NWS. Snow accumulations were anticipated to reach 1-2ft (30-61cm) near the north-east coastline, meanwhile. Rhode Island, the smallest US state, appeared to have received the most snow during the storm. In fact, it has become the worst snowstorm to ever hit the state, according to local media. Providence, the state

capital, received 36in (91cm) of snow, dwarfing the existing record for the single greatest snowstorm: 28.6in (72.6cm) set in February 1978. "It completely smashed it," Candice Hrencecin, an NWS meteorologist in Boston, told the New York Times. "We were just as shocked as everyone else." A ban on non-essential travel was implemented in Rhode Island and also in neighbouring Connecticut.

Later in the day, Massachusetts Governor Maura Healey also imposed a travel ban. "White-out conditions are making travel extremely dangerous," she said in an online post. "If you get stuck, help will have a hard time reaching you... I strongly urge everyone to stay off the roads no matter where you live." A white-out is when snow significantly reduces visibility. Boston res-

ident and avid walker Bradley Jay said the storm had made him feel like a "prisoner". "I won't be able to really walk around town for another ten days. So I'm stuck inside," he told news agency Reuters. In Massachusetts, nearly 300,000 were without power, according to monitor PowerOutage, including 85% of customers in Barnstable County, which includes all of Cape Cod.

The Boston Globe, based in the state's capital, said that despite overcoming "the elements, technical snafus and a global pandemic", Monday's blizzard had made it "impossible" to print and deliver a paper for Tuesday morning. More than 2ft of snow had prevented its printing staff from getting to its printing press, the paper said. Subscribers will receive both Tuesday and Wednesday's edition on Wednesday. In New York City, a travel ban brought the city of more than eight million people to a near

standstill before it was lifted at noon local time (17:00 GMT). All roads, highways and bridges were closed. The city's police department is also investigating footage showing officers being pelted with snowballs in Washington Square Park. "I want to be very clear: the behaviour depicted is disgraceful, and it is criminal," NYPD Commissioner Jessica Tisch wrote on social media. Sandra Wu, a resident of Long Island, where up to 18in (46cm) of snow fell on Monday, said her family could not open the front door because of how much had accumulated. "My husband went out early through the garage to start digging us out, but it was pointless," she told Reuters, adding that she had never seen a storm this bad. In Connecticut and New Jersey, there were concerns that falling trees and branches could lead to dangerous road conditions and more power outages.

Guthrie suspect believed to have visited home before she went missing



The suspect in the disappearance of Nancy Guthrie appears to have been at her front door prior to the night she went missing, a law enforcement source has told the BBC's US partner CBS News. The 84-year-old mother of NBC News anchor Savannah Guthrie was reported missing on 1 February, having disappeared from her home in Tucson, Arizona, the night before. Police believe she was abducted. The FBI previously released doorbell camera footage showing a masked person carrying a backpack, who it said was investigators' prime suspect. The source told CBS that the same man

was on her doorstep on another occasion. However, local police have not confirmed that the appearances were on different days. The broadcaster carried images, credited to the FBI, that appear to show a masked man, this time without a backpack, which were captured by Guthrie's Nest doorbell camera sometime prior to the date of the suspected abduction. It is unclear when exactly the images were taken. The story was first reported by ABC News. Arizona's Pima County Sheriff's Department said in a statement on X: "There is no date or timestamp associated with these images."

Celebrity doctor Peter Attia steps down from CBS over Epstein links



Celebrity doctor Peter Attia has stepped down from his role as a CBS News contributor after exchanges with Jeffrey Epstein were among documents published by the US Department of Justice. Attia appears to have exchanged a number of emails with the convicted sex offender, including a crass comment about women's bodies. Attia's spokesman said in a statement his role at CBS News "was newly established and had not yet meaningfully begun" and he would be step back to avoid becoming "a distraction from the important work being done at CBS". The anti-ageing influencer has repeatedly apologised for the messages but stressed he had no involvement in Epstein's criminality. Appearing in the files does not imply any wrongdoing. Attia was among 19 contributors appointed by new CBS News editor-in-chief Bari Weiss in January, following the network's takeover by Paramount. But Attia's appearance in the Epstein files has been met with anger by some of his fans. The author wrote that he went into Epstein "withdrawing when I don't see

him" and told the disgraced financier directly in one exchange that he missed him. In one email in 2016, Attia also joked with Epstein about the female anatomy and acts of sex. Epstein was convicted of soliciting a minor in 2008 as part of a plea deal after the parents of a 14-year-old girl told police that he had molested their daughter. He died in custody in 2019 while awaiting trial on charges including sex trafficking. Days after the documents were published, Attia shared a 1,000-word note on social media in which he rejected being "involved in any criminal activity" and stressed that he was "never on his [Epstein's] plane, never on his island, and never present at any sex parties". "My interactions with Epstein had nothing to do with his sexual abuse or exploitation of anyone." The health influencer said he visited Epstein at the late financier's New York City home on "seven or eight" occasions between 2014 and 2019, during which he never witnessed illegal activity or saw Epstein accompanied by anyone who appeared to be underage.

GHANA DROPS COUP LEADER'S NAME FROM MAIN AIRPORT ON PUTSCH ANNIVERSARY



Ghana's government has removed the name of a coup leader, who helped overthrow founding father Kwame Nkrumah exactly 60 years ago, from the country's main airport. Kotoka International Airport will now be known as Accra International Airport, its original name. But the move has not been without controversy. Emmanuel Kwasi Kotoka was among a group of officers who deposed

Nkrumah in 1966. He himself was killed at the airport the following year during a failed counter-coup attempt. The military government then renamed it in 1969 in his honour, portraying him as a "liberator" from what they saw as Nkrumah's authoritarian rule. But some argued his name contradicts Ghana's democratic values. The transport ministry said the government "considered it appropriate" to restore the earlier name. Critics of the move, including Kotoka's family, said it erased his legacy and service. Transport Minister Joseph Bukari Nikpe has been quoted in local media as saying that the change was aimed at projecting a neutral national image and reflecting the name of the capital city, Accra.

French minister moves to block US envoy Kushner from government access



The French foreign ministry says US envoy Charles Kushner should be blocked from access to the government after he failed to explain comments about an alleged "rise" in violence in France. Kushner, father of Donald Trump's son-in-law Jared Kushner, had been summoned to meet French Foreign Minister Jean-Noel Barrot on Monday evening, but did not attend. Instead, he said he had a prior engagement and sent a deputy from the US embassy. This prompted an angry response from the ministry, which accused Kushner of an "apparent failure to grasp the basic requirements of the ambassadorial mission" and said Barrot had requested Kushner "no longer be

allowed direct access" to government ministers. The diplomatic row began when the US embassy in France posted comments on social media about the murder of far-right nationalist Quentin Deranque. The post warned that "violent left-wing extremism is on the rise" in France. Deranque, a 23-year-old maths student, died in hos-

pital on 14 February - two days after being beaten by a gang of masked young men in Lyon, in an attack which ministers from France's centre-right government blamed on "far-left" militants. But the US embassy's comments appear to have angered the French government. "We reject any use of this tragedy, which has plunged a French family

into mourning, for political ends," Barrot said over the weekend. "We have no lessons to learn, particularly on the issue of violence, from the international reactionary movement." BBC News has approached the US embassy in France for comment. Six men suspected of being involved in the fatal assault have been charged over Deranque's death, while a parliamentary assistant for a deputy from the radical left France Unbowed (LFI) party has also been charged with complicity. LFI leader Jean-Luc Mélenchon, who is a likely contender in next year's presidential election, has said his party had "nothing to do with this story" and condemned "all forms of violence".

ROBERT CARRADINE, LIZZIE MCGUIRE AND REVENGE OF THE NERDS STAR, DIES AGED 71



Robert Carradine, the US actor best known for roles in *Revenge of the Nerds* and *Lizzie McGuire*, has died aged 71. In a statement, his family said the actor took his own life after living with bipolar disorder for nearly two decades. The Carradine family said they wanted to announce his cause of death to raise awareness of "the stigma that attaches to mental illness". "We want people to know it, and there is no shame in it," his brother Keith told Deadline. Lizzie McGuire star Hilary Duff led the tributes to her former on-screen father, writing on Instagram: "This one hurts. It's really hard to face this reality about an old friend."

Born on 24 March 1954, Carradine was the youngest son of John Carradine and a brother of actors David and Keith Carradine. Encouraged by his brother David, Robert Carradine auditioned for 1972's *The Cowboys*, a John Wayne film that became his first screen

role. He went on to appear in and Martin Scorsese's 1973 film *Mean Streets*, Oscar-winning *Coming Home* (1978), alongside Jane Fonda, *The Long Riders* (1980), with Mark Hamill, *The Big Red One* (1980) and Quentin Tarantino's *Django Unchained* in 2012. But he

was best known for playing the head nerd, Lewis Skolnick, in *Revenge of the Nerds* - which became one of the most popular film franchises of the 1980s, and the father of Lizzie McGuire in the noughties Disney Channel series. Paying tribute, Lizzie McGuire star Duff said: "There was so much warmth in the McGuire family and I always felt so cared for by my on-screen parents. 'I'll be forever grateful for that. I'm deeply sad to learn Bobby was suffering. My heart aches for him, his family, and everyone who loved him." In a statement, Carradine's family announced his death "with profound sadness."

Probe under way after illness kills 72 tigers in Thai tourist park



Authorities in Chiang Mai, a city in northern Thailand, are investigating the deaths of dozens of tigers at a popular tourist attraction. Seventy-two tigers died in the span of less than two weeks this month, across two facilities of Tiger Kingdom Chiang Mai, a park where visitors can touch and interact with the big cats. The local livestock department said samples from the tigers showed canine distemper virus - though authorities have not confirmed how the outbreak happened. Officials told a news conference on Tuesday the virus was no longer spreading and no more tigers were dying. No humans had been infected, they added. The remains of the tigers have all been buried and a recommendation was made for the gravely ill tigers be euthanised, authorities said. The big cats were among more than 240 tigers living across the two facilities at Tiger Kingdom Chiang Mai, according to local media. Canine distem-

per virus is a highly contagious disease that attacks the host's respiratory, gastrointestinal and nervous systems. While it is typically found among dogs, it can also infect big cats. Besides canine distemper virus, the provincial livestock office in Chiang Mai said last week that samples from the tigers' carcasses also tested positive for a bacteria associated with respiratory disease. "By the time we realised they were sick, it was already too late," Somchuan Ratanamungklanon, director of the national livestock department, previously told local media - noting that it was harder to detect sickness in tigers compared to animals like common household cats or dogs. Somchuan told reporters on Tuesday that officials had collected samples from the tigers' bodies, the chicken they eat and their surroundings. The provincial livestock office had earlier said preliminary tests showed the tigers had been infected with feline parvovirus.

MEXICO HUNTS 23 INMATES SPRUNG FROM JAIL DURING WAVE OF VIOLENCE

Police in Mexico are searching a number of inmates sprung from a prison in Puerto Vallarta during a wave of attacks launched by the Jalisco New Generation Cartel (CJNG) on Sunday. Puerto Vallarta, a beach resort on Mexico's Pacific coast, was among the towns where the CJNG blockaded roads and torched cars in retaliation for the killing by security forces of their leader, Nemesio Oseguera Cervantes, known as "El Mencho". During the unrest, armed men rammed one of the prison gates with a car, paving the way for 23 prisoners to escape, an official said. More than 70 people - including 25 National

Guard members - were killed in the operation to capture El Mencho and the violence which followed. Juan Pablo Hernández, security secretary for the state of Jalisco, said that his office was working with other states to capture the fugitives. Officials have not yet released details of the identities of the prisoners who escaped. Cartel members torched several vehicles across Puerto Vallarta on Sunday. Tourists and locals were urged to seek shelter and not venture out and footage they recorded showed black plumes of smoke rising above the popular beach resort. A number of airlines temporarily



halted their flights and at least two major cruise liners said their ships would skip planned stops in Puerto Vallarta. The Mexican government said

on Monday that most of the road blocks erected by cartel members had been cleared. But El Universal newspaper reports that in the state of Morelia, where

drug lord El Mencho was born, armed men continued to spread fear on Monday, torching cars and vandalising shops and public buildings. El Mencho was Mexico's most wanted man. Under his leadership, the CJNG became a powerful transnational criminal organisation which spread from its stronghold in the state of Jalisco into many other Mexican states, where it engages in drug production and trafficking. It often resorts to extreme violence and has been behind a number of high-profile attacks on the security forces and government officials. The Trump administration had described El

Mencho as a "top target for the Mexican and United States government as one of the top traffickers of fentanyl into our homeland" and had offered a \$15m (£11.1m) reward for information leading to his capture. The drug lord was captured by Mexican security forces in the town of Tapalpa, in Jalisco state, on Sunday. Mexico's defence minister said they were able to locate him by following one of his "romantic partners". He died shortly after being captured due to injuries in the firefight which broke out between his security guards and Mexico's special forces sent to arrest him.



WHY HAS IT GONE SO WRONG FOR ASTON MARTIN?

When Aston Martin's new Formula 1 car first appeared in testing at the end of January, it drew admiring glances up and down the pit lane. In its all-black temporary colour, the car not only looked menacing, but also noticeably different from all its rivals. It included the sort of innovations that have become famous from design legend Adrian Newey, installed as managing technical partner at Aston Martin since March last year. But reality bit hard as soon as the car started to run. It was already late, and it managed just four laps on its first day in Barcelona before conking out at the entrance to the pit lane. Aston Martin's fortunes have barely improved since. The car was the slowest in the field by the end of pre-season testing last week, and had done the fewest miles. Team owner Lawrence Stroll looked like the bottom had fallen out of his world as he stalked the paddock in



Bahrain, his face betraying a combination of anger and despair. The few times the car was out on track amid myriad reliability problems, it looked a handful for the drivers. Publicly, Aston Martin and Honda were saying little. Privately, no-one was trying to hide the reality. They were in trouble, they knew it, and whatever was

wrong - and it was a lot - would take time to fix. It all looked so promising. No Formula 1 team looked towards the 2026 season with greater expectations than Aston Martin. On paper, Stroll had put together a dream combination, one that seemed guaranteed to produce success. The signing of Newey in September 2024

seemed to be the final piece of the jigsaw the Canadian billionaire was creating to turn his team into championship contenders. In the previous years, Stroll had already inked a deal to become the factory engine partner of Honda, who won four consecutive drivers' titles with Red Bull and Max Verstappen from 2021-24, and two con-

structors' championships. He had funded a sparkling new factory, including a state-of-the-art wind tunnel and driver-in-the-loop simulator. He had put together an enviable sponsorship portfolio of boundless resources, including the full financial might of the state of Saudi Arabia, through its national oil company. And in the cockpit was another legend, Fernando Alonso. Ageing, certainly, now he is in his mid-40s, but still without question a major force behind the wheel. The past few years have not been easy for Aston Martin. A major step forward at the start of 2023, when Alonso first joined the team, led to six podiums in the first eight races and what could have been a win in Monaco, lost only to a wrong tyre choice during a late shower of rain. But in the second half of that season the team slipped back, as they failed to keep up with the development rate of their rivals.

Shikhar Dhawan Fumes As Fake "No Girl Would Marry Me" Post Goes Viral

As former Indian cricketer Shikhar Dhawan takes a giant step forward in his personal life, some troll accounts have taken to social media and started spreading fake news. Dhawan, who is separated from his first wife, has often spoken about how much he misses hanging out with his son Zoravar, but never did he speak ill of his ex-wife. However, some manufactured posts quoting the former India opener have been going viral on social media. The retired cricketer, taking to the internet, slammed the fake quotes attributed to him and asked people to stop creating such content for clicks. Dhawan tied the knot with Sophie Shine, his long-time partner, in a ceremony attended by close friends and family on Saturday. In this moment of joy, however, he was forced to bust fake narratives on social media. "I have come across some posts on social media attributing a disappointing statement about my personal life. I have never carried baggage from the past, be it



on the pitch or outside. I firmly believe in the power of positivity while respecting my past," wrote Dhawan on his social media accounts. "This is a new chapter in my life, and I feel truly grateful for the love and blessings I have received from my fans, friends, family, well-wishers, and the media. I strongly

urge people not to trade on my name with clickbait, insensitive and false statements on social media. Let's spread love and positivity. Thank you," he added. The private ceremony in the Delhi-NCR region followed a period of personal rebuilding after his high-profile and emotionally taxing divorce from his first wife.

NEW STADIUM CURSE - ARE EVERTON SHOWING HOW CLUBS STRUGGLE AFTER MOVE?

When Everton said a tearful farewell to their atmospheric Goodison Park home after 133 years in the summer, hopes were high that Hill Dickinson Stadium could become the fortress fans dreamed of. An unbeaten five-match start at their new ground, inspired by new signing Jack Grealish, raised expectations further. But defeat against Manchester United on Monday cemented Everton's status as the latest Premier League team to find the transition to a new stadium tough going. The Toffees have failed to win any of their past seven matches at their gleaming 52,769-capacity arena, following in the footsteps of other top-flight sides who have struggled



after moving grounds. BBC Sport takes a closer look at the curse of the new stadium in the Premier League era. Eight clubs - only counting teams who were in the top flight for both their last season at their old ground and first at their new, and excluding temporary homes - have moved stadiums since 1992-

93, but only one finished the next season with an improved record. Derby County went from an average of 1.6 points per game in their last year at the Baseball Ground to an impressive 2.1 as they adapted brilliantly to a debut campaign at Pride Park in 1997-98. Middlesbrough had an iden-

tical record between Ayresome Park and the Riverside, but the other teams all suffered a drop-off. Tottenham were always unlikely to match their stunning White Hart Lane finale of 17 wins and two draws when they moved to Tottenham Hotspur Stadium after a spell at Wembley. But seven years on they are still to establish their arena as a place teams fear to come, with some pundits claiming it is too welcoming for opposition players. Only Wolves have lost more home games in Europe's big five leagues this season than Spurs, with eight. West Ham had an immediate drop-off in their first season at London Stadium, dropping half a point per game on average. ?

SACKED ALL BLACKS COACH ROBERTSON TO LEAD BARBARIANS

Sacked New Zealand coach Scott Robertson will return to rugby by taking charge of the Barbarians this summer. Robertson, whose two-year spell with the All Blacks ended in January, will lead the invitational side against world champions South Africa in Port Elizabeth on 20 June, before a match against Wales at Twickenham's Allianz Stadium on 27 June. "The Barbarians brings the rugby world together, so it's special to be a part of it and to honour the jersey," Robertson said. Robertson, who won seven successive Super Rugby titles with the Crusaders between 2017 and 2023, will not be short of options when he chooses to resume his career full-time.



New Zealand Rugby included a non-compete clause in his severance package which bars Robertson from

taking charge of a top-tier Test rival until early 2027. However it has been reported, external Robertson

would be free to join a rival international team earlier if they have fulfilled their 2026 fixtures against the All Blacks. Robertson revealed in 2022, external that his ultimate coaching ambition is to win the Rugby World Cup with both New Zealand and another nation. At club level, Premiership side Harlequins, who are searching for a figurehead after head coach Danny Wilson departed for Wales at the start of this season, have been linked with the 51-year-old, external Robertson, who has led the Barbarians on four previous occasions, is joined by Argentina head coach Felipe Contepomi in the team's set-up for this summer's matches.

PSG'S HAKIMI TO FACE TRIAL AFTER RAPE ALLEGATION



Paris St-Germain defender Achraf Hakimi says he is set to face trial after an allegation of rape was made against him. A woman has accused the Morocco captain of raping her at his home in the French capital in 2023, when she was aged 24. He denies the allegations. The public prosecutor's office in Nanterre, a western suburb of Paris, began a preliminary investigation in March 2023. "Today, a rape accusation is enough to justify a trial," Hakimi posted on X, external. "This is as unjust to the innocent as it is to the genuine victims. I calmly await this trial, which will allow the truth to come out publicly." No date has been set for the trial. BBC Sport has contacted the Nanterre prosecu-

tor's office for comment. Paris St-Germain host Monaco in the second leg of their Champions League knockout round play-off tie on Wednesday. Hakimi was named in PSG's initial squad, published last Tuesday. The 27-year-old was born in Spain but represents Morocco and has made 194 appearances for Paris St-Germain, winning the Champions League and Ligue 1 titles last season. His performances saw him honoured at the Best Fifa Football Awards ceremony held in Paris on Monday evening, where he was named in the Fifpro men's world team of the year. Morocco will face Scotland, Haiti and Brazil at the World Cup in the USA, Mexico and Canada this summer.



Pacquiao and Mayweather agree professional rematch

SESKO AND LAMMENS ALLOW MAN UTD TO DREAM OF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Michael Carrick had a neat way of describing Benjamin Sesko's assimilation into life at Manchester United. "He is growing as a player," said United's head coach. "Sometimes it's big steps, sometimes it's little steps. He has taken some huge ones recently. "The confidence and belief he is playing with is great to see." The mighty strides Sesko has taken in United's latest two games have placed the club in a superb position to cement a return to the Champions League after a two-year absence. Without the Slovenian's contributions off the bench, United would have lost at West Ham on 10 February and drawn with Everton on Monday on their first visit to Hill Dickinson Stadium. Sesko's goals have put Carrick's men out on their own in fourth spot, three points behind Aston Villa and three ahead of

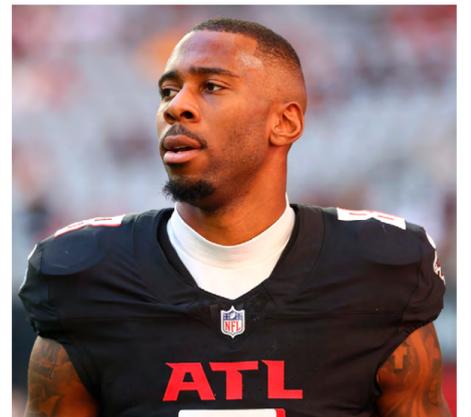


Chelsea and Liverpool. If his stoppage-time volley to earn a point at West Ham was a thing of aesthetic beauty, his latest effort in the 71st minute of the 1-0 win at Everton was a feat of physical excellence. It was a combination of endurance, running 70 yards at top speed after laying off a pass to Matheus Cunha, and calmness, to steady himself and

coolly slot home Bryan Mbeumo's square pass. "It was a great finish, a ruthless finish," said Carrick. "I like the way he put it away with real confidence." Watching the game for Sky Sports, former Liverpool and England defender Jamie Carragher looked at the goal admirably. "Sesko has gone over 80 yards and then finishes," Carragher said. "You expect

him to be breathing heavily and panting after that. But no, he still has the energy to really celebrate." Sesko has taken his goals tally to eight for the season. Remarkably, he only scored twice under Ruben Amorim, who signed him from RB Leipzig for £73.7m in August 2025. Now he has six in his latest seven games, starting with three in two matches while Darren Fletcher was in interim charge after Amorim's dismissal at the start of January. That return has led many observers to feel Sesko is unlucky not to have made the starting XI for any of the six games Carrick has had at the helm. United's boss understands the debate. But he doesn't feel it is especially important. "I get why everyone is talking about it and making a big deal of it, but it is not always as extreme," he said. "I have got a really good relationship with Ben.

IRELAND DEFEAT REMINISCENT OF END OF MY ERA - JONES



Former head coach Eddie Jones says the scenes at the end of England's defeat against Ireland on Saturday reminded him of the acrimonious end of his own time in charge at Twickenham. England came into the Six Nations with hopes of winning a first title since 2020, but their campaign has been sunk by emphatic back-to-back defeats after they were overturned by Scotland in round two. Some home fans left Allianz Stadium early in the Ireland match, while fly-half George Ford was ironically cheered for finding touch after two earlier botched efforts. "I felt a bit sick at the end of the game," Jones told his Rugby Unity podcast, external "I've had that feeling - the grey sky looks like it is coming down on you, there is this eerie feeling in the stadium, it's only half full, and the ones that are there are looking for a bit of blood."

Jones' own tenure ended with a 27-13 loss to South Africa in November 2022, which concluded to a chorus of jeers. The Rugby Football Union sacked the Australian 10 days later after a review into his record of five wins in 12 matches across that calendar year. Jones believes that Steve Borthwick, who worked as his assistant during stints with England and Japan, made an error before the tournament starting in publicly stating his team's aim to travel to Paris on the final weekend with the title in their sights. The game had loomed as a meeting of the two pre-tournament favourites, but, while France have collected a maximum 15 points from their three opening fixtures, England could sink to the bottom of the standings if they lose to an impressive Italy in Rome in their next and penultimate match on 7 March.

“I HOPE ‘BAND MELAM,’ WHICH IS SET TO RELEASE ON MARCH 13, BECOMES A BIG HIT,” SAID SIVAJI AT THE TEASER LAUNCH EVENT

Band Melam stars Court fame Harsh Roshan and Sridevi as the lead pair. Presented by Mango Mass Media and produced under the Kona Film Corporation banner by Kona Venkat, the film is directed by Satish Javvaji. Produced by Kavya and Shrivya, the movie is scheduled for release on March 13. The teaser was unveiled on Tuesday, and music director Thaman and actor Shivaji attended the event as chief guests. Sivaji said, “Band Melam is made with a beautiful love story. I was also approached for a role in this film, but I declined as I felt it might look routine. Sridevi is a very talented actress, and Roshan is a gifted actor who will reach great heights in the future. With Band Melam, all of them are going to move to the next level. We premiered Court on March 13 and it became a hit. Now Band Melam is also releasing on March 13. I hope this too becomes a big success.” Thaman said, “I am at this stage in my career because of Kona sir. My journey continued strongly after Dookudu. It's not that Kona sir has gold in his hands, his hand itself is golden. I'm happy to be here today for Band Melam. Watching Harsh Roshan and Sridevi reminds me of the days of Nuvve Kavali. I really like Vijay Bulganin's songs. I hope the film becomes a huge hit on March 13.” Kona Venkat said, “With Ninnu Kori, we understood how



much appreciation a heart-felt love story can receive. Because of that experience, I produced Band Melam. Ninnu Kori remains a memorable film in Nani's filmography. Director Shiva Nirvana narrated that story with emotion. When Satish narrated this story to me, I felt the same emotion. The conflict in this story is very fresh, and the climax will captivate everyone. We chose Roshan and Sridevi because they have both the right age and strong acting potential. Sai Kumar was shocked after hearing the story. Vijay Bulganin has given us wonderful music. The film releases on March 13, and I hope the audience makes it a success and gives us the strength to introduce more new talent.” Director Nandini Reddy said,

“I liked the teaser of Band Melam. I feel the director will speak more on the day of the film's release and success. Harsh Roshan and Sridevi have connected well with the audience. I share a twenty-year bond with Kona sir. His films should continue to succeed, and he should keep introducing new talent to the industry. I love Vijay Bulganin's music. I wish this movie becomes a big hit.” Shiva Nirvana said, “Kona sir is my godfather. Because of him, many directors and writers have entered the industry. Through Band Melam too, he is introducing new talent. I hope this film becomes a big hit. He should continue encouraging newcomers. Harsh Roshan will reach great heights in the industry. Sridevi is an excel-

lent actress. After watching the teaser, I felt like going to the theater with a group to watch the film. I hope Satish scores a hit with this movie. I like Vijay Bulganin's music very much. I wish Band Melam great success on March 13.” Venu Udugula said, “I really liked the teaser of Band Melam. It's clear that this is not a film made for commercial calculations or money alone. It is made with love and sincerity, portraying life with the essence of Telangana soil. I had already heard the story. The intense and philosophical base of the story has been shown effectively in the teaser. Thanks to Kona sir for encouraging such new talent. This is a Telugu film rooted in Telangana life.” Harsh Roshan said, “Band Melam is

a village love story set against a pure Telangana backdrop. My character showcases every emotion at its peak. The movie will connect with everyone. Thanks to Shivaji sir and Thaman sir for attending the event. The film releases on March 13. Please do watch it.” Sridevi said, “Just as you all supported us with so much love for Court, I hope you extend the same love and encouragement to Band Melam. I hope everyone liked our teaser. Our film is releasing on March 13. Please watch and support it.” Director Satish Javvaji said, “Thanks to everyone who attended the teaser launch of Band Melam. The film has come out very well. After Court, I am happy to come again with another good story.”

'Vishnu Vinyasam' is a good entertainment that can be enjoyed by youth and family in theaters

IT STANDS IN THE TOP 5 IN SRI VISHNU GARU'S CAREER: PRODUCERS SUBRAMANIAM NAIDU G & SUMANTH NAIDU

King of Entertainment Sri Vishnu is going to entertain with his hilarious joyride 'Vishnu Vinyasam'. Directed by Yadunath Maruthi Rao and produced by Sumanth Naidu G under the banner of Sri Subramanyeswara Cinemas, this film stars Nayana Sarika as the heroine opposite Sri Vishnu. The promotional content has already created a huge buzz. The film will be released worldwide on February 27. On this occasion, producers Subramanyam Naidu G and Sumanth Naidu G shared the details of the film in a press conference.

'Vishnu Vinyasam' is an out and out entertainer. How much of the story you heard was transferred to the screen?

“Comedy stories connect with the audience only after they are seen on screen rather than when they are heard. We enjoyed this story as much as we enjoyed it when we saw it. The film turned out very well. Vishnu improvises many dialogues on the spot. The audience also enjoys all of them a lot in this. We felt very happy after watching the final copy. What we had planned was conveyed wonderfully on screen.”

What about hero Sri Vishnu's support?

“Hero Sri garu was very supportive. Due to some unavoidable reasons, the two films



had to come out at the same time. However, in the one-week gap, they planned to bring a comedy entertainer first and then a thriller genre film. His support in this regard cannot be forgotten. Since they are two different genre films, the audience will definitely enjoy them in the theaters.

What will 'Vishnu Vinyasa' be like?

“This is a story based on a hero character. Along with

that, there will be another interesting track. There will be good family entertainment. The hero character believes in numerology. That character will be entertaining to the core. Also, the heroine track and the two families will be very interesting.

What about the title?

“There is a lot of comedy in this along with the story. If you watch Vishnu's single film, it will be about one-liners and comedy.”

BIG B AND KAMAL HAASAN BEGIN 'KALKI 2' SHOOT



Mumbai: Megastar Amitabh Bachchan has reunited with cinema icon Kamal Haasan after almost four decades, as the shoot for the much-anticipated sequel to “Kalki 2898 AD” has begun. Big B took to his blog where he shared a string of pictures from the sets of “Kalki 2” in the character of Ashwatthama, the son of sage and warrior Dronacharya. He even shared pictures with Kamal

and said that the two last worked together in the 1985 film “Geraftaar” directed by Prayag Raaj. Taking to his blog, the veteran actor shared that he would be missing his customary Sunday meeting with fans as he is currently shooting in Hyderabad. “Told them that this Sunday I shall not be able to come, since I was shooting in Hyderabad..but still they come..to confirm..but apologies..work first..

rest later.” The octogenarian shared his excitement about collaborating with Kamal Haasan again after a long gap. “And meeting up with the great KAMAL HAASAN ... we shall be working together after ages..last in Geraftaar.” Geraftaar also stars Poonam Dhillon and Rajinikanth. The film, which is one of the highest-grossing movies of the year 1985, follows the story of brothers Karan and Kishan, who are separated when Karan is framed for a murder, leading him to commit suicide. Talking about working on the sequel to the 2024 epic mythological science fiction film by Nag Ashwin, he said: “Kalki 2 begun the work .. and shall ever cherish the love and affection of anticipated presence on the Sunday .. but hopefully shall be with all this coming Sunday.”

Meet Bhavitha Mandava: The Hyderabad model who made Vogue history



HHyderabad: Bhavitha Mandava, a 26-year-old model from Hyderabad, is making waves in the global fashion industry. She gained fame after becoming the first Indian woman to open a show for Chanel at the Métiers d'Art Show in 2026, which was held on a subway platform at Manhattan's Bowery station. Bhavitha's journey into fashion began in a most unexpected way. While waiting at a subway station in New York City, she was spotted by a fashion scout. This chance encounter led her to walk as an exclusive model for Bottega Veneta in the Spring/Summer 2025 show. Despite being a student at New York University at the time, Bhavitha managed to juggle her academics and modeling career.

Covering British Vogue

Bhavitha's success continues to soar. She was recently featured on the cover of British Vogue's March 2026 issue, a major milestone in her career. In the feature, she is celebrated for her natural presence, confidence, and how she represents a shift toward greater diversity in the fashion world.

How Shah Rukh Khan refuses to slow down despite major health issues



HHyderabad: Veteran actor Govind Namdev recently shared his admiration for Shah Rukh Khan's unwavering work ethic, despite facing significant health challenges. Speaking on The Lallantop, Namdev revealed that King Khan is one of the few actors who works tirelessly around the clock, often managing to sleep only three to four hours a day.

● **Shah Rukh Khan's Intense Work Schedule**

Namdev reflected on his experience working with SRK during the 2000 film Phir Bhi Dil Hai Hindustani. He shared that SRK works 24 hours a day, balancing several commitments, including gym workouts, learning dialogues, attending events, and performing. Namdev was astonished by Khan's energy and dedication, despite his severe health

problems, including chronic back issues.

“Ek hi hai banda jo 24 ghante kaam karta hai, sona bhi 3-4 ghante, ussi mei dand bhaitak bhi hai, udghatan bhi karna hai, dialogue bhi yaad karna hai, kahin perform karne bhi jaana hai, main hairaan ho gaya ki ye kaisa aadmi hai. (There is only one man who works 24 hours a day. He sleeps barely three to four hours, and in that time he also manages workouts, event inaugurations, learning dialogues and travelling for performances. I was stunned, what kind of person is he?)” He further added, “Physical bahut zyada problem hai, reedh ki haddi ki problem hai, kaafi problem hai, dekh kar hame bhi sikhaaya (He has serious back problems, issues with his backbone, and several other health concerns. But watching him, even we learned something.”

“King Buddha” Shooting Across Global Buddhist Nations – Hollywood Director Satya Reddy Participates in World Peace Padayatra

A unique World Peace Padayatra is currently being undertaken by 60 Buddhist monks from Thailand, covering nearly 400 kilometers, starting from Swarnabhumi in Karnataka to Buddhabhumi at Nagarjuna Sagar in Telangana. As part of this spiritual journey, a 17-kilometer walk from Hyderabad to Turkayamjal was conducted today, where Hollywood Director Satya Reddy, along with the King Buddha film unit, actively participated in support of global peace.

success for the upcoming Hollywood film “King Buddha.”

Director Satya Reddy Speaks

Addressing the gathering, Satya Reddy stated

“We are rapidly progressing with our Hollywood project King Buddha (We Want World Peace), which was initiated in the United States. Shooting has already been completed in 10 countries, and filming is planned across 15 more Buddhist nations. The film features prominent actors from Hollywood, Bollywood, and South Indian cinema. Our vision is to release the film in over 100 languages worldwide.” He also recalled that revolutionary poet Gaddar

Garu, during the making of his earlier 100-day celebration film Ukku Satyagraham, introduced him to Buddhism and encouraged the inclusion of Buddha-related themes in cinema. Satya Reddy expressed that creating a full-fledged international film based on Gautama Buddha is both a great responsibility and a meaningful challenge.

Global Promotions & Events

The director announced that:

- Teaser and trailer launches will be held in Thailand and Malaysia.
- Pre-release events are planned in Delhi and Amaravati.
- The King Buddha

film team will continue participating in the Padayatra until its completion. He further expressed his aspiration to expand similar peace marches from Kashmir to Kanyakumari, promoting unity and harmony across India. Satya Reddy shared that evolving from Tollywood to Hollywood as a filmmaker is a matter of great pride for him.

About King Buddha

King Buddha is an international Hollywood project carrying the message of world peace. The film is being made with a global vision, focusing on the life of Gautama Buddha and the principles of Pancha Sheela, aiming to spread peace, compassion, and harmony across nations.

