



02-02-2026
Total pilgrims: 69,262
Tonsures: 22,28
Hundi Kanakulu: 3.77 CR
Waiting Compartments: 31

Approx. Darsan Time for Sarvadarshanam (without SSD Tokens): 8-10 H



NATION | NEWS

Priyanka Gandhi accuses govt of 'letting down' Indian farmers in US trade deal



WORLD | NEWS

Iran's president says it is ready to negotiate with the US

SPORTS | NEWS

ICC Contemplates 'Suspending' Pakistan As T20 World Cup 'India Boycott' Row Deepens



INBRIFS



EC teaming up with BJP to delete PDA voters through Form-7: Akhilesh

New Delhi (TSIT) Lucknow: Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav on Tuesday, February 3, accused the Election Commission of India of teaming up with the BJP in Uttar Pradesh to delete the names of PDA voters from the electoral roll through Form-7. According to the Election Commission, Form-7 is filled out to get the name of a voter deleted from the existing electoral roll. Addressing a press conference here, Yadav said, "Voting is the biggest right in a democracy, and there should not be any fraud with it. But the ECI has teamed up with the BJP and made a plan to delete the names of the PDA voters from the electoral roll through Form-7 in Uttar Pradesh." PDA is a political acronym coined by Yadav to represent a coalition of backward classes (Pichhda), Dalits, and minorities (Alpanshakhyak).

AIMIM general secretary Ahmed Pasha Quadri passes away



Hyderabad (TSIT): All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) general secretary, Syed Ahmed Pasha Quadri, passed away at Owaishi Hospital on Tuesday, February 3. He was 72 years old. The former MLA was admitted to Owaishi Hospital at Kanchanbagh on November 30, last year, after he complained of uneasiness. He had been suffering from renal problems for the last two years and was taking the necessary treatment. Quadri has been associated with the AIMIM party for several decades and served as MLA from 2004 to 2023.

According to a statement from the Deputy Chief Minister, complaints are coming in from Kakinada district and other parts of the State. After examining the complaints, he stated that selling liquor at inflated prices is against the rules. It also brings a bad name to the government. The Jana Sena leader said shopkeepers must strictly adhere to the regulations regarding liquor sales.

Pawan Kalyan's Jana Sena is a partner in Telugu Desam Party (TDP)-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government. Opposition YSR Congress Party has been tar-

'Unruly': 8 MPs suspended as Opposition, govt clash over US, EU trade deals

Seven Congress MPs and one (CPI(M)) member were suspended for the remainder of the Budget Session.



after multiple adjournments on Tuesday, Dilip Saikia, who was in the Chair, named the eight members. Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju then moved a resolution seeking their suspension for the rest of the session, which was passed by a voice vote before proceedings were adjourned for the day amid uproar.

The suspended MPs are Gurjeet Singh Auja, Hibi Eden, C Kiran Kumar Reddy, Amarinder Singh Raja Warring, Manickam Tagore, Prashant Padole and Dean Kuriakose of the Congress and S Venkatesan of the CPI(M). Moving

the resolution, Rijiju said the members had acted in utter disregard of the House and the authority of the Chair, alleging that they tore papers, tried to climb on to the table of the Secretary General and hurled documents at the presiding officer. Outside Parliament, Congress members led by Rahul Gandhi staged a protest against the suspensions, while other Opposition MPs said the suspended legislators would continue to demonstrate in the precincts.

US-India trade deal under spotlight

The Congress, meanwhile, stepped up its attack on the government over trade negotiations with the United States and the European Union, demanding that Parliament be taken into confidence on the details of the agreements. Congress general secretary in-charge communications Jairam Ramesh alleged that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had "completely surrendered" to appease President

Donald Trump at the cost of India's farmers, and said that from the information released by the US leader, "India stands diminished by this unfortunate sequence of events." He urged the government to table the texts of both the EU and US trade deals in Parliament for debate, particularly after the US Secretary of Agriculture claimed that India had liberalised agricultural imports.

Andhra Dy CM Kalyan orders action against liquor sale at inflated prices



sizes of India-Made Foreign Liquor (IMFL) brands and foreign liquor by Rs.10 per bottle, while withdrawing additional retail excise tax imposed on bars. It was announced that the increase of Rs.10 per bottle will not be applicable to cheaper liquor (180 ml bottle costing Rs.99), beer, wine and ready-to-drink (RTD) varieties.

The Cabinet also decided to increase the retailer margin by approximately 1 per cent of the MRP on IMFL and FL, includ-

The Deputy Chief Minister received complaints that liquor is being sold at prices higher than the Maximum Retail Price (MRP) across the State. He asked liquor shops not to bring a bad name to the government by selling liquor at higher prices.

ing 180 ml IMFL bottles, beer, wine and RTDs. The price hike is expected to generate approximately Rs.1,391 crore in additional annual revenue for the State. At the same time, the withdrawal of additional retail excise tax will reduce the financial burden on bars by about Rs.340 crore per year.

India to restrict Russian oil buy, import only where supplies are irreplaceable: Sources



New Delhi (TSIT) India will restrict crude oil purchases from Russia as part of an agreement reached with the US in exchange for lower trade tariffs, sources said, adding that imports will continue for now by refiners such as Nayara Energy, which have no other alternative source.

US President Donald Trump announced overnight that the United States will cut the reciprocal tariff on imports of Indian goods to 18 per cent from 25 per cent under a broader bilateral understanding.

According to him, this came after India agreed to stop buying Russian oil, reduce its tariff and non-tariff barriers against the US, and commit to purchasing an additional USD 500 billion worth of US energy, technology, agricultural products, coal and other goods over time.

The commitment to halt Russian oil purchases removes the additional 25 per cent punitive tariff earlier imposed, effectively lowering the applied US tariff on Indian exports to 18 per cent from 50 per cent, providing substantial relief to Indian exporters. Indian refiners, which became the world's second big-

India-US trade deal nearing finalisation: Piyush Goyal



NEW DELHI: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday alleged that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has buckled under US pressure to finalise a trade deal and has "sold out" the hard work of Indian farmers through the agreement.

Addressing reporters in the Parliament House complex after he was not allowed to speak in the Lok Sabha as he insisted on quoting from an article that cited former Army chief MM Naravane's unpublished "memoir", Gandhi said it is for the first time in history that the Leader of Opposition has not been allowed to speak on the president's address.

"We need to understand why a trade deal stuck for about four months was suddenly finalised last evening," Gandhi said adding that "there was huge pressure on Prime Minister Modi". Asked what kind of pressure he was referring to, Gandhi alleged there is a case against industrialist Gautam Adani in the US and a lot more is to come in the Epstein files.

Trump tariff cut sparks market rally, cheers industry but ignites political storm in India

According to a statement from the Deputy Chief Minister, complaints are coming in from Kakinada district and other parts of the State. After examining the complaints, he stated that selling liquor at inflated prices is against the rules. It also brings a bad name to the government. The Jana Sena leader said shopkeepers must strictly adhere to the regulations regarding liquor sales.

Pawan Kalyan's Jana Sena is a partner in Telugu Desam Party (TDP)-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government. Opposition YSR Congress Party has been tar-



geting the coalition government over illegal liquor sales. Its leaders alleged that the government is allowing rampant violations. According to YSRCP leaders, the shopkeepers are selling liquor at inflated prices. The State Cabinet last month decided to increase the maximum retail price of all

liquor by 10 per cent, in exchange for New Delhi ending purchases of Russian oil and easing restrictions on American goods.

"India-U.S. trade deal will further expand and deepen

mutually beneficial collaboration in high and advanced technology."

Another Indian government official said the agreement includes commitments by India to increase purchases of American petroleum, defense

equipment and aircraft, and to partially open its closely protected agriculture sector.

The official added that New Delhi had also lowered tariffs on imported automobiles, a step aimed at addressing one of Washington's most immediate demands. Industry welcomed the move with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) President Rajiv Memani stating, "The expected reduction of US-India tariffs to 18 per cent marks a significant step forward in the strategic economic partnership between India and the US." In his social media post, Trump had said India would significantly expand its purchases of American goods, citing energy, coal, technology and agricultural products among the beneficiaries,

though he did not specify a timeline for the increase in trade to USD 500 billion, which he claimed would be the end result of the deal.

"The agreement can be expected to provide relief to Indian industries hit hardest by U.S. trade measures, including gems and jewellery, leather, plastics, ceramics and auto components, according to the official. It could also support non-technology foreign investment, a segment of the economy that has struggled amid global trade uncertainty," said Biswajit Dhar, former WTO chair at the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade.

In terms of competitive advantages, the pact could help India regain its position of exporter of choice to the US

market which it lost in recent months after the huge 50 per cent tariff was slapped on its exporters. If elevated US tariffs are becoming a structural feature of the global trading system, what matters is not absolute levels but comparative positioning, analysts explained.

At 18 per cent, US tariffs on India are slightly lower than that many ASEAN competitors, most of which face tariffs around 19 per cent, while Vietnam reportedly stands near 20 per cent. Neeraj home, textiles out of Bangladesh and Sri Lanka face 20 per cent US tariff. Analysts said that the deal improves India's competitiveness vis-à-vis its rivals. India's bilateral merchandise trade with US in the January to November 2025 period stood at over USD 132 billion.

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CHANGE OF NAME

*1, RUMESA SITWATH (Old Name) R/o
H.No. 4-8-62, Kumarpally, Hanamkonda-
506001, T.G. Have changed my name from
RUMESA SITWATH to SITHWATH MOHIUDDIN
(New Name) D/o Khaja Asghar Mohiuddin
for all future Purposes.

Road Safety Pledge Website Launched at Secretariat to Promote Responsible Driving Culture

Hyderabad: Telangana Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponam Prabhakar launched a Road Safety Pledge Website at the State Secretariat, marking a major step toward building a culture of responsible road behaviour across Telangana.

The initiative aims to take road safety awareness to the grassroots level by ensuring that every motorcycle and motor vehicle user is



encouraged to take an online road safety pledge and obtain a digital certificate. The Transport Department plans to expand the programme as a mass movement

across the State.

Under the programme, students will be encouraged to submit a pledge agreement along with their parents, affirming that they will follow traffic

rules. Officials said this parent-student bonding model is expected to significantly improve compliance with road safety norms and help reduce accidents.

Speaking on the occasion, the Minister said the department is using the strong emotional connection between students and parents to reinforce responsible road behaviour. He expressed confidence

that the online pledge system would help lower accident rates and save lives.

He directed Transport Department officials to carry the online pledge campaign to the field level and reach every motor vehicle user through an intensive awareness drive. He emphasized that road safety is not just about enforcement but a collective social responsibility of families and citizens.

Jagga Reddy Directs Leaders to Ensure Victory for Congress Candidates in All 38 Wards

Hyderabad: TPCC Working President Senior Congress leader T.Jagga Reddy issued a strong call to party candidates and local leaders to secure victory for Congress nominees in all 38 wards, making it clear that results not explanations are expected after the elections.

Addressing candidates and grassroots leaders who met him, Jagga Reddy said there should be no excuses after polling and that everyone must work collectively to ensure the success of Congress contestants. He urged leaders to campaign not only in their own wards but also support candidates in other divisions where they have influence and contacts.

He assured that if Congress candidates are elected across all 38 wards, he would take up comprehensive development works by coordinating with Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy. He promised that CC roads and drainage sys-



tems would be completed in every ward.

Announcing specific local commitments, Jagga Reddy said Ram Nagar candidate Srikant Goud would be supported, and Shivudu would be given a co-option member opportunity. He added that after five years, Siddu would be made the Ram Nagar candidate, calling the decision final. He also assured a co-option member post opportunity for Amer Beg of Ward 5 and asked him to ensure the Congress candidate's victory there. He concluded by urging all party workers and leaders to function in unity and deliver a clean sweep for Congress across all wards.

State Election Commission Directs Tight Arrangements for Municipal Elections

Karimnagar, February 3 (TSIT): State Election Commission Commissioner I. Rani Kumudini has directed officials to make strict and comprehensive arrangements for the smooth conduct of the upcoming municipal elections. The Commissioner reviewed the preparedness for municipal elections with District Collectors across the state through a video conference held on Monday. District Collector Pamela Satpathy participated in the review from the Karimnagar Collectorate.

During the meeting, Rani Kumudini instructed Collectors to conduct the

elections strictly in accordance with the prescribed schedule and election rules. She said that after the deadline for withdrawal of nominations, the list of contesting candidates and the allotment of symbols to independent candidates should be completed without deviation from norms. She further directed officials to ensure the timely preparation of ballot papers and readiness of ballot boxes for polling. Polling teams, as well as distribution and reception centres, should be established in a systematic and secure manner, she said. The Commissioner also emphasised the need for making necessary

Elections to be conducted strictly as per norms

Khammam (TSIT): Municipal elections should be conducted strictly in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Election Commission and all arrangements must be made to ensure a smooth and disciplined poll process.

District Collector Anudeep Durishetty said. In connection with the municipal elections, the Collector on Tuesday inspected the scrutiny of B-Forms submitted by ward candidates of Wyra Municipality and the allotment of election symbols to independent candidates at the Wyra Tahsildar's office. He directed officials to ensure transparency in the scrutiny of nominations, withdrawal process and allotment of symbols, maintain a peaceful atmosphere, obtain prior permission for rallies and meetings, and warned that illegal transportation of cash and liquor to influence voters would be seized and dealt with strictly.

CHALLAPALLI: MRHFL, 1st Floor, Door No 17-129, Opp Vijayamma Convent, Vijayawada Road, Chellappalli, Krishna, ANDHRA PRADESH, 533201

MYLAVARAM: MRHFL, 1st Floor, Opp Petrol Bunk, Bypass Road, Mylavaram, Mylavaram, 532130

MARTUR: Krush Complex, Opp SBI, Prakasam, Marturu, Prakasam, ANDHRA PRADESH, 533301

VISSANAPETA: MRHFL, Floor Unit No 9/10, Building At Ambedkarante, Vissanapeta, Krishna, 533215

NIDAVOLOLE: Door No 2-2, Ganesh chowk, Nidavole, West Godavari, 534301

RAJAHMUNDRI: MRHFL, 1st Floor, Dno 5-1-45/1, Mayya Height, Near Govt Hospital, Main Road, Nizvid, Pahadu, Andhra Pradesh, 526001

RAJAHMUNDRI: MRHFL, 2nd Floor, Dno 6-6-1/1, Dwarakamayi, Gendipuram-2, Andhra Pradesh, 533101

PALIYAM: KODURU, Ground Floor, Door No 10499-6-1, RTC Bus stand, Railway Koduru, YSR Kadapa, Andhra Pradesh, 516101

RAJAM: MRHFL, 1st floor, Building opposite Ambica, Lane 1, Eswaranayakam, Rajam, Andhra Pradesh, 532127

TANUKU: Ground floor, Door no 16-11-24, Opp Kavitha, Near Ganesh Chowk, Akivinari street, Tanuku, West Godavari, Andhra Pradesh, 534211

NARAYANAPURAM: MRHFL, Ganaparam road, Narayana Puram, West Godavari, Andhra Pradesh, 534406

RADELLIGUDEM: 1st Floor, New Building, Opp Kavitha, Near Ganesh Chowk, Tanuku, West Godavari, Andhra Pradesh, 534101

YELAMACHALI: No 21-152, opp: Vishaka Co-operative bank, Yelamachal, Vizag, Andhra Pradesh, 531055

SRIKAKULAM: Pedapadu road, opp: SBI bank, Visaka A colony, Srikrakulam, Andhra Pradesh, 532101

TADELLIGUDEM: 2nd floor, KAM NURSING HOME COMPLEX, TADELLIGUDEM, West Godavari, Andhra Pradesh, 534101

TUNI: H. NO 3-2-35/2, Opp: Fire Station, M.T. Puri, GNT road, Tuni, East Godavari, Andhra Pradesh, 532101

Not Applicable

ONGOLE: SECOND FLOOR, CHITRALA COMMERCIAL COMPLEX, D.MO 7-106, KURNOL ROAD, OPP ST. XAVIERS CONVENT, ONGOLE, Prakasam, Andhra Pradesh, 523001

Dhone: Door no: 9-4-1-22, 1st floor, building near bus stand and opposite APSEB Transco, Dhone, Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh, 516222

GUDUR: M.R.H.F.L, 14/16, 2nd floor, Old road, Gudur, Pragatigrameena road, Gudur, Nellore, 524101

Sattenapale: Near SBI, Sattenapali, Gudur, Andhra Pradesh, 524003

BOBBIL: D no: 7-132/B, near SBI main branch, Cheppurapalli Veedhi, VIZIANAGARAM, Bobbil, Andhra Pradesh, 535558

Not Applicable

Closure & Shifting of the below Branches for Telangana

Closing Branch Name & Address

MERAKI: Hno:1-8-27, 1st Floor, Bhramian street, Opposite Indian oil Petrol Pump, MERAKI, TELANGANA, 502110

JAGITHYAL: D. No. 1-5-17/1A, 2nd Floor, Beside Krishna & Filling Station, Karimnagar Road, Jagithyal, Karimnagar, Telangana, 505327

HALIYA: H. No. 5-16, First floor, Sri LaxmiNarsimha Complex, Haliya, TELANGANA, 508202

MIRYALGUDA: 19-391, 1st Floor, Padamkotla Tower, Bapatla, Andhra Pradesh, 502027

PEDDAPALLI: D No 4-3-70, 2nd floor, TKY Complex Kaman road, Peddapally, TELANGANA, 505172

SIRCILLA: HNO: 12-5-43, 1st Floor Gopal Nagar, Opposite Telephone Exchange, Sircilla, TELANGANA, 505301

GAJWEL: MRHFL, Gajwel-Pragapruna Road, Hanuman Nayaram, 1st floor, Above Radha Krishna Tiles & Sanitary, Near H.P Petrol Bunk, Gajwel, SIDDIPET, TELANGANA, 502278

THIRUMALAGADU: MRHFL, Door no:5-87, Ground floor, Maliguda X Roads, THIRUMALAGADU, SURYAPETA, TELANGANA, 508223

The operations from the above mentioned branch shall be shifted after the above mentioned date. All the customers are requested to make a notice of the same

Date: 04-02-2026

Authorized Officer, Mahindra Rural Housing Finance Ltd.

Dr Soni Baladevi Felicitates OU Women's Cricket Captain Kotla Sannidhi for Exemplary Leadership

Hyderabad, February 3, 2026: Dr Soni Baladevi, Managing Director and Vice Chairman of the Sports Authority of Telangana (SAT), felicitated OU Women's Cricket Team captain Kotla Sannidhi at a ceremony held at the SAT headquarters on Tuesday. The recognition was presented in appreciation of Sannidhi's outstanding leadership and tactical excellence during the 2025-26 Inter-University cricket season, where she guided the Osmania University women's team to a commendable quartet finish.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Soni Baladevi praised the captain's discipline, match awareness, and team-building skills, stating that young women athletes like Sannidhi are role models for the next generation of sportspersons in Telangana.

She encouraged university players to make full use of state sports infrastructure and high-performance support systems. Kotla Sannidhi expressed gratitude to SAT officials, her mentioned coaches, and teammates, dedicating the honour to the entire squad and support staff. She reaffirmed her commitment to achieving stronger results in the coming season.

SAT officials said the authority will continue to identify and encourage emerging women athletes through structured recognition and development programmes across universities in the State.



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

The officials were directed to immediately submit proposals for the additional funds required for the construction of the building. The local

Tahsildar has been directed to immediately demarcate the government land attached to the Sakhi building. Collector said that infrastructure should be established so that comprehensive services can be provided to women through the Sakhi Centre.

District Welfare Officer Rajamani, Tahsildar Srikanth, Sakhi Kendra Manager Srilatha and others participated in this programme.

M. Tiles Roof Residential House With Open Place to An Extent of 288 Sq.yds Or 240.80 Sq.mts Being Gwmc House No. 30-3-105 Part Its Corresponding Old Gp No. 3-82, Situated At Ambarkar Street Darmasagar Road Madikonda Kozipet Warangal Dist Telangana- 506142. Bounded By- North By: House of M. Lingaswamy and Open Plot of Shawari, South By: 12-0 Wide Common Passage & Part House of Donor, East By: Open Place of Donor, West By: Open Plot of J. Lingaiah.

22-01-2026 Rs. 18,71,546.46/-

3-Jan-2026

22-01-2026 Rs. 25,79,524/-

3-Jan-2026

22-01-2026 Rs. 2,04,529/-

Rupees One crore two Lakhs four Thousand five Hundred and twenty nine Only

All that the Residential Semi Furnished House on Plot No 732N, in Survey Nos 167,169 & 188,admeasuring area 200 Sq.Yards or 167.2 Sq.Mtrs, having Ground & First Floors with plinth area 2238 Sft., of RCC ROOF, situated at Weavers Colony, Bhavana Nagar,Kapra,under GHMC Kapra Circle,Kapra Manda,Medchal Malkajgiri District,Telangana State Boundaries For HOUSE North 33' WIDE ROAD South :PLOT NO 732/B East: PLOT NO 732/P, West:PLOT NO 732/M

29-01-2026

30-01-2026

*Payable with further interest at contractual rates as agreed from the date mentioned above till date of Payment.

You are hereby called upon to pay the above said amount with contracted rate of interest thereon with in 60 days from the date of publication this notice, failing which the under signed will be constrained to initiate action under SARFAESI Act to enforce the aforesaid security. Further, the attention of borrowers/guarantors is invited to provision of section 13(8) of the Act. In respect of time available to them to defend the secured assets.

Date:03-02-2026, Place:Hyderabad

Sd/- Authorised Officer, Can Fin Homes Ltd

Branch Office: Unit no 201Second Floor, Vijay Sai Towers, Kukatpally Tel:040-35106304/3218 E-mail:kukatpally@canfinhomes.com

DEMAND NOTICE

Under section 13(2) of the securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of security interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI Act Read with Rule 3(1) of the Security interest enforcement Rules, 2002 (Rules)

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of Can Fin Homes Ltd., Under SARFAESI Act in exercise of Powers conferred under section 13(2) of the said Act, calling upon the Borrowers/ Guarantors listed hereunder to repay the amounts mentioned in the Notice, within 60 days from the date of receipt of Notice aforesaid details given below. The said Notice have been returned undelivered by the postal authorities / have not been duly acknowledged by the borrowers.

Hence the Company by way of abundant caution is effecting this publication of the demand notice (as per the provisions of Rule 3(1)). The undersigned has therefore, caused these Notices to be pasted on the premises of the last known addresses of the said Borrowers, as per the said Act.

As security for due repayment of the loan, the following assets have been mortgaged to the Company by the respective parties as detailed below.

S. No. Name of the Borrowers/ Guarantors with address

Amount claimed as per demand notice

Description of the secured Assets

Date of NPA Demand Notice Date

1 Mr.MIYAPURAM SAIKRISHNA (BORROWER)

Semi Furnished House on Plot No 732/N Survey No 167,169 & 188 Weavers Colony, Bhavana Nagar,Kapra Manda Medchal Malkajgiri District,Telangana 500062

Mr.M.RAJESWARI (CO BORROWER)

Semi Furnished House on Plot No 732/N Survey No 167,169 & 188 Weavers Colony, Bhavana Nagar,Kapra Manda Medchal Malkajgiri District,Telangana 500062

Mr.MIYAPURAM SRINIVAS (GUARANTOR)

29-01-2026

30-01-2026

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the **Hinduja Housing Finance Ltd.**, under the **Securitisation 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 Date and Amount	Total Outstanding amount as on	DATE OF PHYSICAL POSSESSION
1. Pittala Chandra Shekar, S/o. Venkataiah		24/02/2025 & Rs. 10,23,028/- (Rupees Ten Lakhs Twenty Three Thousand Twenty eight Only)	Total Outstanding as On Date 31/12/2025 Rs. 12,60,220/-	03-02-2026
2. Pittala Venkataamma, W/o. Chandra Shekar Both are R/o. H-1-1-9/14/B, North Motinagar, Mahaboobnagar Town and District,Co-Borrower LAN: AP/HDB/MBNR/A000000813				

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY: All that the House No. 1-1-9/14/B, in Survey No. 220, Total Plotarea 175.00 Sqyds, construction area 146.31 Sq Mtrs, situated at New Moti Nagar, Boyapally Village, Mahaboobnagar Mandal and District, Telangana and bounded as: **BOUNDARIES:** North Plot of P.Venkateshwaramma South :: Plot of P.Balamma East 6 feet wide Road West 1.6' Seri

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 demand amount and further interest thereon

Place : Mahaboobnagar. Sd/-Authorised Officer Date : 03-02-2026 For **Hinduja Housing Finance Limited**

SHIRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED	
Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No. 14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032.	
Administrative Office: 6th Floor (level 2), Building No. Q2, Aurum Q parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Ghangoli, Navi Mumbai-400704.	
SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE	

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorised officer of **Shriram Finance Limited**, (**Shriram City Union Finance Limited**, amalgamated with **Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited**, subsequently **Shriram Transport Company Limited** name changed as **Shriram Finance Limited**, by its Incorporation Certificate dt. 13-11-2022) a corporate body registered and incorporated as a company under the Indian companies Act 1956, is doing Non-Banking financial activities, having its Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No. 14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032 and having its administrative office at 6th Floor (level 2), Building No. Q2, Aurum Q parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Ghangoli, Navi Mumbai-400704, under the provisions of the **Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002** (said Act) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the **Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002** (said Rules) issued demand notices to the Borrowers details of which are mentioned in the said demand notices.

The Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken **Symbolic Possession** of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules, on this **03TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2026**.

Borrower Name and Address	Amount due as per Demand Notice
(1) Votarkari Bhooshem S/o. Narayana, Age: 43 Years, Occ: Om Sai Foot Wear Shop & Real Estate Business, H.No: 2-2-12, Gandhi Nagar, Vemulawada, Karimnagar, Cell: 9440049745, Pincode: 505302. And also to Votarkari Bhooshem S/o. Narayana, Age: 43 Years, Occ: Om Sai Foot Wear Shop & Real Estate Business, RCC Building Ground & First Floor House No. 1-1-14/6, in the land Measuring 160 Sq.Yards or 133.77 Sq.Mtrs, out of Sy.No.87, situated at Vemulawada Town & Mandal, Karimnagar District, Registration District Karimnagar, Sub-District: Vemulawada, (2) Mirala Bhaskar S/o. Rajiah, Age: 45 Years, Occ: Daily Wage Worker, H.No: 3-82, Gopalrao Pally, Thadoor, Sirilla, Karimnagar, Cell: 9440777512, Pincode: 505405.	Rs. 80,89,032/- (Eighty Lakhs Eighty Nine Thousand Thirty Two Rupees Only)

SIRCFT1306280015 - DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY: Property holder Name is **VOTARKARI BHOOSHEM**, Mortgage deed dated **28.06.2013** Registered as Document No. **4064/2013** on the file of the office of Sub-Registrar at **Vemulawada**, **SCHEDULE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY:** R.C.C building ground & first floor house bearing No.1-1-14/6, in the land measuring 160 Sq.Yards or 133.77 Sq.Mtrs., out of Sy.No.87, situated at Vemulawada Town & Mandal, Karimnagar District, Registration District Karimnagar, Sub-District: Vemulawada, bounded as under: **Boundaries:** East: Road, West: Road, North: Open Place of V. Mahesh Presently H.No. 1-1-14/5, South: Open Place of V. Srinivas Presently H.No. 1-1-14/3. This notice is also hereby to caution the general public at large that the authorized officer of SFL is in the lawful symbolic Possession of the immovable property mentioned herein above and the Borrowers or any person shall not after receipt of this notice, transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise deal with/ alienate any of the above mentioned secured assets referred to in this notice, without prior written consent of SFL.

Place: Vemulawada Sd/- Authorised Officer, Shriram Finance Limited Date: 03-02-2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

ICICI Home Finance | Registered Office: ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai-400051.

Corporate Office: ICICI HFC Tower, B/B Nagar, Andheri Kurla Road, Andheri East, Mumbai- 400059

Branch Address: Part A of 2nd floor, MIG, Dharmar Reddy Colony, Opposite Jntu, KPHB, Hyderabad -500072

The following borrowers/ have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained by them from **ICICI Home Finance Company Limited ("ICICI HFC")** and the loans have been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). A notice was issued to them under Section 13 (2) of the **Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act-2002** on their last known addresses, however it was not served and hence they are hereby notified by way of this public notice.

Sr. No. Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ (Loan Account Number) & Address

Property Address of Secured Asset/ Asset to be Enforced

Date of Notice Sent/ Outstanding as on Date of Notice

NPA Date

1. Dusari Surender Goud (Borrower), Dusari Ramesh(Co-Borrower), Dusari Mahender(Co-Borrower), H. No. 3 59 Devaryamjal Village Devaryamjal Devaryamjal Shampet Rangareddy- 500014 Telangana LHKKY00001329375.

All That The Part and Parcel of The Plot No. 185 Part (South Side) Admeasuring 100 Sqyds or 83.6 Sq.meters In S.No. 03 Part 4. 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 Part 16, 18, 19, 20, 743, 758, 759 and 779 Part In The Layout Known As M/s Mahalaxmi Residency Developed By M/s Mahalaxmi Real Estates and Approved By Huda Vide Its Approved Layout Letter No. 11609/MP2/PLG/HUDA/04, Dt. 02-06-2005 For Formation of Residential Layout Situated At Devar-Yamzal Village And Gp Shameerpet Rangareddy- 500014 Telangana LHKKY00001329375.

1. Dusari Surender Goud (Borrower), Dusari Ramesh(Co-Borrower), Dusari Mahender(Co-Borrower), H. No. 3 59 Devaryamjal Village Devaryamjal Devaryamjal Shampet Rangareddy- 500014 Telangana LHKKY00001329375.

The steps are being taken for substituted service of notice. The above borrower/s and/or their guarantors (as applicable) are advised to make the payments of outstanding within period of 60 days from the date of publication of this notice else further steps will be taken as per the provisions of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

Date: February 04, 2026

Place: Hyderabad

Authorized Officer ICICI Home Finance Company Limited

Muthoot Homefin (India) Ltd.

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

DEMAND NOTICE

Under Section 13(2) of the **Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002** read with Rule 3(1) of the **Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002**.

The undersigned is the Authorised Officer of **Muthoot Homefin (India) Ltd. (MHIL)** under **Securitisation And Reconstruction Of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002** (the said Act). In exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the **Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002**, the Authorised Officer has issued Demand Notices under section 13(2) of the said Act, along with the following Borrower/s (the "said Borrower"), to repay the amounts mentioned in the respective Demand Notice/s issued to them which are also given below.

In connection with above, Notice is hereby given, once again, to the said Borrower to pay to MHIL, within 60 days from the publication of this Notice, the amounts indicated herein below, together with further interest at 2% p.m. as detailed in the said Demand Notices, from the dates mentioned below till the date of payment and/or realization, payable under the loan agreement read with other documents/writings, if any, executed by the said Borrowers. As security for due repayment of the loan, the following assets have been mortgaged to MHIL by the said Borrowers respectively.

Sr. No. Name of the Borrower/s/ Co-Borrower/s/ Guarantor/s/ Loan Account No./Branch

Total Outstanding Due (Rs.)

Date of Demand Notice

Description of secured asset (immovable property)

1. Samala Shiva Prasad/ Shrishti Samala/ 095-0950200/ Warangal

Rs. 7,88,697/- Rupees Seven Lakhs Eighty Thousand Six Hundred Ninety Seven Only.

24-Jan-2026

That The House and Open Place Bearing Municipal No.22-1-84/1 to an Extent of 61.00 Sq.yards or 51.00 Sq.meters Situated at Wavers Colony, Deshpai Warangal Urban District Within The Limits of Greater Warangal Municipal Corporation Within The Jurisdiction of The Sub Registrar Office Wrangal and Within The Wards As: Boundaries of Property: North: House of S Swarni Latha # 22-1-84, South: House of Dabasi Rajashankar#22-1-85, East: 20'-0" Road, West: Open Plot of Gullapally Radhika

2. Duddukuru Venkata Maruthi Prasad/ Duddukuru Lakshmi Prasanna/ Duddukuru Venkatasethu Varaprasad/ HYD-HL-000873/ Hyderabad

Rs. 33,81,374/- Rupees Thirty Three Lakhs Eighty One Thousand Three Hundred Seventy Four Only.

24-Jan-2026

All That The Flat No.101 In First Floor, Bearing Municipal No.16-11-730/101, Residential Building Known As "Jaya Bharathi Residency" Having Plinth Area of 820 Sq. Feet of R.C.C., (Including Common Areas and One Car Parking Area) Along With Undivided Share of Land Admeasuring 30.00 Sq. Yards Or 25.08 Sq. Meters Out of 49.70 Sq. Yards, On Premises Belonging To M/s. Jaya Bharathi Residency, Ward No.16, Block No. 1, Situated at Gadipet Colony, Hyderabad, Telangana State, and Bounded By- Vidi Ghmc Ptin No. 1041616029, Boundaries For Flat No.104- North: Open To Sky, South: Open To Sky, East: Open To Sky, West: Staircase and Corridor.

If the said Borrowers shall fail to make payment to MHIL as aforesaid, MHIL shall proceed against the above secured assets under Section 13(4) of the Act and the applicable Rules, entirely at the risks of the said Borrowers as to the costs and consequences.

The said Borrowers are prohibited under the Act from transferring the aforesaid assets, whether by way of sale, lease or otherwise without the prior written consent of MHIL. Any person who contravenes or abets contravention of the provisions of the said Act or Rules made thereunder, shall be liable for imprisonment and/or penalty as provided under the Act.

Date: February 04, 2026

Place: Warangal, Hyderabad

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

Telangana

HYDERABAD
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2026

3

Dr Rekha Boyalapalli Slams MP Suspensions, Backs Rahul Gandhi's Demand for National Security Debate



Hyderabad: Dr Rekha Boyalapalli, Vice President of the Telangana Pradesh Mahila Congress, on Monday strongly condemned the suspension of Opposition MPs who sought a parliamentary discussion on issues raised in former Army Chief M. M. Naravane's book, calling the move a threat to parliamentary democracy and national security.

In a statement, she said the matters highlighted in the memoir — including alleged political pressure on military decisions and interference in strategic autonomy — are of serious

national importance and deserve open debate in Parliament.

Dr Rekha said Rahul Gandhi had demanded a discussion not for partisan reasons but to safeguard the dignity of the armed

forces and ensure transparency in defence decision-making. She stressed that citizens have the right to know whether professional military advice was overlooked or influenced by political considerations.

She criticised the Union government's response, alleging that Defence Minister Rajnath Singh reacted aggressively instead of offering clarity, Home Minister Amit Shah avoided the core questions, and Prime Minister Narendra Modi remained silent during the controversy.

Bandru Shobharani Attends Temple and Annadanam Trust Anniversary Celebrations



Hyderabad: Telangana Women Cooperative Development Corporation Chairperson Bandru Shobharani attended the 30th anniversary of Annapurna Anna Satram and the 29th temple annual celebrations held at Kailasapuram.

Kacharam village in Aleru constituency. She participated in the ceremonial wedding (Kalyanam) of the presiding deity and offered special prayers on the occasion. The programme was conducted with religious fervour and community participation.

Aleru Mahila President Neelam Padma and Aleru

Municipality Ward-7 Councillor candidate Beejana Balamani Bhaskar were also present and took part in the festivities along with local devotees and temple committee members.

Speaking on the occasion, the leaders appreciated the

organizers for continuing the annadanam tradition and temple celebrations for decades, calling them a symbol of community service and spiritual unity.

Home Guard, who fell down from building after being attacked by dogs, sustained serious injuries to his spine and leg and was rushed to a local private hospital.

Home Guard police officials who immediately responded as a cost of treatment was a burden on the Home Guard as the surgery was done on the injured parts.

The staff collected 50,000 rupees as their contribution, and in agreement with the hospital management, another 45,000 rupees was waived in the treatment bill.

Andhra to constitute panel to identify masterminds in Tirupati laddu adulteration case

Amaravati, Feb 3 : The government of Andhra Pradesh on Tuesday decided to constitute a committee to identify the masterminds behind the alleged adulteration of Tirupati temple laddu. The decision was taken in the state Cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu at the state Secretariat here.

Finance Minister Sri Payyavula Keshav told the media that the Cabinet discussed in detail the report of the Special Investigation Team (SIT), which probed the case.

He said a short-term administrative committee will be formed to comprehensively review this matter and identify the masterminds. He said the government has taken serious note of the adulteration of ghee used for making sacred laddu and strict action will be taken against all the culprits named in the report.

Stating that the Cabinet



dedicated three hours to a discuss the ghee adulterated issue, he said protecting the sanctity of Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam (TTD) is the government's duty. The SIT under the supervision of the CBI conducted the investigation as per the orders of the Supreme Court of India.

He revealed that the state government received two documents from the

supply of ghee, including relaxation of tender conditions, quality defects, and submission of false documents.

The SIT report stated that unnecessary relaxations in the TTD ghee procurement process after 2019 facilitated the supply of substandard products. The report clarified that actions such as reducing the turnover condition in the tender specifications from Rs. 250 crore to Rs. 150 crore, and granting eligibility even without minimum milk procurement experience, were deliberately taken.

The NDDC-CALF lab report, which examined the ghee samples, revealed the possible presence of several suspected adulterants such as soybean, sunflower, rapeseed, cottonseed, fish oil, beef tallow, and lard. Based on this report, Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu mentioned this issue on the public platform.

TTD High Schools Must Achieve Outstanding State and District Results: JEO Dr. A. Sarat

Tirupati: TTD Joint Executive Officer (Health & Education) Dr. A. Sarat has directed officials and teachers to take comprehensive steps to ensure that students of TTD-run high schools achieve outstanding results at both State and District levels.

Dr. Sarat inspected Sri Govindaraja Swamy High School in Tirupati on Tuesday along with senior officials and reviewed academic standards, teaching methodologies, and the overall progress of students. Emphasising the importance of focused preparation with examinations approaching, he urged teachers to guide students with goal-oriented strategies aimed at securing top ranks.

He instructed staff to identify students lagging behind in various subjects and provide them with special coaching

through simple and effective teaching methods to strengthen their understanding. Noting that TTD educational institutions are equipped with quality infrastructure and facilities, he called upon teachers to impart education with dedication and maintain the highest academic standards.

Dr. Sarat also directed the conduct of daily and weekly tests to improve students' performance and stressed the need for continuous monitoring of academic progress to achieve better results. TTD District Education Officer Sri Venkata Sunil, Sri Govindaraja Swamy High School Headmaster Sri Chandrayya, SE Sri Manoharam, Additional Health Officer Dr. Sunil, along with teachers and other officials, were present during the inspection.

Sri Kapileswara Swamy annual fete with enhanced grandeur : TTD JEO



Tirupati : The annual Brahmotsavams of Sri Kapileswara Swamy at Tirupati will be conducted in a grand manner from February 08 to 17, said TTD Joint Executive Officer Sri Veerabrahman.

On Tuesday, the JEO reviewed the arrangements for the Brahmotsavams along with officials concerned at Sri Kapileswara Swamy Temple. Speaking on the occasion, the JEO said that Koil Alwar Tirumanjanam will be performed on February 04 ahead of the annual Brahmotsavams, and instructed the officials to

make necessary arrangements accordingly. He also directed that Annaprasadam and Badam Milk should be supplied uninterruptedly to the large number of devotees expected on the occasion of Mahasivaratri on February 15.

The JEO instructed the officials to organize devotional and spiritual music programmes to attract devotees. He further directed that the temple pushkarini should be kept clean and spruce up the temple with attractive painting, rangoli decorations besides illumination and floral arrangements.

TUWJ (IJU) 2026 Media Diary unveiled by Commissioner of Police



Karimnagar, February 3, TSIT : The New Year Diary 2026 printed under the auspices of Telangana State Working Journalists Union (TUWJ-IJU) of Karimnagar District was unveiled by Karimnagar Police Commissioner Goush Alam at his office on Tuesday. On this occasion, the commissioner said that media plays a vital role in democracy and suggested that journalists should work with commitment for the welfare of society. Journalists are said to be performing a responsible role of bringing people's problems to light. He said that the police department always cooperates with the media and the cooperation of journalists is necessary for maintaining peace and security.

Survivor Stories Highlight Importance of Early Detection on World Cancer Day at Medicover

Secunderabad, February 3, 2026: Marking World Cancer Day on February 4, the Oncology Department of Medicover Hospitals, Secunderabad, organised a special press awareness programme under the theme "United By Unique." The event focused on the power of early diagnosis and timely treatment in achieving successful cancer recovery.

Cancer survivors took centre stage at the programme, sharing inspiring journeys from diagnosis to recovery. Their personal experiences underlined that cancer, when detected early, is not only treatable but can also lead to complete recovery with the right medical intervention. Addressing the media, Dr. Nived Rao Balmoori, Consultant Surgical Oncologist, said that can-



cer incidence in India is on the rise, with nearly 14 lakh new cases reported every year. He noted that one in nine individuals is likely to develop cancer in their lifetime. "More than 50 per cent of cancers are preventable or curable if detected early. Early-stage cancers have survival rates of 70 to 90 per cent,

but lack of awareness often results in delayed diagnosis," he explained.

Dr. Gautham, Consultant Medical Oncologist, highlighted advancements in cancer treatment and stressed the need to overcome fear and misconceptions. He said early initiation of modern treatments such as chemo-

therapy, targeted therapy, and immunotherapy significantly improves patient outcomes and quality of life.

Cancer survivors encouraged newly diagnosed patients to seek timely medical advice, adhere to treatment protocols, and actively spread awareness in the community as first responders.

As part of the programme, Medicover Hospitals distributed Family Cards to cancer survivors and their families, reaffirming its commitment to continued medical support even after treatment completion. Doctors, hospital staff, survivors, and their families participated in the event, reinforcing Medicover's dedication to early detection, prevention, and patient-centric cancer care.

SRM University-AP, JK Srivastava Hynfra Partner to Establish Centre of Excellence for Green Hydrogen



Amaravati: SRM University-AP has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with JK Srivastava Hynfra P.S.A. Ltd to strengthen research and innovation in green hydrogen technologies, in line with Andhra Pradesh's vision to emerge as India's Green Hydrogen Hub by 2030. As part of the collaboration, the two institutions will establish a Centre of Excellence in Hydrogen Technologies at SRM University-AP to promote research, academic engagement, and scientific knowledge exchange.

The initiative aligns with the state's ambitious target of producing 1.5 million metric tonnes per annum (MMTPA) of green hydrogen by 2030. The proposed Centre of Excellence will focus on developing a roadmap for hydrogen storage and transportation, hydrogen-powered fuel cell-based trains, buses and trucks, creation of 5 GW electrolyser manufacturing capacity, and reduc-

tion of hydrogen production costs. At the Green Hydrogen Summit held at SRM University-AP in July 2025, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu announced the Green Hydrogen Valley-Andhra Pradesh initiative, designating SRM University-AP as the state nodal agency for executing advanced research in hydrogen technologies under the National Green Hydrogen Mission.

In its nodal role, SRM University-AP is spearheading the initial phase of green hydrogen development through foundational R&D infrastructure, collaborative industry platforms, and the establishment of the Centre of Excellence in partnership with JK Srivastava Hynfra P.S.A. Ltd.

The JK Srivastava Group, in collaboration with Hynfra, has committed an investment of Rs.35,000 crore to set up a green ammonia industry near Mulapeta in Srikakulam district, expected to be operational by 2029.

The project is projected to generate over 10,000 jobs and represents a major milestone in India's clean energy transition.

Addressing the gathering, Prof. D. Narayana Rao, Executive Director - Research, SRM Group of Institutions and Member Secretary, Andhra Pradesh Green Hydrogen Valley, outlined the objectives of the Centre of Excellence, including development of high-efficiency electrolysis catalysts, exploration of alternative water sources such as direct seawater electrolysis, innovative hydrogen storage solutions, and the use of hydrogen to power data centres.

Vice Chancellor of SRM University-AP Prof. Ch. Satish Kumar described the MoU as a significant step towards integrating hydrogen technologies into academics, research, and leadership training, reinforcing the university's commitment to sustainable energy solutions.

Indiramma House Beneficiaries Swapna and Sagar Celebrate Housewarming in Khammam

Khammam, February 3: The long-cherished dream of owning a house came true for Swapna and Sagar under the Telangana government's prestigious Indiramma Housing Scheme. The couple celebrated the housewarming ceremony of their newly constructed residence at Venkateshwar Nagar (48th Division) under Khammam Municipal Corporation on Tuesday. Division Corporator Tota Govindamma and Tota Ramarao attended the ceremony as chief guests and formally inaugurated the house by cutting the



ribbon along with the beneficiaries. Treating Swapna and Sagar as family members, the guests followed traditional customs by presenting the couple with new clothes and a cash gift as a blessing. Expressing their gratitude, Swapna and Sagar thanked the

Corporator and her husband for their support, describing them as parental figures, and honoured them with shawls.

Speaking on the occasion, Tota Ramarao said that food, clothing, and shelter are basic aspirations of every individual. While noting that several poor families in the division have benefited from the Indiramma Housing Scheme, he pointed out that many eligible families are still awaiting houses. He appealed to the Ministers and concerned officials to consider their requests and sanction hous-

es in a phased manner so that every poor family can fulfil the dream of owning a home.

The event was attended by Ex-Council Member Vangala Venkat, Division President Cheti Krishna, Youth Leader Tota Ramesh, Minority Leader Baba, Division In-charge Kishan Nayak, and several local leaders and supporters including Velupula Seenu, Chintu, Riyaz, Nirjan, Kunupuri Mahesh, Madhu, Ravinder, Linga Reddy, Akula Satyam, Ramana, and Thokala Prabhakar.

GITAM Congratulates Dr. Kusuma Kumari on Ph.D. Achievement in Management

Hyderabad: GITAM Deemed to be University, Hyderabad, has congratulated Dr. Ch.V.L.L. Kusuma Kumari on the successful completion of her Ph.D. in Management. Her research, titled "Work-Life Balance of Employees with Special Reference to the Information Technology Industry in Visakhapatnam," provides significant insights into employee well-being and job satisfaction in the post-pandemic IT sector.

The research was conducted under the guidance of Dr. S. Suman Babu, Assistant Professor, Department of Organization and Human Resources (OD & HR). The



impact of work-life balance on job satisfaction and productivity. The findings are expected to support IT organizations in framing employee-centric policies that foster psychological well-being, sustainable work practices, and overall organizational effectiveness.

The GITAM community, including Prof. D. S. Rao, Pro Vice-Chancellor; D. V. V. S. R. Varma, Resident Director; Dr. Divya Kirti Gupta, Director, GITAM School of Business, Hyderabad; along with faculty members, researchers, and students, extended their heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Kusuma Kumari on this notable academic accomplishment.

Cancer in Family? Kamineni Hospital Launches Missed Call Campaign

Hyderabad, February 3, 2026: On the occasion of World Cancer Day, Kamineni Hospitals has launched an awareness campaign aimed at helping individuals understand their cancer risk based on family history. As part of the campaign, individuals can give a missed call to 040-6905 9100 between February 4 and 10, 2026, to receive a free expert consultation.

The initiative is designed for people who have one or more relatives diagnosed with cancer, as inherited factors play a significant role in certain cancers. Kamineni Hospital has also announced a 20% concession on doctor-recommended diagnostic tests during the campaign period.

Medical experts point out that while cancer can affect anyone, nearly 10% of cancers are hereditary, caused by inherited changes in specific genes. Cancers such as breast, ovarian, endometrial,

prostate and colorectal cancers, occurring at a young age, or multiple affected family members across generations are key indicators that warrant genetic evaluation. Early identification of risk

Hospitals, said that family history is often the first warning sign of inherited cancer risk. "Genetic counselling helps assess this risk accurately and enables timely surveillance and preventive interventions, which can significantly improve outcomes," she said.

Dr. Gayatri Kamineni, Chief Operating Officer, Kamineni Hospitals, said the campaign is aimed at reaching families in the community who may be unaware of their cancer risk. "Many people ignore family history until symptoms appear. Through this missed call initiative, we want to encourage the public to come forward, understand their risk early and take timely preventive steps," she said.

allows for targeted screening, preventive strategies and personalised care.

Dr. Annie Q Hasan, Senior Consultant and Head, Department of Genetics and Molecular Medicine, Kamineni

Hospital

allows for targeted screening, preventive strategies and personalised care.

Dr. Annie Q Hasan, Senior Consultant and Head, Department of Genetics and Molecular Medicine, Kamineni

Ministers Congratulate CM Revanth Reddy on Completing Harvard Executive Leadership Programme

Hyderabad: Several Telangana ministers and senior Congress leaders met Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and congratulated him on successfully completing the "Leadership in the 21st Century" Executive Leadership Programme at the Harvard Kennedy School, one of the world's premier public policy institutions.

The leaders visited the Chief Minister's residence and conveyed their best wishes, stating that the advanced leadership programme would further strengthen governance, policy innovation, and development planning in Telangana.

Those who extended congratulations included Ministers N. Uttam



Kumar Reddy, D. Sridhar Babu, Komatireddy Venkat Reddy, Jupally Krishna Rao, Ponam Prabhakar, Tummala Nageswara Rao, Danasari Anasuya, Konda Surekha, Mohammed Azharuddin, Vivek Venkataswamy, and Vakiti Srihari.

Telangana PCC President Mahesh Kumar Goud, AICC state in-charge Meenakshi Natarajan, CM Advisor Vem Narender Reddy, and Government Advisor Sudarshan Reddy were also among those who personally greeted the

Chief Minister. They expressed confidence that the global exposure and leadership insights gained through the Harvard programme would contribute to more effective and forward-looking governance in the State.

Third edition of tri-services future warfare course to be held in Delhi from Feb 2-25

NEW DELHI: The third edition of the tri-services future warfare course featuring an enhanced curriculum which covers specialised subjects and domain-specific warfare developments in military operations will be held here from February 2-25, officials said on Monday. Additionally, this course features experts on subjects like critical and rare earth elements, supply chain vulnerabilities and regional and global geopolitics impinging on operations in the future, expanding the number of subjects that will need to be studied and analysed by the defence forces in order to plan and conduct operations in the future, they said.

The course is being hosted under the aegis of Headquarters Integrated De-

fence Staff (HQ IDS) in partnership with the Centre for Joint Warfare Studies (CENJOWS).

Building on the success of the inaugural course held in September 2024, this expanded three-week programme aims to realise the vision of Chief of the Defence Staff Gen Anil Chauhan to prepare officers for the complex challenges of modern warfare, they said.

The course, to be held at the Manekshaw Centre at Delhi Cantonment, focuses on developing an erudite understanding on how war fighting is being impacted by technology, necessitating a relook at our thinking, concepts, doctrines, strategies and techniques, and Tactics, Techniques and Procedures (TTPs), the defence ministry said. "It also ca-

ters for deeper exploration of critical topics, practical demonstrations of emerging technologies and visits to institutions of critical importance to the capabilities of the defence forces," the ministry said in a statement.

It said this edition features an enhanced curriculum covering specialised subjects and domain-specific warfare developments in military operations.

The course comprises participants from the three services, as well as representatives from the defence industry including start-ups, micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs) and the private industry. Among the services' participants, senior officers with ranks varying from majors to major

generals (and their equivalents) will be part of it, with the junior officers bringing their technical flair and expertise and the senior officers their operational experience and strategic knowledge, it said. The future warfare course will align operational priorities of the armed forces with the capabilities of the indigenous defence industry and enable a free-flowing discussion on the various facets of modern and futuristic war-fighting, the ministry said.

A diverse range of experts including veterans, serving officers, former ambassadors, industry experts and academic professionals will ensure that a holistic analysis of India's security challenges is debated in a threadbare and professional manner, officials said.

Supreme Court refuses to entertain PIL questioning procedures to record caste of citizens in 2027 census

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Monday refused to entertain a PIL questioning the procedure to be adopted to record, classify and verify the caste data of citizens in the 2027 general census.

The top court, however, asked the Centre and the office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India to consider the suggestions made by PIL petitioner Aakash Goel, an academician, on the issue.

Goel, represented by senior advocate Mukta Gupta, said a transparent questionnaire, to be used for recording, classifying and verifying the caste details of the citizens, was to be placed in public domain.

The senior advocate alleged that the Directorate of Census Operations has not disclosed the criteria for recording the caste identity



of citizens "notwithstanding the acknowledgement that caste enumeration has extended beyond the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes this time".

The bench told the PIL petitioner there is "no pre-determined data" to identify the particular and manners of census operations," the

bench noted. "We have no reason to doubt that respondent authority with aid and assistance of domain experts must have evolved a robust mechanism in order to rule out any mistake as apprehended by the petitioner and several like-minded persons. We find the petitioner has raised some relevant issues through representation to the Registrar General of Census operations ...as well," the CJ said. The bench said authorities may consider the suggestions raised in the legal notice and the petition and disposed of the PIL.

The 2027 Census, officially the 16th national census, will be the first to include comprehensive caste enumeration since 1931 and the country's first fully digital census.

Centre planning underground rail tracks along 40-km corridor connecting NE, rest of India: Vaishnav



also make the existing tracks four-line," he said.

Sharing details, Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) General Manager Chetan Kumar Shrivastava and Chief Administrative Officer (Construction), Hitendra Goyal, said the underground lines will be

between Tin Mile Haat and Raniganj railway stations in West Bengal.

"This underground stretch is important from a security point of view," Shrivastava said.

One of the lines will go towards Bagdogra in West Bengal, which

is vital for the air defence mechanism of the country. Shrivastava said the tracks will be laid around 20-24 metres underground over a plain area. Goyal added that along with the underground tracks, the existing double line on the stretch will be converted into a four-line one. "When these plans are implemented, it will essentially mean that the strategic corridor will have six lines of railway track – four overground and two underground," one of the officials said. Assam had last year called for prioritising exploring alternative road routes effectively bypassing the 'Chicken's Neck', after the head of Bangladesh's interim government Muhammad Yunus made a controversial statement in China, saying India's northeastern states are 'landlocked' and have no way to reach the ocean except through his country.

Assam CM Himanta inaugurates 67 schools, lays foundation of 61 more

GUWAHATI: Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Monday inaugurated 67 school buildings and laid the foundation for 61 more with a total investment of Rs 760 crore, aiming to create world-class learning environments across the state. Speaking at the central function at Sonapuri near here, Sarma said the day was "historic and transformative" for the state's education sector. Earlier, educational institutions in the state were constructed through donations and contributions from individuals, and to meet classroom requirements, small rooms were often built using funds from MLAs' or MPs' Local Area Development schemes, he said.

Sarma added that of the 67 schools inaugurated, new buildings have been con-

structed at a cost of around Rs 483 crore, of which 18 schools were built under the PM-DevINE scheme. These school buildings include up to 20 classrooms, rooms for the principal and teachers, laboratories, libraries, smart classrooms, and other essential infrastructure. Additionally, 21 school buildings were constructed under the North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme, while 28 were built using funds from the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund, he said.

The foundation stones laid for 61 school buildings will involve an expenditure of Rs 277.55 crore, with each school being constructed at a cost of Rs 4.55 crore under the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund.

Mamata walks out of meeting with CEC on SIR, says she was humiliated

NEW DELHI: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday walked out of a meeting with Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar over the SIR issue, accusing him of being "arrogant" and alleging that the poll panel had "humiliated" their delegation.

Wearing black shawls as a mark of "protest", the TMC supremo, accompanied by party national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee and MP Kalyan Banerjee, and 12 members of "SIR affected families" from West Bengal, met Chief Election Commissioner Kumar and fellow ECs here, her party said.

Banerjee, who has been demanding a halt to the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in her poll-bound state, later said they "boycotted" the meeting in protest, while Election Commission (EC) officials claimed she left in a huff without listening to the response of the EC top brass

on the issues raised by her. The CEC told the TMC leaders that the "rule of law will prevail" and anybody taking the law into their own hands will be dealt with strictly in accordance with the provisions of law and powers vested in the Commission, the EC officials said. Talking to the media after coming out of the Election Commission's headquarters here, the West Bengal CM launched a fresh tirade against the poll panel, accusing it of working as the BJP's "dalal" (middleman). "So many people have died, who is responsible? The EC is responsible. They are working at the behest of the BJP," Banerjee alleged. "They behaved very badly with us, I said I am sorry we came here for justice; we did not get that, and you are lying. He is a great liar..." she said. "We said we will fight it on the ground. You have the power of the BJP, we have the power of the people. We boycotted the meeting

Over 7.5 lakh manuscripts digitised under Gyan Bharatam; 45 centres onboarded: Govt to LS

NEW DELHI: Over 7.5 lakh manuscripts have been digitised under the Gyan Bharatam initiative, with 1.29 lakh out of these available on its dedicated portal, the government informed Lok Sabha on Monday. Gyan Bharatam, announced during Union Budget 2025-26, is a flagship initiative of the Ministry of Culture, aimed at unearthling, safeguarding and preserving India's vast manuscript heritage. "Aligned with the national vision of Viksit Bharat 2047, the initiative seeks to harmonise cultural preservation with human capital development, ensuring that India's ancient wisdom continues to inspire generations to come. To support the initiative, the Standing Finance Committee has sanctioned Rs 491.66 crore for the period 2025-2031," Union Culture Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat said in a written response to a query. Congress MP Shashi Tharoor and Nationalist Congress Party - Sharadchandra Pawar leader Amar Shar-

adrao Kale asked the minister the list of all institutions that have signed or are scheduled to sign Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) under the Gyan Bharatam mission, along with their categorisation as 'cluster centres' or 'independent centres'. The number of partner institutions assigned to each cluster centre in the country was also sought. Shekhawat said 45 centres -- 28 cluster centres and 17 independent centres in various states and UTs -- "have been onboarded so far to carry out the activities outlined under Gyan Bharatam initiative". Also, 20 states and UTs have been onboarded so far to act as the "nodal coordinating authority" for Gyan Bharatam implementation within the states and UTs concerned, he said. A detailed manual on preservation and conservation has been framed and shared with conservation experts for feedback. A "survey app" has been developed and also shared with stakeholders for feedback, the Union minister said.

The Ministry of Culture last September hosted a three-day international conference -- 'Gyan Bharatam' -- on India's manuscript heritage. On its day two, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had launched the 'Gyan Bharatam' portal, a dedicated digital repository platform that seeks to accelerate digitisation and preservation of ancient Indian manuscripts and enhance the dissemination of traditional knowledge embedded in them. Shekhawat, in his written response, also said, "More than 7.5 lakh manuscripts have been digitised under Gyan Bharatam, out of which, 1.29 lakh manuscripts are available on Gyan Bharatam portal." The culture minister also shared a state-wise list of the 45 centres onboarded so far in the two categories. The 28 cluster centres include Nava Nalanda Mahavihara, Nalanda and Patna Museum, Patna in Bihar; University Library Jamia Hamdard and Central Sanskrit University in Delhi; Shruti Ratnakara, Ahmedabad and Oriental Institute, The Maharaja Sayajirao Uni-

versity of Baroda, Vadodara in Gujarat; and The Asiatic Society, Kolkata in West Bengal.

The 17 independent centres include Sanatan Jeevan Trust, Tirupati in Andhra Pradesh; Nagari Pracharini Sabha, Varanasi and Hindi Sahitya Sammelan, Prayagraj in Uttar Pradesh; Bharat Itihas Sanshodhak Mandal, Sadashiv Peth, Pune in Maharashtra; and Rajasthan Oriental Research Institute, Jodhpur in Rajasthan.

Technical partners have been onboarded for basic level metadata creation, its integration on National Digital Repository (NDR) and to facilitate integration of manuscripts and its metadata for global accessibility via NDR, he said. Additionally, partners have been roped in for the deployment of scanners and equipment to be deployed across designated centres for digitisation of manuscripts and for building a fully functional, AI-integrated digital platform and a mobile application, according to the minister.



EDITORIAL

IS 'INVISBLE KERALA' PAYING THE PRICE FOR BEING 'UNALIGNED'?

The Union Budget 2026-27 has landed with a thud in Kerala - not because of what it contains, but because of what it omits. For a state that contributes richly to India's skilled workforce, tourism brand, and foreign exchange reserves, the silence is deafening. No AIIMS. No high-speed rail. No last-mile connectivity to Vizhinjam port. No special packages, despite this being an election year. The Finance Minister's speech might as well have skipped us entirely. As the Member of Parliament for Kerala's capital, I watched our State Budget unfold with hope - hope that the Centre would match our aspirations with support. Instead, we've been handed a reality check. The State Budget was built on a fantasy of central funds that the Union Budget has now explicitly failed to deliver. The result? A fiscal mirage evaporating in the heat of political indifference.

No Vote, No Voice?

The tragedy is not just economic - it's political. The Centre sees no electoral gain in Kerala, so it offers no economic gain. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-led government has made a cold calculation: why invest in a state that doesn't vote for us? Meanwhile, the Left Democratic Front (LDF) government in Kerala screams "victim" but fails to present bankable projects or negotiate effectively with New Delhi. It proposes paper trains and acronyms - RRTS instead of SilverLine - but lacks the fiscal discipline or strategic clarity to make them real. Caught in this federal standoff is the common Malayali. We pay the price for a Centre indifferent to our pain and a State in denial of its own profligacy. We welcome headlines about coconut and cashew promotion schemes, but without concrete procurement prices or export support, they remain shell promises.

Many Ironies

We hear of national corridors and maritime ambitions, but Vizhinjam - India's gateway to global trade, our only port that can host the world's largest container ships - is treated as a local afterthought, with no Central support for the road and rail connectivity that is hampering its potential as a world-class transhipment port. Similarly, while 20 new National Waterways are to be operationalised, it remains unclear how many - if any - will benefit Kerala. Ship repair ecosystems are promised in Patna and Varanasi, but not in a state with 44 rivers and a rich inland waterway network! Our coastal communities face the deadly peril of sea erosion that has already leached so much of our territory into the sea, but there is no money for the sea-walls and groynes so essential for coastal protection. The Centre says it's the state's problem, and the State says it has no money, so we continue losing seafront to the marauding ocean. (If we lost an inch of territory to a foreign army, we would spare no expense to mobilise our forces and express outrage, but 64 square kilometres of Bharat Mata's soil have been lost from my constituency alone to the sea, and the government couldn't care less.) The lives and livelihoods of our fisherfolk, mostly living below the poverty line, are apparently of no concern to our budget-makers either. Even in sectors where Kerala leads, the neglect is striking. Our state accounts for nearly 72% of India's rubber production, yet close to 100,000 hectares of plantations remain untapped due to ageing trees, out-migration of owners, and a shortage of tappers. The Budget offers no targeted support to address these constraints.

Budget 2026: No More 'Instant Gratification'



The ninth consecutive and record-setting Union Budget of Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman was the first without the backdrop of usual macroeconomic concerns - either about anaemic growth or high inflation - that have dogged most FMs. In fact, given that economic growth is projected at a very impressive 7.4% in 2025-26 and retail inflation plumbing an unprecedented low of 1.33% in December, the Indian economy is experiencing the so-called 'Goldilocks' moment - neither too hot, nor too cold, perfect. The Finance Minister exploited this rare opportunity to share a national blueprint to strengthen the foundations of the Indian economy, which commits the government to pursue domestic reforms and accelerate the ongoing decentralisation - a strategy that cements India as the landing stage for the next phase of growth. No surprises then that the downside of shunning instant gratification - an expectation sharpened by the social-media era's demand for headline-ready Budget sops - and placing the wager on long-term growth drew a negative reaction from the markets. The truth is that enhancing the Indian economy to realise the audacious ambition of becoming a developed economy in the next 21 years entails unglamorous work: fixing the plumbing of the economy and cities, restoring the credibility of regulators, deepening financial and consumer markets, improving the quality of education, ensuring the predictability of taxes, seamless logistics, instilling the discipline of governance, and last but not the least, dealing with the political opposition. The outcome of this rather boring heavy-lifting, if pursued, will be a stronger Indian economy - the best defence against frequent geopolitical disruptions, something that is rapidly becoming the norm rather than the exception. Rebalancing the Fisc Reclaiming fiscal control - manifesting in reduced government debt - is what allowed Sitharaman the space to focus on renewing the economic foundations of the country. In fact, this admirable fiscal management is now part of her legacy as Finance Minister. In 2020-21, in the

aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic, which led to the Indian economy contracting by 24.4% in the first quarter of the year, the fiscal deficit had climbed to a staggering 9.2% of gross domestic product. Thanks to a combination of prudent spending - focusing on capital expenditure, which has an inherent multiplier effect on growth, and targeted social welfare spending by triangulating the beneficiary based on their Jandhan-Aadhaar-Mobile, because of which the exchequer saved a cumulative sum of Rs 3 lakh crore - Sitharaman was able to commit the country to a glide path. Not only did she halve the fiscal deficit to 4.4% in a span of five years, but she has also committed to lowering it further to 4.3% next year. Prudent fiscal management has a very positive fallout for the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in managing inflation - its primary objective. Fiscal slippage means more government borrowing, which, if not managed, crowds out the private sector and raises the cost of borrowing in the economy. And the outcome is there for all of us to see. The only question is whether retail inflation, too, like economic growth, has discovered a new trend rate. The Wager Every government

gets one defining economic wager. In the case of previous regimes, it was already decided by inclement macroeconomic circumstances. The difference with the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) is that they have, through some hard work, earned the right to make their own choice: Viksit Bharat by 2047. Therefore, this year's Budget is best not read merely as an annual fiscal statement. Instead, it is an important waypoint in the next stage of growth of the Indian economy. Essentially, it seeks to answer the most vexing question that has dogged policy makers forever: how does a nation of such immense aspiration and potential finally master the art of conversion? Especially, since India, in the past, has always flattered to disappoint. Not on one occasion, but several. India has never suffered from a shortage of ambition or talent. What it has struggled with, across decades, is the statecraft that can turn promise into productivity, growth into jobs, redistribution into dignity, and policy intent into institutional delivery. The Finance Minister said as much in her speech - that the NDA intends to check all these boxes and transform aspiration into achievement and potential into performance, while ensuring that the dividends of growth benefited everyone. Framing the Finance Minister's speech in this way signals a subtle shift in the role of the state. This government is no longer positioning itself merely as a dispenser of welfare or a passive facilitator of markets. It is reclaiming the harder role of performance enabler - building platforms, absorbing risks where and when markets cannot, and nudging the economy up the value chain. Exactly what was prescribed in the Economic Survey, released last week; it argued that the state needs to evolve into the role of an entrepreneur. The clearest expression of this new intent is the big boost to industrial policy. This Budget proposes scaling up manufacturing across strategic sectors, anchored by multi-year interventions. For instance, Biopharma SHAKTI, backed by ₹10,000 crore, proposes to make India a global hub for biologics and biosimilars, moving beyond low-cost generics into high-value health manufacturing. Semiconductors follow a similar logic, with ISM 2.0 expanding the ambition from assembly into equipment, materials and full-stack Indian IP.

Taxation Without Representation? The Southern States' Federal Anxiety

R. Suryamurthy

The Sixteenth Finance Commission has not redrawn India's fiscal map, but it has confirmed, with unusual clarity, the structural bargain that underpins it: states that controlled population growth, expanded formal economic activity and generated a disproportionate share of national revenues will continue to finance the Union, while redistribution remains anchored to demographic scale rather than economic contribution - just as political representation itself is poised to tilt further in the same direction. Read alongside what the southern states collectively submitted to the Commission, the award is less a neutral technocratic exercise than a quiet affirmation of where power, money and voice are now expected to reside. Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh approached the 16th Finance Commission with memoranda that were strikingly convergent in diagnosis, even if framed in different idioms. All argued that India's fiscal federal architecture has failed to adjust to demographic transition; that population control has become a long-term fiscal penalty rather than a dividend; that indirect tax contribution, tax effort and compliance are systematically undervalued; and that the expanding use of cesses and surcharges has hollowed out the promise of the 41 per cent devolution headline. None asked for the dismantling of redistribution. All asked for recognition that redistribution cannot become a permanent extraction mechanism from a shrinking set of contributor states. The Commission listened. It made limited adjustments. It did not alter the underlying logic. The macro arithmetic explains why the southern grievance refuses to dissipate. The five southern states together account for around 30 per cent of India's GDP while housing just over 18 per cent of its population. Their share in direct taxes, GST collections, exports, formal employment and services output is consistently higher than their demographic

weight. By contrast, the large northern and central states - Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Jharkhand - account for over 40 per cent of the population but less than 30 per cent of GDP, and remain heavily dependent on fiscal transfers to finance even routine expenditure. This divergence is not new; what is new is that it is now demographically locked in. Fertility rates in the South fell below replacement decades ago, while population growth in much of the Hindi heartland remained elevated well into the 2010s. Southern memoranda repeatedly warned the Commission that continuing to privilege population metrics under these conditions would institutionalise a permanent fiscal asymmetry - rewarding demographic lag while penalising demographic discipline. Yet population remains central. Under the 16th Finance Commission's horizontal devolution formula, population (2011) and demographic performance together carry 27.5 per cent weight, while income distance retains a dominant 45 per cent. Against this, the long-demanded recognition of contribution arrives in the form of a 10 per cent weight for "contribution to GDP" - a concession that looks significant on paper but functions more as an adjustment at the margin than a rebalancing of priorities. The distributional outcomes reflect this imbalance. Karnataka emerges as the largest gainer, with its share rising from 3.65 per cent to 4.13 per cent, translating into an additional ₹7,387 crore over five years. Kerala's share increases from 1.93 per cent to 2.38 per cent, yielding about ₹6,975 crore. Tamil Nadu's gains are modest; Telangana and Andhra Pradesh see limited improvement. Politically, these increases are showcased as evidence that contributor states have been "heard". Economically, they barely scratch the surface. Even after the revision, Karnataka - responsible for close to 9 per cent of national GDP and a far higher share of direct taxes - receives just over 4 per cent of the divisible pool. Tamil Nadu and Kerala continue to

The Real Reason Mamata Has Taken The SIR Fight To Delhi



West Bengal Chief Minister and Trinamool Congress chief Mamata Banerjee landed in Delhi on Sunday in full battle-gear, bringing her fight against the Centre over the SIR (Special Intensive Revision) of electoral rolls in the state, to the frontline. She was expected to meet Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar today, demanding that SIR be halted before the assembly polls in Bengal, as the process has created widespread harassment of electors. This comes after she has written seven letters to the ECI on specific issues of SIR that go against "the democratic and constitutional norms" of the People's Representation Act or the rights of the electorate. But even before she lands in the capital, a whole army of family members of 126 BLOs (Block Level Officers) employed by the Election Commission for the grassroots surveys, who died by suicide or collapsed due to stress, unable to take the mounting pressures of their jobs, have arrived here. The Chief Minister will lead the contingent, with her able lieutenant, Diamond Harbour MP and party's national general secretary, Abhishek Banerjee, holding street protests in the heart of the Capital, taking up the cause of the "victims" of the SIR exercise. The timing also lends itself to full public attention as the country's entire political class is here attending the Budget Session of Parliament. Mamata believes in taking every political battle to the streets, showcasing the power of the people and

highlighting her mass leader appeal. Street fighting has been her greatest strength, and she revels in its flourish. That is exactly how she plans to take the fight forward against the poll body's SIR move - turning it to the Trinamool Congress's advantage by gaining popular support as she prepares to contest for a fourth term as Chief Minister. If the image of a Chief Minister campaigning on a wheelchair with one foot in a plaster, throwing a football - Bengal's favourite game - at the crowds, saying "khela hobey" (the game is on), was the most successful Trinamool campaign during the 2021 assembly polls, the latest challenge at the hustings has already seen the viral footage of the Chief Minister barging in and retrieving a "green file" purportedly containing her party's poll plans, all in the midst of an unannounced ED raid at the I-PAC office in Kolkata. An angry "Didi", as she is popularly referred to, addressed the media as she explained her impromptu reaction and descended on the streets the next day in a protest march, galvanising her party leaders and cadres to the hilt, barely two months before the elections are declared. While the central agency and the Chief Minister fight it out in the courts on whether either of their actions (the raid and the counter-raid) can be constitutionally justified, the latter, according to sources, could be present in the Supreme Court when the matter comes up on Tuesday, February 3. That again is how Mamata likes to play the game - commanding her contingent from the frontline. Mamata, a 24X7 politician, has already led protest rallies in every district - especially in north Bengal, where the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has its main strength in the state - to highlight the plight of the people under the SIR exercise, taking up the cause of booth level officers and attacking the BJP for trying to "disenfranchise voters", while opposition leaders in the state are dependent only

on central agencies to take on the ruling Trinamool in Bengal. The relentless counter-moves to the threats from the SIR process have kept her entire party cadres on the ground for the last three months, whereas opposition party leaders in the state are hardly visible on the ground. Having come up from students' politics and years of experience as a leader in opposition against the Left Front regime, fighting for her cause comes naturally to Mamata. She had to battle her seniors in the Congress, take the risk of breaking away and getting wiped out, and then create her own party. Instead of losing, she gained strength from her street fights to finally oust the Left Front and become Chief Minister for three consecutive terms. Through all of it, "going for the offensive" has remained her game, says Trinamool's Rajya Sabha MP Dola Sen, who joined the party during the Singur-Nandigram movements. The slogan "khela hobey" in Bangla is uttered by the challenger, in the spirit of "offence is the best defence". That is what Mamata, the street fighter, is doing with the Narendra Modi government at the Centre. With Modi being the face of the BJP-led opposition in Bengal, Mamata has also ensured that her battle for Bengal is played out in Delhi. She has pitched herself as the opposition leader against none other than Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who heads the central government in Delhi. Hence, the battleground must spill over to the national capital now.

Three minors detained for moral policing of interfaith students in Karnataka's Chikkaballapur

Chikkaballapur, Feb 3 : Three minors were detained in Karnataka's Chikkaballapur district on Tuesday in connection with a moral policing incident. According to the police, the incident occurred when a man and woman from different faiths were walking together on a public road in Chikkaballapur city.

The man and woman hailed from Sidlaghatta town and are friends. While they were walking together, a group of minors intercepted them, recorded a video, and allegedly harassed them. The minors reportedly showed the video to the pair and attempted to intimidate them. Despite the young man and woman explaining that they were friends and belonged to the same place, the group continued to harass them, engaging in acts of moral policing. The video of the incident later surfaced on social media and went viral, triggering strong public anger and condemnation.

Following the backlash, the Chikkaballapur City Police acted swiftly and took the minors involved into custody. Locals have urged the Police

Department to take strict legal action to curb such incidents in the future and prevent harassment in the name of moral policing. On November 7, 2025, two people were arrested on the charge of abusing a group of students from different religions for being together and allegedly assaulting a student on November 6, 2025.

According to police, the alleged abuse and attack occurred at Periyadka when a group of 10 undergraduate students were on their way to the house of their ailing classmate. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah recently said the state has effectively curbed "unconstitutional and unethical moral policing" that once disrupted Karnataka's dignity and progress, crediting the Police Department for restoring discipline and public trust. "Illegal and unconstitutional moral policing that had tarnished the state's reputation has now been brought under control. The credit for this achievement goes entirely to the Police Department," Siddaramaiah said while addressing the Police Commemoration Day event in Bengaluru.

"Women should be provided with greater opportunities to actively engage

Bantwal: Senior advocate Ashwani Kumar Rai urges creation of women-centric social spaces



Bantwal, Feb 3: Senior advocate Ashwani Kumar Rai on Tuesday said that society must consciously create spaces and circumstances where women are able to experience happiness, dignity and fulfillment at every moment of their lives.

He was speaking after inaugurating and participating in the Women and Children's Celebration organised at Sparsha Kalamandira, BC Road, under the joint aegis of the Vatsalyamayi Women Development and Research Institute and Jawahar Bal Manch, Mangaluru.

"Women should be provided with greater opportunities to actively engage

in social life. Programmes such as these play a crucial role in empowering women and must be organised more frequently," he said, underlining the importance of inclusive and women-centric social initiatives.

Former minister B Ramanath Rai, president of Atmashakti Multi-purpose Cooperative Society Chittaranjan Bolar, entrepreneurs Shailendra and Abbas Ali, Bood president Baby Kunder, and prominent personalities Pius L Rodrigues, Dr Shashikala R Somayaji, social worker Sujitha V Bangera, teacher Sangeetha Sharma, social worker Dr Samshad Kunjath Baile, and social worker Prabha Narayana Suvarna, in recognition of their dedicated service to society. Various competitions for women and children were also organised as part of the celebration, adding vibrancy and enthusiasm to the event.

Manch Shaurya, Prakash Kervase, Krishna Suvarna, Balakrishna Anchan and Rajesh Poojary were present on the dais.

Founder of the Vatsalyamayi Women Development and Research Institute, Shailaja Rajesh, welcomed the gathering and presented the introductory address. The programme was compered by Yatheesh Poojary.

'Girijaratna State Award Presented'

On the same occasion, the Vatsalyamayi Women Development and Research Institute conferred the prestigious Girijaratna State Award on anaesthesiologist Dr Shashikala R Somayaji, social worker Sujitha V Bangera, teacher Sangeetha Sharma, social worker Dr Samshad Kunjath Baile, and social worker Prabha Narayana Suvarna, in recognition of their dedicated service to society.

Various competitions for women and children were also organised as part of the celebration, adding vibrancy and enthusiasm to the event.

KSDL Clocks New Production Peak in January

4,894 TONNES OF SOAP PRODUCED



Bengaluru: State-owned Karnataka Soaps and Detergents Limited (KSDL) has set an all-time production record by manufacturing a total of 4,894.777 metric tonnes of products in January this year, said Minister for Large and Medium Industries M.B. Patil on Tuesday.

In a press release, the Minister stated that January production comprised 3,798 tonnes in the soap segment, 941 tonnes in the detergents segment, and 155 tonnes in the cosmetics segment.

He recalled that KSDL had earlier achieved record production levels of 3,113 tonnes in September 2020, 2,744 tonnes in November 2021, 3,650 tonnes in September 2022, 4,144 tonnes in November 2023, 4,486 tonnes in March 2025, and 4,735 tonnes in December 2025. The Minister said extensive measures have been taken to expand markets and strengthen branding in North India and overseas. In addition, a system of continuous, quality-driven production operating across three shifts has been put in place. The state-owned enterprise currently offers over 45 products, with more to be introduced in the coming days.

The company's turnover is targeted to be scaled up to Rs.5,000 crore by 2030, Patil said. Prashanth, MD, KSDL, stated that the new record production has been achieved using the existing facilities, without recruiting additional staff or procuring any new equipment, and thanked the employees for their efforts in accomplishing this milestone.

"Digital with Purpose" Summit 2026: Serious Deliberations on Employment Generation for Youth



Bengaluru : The "Digital with Purpose" Summit 2026 was held in the city with a strong focus on leveraging Artificial Intelligence (AI) to generate employment opportunities across sectors, including IT, and to strengthen governance systems. The high-level summit took place at Taj West End, Bengaluru, and brought together prominent global leaders and industry experts. Among the distinguished participants were Maria João Rodrigues, President of the Committee for the Reshaping of Europe and senior European Union leader; Neeti Sharma, CEO of TeamLease Digital; Luis Neves, CEO of GeSI; and John Quinn, CEO of Grounding Academia Group, along with several other dignitaries. The speakers engaged in meaningful discussions on various dimensions of emerging technologies and their transformative impact.

Speaking on the occasion, Jose Jacob K, President of the Future ICT Forum, said that discussions were also held with Dr. Stephan Keller, Mayor of Düsseldorf, Germany, regarding sustainable development initiatives. While Germany has set a carbon emission reduction target for 2045, the city of Düsseldorf aims to achieve the goal ten years earlier, by 2035. He stated that collaborative efforts are underway to achieve sustainable city goals. This marks the first round of discussions with Maria João Rodrigues. Following the recent

Free Trade Agreement signed last week, deliberations were held on how to reshape partnerships and identify long-term strategic partners.

A significant number of delegates from European nations participated in the summit. The key objective is to equip youth with AI-driven technological skills and facilitate employment opportunities. It was emphasized that this partnership should grow stronger over the next decade. Addressing concerns about AI posing challenges to the IT sector, speakers noted that the development of innovative products can create new job opportunities alongside economic growth. "This is a time of transformation, and we must be prepared. The time has come for India to take leadership in Artificial Intelligence. India has one of the largest pools of AI professionals in the world," it was stated.

"Digital with Purpose" Summit 2026: Serious consultation on job creation for the youth



Bengaluru : The "Digital with Purpose" Summit was held in the city to strengthen job creation and governance in various sectors including IT using artificial intelligence technology.

In this important meeting held at the city's Taj Westend Hotel, Maria João Rodrigues, Chairman of the Committee for Reshaping the European Union and Head of the European Union, Team Lease Digital CEO Niti Sharma, GeSI CEO Luis Neves, Grounding Academia Group CEO John Cunne and other dignitaries held important consultations on various aspects of technology.

Future ICT Forum President Jose Jacob K said that he had a discussion with the Mayor of Düsseldorf, Germany, Dr. Stefan Keller today on sustainable development. The carbon emission target has been set for 2045, but the city of Düsseldorf has an ambition to reach the target ten years ahead of 2035.

Excise Department Involved in Bribery, Transfer Racket; Minister Thimmapur Should Resign: Opposition Leader R. Ashoka

Bengaluru : Opposition Leader R. Ashoka demanded resignation of excise Minister R.B. Thimmapur has there are bribes are taken to grant license and transfers have come to light in excise department. There are audio recordings have been released, and complaints have been filed with the Lokayukta.

Speaking in the Legislative Assembly, he said that in the state government, the Excise Department is the No. 1 department in corruption. Irregularities are taking place in forms such as bribes for licenses and fixed amounts for transfers. Congress leaders who are opposing the VBG Ramji scheme are talking about Mahatma Gandhi's ideals. However, the Congress party is not following Gandhi's ideals. In a WhatsApp message from government officials, it has been officially instructed that since the CM and DCM are participating in a housing department program in Hubballi, more people will come, so liquor shops should stock sufficient quantities of liquor and sell it. This is a program that ruins homes. CM Siddaramaiah talks about lessons in sensitivity. Telling people to drink liquor is their idea of sensitivity, he said. The minister is silent because monthly fees come from officials in the scandal happening in the Excise Department. The president of the liquor sellers' association, Guruswamy, has issued a press statement saying he will complain to Rahul Gandhi about the irregularities. "In the department, targets are given every year to collect money, from licenses to all stages, one has to grease palms, it has been detected that the Excise DC takes bribes when issuing licenses. Bribes have to be given from senior officials to juniors. A complaint has been given to the Chief Minister about this," Guruswamy has said. Permission has been given to two thousand liquor shops, bribes of 50 lakh rupees for one and 1 crore rupees for another have been taken, if bribes are not given by the 10th of every month, shop owners are harassed. Guruswamy is from CM Siddaramaiah's Varuna constituency. Even though Guruswamy has complained, Siddaramaiah has not helped. He has said that Siddaramaiah is no longer a strong CM, he added.

FOOTPATH DEVELOPMENT NEAR KODIBISANAHALLI:

Near Kodibisanahalli Metro Station (close to Marathahalli Police Station), as the stormwater drain is narrow, officials were instructed to widen the area suitably and construct footpaths to facilitate smooth vehicular movement.

EXPEDITE HOODI FLYOVER WORK:

A flyover is proposed near Hoodi Circle, for which land acquisition is required. Officials were instructed to expedite land acquisition and commence flyover construction at the earliest.

WIDEN ITPL MAIN ROAD:

Properties for which relinquishment deeds have been issued along the ITPL Main Road should be taken over by the City Corporation. Thereafter, the road should be widened to ensure smooth traffic flow, officials were instructed. During the inspection, City Corporation Commissioners Ramesh K.N. and Ramesh D.S., BMRCL Managing Director Ravishankar, Additional Development Commissioner Lokhande Snehil Sudhakar, DCP Gopal M. Byakod, Sahil Bagla, Engineer in Chief Dr. B.S. Prahalad, Chief Engineers Basavaraj Kabade, Ravi, Lokesh, and officials from the Police, BMRCL, and other departments were present.

CONSTRUCT LEVEL ROADS NEAR METRO STATIONS:

The Chief Commissioner observed that roads beneath Metro stations along the Outer Ring Road are uneven, and that due to pile cap works, road width is gradually reducing, which could lead to increased congestion. He instructed officials to inspect all Metro stations along the Outer Ring Road and immediately rectify issues wherever found.

DEVELOP FOOTPATHS:

At the Iblr Metro Station (towards Silk Board Junction), it was observed that along a 2 km stretch of footpath, maintenance is lacking in some places and incomplete in others. Officials were instructed to develop and complete the footpaths.

FINALIZE THE DETAILED PROJECT REPORT (DPR):

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and a lawyer named Ramesh, in which there is talk of demanding 18 lakh rupees. The audio says that bribes will be paid to Minister R.B. Thimmapur and his son Vinay. It is said that to reduce it by 50%, one has to speak directly to the minister. Later, Ramesh has officially complained to the Chief Minister. The complaint mentions that the officer said 15 lakh rupees for urban areas and 10 lakh rupees for rural areas, he said. Money is fixed for transfers in the scandal happening in the Excise Department. For Deputy Commissioners, 2.5 to 3.5 crore rupees, for Superintendents 25-30 lakh rupees, for Deputy Superintendents 30-40 lakh rupees, for Excise Inspectors 40-50 lakh rupees, for constables 5-8 lakh rupees have to be paid. Among these, the constables themselves run four to five bars, he said.

Later, Manju has complained about this. However, officer Nagarajappa has denied it, saying the voice was artificially created, so drop the case. At that time, the department did not investigate. Even with all this evidence, no investigation was done against the scandal.

The audio should have been sent to forensics to detect its authenticity. Here, the officer has been protected. In another audio, it is said that since he is a JDS supporter, more bribes have to be given.

Bribery Collection:

An audio related to the Excise Department scandal has come out. In it, allegations have been made against Excise Minister R.B. Thimmapur and his son. Yet, the minister says it's not him. Until June 2025, there are 3,267 hotel restaurants under CL-7, 4,342 MRPs under CL-2, 3,667 bars under CL-9, 1,088 under CL-11C, 316 clubs under CL-4, and 86 star hotels under CL-6. In total, there are 14,229 institutions supplying liquor. However, there are not this many primary health centers in the state. Bribes of 15-20 thousand rupees are collected from each shop every month. That means, on average, 21 crore rupees per month and 252 crore rupees per year.

Audio Release:

A conversation took place between Joint Commissioner Nagarajappa

and the Lokayukta in a Madivala hotel regarding transfer. He said he has given all these audio records in three pendrives.

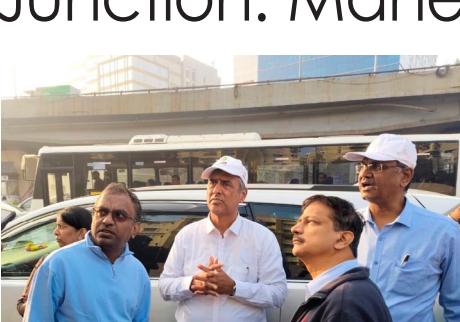
For CL-7 license, Excise DC Jagadish Nayak asked for one and a half crore rupees bribe. In his audio, for microbrewery, 1.5 crore rupees have to be given. Out of that, 25 lakh rupees can be reduced. This money reaches from Inspector, Deputy Commissioner, Additional Commissioner to the Minister. If you give Vitamin M, it's fine, otherwise they make you run around, they ask for 28 pieces of information from us. If bribes are not given, they threaten, he has said. In this regard, someone named Lakshminarayana has filed a complaint in Lokayukta against the minister and officials, he said.

Even with all this evidence, Minister R.B. Thimmapur feels nothing. When Nagesh was a minister in the BJP government, allegations of transfer bribes came against him. Later, he resigned. When allegations came against K.S. Eshwarappa, resignation was taken. But now, even though so much bribery has been exposed, Minister Thimmapur has not resigned, he said.

Congress Government's Resolution is Against Rules:

Speaking to reporters outside the House later, he said that CM Siddaramaiah has presented a resolution criticizing the central government beyond the rules. According to the rules, notice should be given to everyone seven days in advance. The Chief Minister has acted arbitrarily and abused the central government in a bad way. He has said this is the House's resolution. This should be called the Congress government's resolution, Rahul Gandhi's resolution. It is not right to criticize the central government against rules in the session, he said.

Former CM S.M. Krishna brought airport and metro to the state. He resolved the Cauvery water issue. This is called statesmanship. CM Siddaramaiah does not want the state's development. He only wants his development and his party's development. Rahul Gandhi, the leader of opposition in Lok Sabha, and Mallikarjun Kharge could not speak there. Here in the session, they have shown northern machismo. This resolution is not the House's resolution, he said. CM Siddaramaiah has never gone to GST meetings. He has not attended meetings called by the Prime Minister.



Prepare Blueprint for Additional Flyover Near Iblr Junction: Maheshwar Rao

Bengaluru : Chief Commissioner Maheshwar Rao instructed officials to prepare a blueprint for the construction of an additional flyover near Iblr Junction on the Outer Ring Road. Speaking during a joint inspection conducted with officials from GBA, B-SMILE, BMRCL, and the East and South City Corporations, he said that the stretch of the Outer Ring Road from Silk Board Junction to K.R. Puram is proposed to be developed in a comprehensive manner. He noted that constructing an additional flyover at Iblr Junction would significantly reduce traffic congestion. In this context, he directed officials to prepare a blueprint using modern technology to enable the flyover to be constructed within a short timeframe. An approximate 800-metre-long flyover is required at Iblr Junction. Officials were instructed to prepare a comprehensive plan detailing the estimated cost, construction model, and the time required for completion.

In coordination with the South City Corporation and the BMRCL, steps should be taken for comprehensive development of Silk Board Junction, including installation of HPRC, taking precautionary measures to prevent flooding, and other related works. As Metro pile cap works are currently in progress at the junction, officials were instructed to complete the works swiftly without causing inconvenience to vehicular traffic.

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works in coordination with B-SMILE, strictly adhering to the approved comprehensive development plan. Submit List of Pedestrian Skywalks: Officials from the City Corporation and Traffic Police were instructed to jointly inspect the Outer Ring Road and submit a list of required pedestrian skywalks, along with design details and estimated funding requirements.

FOOTPATH DEVELOPMENT NEAR KODIBISANAHALLI:

Near Kodibisanahalli Metro Station (close to Marathahalli Police Station), as the stormwater drain is narrow, officials were instructed to widen the area suitably and construct footpaths to facilitate smooth vehicular movement.

EXPEDITE HOODI FLYOVER WORK:

A flyover is proposed near Hoodi Circle, for which land acquisition is required. Officials were instructed to expedite land acquisition and commence flyover construction at the earliest.

WIDEN ITPL MAIN ROAD:

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More flights added on Chennai-Madurai and Chennai-Tiruchy routes



CHENNAI: Air connectivity from Chennai to Madurai and Tiruchy has been expanded, with airlines introducing additional services and re-deploying smaller ATR aircraft on key sectors. The increase in daily flight frequency has brought relief to passengers who had been facing seat shortages and limited timing options.

Madurai sector sees major increase in frequency

IndiGo has reinstated multiple ATR (smaller aircraft) services between Chennai and Madurai, significantly raising the number

of daily flights. At present, the airline operates eight flights from

Chennai to Madurai and eight return services, totalling 16 flights

per day on the sector. In addition, Air India operates two daily flights, taking the overall count to 18 services a day between the two cities. Flights from Chennai to Madurai are scheduled at 6.10 am, 8.15 am, 10.20 am, 12.15 pm, 2.40 pm, 4.15 pm, 6.05 pm and 8.05 pm, with return services operating till late night.

Tiruchy route also expanded

On the Chennai-Tiruchy route, IndiGo has introduced an additional ATR service in the afternoon, increasing the total number of daily flights from four to six.

DMK mocks TVK chief's 'fantastic dreams'

DMK spokesperson TKS Elangovan sarcastically remarked that the actor-politician has contributed a lot to the development of the state, hinting at the unproven electoral or governance track record of the fledgling party and its novice president.



CHENNAI: The Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) on Monday mocked Tamilaga Vettai Kazhagam (TVK) founder Vijay over his remark that Chief Minister MK Stalin will ask people to vote for his party, calling it "Vijay's fantastic dreams."

DMK spokesperson TKS Elangovan sarcastically remarked that the actor-politician has contributed a lot to the development of the state, hinting at the unproven electoral or governance track record of the fledgling party and its novice president.

"Tamil Nadu is number one in GDP because of Vijay. And everybody is getting an education (because of Vijay). He had done many good things for the people of Tamil Nadu. And when he is sleeping soundly, he thinks the chief minister will ask people to vote for him," Elangovan said, and added, "What a fantastic thing of his brain," in a derisive statement on TVK chief's claims.

Ignoring river-linking for TN glaring gap in poll-year budget, says Premalatha



Speaking to reporters at the Chennai airport, she said, "Since this is an election-year Budget, Tamil Nadu deserved many more announcements. While river-linking projects have been announced for other states, no such assurance has been made for Tamil Nadu. For a State that is largely agrarian, this is a serious omission."

CHENNAI: Desiya Murpokku Dravida Kazhagam (DMDK) general secretary Premalatha Vijayakant on Tuesday said the Union Budget, presented in an election year, should have carried far more announcements for Tamil Nadu, particularly catering to agriculture and water security, and accused a section of the media of misrepresenting her party's internal deliberations.

Speaking to reporters at the Chennai airport, she said, "Since this is an election-year Budget, Tamil Nadu deserved

many more announcements. While river-linking projects have been announced for other states, no such assurance has been made for Tamil Nadu. For a State that is largely agrarian, this is a serious omission." She welcomed select proposals, including high-speed train projects, healthcare initiatives and announcements related to coconut cultivation, but summed up the Budget as inadequate. "It is like offering just a handful of grain to an elephant. Farmers

and agriculture-linked sectors needed stronger support," she said. On taxation, Premalatha said the reduction in income tax rates would help small and micro enterprises, but flagged concerns over rising fuel and gold prices. "Petrol, diesel and gold prices continue to rise, but there are no concrete measures to address this. There are also no meaningful announcements for the poor and the middle class. The 100-day employment scheme must be implemented in letter and spirit," she

added. She described US President Donald Trump's announcement on tax cuts as welcome news for Indians. "Lower import-export duties will boost trade and industrial growth," she said. Rejecting reports on alliance negotiations, Premalatha said, "Do not misrepresent our alliance talks or publish false news about our party. Our decision will be announced soon, and the party headquarters' word is final." She said the allocation of Rs 42 crore for the Nandan canal project was the outcome of sustained protests by DMDK legislators. "This is a victory for our struggle. The project will be a permanent solution for drinking water and irrigation," she said. Condemning attacks on journalists, she said intimidation or violence against media persons was unacceptable and stressed that law would take its course in incidents such as the Karur tragedy.

COIMBATORE: A rollback of the US tariff on textile imports to 18 per cent is expected to revive the textile and apparel sector, which has suffered significant production loss following the steep duty hike.

Durai Palanisamy, chairman of The Southern India Mills Association (SIMA), said production levels across several textile units declined by 30 to 70 per cent after the tariff was raised.

"Exporters heavily dependent on the US market, particularly those from Tamil Nadu, faced a severe crisis following the tariff hike. Over time, US buyers began shifting their sourcing to competing countries such as Pakistan, Bangladesh and Vietnam, posing a serious threat to India's export

US tariff relief sparks recovery hopes for textile sector in TN



rollback is expected to provide a strong impetus to apparel exports and attract fresh investments across the value chain.

"Most importantly, the apparel sector, being one of the largest employment generators in the country, will benefit immensely. The trade deal will help safeguard existing jobs and create new employment opportunities, particularly for women and workers in the labour-intensive segments," he said. Sakthivel further emphasised that exporters should proactively prepare to scale up production capacity, improve operational efficiency and modernise their enterprises to effectively leverage the upcoming India-EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and the proposed India-US Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA).

Prabhu Dhamodharan, convenor of the Indian Texpreneurs Federation (ITF), Coimbatore, said the sector could witness month-on-month double-digit growth from the 2026-27 financial year in apparel and home textile exports.

Around 15 raptor species identified in Tiruchy



TIRUCHY: Around 15 species of raptors were identified in Tiruchy Forest Range during the raptor census organised by the Forest Department and the Tamil Nadu Raptor Research Foundation (TNRRF) on Monday. According to the official sources, the raptors are considered an integral part of the ecosystem in Tamil Nadu, and they are placed in the top position on the food chain. Due to their migratory behaviour in response to environmental changes, they are considered indicators of environmental changes. In order to understand the distribution and population changes and protect the raptors across the state, the State government established the TNRRF under the supervision of the Advanced Institute for Wildlife Conservation (AIWC). "As a part of the phase I census of raptors, the Tiruchy Forest Division selected 14 identified places for the census of raptors, and the enumeration commenced on Sunday, which found that there were around 15 species of native raptors in the district," said forest ranger J Ravi, one of the officers who organised the census programme.

Trade Resets: Courting new middle-power alliances



When Canada's prime minister, Mark Carney, electrified the crowd at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, by declaring "a rupture in the world order" and that "middle powers must act together" to survive, he may as well have called on India by name. Within a week, Prime Minister Narendra Modi was standing beside Ursula von der Leyen, the president of the European Union's executive arm, in New Delhi to announce "the mother of all deals" — a trade agreement, including defence provisions, that both sides had been struggling to see through for nearly 20 years.

The trade deal promises a marketplace of 2 billion people and to double trade within six years. It also represents a new network of international ties designed to catch what can be saved from a post-American wilderness.

India is not a small country, but it counts as an especially relevant "middle power" in any new arrangement of the world's economies. Its population, at 1.4 billion, is the largest of all, and its economy has muscled its way into the top five, alongside Japan and Germany, despite per capita income levels being a tiny fraction of theirs. An accelerating frenzy of activity between India and other middle powers was kicked off by a free-trade agreement with Britain last year that had been stalled for years. Then came deals with Oman and New Zealand in December.

The bilateral agreements point to a change of direction for India, with Modi's push for self-reliance taking a back seat. The idea that India can best defend itself by avoiding economic entanglement with other countries has a long history, but the European Union, Canada and others are making the case that strength lies in deepening their trade ties. Leaders from Germany, Japan, the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia have all trooped through New Delhi in recent weeks, in each case present-

ing an agreement to cement ties with India. Brazil's president, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, is coming in February. Carney is next up on the list. He is expected to lead a Canadian delegation to New Delhi in March to drive home another trade agreement. Carney's Davos speech did not name the Trump administration or the role its tariffs played in upending the old order, but India did not need it to be made explicit. Last summer, Trump slapped a combined 50% tariff on most goods imported from India, half of it "reciprocal" and the other half an unanticipated punishment for buying oil from Russia.

Until then, 25 years of diplomacy between the United States and India had been aimed at forging deeper ties, partly to counter the rising power of China. India was reluctant to side with the United States against China, said Tanvi Madan, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution in Washington, because it hoped to "do to China what China did to the West: to get their talent, get their technology" and eventually compete with China head on.

But India has suffered a persistent disadvantage in catching up with China or disciplining wayward partners like the United States because it holds no choke points in the global supply chain as, for instance, China has over rare-earth minerals or Taiwan and the Netherlands do with advanced semiconductor manufacturing.

With Chinese goods flooding global markets and Chinese troops staking out Himalayan territory that India claims as its own, India could use a helping hand against China like never before. If not the United States, other countries will have to do. A new deal with Canada would represent a remarkable turnaround. In October 2024, India and Canada expelled many of each other's diplomats in a spat over the killing of a Sikh activist living near Vancouver. The relationship between India and Canada has been visibly on the mend since Modi attended the Group of 7 summit in Alberta at Carney's invitation in June 2025, shortly before the shock of the American tariffs.

While India already has long-standing relationships with many middle powers, those ties suddenly

ly look more meaningful to India's future. DK Srivastava, the chief policy adviser for EY India, an auditing firm, wrote that India "enlarging its bilateral agreements with other large economies and country groups" should mitigate the effects of global uncertainty. How much other countries can repair damage done by American tariffs is unclear. The United States is India's biggest market and its exports there shrank drastically in the first months after the 50% tariff was imposed. Its currency shrank 7% against the dollar last year.

India compensated by doubling down on electronics, which are exempt from the tariffs, and widening its market share in other countries — such that its total exports actually grew last year.

Its new trade agreements, complemented by a raft of economic reforms at home, may provide another boost. "In India, we eventually use a crisis to institute reform," said Rajat Kathuria, an economist and dean of the Shiv Nadar University near New Delhi. "Like a leaky roof, leading to a renovation of the house."

Minority rights: Syria's stability needs inclusion



Fighting this month between the Syrian government and the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces, the United States' former partner against ISIS ended in a decisive defeat for the Kurds. Much of the territory they had governed since 2014, with American military and financial support, is now out of their hands.

This was more than a tactical setback. It marked the end of the Kurds' daring, if improvised, experiment in self-rule — a utopian model combining leftist ideas and women's empowerment in one of the region's most conservative corners. Admired in the West but never fully embraced by the Arab communities it governed, the project also exposed a harsher truth: The US was willing to abandon a partner that had fought and died for it when its interests shifted. In Trumpian parlance, the Kurds had "no cards" in post-Assad Syria.

The new map cements President Ahmed al-Sharaa's consolidation of power across much of the country and expands Turkey's zone of influence along Syria's northern border.

The question now is what kind of Syria emerges and whether the US, having spent years shaping the battlefield, will help shape the peace by pushing for a constitutional order Syrians beyond Damascus can buy into. It should. Syria cannot be stabilised through centralisation alone. Success now depends largely on how Kurdish rights are guaranteed, and whether the Kurds have a credible political future not only in Syria but also in Turkey, where the Kurdish question remains unresolved. The Syrian government and the Kurds took an important first step on Friday, reaching an agreement to absorb Kurdish fighters into the Syrian military

and integrate Kurdish civil institutions into the central government. Al-Sharaa's declaration earlier this month recognising Kurdish identity was welcome. But the real test will be whether commitments on local governance, language recognition, education and cultural rights become law and are implemented consistently — and whether two ideological extremes, the Kurds' leftist vision and the conservative Islamist cast of Syria's new rulers, can be reconciled.

For the US, the stakes are not abstract. Continued tensions between Turkey and the Kurds, an ISIS resurgence, and new openings for Iran-backed militias across eastern Syria and neighbouring Iraq remain real risks. Any of these could again pull Washington into crises it claims to want to leave behind. There is little doubt that Washington has switched partners in Syria, moving from its alliance with the Kurds to working directly with the country's new rulers. President Trump's special envoy to Syria, Tom Barrack, has argued that the US sees no viable alternative to a unified Syria meaning it is not prepared to underwrite Kurdish separation or a federal model.

US officials are mistaken to believe that military integration alone can bring stability. Syria's reunification ultimately requires constitutional guarantees of political inclusion for Kurds and other minorities. That means embedding into Syria's constitution the right to use minority languages, administer local affairs, and shape educational and cultural policies. Constitutional recognition, paired with genuine administrative autonomy for Kurds, Druze, Christians and others, is the only viable path to unity. You cannot ask a militia to put down its arms without offering its people a political horizon.

Union Budget 2026–27 lays the groundwork for sustained growth with fiscal discipline: CareEdge Ratings

Mumbai, 3rd February, 2026: According to CareEdge Ratings, the Union Budget 2026–27 reflects a steady policy hand at a time when India's economy is transitioning from recovery-led growth to a phase of consolidation and medium-term planning. The emphasis on capital expenditure, alongside a continued commitment to fiscal consolidation, reinforces macroeconomic stability and supports India's evolving credit profile. Mehl Pandya, MD & Group CEO, CareEdge said, "The Union Budget for 2026–27 comes at a time when India's economy is undergoing a period of consolidation and planning. What stands out this year is not just the scale of announcements but the steady hand guiding them. The Budget continues many of the reforms already in progress, focusing on stability, productivity, and competitiveness. These qualities are crucial as growth needs to sustain itself in a changing global environment." CareEdge Ratings believes that the Union Budget 2026–27 provides a stable and predictable policy environment. The combination of sustained public investment, gradual fiscal consolidation, and sector-specific support measures strengthens the resilience of the economy and supports medium-term credit



stability. According to Sachin Gupta, Chief Rating Officer, CareEdge Ratings, "Overall, the Budget reinforces a stable credit environment across sectors. The focus on long-term capacity creation, rather than short-term stimulus, augurs well for India's sovereign and corporate credit outlook over the medium term." Update on the Recently Announced India-US Trade Deal The recently announced India-US trade deal is a positive development for India's exports, particularly for sectors such as gems and jewellery, textiles, and marine products. A key highlight is that India has managed to secure a lower tariff rate compared to competitors including China, Bangladesh, Vietnam, Malaysia, Cambodia, and Thailand. Based on our estimates, this tariff reduction could add ~20 bps to GDP growth in FY27. Additionally, easing trade uncertainties are likely to support a revival in foreign investment inflows, providing greater

stability to the rupee. This could allow the RBI to scale back its forex interventions, which had intensified over the past few months amid heightened volatility. Furthermore, with a stable rupee the RBI could better support the borrowing plans of government and domestic liquidity conditions through higher quantum of open market operations. A Budget Anchored in Stability and Continuity CareEdge Ratings notes that the overarching message of the Budget is one of predictability. Rather than introducing sharp policy shifts, the government has chosen to build on reforms already underway, with a focus on productivity, competitiveness and long-term capacity creation. This approach is particularly relevant in the current global environment, where growth uncertainties persist and capital flows remain sensitive to macro stability. Commitment to Fiscal Discipline Despite weaker tax and subdued disinvest-

ment receipts in FY26, the government was able to achieve the fiscal deficit target of 4.4% of GDP due to lower spending and higher RBI dividend transfers. Centre's budgeted fiscal deficit for FY27 at 4.3% is reasonable. At the same time, the Centre's debt-to-GDP ratio is expected to decline to 55.6% in FY27 from 56.1% in FY26, reinforcing confidence in India's fiscal trajectory. As per CareEdge assessment, even with the assumption of a conservative nominal GDP growth of ~10% in the coming years, the Centre should be able to reduce its debt to GDP ratio to ~50% by 2031. According to Rajani Sinha, Chief Economist, CareEdge Ratings, "The pace of fiscal consolidation may appear gradual, but it is deliberate. This balance between supporting growth and preserving fiscal credibility is important for sustaining investor confidence and managing medium-term debt dynamics." FY27 Tax Growth to Moderate Amid GST Cuts;

Classic Legends inaugurates National Training Centre to advance technical capability and service excellence



Indore, February 2026: Classic Legends marks an important milestone in its journey of strengthening technical capability and service excellence with the inauguration of the Advanced National Training Centre at its Pithampur plant in Indore. The new facility underlines the company's continued commitment to building future-ready talent and investing in world-class training infrastructure. Strategically developed to deliver advanced, hands-on and skill-oriented technical training, the National Training Centre will focus on real-world diagnostics, precision repair practices, and structured skill development.

It is designed to support technicians and service professionals across dealerships. The facility will play a critical role in standardising service quality and enhancing aftersales excellence. Anupam Thareja, Co-founder, Classic Legends, said, "As our brands continue to grow, strengthening our service capability ecosystem becomes extremely important. The Advanced National Training Centre is a strategic investment in people, skills and infrastructure, aimed at building future-ready technicians and standardising service excellence across our network. This centre will play an



important role in ensuring every JAWA, YEZDI and BSA rider enjoys a consistent and high-quality ownership experience." The Advanced National Training Centre brings together state-of-the-art infrastructure and structured capability building to elevate technical excellence across Classic Legends and its dealer network. Equipped with a modern showroom, smart classrooms, dedicated engine, electrical and advanced troubleshooting labs, along with the latest diagnostic equipment and special service tools, the facility supports comprehensive learning from Level 1 to Level 3. Designed

to enable advanced diagnostics, root cause analysis and hands-on skill development, the centre will play a pivotal role in enhancing technical competency, standardising service and repair practices, nurturing highly skilled technicians and service professionals, and strengthening the rollout of advanced Level 3 training programmes. With this, Classic Legends strengthens its service capability ecosystem, ensuring that its growing rider base continues to receive consistent, high-quality and reliable aftersales support, to deliver a superior ownership experience across its portfolio of motorcycles.

From 4.46 lakh Chicken Biryani to Idlis for breakfast...here's how Warangal Swiggy'd in 2025



Warangal, February 03 2026: Warangal's culinary identity is both a daily ritual and a reminder of classic favourites. Check out the Warangal Edition of How India Swiggy'd, a snapshot of the city's evolving food habits and a delicious recap of the year gone by. The City's Favourites Chicken Biryani emerged as the city's most ordered dish with over 4.46 lakh orders in 2025, an average of more than 1222 plates ordered per day! Veg Dosa, Idli and Veg Biryani were amongst the top 5 ordered dishes in the city. A customer placed a single order worth Rs. 13,778, which included a total of 37 plates of local classics such as Zafrani Mutton Biryani, Zafrani Chicken Biryani, Schezwan Fried Rice, Chicken 65, Chicken Tikka Masala and more- highest in the city! Late night binging is also becoming popular with orders growing 118% YoY. Cravings for Biryani and Burgers

continued into late night (12 am - 2 am). Chicken Biryani led the way and Chicken Shawarma followed. Chicken Fried Rice, Chicken Burger and Chicken Pizza were amongst the other favourites. Dark Chocolate Ice Cream was the most ordered dessert, followed by Chocolate Cake and Chocolate Waffle. Mornings in the city stayed classic. With more than 200 plates ordered every morning, Idli was the most ordered breakfast dish. Veg Dosa, Vada, Onion Dosa and Bonda were also amongst the favourites to set the tone for the day. Snack time (3 pm - 7 pm) cravings saw Chicken Biryani topping the charts, followed by Chicken Burger, Chicken Shawarma and Chicken

Pizza. Veg Manchurian and Veg Biryani were also amongst the top 10 favourite snacks in the city. Dinner was the most popular time in the city to order food. Affordable options struck a strong chord. On 99 Store orders, Chicken Biryani emerged as the top favourite with nearly 159 plates being ordered per day. Chicken Nuggets, Chicken Fried Rice and Mutton Biryani were also amongst the top 5 favourites. Elaborating on the trends, Sidharth Bhakoo, Chief Business Officer, Swiggy Food Marketplace said, "In 2025 food continued to be an important part of our daily life and celebrations as India indulged in its favourite dishes. In Warangal, we witnessed a fine balance of the love for classics and the comfort of national favourites. Food is an emotion, and we remain committed to deliver exceptional food experiences in every corner of the city, one meal, one celebration at a time."

COMEDK UGET/Uni-GAUGE 2026 Entrance Examination Scheduled for 09 May 2026



Application Details
Application Window: 03 February 2026 to 16 March 2026

Official Websites:
www.comedk.org | www.unigauge.com

The entire application and examination process will be conducted online. Detailed instructions regarding eligibility, application procedures, and examination guidelines are available on the official websites.

**COMEDK KARES
Innovation Hubs**

reflects our commitment to fairness, transparency, and equal opportunity. Over 150 top-tier colleges admit students through this platform, and we take pride in connecting young talent with quality education," said Dr. Kumar, Executive Secretary, COMEDK.

The hubs offer programs in emerging and future-ready domains, including:

Innovation & Entrepreneurial Thinking
Prototyping & Product Development

Internet of Things (IoT) –
Smart Connected Systems
Data Science & Applied
Machine Learning

Robotics & Intelligent
Systems

Applied AI & Agentic
Systems

Karnataka is the first state to introduce structured, skill-based training in private engineering colleges through this pioneering initiative by COMEDK.

"Through Uni-GAUGE, we are committed to upholding the highest standards of fairness and objectivity while fostering the holistic development of India's future workforce. We are proud to contribute to this important cause," added Mr. P. Muralidhar, CEO, ERA Foundation.

Important Advisory

www.comedk.org and www.unigauge.com are the only official websites for COMEDK and Uni-GAUGE. Students and parents are advised to rely solely on these websites for authentic information and applications.

X OFFICES RAIDED IN FRANCE AS UK OPENS FRESH INVESTIGATION INTO GROK



The French offices of Elon Musk's X have been raided by the Paris prosecutor's cyber-crime unit, as part of an investigation into suspected offences including unlawful data extraction and complicity in the possession of child pornography. The prosecutor's office also said both Musk and former X chief executive Linda Yaccarino had been summoned to appear at hearings in April. In a separate development, the UK's Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) announced a probe into Musk's AI tool, Grok, over its "potential to produce harmful sexualised image and video content." X is yet to respond to either investigation. The BBC has approached it for comment. It has previously characterised the French investigation as an attack on free speech. The investigation began in January 2025 when French prosecutors started looking into content recommended by X's algorithm, before being widened in July that year to include Musk's controversial AI chatbot, Grok. In a post at the time, X said the action was "politically-motivated" and denied allegations it had manipulated its algorithm. Following

today's raid, French prosecutors say they are now investigating whether X has broken the law across multiple areas. Among potential crimes it said it would investigate were complicity in possession or organised distribution of images of children of a pornographic nature, infringement of people's image rights with sexual deepfakes and fraudulent data extraction by an organised group. New UK investigation Meanwhile, UK authorities have given an update on their investigations into sexual deepfakes created by Grok and shared on X. The images often made using real images of women without their consent - prompted a barrage of criticism in

NO DEFECT FOUND IN SWITCH
OF JET GROUNDED BY AIR
INDIA - REGULATOR

Clintons agree to testify on Epstein as vote looms to hold them in contempt of Congress

Former US President Bill Clinton and his wife Hillary Clinton, the former Secretary of State, have agreed to testify in the congressional investigation into late sex offender Jeffrey Epstein. It comes days before a vote on whether to hold the couple in criminal contempt for refusing to appear before the House Oversight Committee after a months-long standoff. Bill Clinton was acquitted with Epstein, who died in prison in 2019, but has denied knowledge of his sex offending and says he cut off contact two decades ago. It's unclear when the depositions will take place, but it will be the first time a former US president has testified to a congressional panel since Gerald Ford did so in 1983. The Clintons had long resisted a demand to appear before the committee, saying they had already given sworn statements representing the "limited information" they had on Epstein. They had dismissed the legal summonses issued by the committee as "nothing more than a ploy to attempt to embarrass political rivals, as President Trump has directed". The House Oversight Committee, led by Republicans, then approved the measure to hold the Clintons in contempt late last month, with the support of several Democrats. On Saturday, lawyers for the couple made an offer for them to provide limited testimony that would have centred on a four-hour interview by Bill Clinton. But House Oversight Committee Chairman James Comer expressed concerns that the former president would stonewall questions and run down the clock. On Monday evening, Bill Clinton's deputy chief of staff Angel Ureña posted on X confirming the couple would appear before the



panel. "They negotiated in good faith," Ureña wrote in a tweet directed at the House Oversight Committee. "You did not. They told you under oath what they know, but you don't care. But the former President and former Secretary of State will be there. They look forward to setting a precedent that applies to everyone." Afterwards, it was announced that lawmakers' consideration of the contempt resolutions against the Clintons would be postponed. House Rules Committee Chairwoman Virginia Foxx said the Oversight Committee needed more time "to clarify with the Clintons what they are actually agreeing to". For his part, Comer said: "I will clarify the terms they are agreeing to and then discuss next steps with my committee members." Neither Clinton has been accused of wrongdoing by

survivors of Epstein's abuse, and they have denied knowledge of his sex offending. Hillary Clinton, former US senator and secretary of state, and the Democratic presidential nominee in 2016, has said she never met or spoke to Epstein. Epstein's private jet logs show that Clinton took four international flights in 2002 and 2003. Shortly after Epstein was arrested on sex trafficking charges in July 2019, Clinton's spokesperson said the former president took trips on the plane including "stops in connection with the work of the Clinton Foundation". The former president also appears at the late financier's estate in photos that were among a batch of records released by the justice department to comply with a law passed by Congress mandating the disclosure of all investigative material relating to the late convicted paedophile.

One picture shows the former president swimming in a pool, and another shows him lying on his back with his hands behind his head in what appears to be a hot tub. Ureña, Clinton's spokesman, said at the time the photos were released in December that they were decades old and Clinton had stopped associating with Epstein before his crimes came to light.

Last month, the Clintons wrote a letter to James Comer, the House Oversight Committee chairman, criticising his handling of the Epstein investigation. "The decisions you have made, and the priorities you have set as chairman regarding the Epstein investigation, have prevented progress in discovering the facts about the government's role," the letter said. They added: "There is no plausible explanation for what you are doing other than partisan politics."

India's aviation regulator said it found no defect in the fuel control switch of a Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner jet grounded by Air India based on a pilot's report. The issue was reported on Sunday after the plane, which took off from London, landed in Indian's Bengaluru city. The regulator said that while starting the engine during take-off, the crew noticed that twice the fuel control switch - which regulates the flow of fuel into the plane's engines - did not "remain positively latched in the run position when light vertical pressure was applied". It remained stable the third time and the crew closely monitored the aircraft during the flight, which "was completed without incident". Air India had said in a statement on Monday that it informed India's aviation regulator about the issue and that it was getting the pilot's concerns checked on a "priority basis". A Boeing spokesperson had told the BBC in response to a question that the company was supporting Air India's "review of this matter". The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) said on Tuesday that when the switches were operated according to Boeing's recommended procedure, they were found to be "satisfactory", staying at run instead of moving to cut-off (which can stop fuel supply to the engines).

TRUMP SEEKS \$1BN IN DAMAGES FROM HARVARD



US President Donald Trump announced he will be seeking \$1bn (£730m) in damages from Harvard University in his administration's ongoing feud with the institution. The news comes after the New York Times reported that the Trump administration had to backtrack from its demand for a \$200m payment in negotiations with the university. Trump cited the story in a Truth Social post late on Monday, blaming Harvard for "feeding a lot of nonsense" to the New York Times. Trump officials have accused Harvard of not doing enough to tackle antisemitism during pro-Palestinian protests. Harvard has rejected the accusation. Harvard has been a central target in the White House's campaign to stamp out what it calls "woke" and "radical left" ideologies on American campuses. In April last year, Trump revoked around \$2bn in research grants to Harvard and froze federal funding. The university

sued the Trump administration over the move, saying no government "should dictate what private universities can teach, whom they can admit and hire, and which areas of study and inquiry they can pursue". A US federal court later overturned the billions in funding cuts, ruling the government had violated university's free speech rights. The White House vowed to immediately challenge the "egregious decision", saying Harvard remains "ineligible for grants in the future". Before Monday's announcement, the government had been in discussions with Harvard over a potential deal to unfreeze federal funding. "We are now seeking One Billion Dollars in damages, and want nothing further to do, into the future, with Harvard University," Trump wrote on Monday. He accused Harvard of "serious and heinous illegalities", but did not clarify how he believed it had broken the law.

CHINA BANS HIDDEN CAR DOOR HANDLES OVER SAFETY CONCERN



China has banned hidden door handles on electric vehicles (EVs), making it the first country to stop the use of the controversial designs that were made popular by multi-billionaire Elon Musk's Tesla. It comes as EVs are facing scrutiny from safety watchdogs around the world after a number of deadly incidents, including two fatal crashes in

China involving Xiaomi EVs in which power failures were suspected to have prevented doors from being opened. Under the new regulations, cars will only be allowed to be sold if they have a mechanical release both on the inside and outside of their doors, according to state media. The new rules are due to take effect on 1 January 2027. The Ministry of Industry and Information Technology rules require the outside of every passenger door except the boot, to have a recessed space measuring no smaller than 6cm (2 in) by 2cm by 2.5cm to allow access to the handle. Inside the car there must be signs measuring at least 1cm by 0.7cm to show how to open the door.

After months of acrimony, Colombia's Petro is about to meet Trump



Colombian President Gustavo Petro is heading to Washington for a high-stakes trip to meet US President Donald Trump, the first in-person meeting between the two after months of escalating tensions and angry rhetoric. Venezuela, drug trafficking, oil, security and US strikes on alleged drug vessels will be high on the agenda when they meet at the White House on Tuesday. While the two men were cordial in a phone call after the 3 January US military operation to seize Venezuela's President Nicolás Maduro, Petro has since said he believes that there is a "real

threat" of military action against Colombia. Trump, for his part, has previously said that a military operation in Colombia "sounds good". Tuesday's meeting follows months of the two leaders trading barbs - with Petro repeatedly criticising the repeat US strikes on the repeat US strikes on the alleged drugs boats in the

Caribbean and Pacific, as well as the White House's immigration policies. In an interview with the BBC last month, Petro went as far as to compare US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents to "Nazi brigades" and accused the US of treating other countries as part of its "empire".

RUSSIAN HITS UKRAINE ENERGY SITES IN 'MOST POWERFUL BLOW' SO FAR THIS YEAR



Russia has used a record number of ballistic missiles to target Ukraine's energy sector, President Volodymyr Zelensky has said. The combined missile and drone strikes hit power plants and infrastructure in Kyiv and multiple locations causing "the most powerful blow" so far this year, according to private energy company DTEK. The strikes were launched as temperatures dropped to -20C (-4F) and left more than 1,000 tower blocks in the capital without heating once again and damaged a power plant in the eastern city of Kharkiv beyond repair. Zelensky said Russia was "choosing terror and escalation" rather than

diplomacy to end this war and called for "maximum pressure" on Moscow from Ukraine's allies. The attack comes after a so-called "energy truce" agreed by Donald Trump with Vladimir Putin expired at the weekend. Ukraine's president suggested that Russia had simply used the time to stock up on missiles and prepare for the next attack. It also came on the day Nato Secretary-General Mark Rutte was in Kyiv to meet President Zelensky and to address the national parliament. Donald Trump's initiative was meant to give diplomacy a chance. Negotiators from Russia and Ukraine are due to meet in Abu Dhabi for

another round of talks coordinated by the US later this week. It is clear that Russia has other ideas. And in fact, there is always a gap between Russia's massive strikes which makes Ukrainians doubt there was ever any real pause at all. We heard the first explosions in Kyiv soon after midnight and the air raid lasted more than seven hours. There were several subsequent blasts. Residents spent the night sheltering in metro stations, with some pitching tents on the platforms to protect them from the freezing cold. President Zelensky has said more than 70 ballis-

tic and cruise missiles were fired - significantly more than usual - together with 450 drones which are used to overwhelm Ukraine's air defences. Ukraine's Air Force said it had intercepted only 38 of the missiles, which means many reached their target. Officials here have complained repeatedly of a shortage of missiles to protect the skies. Ukraine relies on US-made Patriot missiles, in particular. "Timely delivery of missiles for air defense systems and the protection of normal life are our priority," Zelensky wrote on X this morning. "Without pressure on Russia, there will be no end to this war." Volodymyr Zelensky has accused

Moscow of using the coldest days of winter to "terrorise people". DTEK has confirmed that two of its own power plants were hit again overnight, including in Odesa, in what it says was the ninth massive attack on the sector since October. State-run facilities were hit in Kyiv, Dnipro and elsewhere, adding to serious damage caused by a series of previous targeted attacks. DTEK says some of the plants targeted were providing heating only, not electricity, which means they were exclusively for civilian use. The Geneva Convention makes clear that targeting civilian infrastructure is a potential war crime.

Iran's president says it is ready to negotiate with the US



Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi has said Iran will pursue negotiations with the US after requests from "friendly governments in the region" to respond to a US proposal for talks. In a statement on X, Raisi said he had told Iran's Minister of Foreign Affairs Abbas Araghchi to pursue talks "provided that a suitable environment exists - one free from threats and unreasonable expectations". The Iranian president's words come after the country's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei warned any attack on Iran would spark a regional conflict. US President Donald Trump has threatened to intervene in Iran over its nuclear ambitions and deadly crackdown on protesters, building up forces nearby. "These negotiations shall be conducted within the framework of our national interests", Raisi added. The talks will be held in Istanbul on Friday, according to US media reports. Raisi's announcement follows an interview with Araghchi in which he told CNN he was "confident that we can achieve a deal". Speaking to a press pool in the White



Denmark's Julius Johansen and UAE Team lead the peloton during the 6th AlUla Tour 2026, Stage 3, a 142.1km stage from Winter Park – AlUla to Bir Jaydah Mountain Wirkah. Photo by Dario Belingheri

'Mohsin Naqvi Not Bothered About Pakistan Cricket': Report Makes Stunning 'U-Turn' Claim

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) could reportedly make a U-turn on its T20 World Cup stance. With only days remaining before the start of the T20 World Cup 2026, Pakistan's decision to boycott the match against arch-rival India on February 15 has led to a fresh controversy. The decision was announced on Sunday on the instructions of the Pakistani government, following a meeting between PCB Chairman Mohsin Naqvi and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif last week. However, Pakistan hasn't yet officially specified the reasons for skipping the game against India to the ICC. According to a report by PTI, PCB chief Naqvi, who is also the Interior Minister of Pakistan, might just make a



U-turn once the general elections are held in Bangladesh on February 12 and a democratic government takes charge instead of the present one headed by Muhammad Yunus. Pakistan will have two days to reconsider its stance as the elections in Bangladesh will take place on February 12, while the match

against India is scheduled for February 15. "Naqvi, more than a cricket administrator is a politician, who is not one bit bothered about the welfare of the national team. He is trying to score a brownie point with this and could well flip once elections are held on February 12. "There would still be two days before the

India game and things could just change. Else he knows that Pakistan could be ostracised," PTI quoted a source, tracking Pakistan cricket, as saying. In response to Pakistan's announcement, the ICC issued a strong statement on Sunday, urging the PCB to seek a mutually acceptable resolution and warning that selective participation undermines the principles of global competition. "While the ICC awaits official communication from the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB), this position of selective participation is difficult to reconcile with the fundamental premise of a global sporting event where all qualified teams are expected to compete on equal terms per the event schedule.

INFANTINO 'INFANTILE' FOR WANTING TO LIFT RUSSIA BAN



Ukraine's sports minister has called Fifa president Gianni Infantino "irresponsible" and "infantile" for saying that world football's governing body will look at lifting a ban on Russia. Russian national teams and clubs were suspended from all competitions by Fifa and Uefa in February 2022 after the country's invasion of Ukraine. With the war still going on, Infantino has said "this ban has not achieved anything" and "has just created more frustration and hatred". He added: "Having girls and boys from Russia being able to play football games in other parts of Europe would help." In response, Ukraine sports minister Matvii Bidnyi said in a social media post, external "Gianni Infantino's words sound irresponsible - not to say infantile. They detach football from the reality in which children are being killed. Let me remind you that since the start of Russia's full-scale aggression, more than 650 Ukrainian athletes and coaches have been killed by Russians. Among them were more than one hundred footballers." Infantino was awarded the Russian

Order of Friendship medal by president Vladimir Putin after Russia hosted the 2018 World Cup. However, since Russia's ban, they have been unable to compete at the 2022 World Cup and Uefa's Euro 2024 and the country will not be part of the 2026 World Cup. Russia has not completely stopped playing international football as they have played matches against non-Western nations without the permission of Fifa or Uefa. "War is a crime, not politics," added Bidnyi. "It is Russia that politicises sport and uses it to justify aggression. I share the position of the Ukrainian Association of Football, which also warns against Russia's return to international competitions. "As long as Russians continue killing Ukrainians and politicising sport, their flag and national symbols have no place among people who respect values such as justice, integrity and fair play."

Last year, Ukraine criticised the International Paralympic Committee's (IPC) decision to lift a ban on athletes from Russia and its close ally Belarus. Akmal urged the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) to not back down from their stance of boycotting the T20 World Cup 2026 game against India. Pakistan announced that they will take part in the competition but will not play in the group stage match against India in Colombo on February 15. The International Cricket Council (ICC) revealed that they have not received any official communication from the PCB on the subject but warned Pakistan against going forward with their decision. Boycotting the match against India can lead to financial sanctions for Pakistan and possible conflicts with other cricket

Ex-Pakistan Star Gives Bizarre 'Asia Cup' Argument In T20 World Cup 'Boycott' Row



Former Pakistan cricket team wicket-keeper batter Kamran Akmal urged the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) to not back down from their stance of boycotting the T20 World Cup 2026 game against India. Pakistan announced that they will take part in the competition but will not play in the group stage match against India in Colombo on February 15. The International Cricket Council (ICC) revealed that they have not received any official communication from the PCB on the subject but warned Pakistan against going forward with their decision. Boycotting the match against India can lead to financial sanctions for Pakistan and possible conflicts with other cricket

boards. Akmal said that although ICC has asked PCB to reconsider its stance, Pakistan should not change their stance. Akmal argued that India were allowed to not travel to Pakistan for either Asia Cup or Champions Trophy

despite Pakistan travelling to India for the 2023 ODI World Cup. "PCB should not back down! The ICC has told the Pakistan Cricket Board to reconsider its stance of boycotting the India game. Was ICC sleeping when the Asia Cup hap-

pened in the hybrid model? Was ICC sleeping when India said it would not play the Champions Trophy in Pakistan and only play on a neutral venue?" Akmal said on the 'Game Plan' show. "How many times has Pakistan played in India, despite the heightened tensions between the two countries. I have gone myself. The ICC should have thought of these things three years back," he added.

However, the argument does not hold ground as India played the matches when they were moved to a neutral venue. On the other hand, Pakistan have decided to boycott their match against India despite the venue being Colombo in Sri Lanka.

'UNCAGE THE GORILLA' - SCHOEYMAN KNOWS WHAT SCOTS MUST IMPROVE



Pierre Schoyman paints pictures, not in the literal sense but with his words, imagery and unique takes on what it's like being a prop. This is a world few understand, he says. Previously, he's compared looseheads and tightheads to Vikings and gladiators, he's spoken about how they co-exist on a different level to their fellow players, like "migrating bison". Now, in the week running up to the Six Nations, he's talking in animalistic terms again. "Unlock the gorilla in the cage, it has to come out," he says. Scotland's first game is against Italy in Rome. All going well, it'll be his 21st straight Six Nations match, 19 starts and two off the

bench. What is it about his fellow props he admires so much? "It's probably that primal thing," he says. "We know we're underrated for our intellectual capabilities. "We don't always dress well, but when we do, you know, we grab the attention. And, also, we go to the dark place. We love to go to

the dark place. "There's not many people on this planet that want to pick up a rugby ball and run into a brick wall - shoulders, heads, knees and do it again and again. "But that's how we put bread on our tables. Not always bread, sometimes steak as well, especially if it's a win." He's asked to

VOWLES 'NOT CONCERNED AT ALL' AT MISSING TEST



Williams team principal James Vowles says he is "not concerned at all" about missing the first pre-season test last week. Delays in the production of their new car made Williams the only team not to make it to the test at Spain's Circuit de Barcelona-Catalunya. Vowles acknowledged that missing the test was "a deficit" because Williams had not been able to gain experience of the complexities of energy management in the new engines being introduced this year. Rivals have said that on-track running is invaluable in learning how to manage the new power-units. These have three times more power in the electrical part of the hybrid engines this year and are energy starved as a result. But Vowles said he was "confident we're in a good place" because "a lot of that can be replicated with a driver simulator once you have an accurate model into where you are in reality". Vowles was talking as Williams launched their new livery with pictures of

what the team described as "essentially a simplified version of the 2026 car, not the FW48 (itself)". He said that the six days of running over the remaining two pre-season tests in Bahrain later this month should give Williams time to gather the data they need, and that being a Mercedes engine customer also came with benefits. "That is an advantage we have to acknowledge, as opposed to perhaps Aston (Martin) with just Honda and one team as a result of it," Vowles said. "There is learning, however, in driving style, adapting to the new energy systems. Vowles said: "I've seen elements in '23.

Ishan Kishan Makes Stunning Revelation On Jasprit Bumrah: "He Might Get Upset"



India wicketkeeper-batter Ishan Kishan has named the players he finds toughest to face in the nets. He noted that while Yuzvendra Chahal is the most difficult among spinners, pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah always poses significant challenges. In a recent interaction, Kishan shared that the veteran pacer doesn't go easy on batters, even when conditions are challenging. He also recalled instances where Bumrah would bowl a series of bouncers if a batter muddled his deliveries during practice sessions.

"Among spinners, I find Yuzi bhai [Yuzvendra Chahal] tough to play; I think he's figured me out. In pace, I mean, no one is better than [Jasprit] Bumrah bhai. Let me tell you a story. Bura

maan jayenge (He might get upset) that I say this everywhere. When we practice, we often get different wickets. Some will be grassy, others will be dry. But whenever it's grassy, usually the bowlers go easy on batters, but Bumrah doesn't believe in it. If a batter muddles the ball, you know he'll bowl a barrage of bouncers later," Ishan said while speaking

on the 2 Sloggers podcast. Meanwhile, Kishan has come back in fantastic form and is certainly putting a case forward to start in the XI at the World Cup," he said, adding that India's depth has turned selection into a challenge rather than a concern. India T20 World Cup Squad: Suryakumar Yadav (c), Abhishek Sharma, Tilak Varma, Sanju Samson, Shivam Dube, Ishan Kishan, Hardik Pandya, Arshdeep Singh, Jasprit Bumrah, Harshit Rana, Varun Chakaravarthy, Kuldeep Yadav, Axar Patel, Washington Sundar, Rinku Singh.

THE TALENTED PLAY-MAKER NO-ONE SEEMS TO WANT



When Harvey Elliott joined Aston Villa on loan from Liverpool in August, he did so as a Premier League champion and as the player of the tournament in last summer's European Under-21 Championship. He had contributed at key moments in Liverpool's title win but was expected to see more game time at Villa and push for inclusion in England's squad for the World Cup. Five months on, the reality has proved very, very different and Elliott has become a talented player that neither his parent club or his loan club appear to want. The 22-year-old is still at Villa Park following the closure of the transfer window but his long-term future is the opposite of assured. He is now three appearances away from his loan move - which was agreed when former president of football operations Monchi was in charge of Villa's recruitment - becoming a permanent £35m deal. But that is despite being largely sidelined by manager Unai Emery, who has been adamant for months he does not want to sign Elliott permanently. So what does

the short and medium-term future hold for a player who began the season hopeful of a ticket to the World Cup but must now feel in limbo? Villa's changing situation Elliott will automatically become a permanent Villa player if he plays 10 games this season. In the light of his limited game time and Emery's often brutal honesty about his disinterest in signing him, Liverpool and Villa discussed altering the agreement in recent days. However they failed to find a solution. And Emery has suggested he is not for turning. "With Harvey, it's not changing. Our idea is that we spoke to him clearly. He's a fantastic guy," he said last week. Elliott played the full game against RB Salzburg last week in the Europa League and came off the bench as Villa lost to 10-man Brentford on Sunday.

Those appearances were his first for four months, since a late cameo against Feyenoord in the Europa League on 2 October. The message, even then, was the same from Emery - "there was nothing changing".

Mass Maharaja Ravi Teja Praises “Sumathi Sathakam” Teaser & Trailer – Worldwide Release on February 6 via Mythri Movie Makers

Produced under the Vision Movie Makers banner by Sai Sudhakar Kommalapati and directed by M.M. Naidu, Sumathi Sathakam is a wholesome family entertainer gearing up for a worldwide theatrical release on February 6. The film stars Amardeep Chowdary and Saylimchaudhri in the lead roles. Renowned production house Mythri Movie Makers is releasing the film across the Telugu states. The first look, teaser, songs, and promotional content of Sumathi Sathakam have already received an encouraging response from audiences. Amardeep Chowdary's energetic dance moves in the songs have been widely appreciated, while Subhash Anand's music has added strong emotional and entertainment value to the film. As part of promotions, the film team conducted an extensive tour across the Rayalaseema region, receiving an overwhelming response. The trailer launch event held at a college in Tirupati turned out to be a



grand success, with students enthusiastically responding to the film's hook steps and

youthful content. Popular actor and Mass Maharaja Ravi Teja, who is well

known as Amardeep Chowdary's inspiration, watched the teaser, trailer,

and other promotional content and shared his appreciation. He said, "I have watched the teaser, trailer, and content of Amardeep's film Sumathi Sathakam. I really liked it. I wish the film great success and hope Amardeep has a bright future ahead." During college promotions, the film's catchy hook steps strongly connected with students, and the teaser and trailer received a positive response from youth across Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. The title Sumathi Sathakam has also created strong recall among audiences. Adding to its highlights, Sumathi Sathakam received a U/A certificate with zero cuts, which is considered rare. The Censor Board members appreciated the film, stating that it is a feel-good entertainer watched after a long time. The film will be released in the Telugu states by Mythri Movie Makers, while overseas distribution in North America will be handled by Vibrant Cinemas, with releases in Dallas by Ravi Kollipara and Jai Pakala.

Adivi Sesh Launches Concept Poster of CAT in Hyderabad



Highlights

- Popular actor Adivi Sesh unveiled the concept poster of the upcoming film CAT at Annapurna Studios, Hyderabad. The film is presented by Y. Gangadhar IPS under the VRGR Movies banner and produced by Rajani Gongati.
- The film is presented by Y. Gangadhar IPS under the VRGR Movies banner and produced by Rajani Gongati.

and thriller genres, CAT stars G.V. Naidu, V.J. Balu, Lavanya, and Kalyani Rani in the lead roles. The film boasts a strong technical team with cinematography by Pankaj Thottada, editing by D. Venkata Prabhu, and music composed by

Maruthi Raja. The story, screenplay, and dialogues are written by V. CH Shekhar Muddu, while the film is directed by G.V. Naidu (Gongati Veeranjaneyulu).

With its intriguing concept and dedicated team, CAT is expected to offer an engaging cinematic experience.

Vinay Ratnam Calls Sri Chidambaram Garu a Journey of Self-Love



Sri Chidambaram Garu A sensitive emotional journey about loving yourself first: Director Vinay Ratnam" Sri Chidambaram is produced by Chinta Vineesh Reddy and Chinta Gopala Krishna Reddy under the Sri Chakra Entertainment banner, presented by Mrs. Chinta Varalakshmi, with Chinta Rajasekhar Reddy as co-producer. Vamsi Thummala and Sandhya Vasishta play the lead pair. Through this film, Vinay Ratnam is being introduced as a director. The movie will be released on February 6. On this occasion, director Vinay Ratnam spoke with the media on Tuesday. Here are the highlights.

Why did you want to tell the story of "Sri Chidambaram Garu"? This presentation focuses more on people who feel inferior complex and insecurities and are unable to lead their lives confidently. They compare themselves with others and feel bad about not having what others have. I felt this is

the right time to tell such a story. So I wanted to present it with sensitive emotions.

What theme are you dealing with through this story?

Standing in front of a mirror, we should first believe that we are good enough. To love another person, you must first love yourself. That is the core message of this story.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM CREATIVE STAR SUMAN BABU'S MEDIA INTERACTION:

The Copy Claim

In a statement that has sparked discussion, Creative Star Suman Babu claimed that a specific shot of a child drinking milk in the trailer of Akshay Kumar's upcoming Bollywood film Bhoot Bangla was directly copied from the Erra Cheera trailer.

What is your background? How did you get this movie opportunity?

I made 25 short films. I am from Rajahmundry. I made a short film for film festivals presented by Niharika Konidela.

AKSHAY KUMAR'S 'BHOOT BANGLA' COPIED A SHOT FROM MY FILM: 'CREATIVE STAR' SUMAN BABU

"Erra Cheera" Grand Release on February 6 - Movie Team Announces Bumper Offers for B & C Center Audiences

The upcoming film Erra Cheera - The Beginning is a unique cinematic blend of motherly sentiment, horror, and action. Jointly produced by Sri Padmayala Entertainments and Sri Suman Venkatadri Productions, presented by Baby Damari, the film is set for a grand theatrical release on February 6.

The film features Baby Sai Tejaswini (granddaughter of veteran actor Rajendra Prasad) in a pivotal role. Creative Star Suman Babu has not only directed the film but also played a key character. Speaking to the media ahead of the release, he shared several sensational details about the project.

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A Real-Life Inspiration

The director revealed that the story is based on a real incident that occurred near his friend's house in the Chintal area. While 20% of the film is a true story, the rest has been fictionalized for the screen.

No Compromise on VFX: Although the shoot was wrapped in 37 days, the release was delayed to ensure high-quality CG. "We aimed for Hanu-Man level quality. We worked with three different studios until the graphics were per-

fect," said Suman Babu.

Ensemble Cast:

The movie features 23 prominent actors, including Sriram, Kamal Kamaraju, Ajay, Karunya Chowdhury, Ayyappa P. Sharma, Raghu Babu, and others.

Saree Giveaway: In a unique promotional move for B & C centers, the team will hold a Lucky Draw during every show, gifting sarees to 10 winners per show.

36 Kisses Concept Addressing the buzz around a particular song, the director clarified that the 36 Kisses concept was included solely because the story demanded it to appeal to the youth.

Future Slate

Creative Star Suman Babu is already planning for the future. He announced a sequel titled Ambika

(Erra Cheera-2) based on a tribal incident in Araku, and a romantic comedy called Ramuda Krishnuda. He plans to release a new film every six months.



Dhurandhar sequel titled 'Dhurandhar: The Revenge', makers drop new poster

Mumbai: The makers of 'Dhurandhar' have announced the title of the film's sequel as 'Dhurandhar: The Revenge'. Along with the title reveal, a striking new poster offering a glimpse into the next chapter of the high-octane blockbuster franchise. Ranveer took to Instagram, where he shared the poster drenched in deep, ominous red tones, instantly setting a dark and intense mood. At the centre stands the star, soaked in rain, staring straight ahead with a fierce, unflinching expression. Behind him, carved into a blood-red wall, looms the title "THE REVENGE", dominating the background like a warning. The date 19.03.26 is prominently displayed at

the top, signalling the film's release. The poster strongly hints at a darker, more ferocious chapter ahead. Captioning the poster, Ranveer wrote: "Ab Bigadne Ka Waqt Aa Gaya Hai. Dhurandhar: The Revenge Teaser Out Today at 12:12 PM Releasing In Cinemas Worldwide on 19th March 2026 in Hindi, Telugu, Tamil, Kannada & Malayalam." Dhurandhar also stars R. Madhavan, Akshaye Khanna, Sanjay Dutt, and Arjun Rampal. Serving as the first installment of a two-part film series, it centres on a high-stakes covert counter-terrorism operation. The film follows an undercover Indian intelligence agent who infiltrates Karachi's

criminal syndicates and political power structures in Pakistan in an effort to dismantle a terror network targeting India. The film's storyline draws loose inspiration from multiple real-life geopolitical events and conflicts in South Asia, including the 1999 IC-814 hijacking, the 2001 Indian Parliament attack, the 2008 Mumbai attacks, and developments linked to Pakistan's Operation Lary. Director Aditya Dhar and Ranveer on Monday had sparked excitement by teasing that the teaser of Dhurandhar 2 will drop on February 3. They took to Instagram to share the update, simply writing, "Tomorrow 12:12." "Dhurandhar 2" resumes with Hamza Ali Mazhari,

Kayadu Lohar Returns to Malayalam; New Poster of 'Pallichattambi' Released



A new poster of Pallichattambi, directed by Dijo Jose Antony with Tovino Thomas in the lead, has been released. The latest release is a single-character poster featuring the film's heroine, Kayadu Lohar. The poster also reveals the film's release date. Posters have been unveiled in five languages, including Malayalam. Pallichattambi is set for a worldwide theatrical release on April 9.

Kayadu Lohar's announcement video as the female lead in Pallichattambi had earlier drawn significant attention. Kayadu became a favorite among South Indian cinema audiences following her role as the heroine in the Tamil superhit film Dragon.

In Pallichattambi, Tovino Thomas will be seen in a look never seen before. The film is produced by Noufal and Brijesh under the banner of Worldwide Films, along with Chanukya, Chaitanya, and Charan under the banner of C Qube Bros Entertainments. The film is being released in five languages, including Malayalam. The screenplay has been written by S. Suresh Babu. Apart from Kayadu Lohar, Pallichattambi also features an ensemble cast including Vijay Raghavan, Sudheer Karamana, Baburaj, Vinod Keeda man g a l a m , Prashanth Alex, and several other prominent actors. The film is set in the 1950s-60s period. The cinematography of the film is handled by Tijo Tomy, while the music is composed by Mollywood's music sensation Jakes Bejoy. Megha Shyam and Thanseer serve as co-producers. Costumes are designed by Manjusha Radhakrishnan, and makeup is by Rasheed Ahmed. The line producer is Alex E. Kurian, finance controller Anil Amballur, and production controller Rajesh Menon. Renith Raj and Kiran Raphael are the chief associate directors. Sound design is by Sync Cinema, and the art direction is by Rajesh Menon. Casting is handled by Binoy Nambala. Digital marketing is managed by Akhil Vishnu V.S. with PR by Akshay Prakash. Stills photography is by Rishal Unnikrishnan, and the poster design is by Yellowtooths.