

Happy Maha Shivratri



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BANJARA HILLS: Road No. 10, Ph: 9848910502/23550896



INBRIFS

Derek O'Brien raises call for universal basic minimum wage in RS

New Delhi: Trinamool Congress MP Derek O'Brien on Friday raised the "urgent need for a Universal Basic Minimum Wage" during Zero Hour in the Rajya Sabha, arguing that stagnant wages and rising youth unemployment were locking millions into working poverty. Framing his intervention as both an economic and social imperative, O'Brien said, "One in three youth in India are not in employment, education, or training. And for those who have jobs, there is no meaningful minimum wage floor. This is a structural crisis that demands a national response."

Rahul slams Centre over textile tariffs



New Delhi (TSIT) Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Friday criticised the Union government's textile trade policy, alleging that India faces a competitive disadvantage against Bangladesh due to higher tariffs. In a WhatsApp message, he claimed India would compete with 18% tariffs while Bangladesh enjoys zero tariffs. Gandhi also accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi of conceding to conditions set by former US President Donald Trump, calling it harmful to Indian textile interests.

CM Stalin lays stone for Tambaram commissionerate building

CHENNAI: Chief Minister MK Stalin on Friday laid the foundation stone for the new Tambaram Police Commissionerate building. At an event held at the Secretariat, the Chief Minister also flagged off 360 new vehicles for the police department, including vehicles for the sniffer dog squad and other operational units. He inaugurated new buildings for the police and fire departments across the State at a total cost of Rs 122.19 crore through video conferencing.

Congress wins majority of urban local bodies in Telangana



Hyderabad (TSIT): Telangana's ruling Congress party has won nearly 60 per cent of urban local bodies, the results show on Friday night. The Congress party captured power in 64 out of 116 municipalities and three out of seven corporations. Main Opposition Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) bagged 13 municipalities, while Forward Block captured one urban local body. There were no clear winners in 38 municipalities. This triggered camp politics by both Congress and BRS to lure independents and others to win the posts of chairpersons and vice-chairpersons. The Congress party claimed vic-

tory in 75 per cent of the municipalities. An impressive performance by BRS denied the ruling party a clean sweep. In the previous municipal elections held in 2020, then ruling party TRS (now BRS) had captured power in over 100 urban local bodies. The ruling party also captured power in Mancherial, Ramagundam and Nalgonda corporations and was leading in Mahabubnagar. In the 60-member Kothagudem corporation, Congress and Communist Party of India (CPI) won 22 seats each. Congress leaders said there was a friendly contest between them. BJP, which failed to capture any

municipality on its own, emerged as the single largest party in the Karimnagar corporation. It secured 30 seats in a 66-member corporation. The BJP was also on its way to emerge as the single largest party in the Nizamabad corporation. It won 24 out of 45 seats, the results for which were declared till 8 p.m. Nizamabad and Karimnagar are among the eight Lok Sabha seats held by the BJP in

Telangana. Out of 2,582 wards in municipalities, the Congress party bagged 1,347 wards while BRS secured 717 wards. The BJP was distant third with 261 seats. Others, including AIMIM and independents, won 256 seats. Out of 414 divisions in seven municipal corporations, results have come so far from 378 divisions. Congress won 177, while the BRS bagged 57 divisions.

PRIYANKA CONGRATS REVANTH AFTER CONGRESS URBAN POLL WIN

Hyderabad (TSIT) Senior Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra met Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy in New Delhi and congratulated him on the Congress party's landslide victory in the state's urban municipal polls. She appreciated party leaders and workers for their coordinated campaign that secured a strong public mandate. Revanth Reddy briefed her on governance reforms, welfare schemes, investments, and development initiatives being implemented in Telangana.

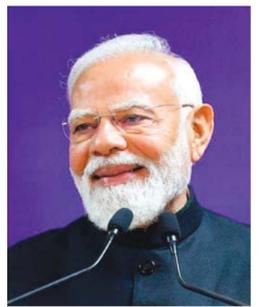


'Celebrating medium that is trusted voice for people': PM Modi on World Radio Day

New Delhi (TSIT): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday highlighted the enduring relevance and transformative power of radio on the occasion of World Radio Day, describing it as a "trusted voice" that connects people across remote villages and bustling cities alike.

In a post on X, the Prime Minister wrote, "World Radio Day is about celebrating a medium that is a trusted voice for people, be it in remote villages or bustling cities. For years, the radio has delivered timely information, amplified talent and encouraged creativity. This is a day to acknowledge the efforts of all those associated with this medium."

Highlighting his monthly radio address, 'Mann Ki Baat', the Prime Minister noted how the programme has evolved into a unique platform for direct communication with citizens. "Through #MannKiBaat, I have experienced the potential of the radio firsthand in bringing out the societal strength of our people.



This month's programme will take place on Sunday, 22nd February. Do share your inputs for the programme," he added. The Prime Minister's remarks underscore the continued importance of radio as one of the most dynamic, reactive and engaging mediums of communication.

Despite rapid technological advancements and the proliferation of digital platforms, radio has adapted seamlessly, offering new and interactive ways for audiences to participate and engage.

Concealing Tirupati laddus adulteration would have been 'sacrilege', says CM Naidu

AMARAVATI (TSIT) : Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on Friday defended his government's decision to go public with the allegations of adulteration of Tirupati laddus, saying concealing the matter would amount to "sacrilege". Addressing the Assembly, the Chief Minister said withholding the findings would be a betrayal of public trust. If future discrepancies were to arise, then the government would be held accountable.



temple and used standard ingredients and animal fats for making laddus, which are revered and sought after by crores of devotees.

The allegations date back to September 2024, when Naidu had claimed that animal fat was used in the preparation of Tirupati laddus during the previous YS Jagan Mohan Reddy-led regime in the state, triggering a massive political row. During an NDA legislative party meeting in the southern state in 2024, Naidu had alleged that the previous government did not even spare the Venkateswara

ments. The NDA government will take the onus of saving the sanctity of every temple and I am reiterating it to people," he added. Further, the TDP supremo expressed dismay over allegations from YSRCP leaders linking Heritage Foods, a dairy company owned by the CM's family, to the laddu adulteration controversy. "I don't understand. I don't know what Heritage has to do with it (laddu adulteration). Until now, Heritage did not ask money from the government. Will not ask in the future also," said Naidu. Calling Heritage Foods a "family livelihood" being managed by professionals, Naidu accused YSRCP leaders of "tarnishing" its reputation to inflict financial damage. Naidu also highlighted the achievements of the TDP government in nearly 20 months. Later, Speaker C Ayyannapatrudu adjourned the House to Saturday.

Always lived on hope: Shivakumar on K'taka leadership

Bengaluru, Feb 13 : Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, addressing the ongoing leadership row, stated on Friday that he has always lived on hope. "There will certainly be results for everyone's hard work. Where there is effort, there is reward. Where there is devotion, there is God," he said.



Shivakumar made these comments when reporters questioned him on Friday at the Indian Institute of Science and later in Tiptur. When asked if he felt more confident after his recent trip to Delhi, he repeated his earlier remarks.

In response to reports that the party high command had summoned him and Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on February 17 to discuss power-sharing, Shivakumar stated, "I am not aware of this. Time will provide the answer."

When asked about Home Minister G. Parameshwara's intention to seek clarification from the high command on the power-sharing issue,

Shivakumar responded, "I wish him well." On whether he had requested a report on legislators allegedly undertaking a foreign tour, Shivakumar said, "I have not sought any report on this matter. I have not tried to gather information about it." When questioned about the possibility of the high command intervening to halt the foreign study tour, Shivakumar replied, "I have not discussed this with the high command. Those going on the foreign tour have not spoken to me." Shivakumar emphasised his commitment to party discipline, stating, "I will abide by whatever the party says. I will not interfere in any other matter. If

MLAs raise any issue, the high command leaders and the Chief Minister will address it. I will not intervene. It is my duty to remain a disciplined soldier of the party and the government."

In response to questions about the government completing 1,000 days in office and the upcoming event in Haveri, Shivakumar stated, "We have organised the Bhoomi Guarantee scheme programme in Haveri tomorrow."

Regarding his visit to Sage Ajayya's mutt, Shivakumar explained, "It is Ajayya's annual fair. I visit every year, and I will go again this year. This evening, we have organ-

ised a dinner for the conference guests and arranged for them to visit Vidhana Soudha." Shivakumar said he met with World Bank officials earlier in the day.

"They visited villages and inspected the water supply system. They also visited the KRS dam and appreciated the safety measures there. They said that if Karnataka submits proposals for water supply, stormwater drains, and other projects, they are ready to extend support. I have instructed officials to prepare proposals accordingly."

When asked about the arrest of BJP MLA Byrathi Basavaraj on Thursday night, he said, "Please ask the Home Minister about this matter. I read about his arrest in the newspapers. Beyond that, I have no further information." Meanwhile, Congress MLC and Shivakumar supporter Channaraj Hattiholi stated, "It is our wish that Shivakumar should become the CM. It is also the wish of the people of the state and workers of the Congress party."

BANGLADESH ELECTION RESULTS 2026

Tarique Rahman emerges as new face of Bangladesh

Dhaka (TSIT) Tarique Rahman, who lived in London in self-exile for 17 years, has emerged as the new face of Bangladesh, with the party founded by his father set to return to power after a 20-year gap. The 60-year-old leader's Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) has bagged 209 out of 297 seats, while right-wing Jamaat-e-Islami, known to be close to Pakistan, secured 68 seats. The Awami League party of Hasina was barred from contesting the elections, which recorded 59.44 per cent voter turnout.



Founded by Rahman's father Ziaur Rahman, a military ruler turned politician. The party was led by his mother Khaleda Zia for nearly four decades after the assassination of President Ziaur Rahman in 1981. Five days after his return to Bangladesh amid a massive welcome in December last year, Rahman was struck by a personal tragedy as Khaleda Zia died after a prolonged illness. Rahman became the chairman of the BNP in the absence of his mother at a time when the party

PM Modi congratulates BNP's Tarique Rahman, says 'India will support democratic, inclusive Bangladesh'

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday warmly greeted Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) leader Tarique Rahman on his "decisive victory" in Bangladesh's parliamentary elections and said he looked forward to working with him to advance common development goals. "I convey my warm congratulations to Mr. Tarique Rahman on lead-



ing BNP to a decisive victory in the Parliamentary elections in Bangladesh," Modi said in a post on X.

was facing a state of political wilderness ahead of the polls. The evolving scenario did not allow him to spend some private days amid personal loss, as events unfolded so quickly, he scarcely had time to reflect. Rahman is widely seen as a product of dynastic politics, but his family's

political background earned him a sort of acumen. He is credited with manoeuvring his party in a complicated scenario to ensure its key stake in the politics ahead of the general elections. A soft-spoken Rahman drew massive crowds as he spearheaded the campaign for his party.

7 killed in Bengaluru crash: Six students in XUV were on early morning joyride

Bengaluru, Feb 13 : Of the seven people who were killed in an horrific accident on Friday morning near M. Sathyavara village, six were in an early morning joyride in an XUV without informing their families, police investigation has revealed.



In a tragic incident, seven youths lost their lives in a road accident early on Friday morning near M. Sathyavara village in Hoskote taluk of Karnataka's Bengaluru Rural district. The accident occurred on the Hoskote-Dabaspet

dent is yet to be identified. Gagan was working at a private company, while the other five were students studying in Classes 10 and 12. Ashwin Nayyar, a resident of Kothanur, was studying at RV PU College. Arhaan Sharif and Ayaan Ali were students of CMR Institute and residents of HVR Layout. Bharat was also a student at CMR Institute and a resident of Frazer Town. Ethan George was studying at RV College and was a resident of Hulimavu.

India, Israel to deepen AI cooperation at global summit next week

New Delhi, Feb 13 : India and Israel's cooperation in artificial intelligence (AI), climate innovation and digital transformation is focused on real-world challenges, from resilient agriculture and future-ready skills to responsible AI applications, an official statement said on Friday. The Embassy of Israel in New Delhi has announced the arrival of a high-level Israeli delegation to participate in the 'India AI Impact Summit 2026' next week. The delegation, led by Ilan Fluss, former Ambassador and EDT's Policy Coordinator at Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Pallavi Jain Govind Welcomed at Shamshabad Airport by Telangana Youth Services Director Dr Soni Bala Devi

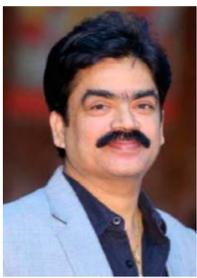
Hyderabad: Pallavi Jain Govind Secretary, Department of Youth Affairs, Government of India, was accorded a warm welcome on her arrival in Hyderabad at Shamshabad Airport by Telangana Youth Services Director Soni Bala Devi. Dr Soni Bala Devi received the visiting senior official on behalf of the Telangana Youth Services Department and extended greetings. The visit is expected to include



review interactions and program e-related engagements connected with youth development initiatives and inter-departmental coordination. Officials said the visit highlights contin-

ued cooperation between the Central Youth Affairs Department and Telangana State Youth Services in strengthening youth-focused programmes and outreach activities.

Congress Sweeps Urban Local Body Elections in Telangana



BY DR. JITHENDER RAO THANUGULA, SENIOR JOURNALIST

Hyderabad (TSIT): The Telangana municipal and municipal corporation elections concluded with a deci-



sive victory for the Indian National Congress, which secured control of a majority of urban local bodies across the State, according to results

announced on Friday. The Congress recorded significant gains in several municipal corporations and municipalities, including key urban centres, underscoring a consolidation of its position in Telangana's urban political landscape. The outcome marks a notable shift in voter preference in towns and cities, traditionally considered competitive political spaces.

Election observers attributed the Congress's performance to a campaign centred on civic governance and welfare delivery. Issues such as drinking water supply, sanitation, road infrastructure,

described the verdict as an endorsement of governance priorities and administrative reforms undertaken in recent months. Speaking to the media in Hyderabad, party leaders said the mandate reflected public confidence in welfare-oriented policies and decentralised administration.

Opposition parties faced widespread reverses, with several leaders acknowledging the party's organisational reach and mobilisation at the grassroots level. Analysts noted that candidate selection and booth-level coordination played a critical role in determining the outcome

of the polls. The Congress's comprehensive victory is expected to strengthen its administrative influence over urban governance in Telangana. With newly elected councils set to assume office shortly, attention will now turn to the implementation of policy commitments and the delivery of improved civic services. The results signal heightened expectations from urban voters, who will closely monitor the performance of the new municipal administrations in the coming months.

District Collector Harichandana Dasari Holds Meeting with Elevated Corridor Project Land Losers

Hyderabad: District Collector Harichandana Dasari conducted a meeting with land losers affected by the proposed Elevated Corridor Project and gathered their views and concerns regarding the land acquisition process.

Meeting was held on Friday at the Collectorate Conference Hall in the presence of committee members and concerned officials. Officials explained that the Elevated Corridor is planned from Paradise Junction to Shamirpet ORR Junction for a total length of 18.70 km. As part of the land acquisition process, acquisition is being taken up for 11.70 km within Hyderabad limits from Paradise to Lohkunta stretch. Land losers from Tirumalagiri, Karkhana/Kakaguda, Thokatta, and Machabollaram villages attended the meeting. Speaking on the



occasion, the Collector said that all steps would be taken to ensure transparency and clarity in the land acquisition process. She noted that the Elevated Corridor Project is strategically important for reducing traffic congestion, improving connectivity, and strengthening urban infrastructure. She further stated that government norms and procedures regarding compensation to land losers were explained in detail, and their suggestions and representations were formally received during the meeting.

and urban employment figured prominently during the campaign and appear to have resonated with voters. Senior Congress leaders

Canara Bank, ARM Branch I
2nd Floor, No. 86, Spencers Tower, M.G. Road, Bangalore-560001.

SALE NOTICE
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **Koramangala Layout Branch (0885)** of the Canara Bank, ARM-1 Branch (2366), will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on **17.03.2026** for recovery of **Rs. 2,40,43,543.65** (Rupees Two Crore Forty Lakh Forty Three Thousand Five Hundred and Forty Three and Paise Sixty five Only) as on 01.02.2026 with further interest and charges thereon due to the ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru of Canara Bank from Borrower/s **1. Hariprasad Reddy Gudala Alias Gudala Hariprasad Reddy S/o. Gudala Radhakrishna Reddy and 2. Gudala Prabhavathi W/o. Hariprasada Reddy Gudala.**

The Earnest Money shall be Deposited by way of E-Wallet of **M/s. PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://banknet.com)** portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through RTGS/NEFT in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before **16.03.2026, 4.00 pm.**

Lot	Description of the immovable/movable assets	Reserve Price (In Lakhs)	EMD (In Lakhs)	Incremental value (In Lakhs)
1	Schedule "A" : All that the piece and parcel of property bearing site No.02, now comes under Byatarayanapura BBMP Khata No. 464/14/3/3/02, Jakkur Ward No. 05, Sy. No.14/3, situated at Kogilu Village Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North, present Yelahanka Taluk measuring East to West : 40 feet, North to South : 130 feet, total 5200 Sq. feet and bounded on : East by : Remaining portion of same property, West by : Road, North by : Land belongs to Poojappa's, South by : Road. Name of the Title Holder : Mr. Hariprasad Reddy Gudala Alias Gudala Hariprasad Reddy S/O. Gudala Radhakrishna Reddy.	363.00	36.30	1.00

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website (www.canarabank.com) or E-Wallet of **M/s. PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://banknet.com)** portal and may contact ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, Canara Bank, Ph. No. 9901642631 and 9483544116, E-mail: cb2366@canarabank.com during office hours on any working day.

Date: 13.02.2026
Place: Bangalore

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

Dr Soni Bala Devi Congratulates Telangana Masters Athletes for Winning 199 Medals at National Championship

Hyderabad: Dr A. Soni Bala Devi, Managing Director of the Sports Authority of Telangana, has congratulated the Telangana contingent for its remarkable performance at the 7th National Masters Athletics Championship-2026 held at Ajmer, Rajasthan, from January 29 to February 2. A total of 236 men and women athletes from Telangana took part in the championship and achieved an outstanding overall tally of 199 medals, including 66 Gold, 61 Silver, and 63 Bronze medals. Dr Soni Bala Devi praised the athletes for their inspiring dedication and sporting spirit, noting that their continued participation and success at an advanced age is a matter of pride for the state. She said their achievements demonstrate that commitment to fitness and competitive sports can continue throughout life. She further appreciated the medal winners for representing Telangana in a national-level, government-organized championship and bringing laurels to the state. Their performance, she added, will motivate younger generations as well as veteran sports persons to stay active and pursue excellence in athletics.

Kala Utsav 2026 Celebrates Creativity and Culture Grandly at KLH Hyderabad

Hyderabad: The two-day Kala Utsav 2026 was celebrated with grandeur at the KLH Hyderabad Campus on February 12 and 13, under the theme "Where Logic Meets Creativity." Organized with the support of the Telangana Government's Department of Language and Culture, the festival provided a vibrant platform for students to showcase their talents in music, dance, fine arts, literature, journalism, and short films. The inaugural day featured chief guests Naha Singh and Het Nam from the Department of Language and Culture. Renowned personalities Arpin Sada, Aishwarya Arjun, and Nihantri Reddy graced the event and encouraged the participants. Special performances by the KLH Music Club and live cultural programs added to the excitement, while the official KLH University anthem was released during the occasion.

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

Branch Office: ICICI HFC, Dr. N. V. Ramesh Complex, 13-1, 54, Main Rd, Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh- 533001, Branch Office: Supriya Towers, 1st floor, D. No. 5-37-155, 4/15 Brodipet, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh- 522002

[See proviso to rule 8(6)] Notice for sale of immovable assets

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

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

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Loan Heirs. Leg Account No.	Details of the Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Reserve Price / Earned Money Deposit	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of Auction	One Day Before Auction Date	SARFAESI Stage
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)	(I)
1.	Janaganeedi Durga Rao (Borrower) Janaganeedi Uma Gangga Bhavani (Co-Borrower) Lan No. LHKKN00001478641 & LHKKN00001478642	D. No. 2-37, S. No. 28/1, Panasapadu Sivuru Ganachala Village, Adm Gram Panchayath, Samalkota Mandal, Previously East Godavari District, Presently Kakinada District, Pincode 533005	Rs. 19,76,361.38/- February 02, 2026	Rs. 400/- February 02, 2026	February 27, 2026 11:00 AM To 03:00 PM	March 05, 2026 02:00 PM To 03:00 PM	March 04, 2026 Before 05:00 PM	Symbolic Possession
2.	Kuppigiri Veera Prasad (Borrower) Kuppigiri Anusha (Co-Borrower) Lan No. LHGTR00001353519 & LHGTR00001353520 & LHGTR00001353687	Situated In D No 254-B of Uppalapadu Village, Door No. 2-99 Uppalapadu Village Panchayat Pedakakani Mandal Guntur District Andhrpradesh	Rs. 15,90,343.11/- February 02, 2026	Rs. 22,11,660/- February 02, 2026	February 27, 2026 11:00 AM To 03:00 PM	March 05, 2026 02:00 PM To 03:00 PM	March 04, 2026 Before 05:00 PM	Symbolic Possession
3.	Pallapati Yadeeya (Borrower) Murkipudi Anusha (Co-Borrower) Lan No. LHVJVW00001549278 & LHVJVW00001549287	D.No. 12-13-2 Revenue Division No. 299/A 29.78 Flat No. 101 In Ground Floor Flat Is Bounded By - East: Open Area In Ground, South: Steps And Flat No. 101, Flat No. 102, Situated At Shanmuka, Residency Near Navya Family Restuarant, Krishna Nagar Area Vinukonda Road Narasaraopeta, Palnadu District, Guntur Andhra Pradesh- 522601.	Rs. 35,39,476.40/- February 10, 2026	Rs. 35,89,920/- February 10, 2026	February 27, 2026 11:00 AM To 03:00 PM	March 05, 2026 02:00 PM To 03:00 PM	March 04, 2026 Before 05:00 PM	Symbolic Possession

The online auction will be conducted on website (URL Link- <https://BidDeal.in>) of our auction agency ValueTrust Capital Services Private Limited. The Mortgages/notice are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest till March 04, 2026 before 05:00 PM else these secured assets will be sold as per above schedule. The Prospective Bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) RTGS/ Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at ICICI Home Finance Company Limited Branch Office Address mentioned on top of the article on or before March 04, 2026 before 04:00 PM. The Prospective Bidder(s) must also submit signed copy of Registration Form & Bid Terms and Conditions form at ICICI Home Finance Company Limited Branch Office Address mentioned on top of the article on or before March 04, 2026 before 05:00 PM. Earnest Money Deposit Demand Draft (DD) should be from a Nationalized/Scheduled Bank in favor of "ICICI Home Finance Company Ltd. - Auction" payable at the branch office address mentioned on top of the article. For any further clarifications with regards to inspection, terms and conditions of the auction or submission of tenders, kindly contact ICICI Home Finance Company Limited on 9920807300. The Authorized Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any further reasons. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please visit <https://www.icicifhc.com>.

Date: February 14, 2026
Place: East Godavari, Guntur

Authorized Officer, "ICICI Home Finance Company Limited",
CIN Number- U65922MH1999PLC120106

ADITYA BIRLA CAPITAL REGISTERED INVESTMENT ADVISORS

ADITYA BIRLA CAPITAL LIMITED
Registered Office: Indian Rayon Compound, Veraval, Gujarat - 362 266.
Corporate Office: 12th Floor, R Tack Park, Niran Complex, Near Hub Mall, Goregaon (East) Mumbai-400 063, MH.

DEMAND NOTICE
UNDER SEC 13(2) OF THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 ("THE ACT") READ WITH RULE 3 OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002 ("THE RULES")

On account of the amalgamation between Aditya Birla Finance Ltd. and Aditya Birla Capital Ltd. vide the Scheme of Amalgamation dated 11.03.2024 duly recorded in the Order passed by the National Company Law Tribunal - Ahmedabad on 24.03.2025, all SARFAESI actions initiated by Aditya Birla Finance Ltd. in relation to the mortgaged property mentioned, stands transferred to Aditya Birla Capital Ltd., the amalgamated company. Accordingly the undersigned being the Authorized officer of Aditya Birla Capital Limited (ABCL) under the Act and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the Act read with the Rule 3, issued Demand Notice(s) under Section 13(2) of the Act, calling upon the following borrower(s) to repay the amount mentioned in the respective notice(s) within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The undersigned reasonably believes that borrower(s) is/are avoiding the service of the demand notice(s), therefore the service of notice is being effected by affixation and publication as per Rules. The contents of demand notice(s) are extracted herein below.

In connection with the above, Notice is hereby given, once again, to the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) to pay to ABCL, within 60 days from the date of the notice, the amount indicated herein below against their respective names, together with further interest as detailed below from the respective dates mentioned below in column (d) till the date of payment and / or realisation, read with the loan agreement and other documents / writings, if any, executed by the said Borrower's. As security for due repayment of the loan, the following Secured Asset(s) have been mortgaged to ABCL by the said Borrower's respectively.

Sr. No.	Name and Address of the Borrower(s)	Demand Notice Date & NPA Date	Description of Immovable Property
1.	M/s. Lakshmi Aqua Feeds & Needs , Through Its Proprietor Mr. Ghantasala Siva Durgaprasad. Flat No 403, Surya Heights Kaikalur Opp Maruthi Show Room Atapaka, Eluru, Mandavalli - 521333. Also At: D. No 13-49, Near Comfort Inn Hotel Ground Cement Road Back Side Of Dcc Bank, Kaikalur, Eluru, Mandavalli - 521333. Ph-9603232888.	06.02.2026 & 03.02.2026 Total O/s. Dues Amt. Rs. 40,75,973.72 as on 06.02.2026	An Extent Of 133.3 Sq. Yards Or 111.97 Sq. Mtrs Of Residential Site Together With Rcc Building Therein Bearing R.s. no.444/1B, Assessment No.2829, Door No.13-49 Situate In Kaikalur Village, Gram Panchayat Area And Mandal, Kaikalur Sub-registry, Krishna District Being Bounded By- East: Panta Bode And Panchayat Road, South: Canal Bund, West: Property Of Namburi Vijaya Rama Raju, North: Property Of Kundurthi Vijaya Lakshmi. Along With Existing Building And Construction.
2.	M/s. RS General Stores , Through Its Proprietor Mr. Hari Teja Chunduru, Door Number 1-1 near M/o Office Mopidevi Mandal, Pin- 521125, Ph- 9703494177. Also At: Plot Number No 7 Chandamma Estates Pedaprolu Village, Mopidevi Mandal Kakkiliggadda Road, Pedaprolu Mopidevi-521125.	06.02.2026 & 03.02.2026 Total O/s. Dues Amt. Rs. 62,34,636.00 as on 06.02.2026	An Extent Of 362 Sq. Yards Or 302.632 Sq. Mts Of Residential Site Together With Rcc Daba With All Rights Of Easement Situated In Municipal Ward No. 14 Bearing Old Door No. 14/122-7c, Present Door No. 14/122-18c Situated At Edepalli, Machilipatnam Town, Machilipatnam Sub Registrar, Krishna District Being Bounded By Boundaries For Entire Land, North By: Property Of Rama Mohana Rao, South By: Property Of Tejupathi, East By: Municipal Passage, West By: Property Of Thota Govinda Raju. Along With Existing Building And Construction.

With further interest, additional interest at the rate as more particularly stated in respective Demand Notices dated mentioned above, incidental expenses, costs, charges etc incurred till the date of payment and / or realization, if the said Borrower's shall fail to make payment to ABCL as aforesaid, then ABCL shall proceed against the above Secured Asset(s) / Immovable Property (ies) under Section 13(4) of the said Act and the applicable Rules entirely at the risk of the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) as to the costs and consequences. The said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) are prohibited under the said Act to transfer the aforesaid Secured Asset(s) / Immovable Property(ies), whether by way of sale, lease or otherwise without the prior written consent of ABCL. That please note that this is a final notice under Sec. 13(2) of the Securitization & Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002). Needless to say, that ABCL shall be within its right to exercise any or all of the rights referred to above against the borrower(s) entirely at their risk, responsibility & costs.

Sd/-
Authorized Officer, Aditya Birla Capital Limited

Place : Krishna, Andhra Pradesh / Date : 14.02.2026

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

L&T Finance

POSSESSION NOTICE (Rule-8(1))

Whereas the undersigned being the authorized officer of L&T Finance Limited (Erstwhile, L&T Finance Holdings Ltd), under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, and in exercise of powers conferred by Section 13(12) of the said Act read with [rule 3] of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notices calling upon the Borrower/ Co-borrowers and Guarantors to repay the amount mentioned in the demand notice appended below within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice together with further interest and other charges from the date of demand notice till payment/realization. The Borrower/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors and public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein under in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13 of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said Rules on this notice.

Loan Account Number	Borrower(s)/ Co-borrowers & Guarantors Name	Description of The Mortgaged Properties	Demand Notice		Date and Type of Possession Taken
			Date	Outstanding Amount (₹)	
H02295260621122910	1. Mallala Rambabu, Borrower	Description Of The Immovable Property	09/10/2025	Rs. 11,452,634.63/-	09-02-2026 Physical Possession
H17500260621093304	2. Mallala Aruna, Co-borrowers/guarantor	1. All That Piece And Parcel Of Guntur District, Narasaraopeta Registration District, Sattenapalli Sub District, Sattenapalli Municipality Area, Vaddavalli Village Door No.281/1 Covering In An Extent Of Ac.1.78 Cents Out Of It In An Extent Of 121 1 2 Sq.yds, Ward No.10, Zone No.2, Door Nos.16-10/1-21, 16-10/2-2, 16-10/2-3, 16-10/2-4 Of R.C.C.Roof Residential Building Is Being Bounded By And Within These Boundaries In An Extent Of 121 1 2 Sq.yds, Or 102.06 Sq.mts., Of Site With R.c.c.roof Residential Building With All Existing Constructions Thereupon.	10/10/2025	As On Date 07/10/2025	

Boundaries
East By Municipal Bazaar, 15 Ft.; West By Municipal Bazaar, 16.9 Ft.; North By Site Of Thulluru Surya Kumari, 65 Ft.; South By House Wall Of Kolla Abbalah, 72 Ft.

2. All That Piece And Parcel Flat No.38, Admeasuring 895 Sq.ft. Of Plinth Area, In Second Floor Of Lakshmi Nivasam, Constructed In The Property Situated In Guntur District, Guntur Sub-district, Within The Guntur Municipal Corporation Limits, Old Guntur, Yadava High School Road, Bearing Old Ward No.7, New Ward No.12, Block No.11, T.S.No.882C, AC.0.2998 Sq.ft., With Municipal Assst. No. 23501 And Door No. 16-4-48 Of Guntur Municipal Corporation In Which An Extent Of 1106 Sq.yards And The Said Flat Is Bounded As Follows And Within These Boundaries Undivided Share Measuring 30sq Yards (25.085sq.mts) Of Total Extent Of 1106 Sq.yards Along With All The Rights Of Easement And Appurtenances Etc.

Boundaries
East By Open To Sky In Between This Flat And Flat No. 3 C West By Open To Sky And Common Lift In Between this Flat And Flat No. 3 A North By Common Corridor South By Open Area In Ground

The Borrower/ Co-borrowers/ Guarantors in particular and public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing in the property would be subject to the charge of L&T Finance Limited for an amount mentioned in the demand notice together with further interest and other charges from the date of demand notice till payment/realization.

Date: 14.02.2026
Place: Guntur

Sd/-
Authorized Officer
For L&T FINANCE LIMITED

IDBI BANK LIMITED 3rd floor, D. No. 5-9-89/1 and 2, Chapel Road, Hyderabad -500001, Telangana, www.idbi.bank.in.

WITHOUT PREJUDICE REGISTERED POST WITH ACKNOWLEDGEMENT DUE Ref No. : IDBI002/DN/2025-26/LRR-6 (IV) Date: 10-02-2026

Shri. Achyutramraju Addala H. No. 1-52, Pendyala, Nidadavole, West Godavari, Andhra Pradesh - 534202. Shri. V Subba Raju Chekuri H. No. 3-79, Pendyala, Nidadavole, West Godavari, Andhra Pradesh - 534202. Shri. Dasari Siva Sankar H. No. 4-9-16, Ward-2, Kotapadu, Nayudu Peta, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh - 522007. Shri. Nadimpalli Nagaraju. No. 1-65, Block-1, Pendyala, West Godavari, Andhra Pradesh - 534202. Shri. V V Satyanarayana Uppuluri H. No. 3-39, Pendyala, Nidadavole, West Godavari, Andhra Pradesh - 534202. Shri. Byrāju Venkata Srinivasa Raju H. No. 1-48, Pendyala, Nidadavole, West Godavari, Andhra Pradesh - 534202. Shri. Kalidindi Ranga Raju D. No. 5-8-44/10, Swamandhra and Govardhan Garden, Yaprāl Village, Malkajgiri Mandal, Rangareddy District, Telangana - 500087.

Dear Sir/Madam, Financial assistance sanctioned to you by IDBI Bank Limited - Defaults committed - Statutory notice under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of the Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

Table with 2 columns: Name of the Borrower, Loan Sanctioned Amount. Includes Shri. Achyutramraju Addala, Shri. V Subba Raju Chekuri, Shri. Dasari Siva Sankar, Shri. Nadimpalli Nagaraju, Shri. V V Satyanarayana Uppuluri, Shri. Byrāju Venkata Srinivasa Raju.

(herein after referred to as "the Financial Assistance"), on the terms and conditions contained in the accepted Sanction Letters, Loan-cum-Hypothecation Agreements, Common Guarantee Agreements, and the other related security documents (herein after collectively referred to as "the Loan Agreement").

Table with 2 columns: Name of the Borrower, Loan Disbursed Amount. Includes Shri. Achyutramraju Addala, Shri. V Subba Raju Chekuri, Shri. Dasari Siva Sankar, Shri. Nadimpalli Nagaraju, Shri. V V Satyanarayana Uppuluri, Shri. Byrāju Venkata Srinivasa Raju.

4. In terms of the Loan Agreement read with the Security Documents, you all have agreed to repay to IDBI Bank, the Financial Assistance in accordance with the amortisation schedule contained in the respective Loan Agreement. You have failed and neglected to pay to IDBI Bank, the instalments of principal amount of the Financial Assistance, interest and other monies, the particulars whereof are given in Annexure - II.

Table with 2 columns: Name of the Borrower, Loan Outstanding Amount. Includes Shri. Achyutramraju Addala, Shri. V Subba Raju Chekuri, Shri. Dasari Siva Sankar, Shri. Nadimpalli Nagaraju, Shri. V V Satyanarayana Uppuluri, Shri. Byrāju Venkata Srinivasa Raju.

6. In the premises, IDBI Bank has become entitled to and does issue this statutory notice to you/each one of you under Section 13 (2) of the Act and hereby calls upon you/each one of you to pay to IDBI Bank at Basheerbagh Branch, within a period of 60 days from the date of this notice, the sum aggregating ₹8,60,93,994 (Rupees Eight Crore Sixty Lakh Ninety Three Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety Four Only) as per Annexure - III, together with further interest thereon with effect from 10-05-2018 to IDBI Bank, at the contractual rates upon the footing of compound interest, until payment/realization, failing which IDBI Bank as a Secured creditor shall be entitled to enforce its security interest without intervention of the Court or Tribunal by taking recourse to one or more of the measures under Chapter III of the Act including (but not limited to) taking over of possession and/or management of the Secured Assets, short particulars whereof are given in Annexure - IV for realizing its dues at your own risk as to the costs and consequences thereof.

7. We also invite your attention to provisions of sub section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in accordance with which if the Borrower does not tender the outstanding sum together with all costs, charges and expenses incurred by secured creditor, at any time before the date of publication of notice for public auction or inviting quotation or tender from public or private treaty, the Borrower will not be entitled to redeem the Secured Asset.

Table with 2 columns: Particulars of the Loan Agreements and Security Documents. Includes KCC - Fish Tank Loan, Demand Promissory Note, Agreement of Guarantee/ Common Guarantee, Memorandum of Enty No. 1260/2011.

ANNEXURE - I B Particulars of the Secured Assets intended to be enforced

A. The Hypothecated Asset: Hypothecation of Fish Feed, Fish grown in tanks as specified, debtors financed by IDBI Bank for cultivation of Fish. B. The Mortgaged Assets: (i) An extent of 5472 Sq. Yrds., in R. S. No. 556/1, 2, 3a, 3b, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 560/2a, 2b, 3, 3Bha, 4a, 4b, 4c, 5, 6, and 561/1, 2, 3, 8 and 563/3 at Ward No. 17, Block No. 29, Belagum Harijana Veedhi, Parvathipuram Municipality and Parvathipuram Municipal Plan Approval No. L. P. No. 46/06/V dated 09-06-2006 in Sai Gardens Layout Plot No's. 31 to 40 and 42 to 58 in Parvathipuram Sub-Registry, Vizianagaram District is bounded by Boundaries of Plot No's. 31 to 40; East: 40 Feet width road. South: 40 Feet width road. West: Others Land. North: Others land and one part of 40 feet road. Boundaries of Plot No's. 42 to 58: East: 40 Feet width road. South: 40 Feet width road. West: Municipal Road. North: 40 Feet width road.

ANNEXURE - II Particulars of the Defaults in repayment of principal and payment of interest etc.

Table with 7 columns: Loan A/c. No., Principle Due Date, Principle Amount, Interest Due Date, Interest Amount, Total O/s. as on 30-04-2018. Includes Achyutramraju Addala, V Subba Raju Chekuri, Dasari Siva Sankar, V V Satyanarayana Uppuluri, Byrāju Venkata Srinivasa Raju.

ANNEXURE - III Particulars of the total claim (A) (Amount in Rs.)

Table with 7 columns: Loan A/c. No., Principle Amount, Interest Amount, Addl. Interest, Further Interest, Liquidated Damages, Total O/s. Includes Achyutramraju Addala, V Subba Raju Chekuri, Dasari Siva Sankar, V V Satyanarayana Uppuluri, Byrāju Venkata Srinivasa Raju.

Particulars of Expenses - Nil as on 30-04-2018 - Grand Total (A+B): ₹ 8,60,93,994 (Rupees Eight Crore Sixty Lakh Ninety Three Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety Four Only).

Srisaillam Brahmotsavam: Collector Walks in Q-Line with Devotees, Reviews Arrangements



SRISAILLAM L District Collector G. Rajakumari said that all the facilities have been provided to the devotees who come through the free Q line on the occasion of Brahmotsavam held in Srisaillam Kshetra. It is said that the arrangements are being implemented firmly, giving priority to the comfort, safety and cleanliness of the devotees. The District Collector, who traveled on the free Q line along with ordinary devotees on Friday visited Sri Bhramaramba Sametha Mallikarjuna the Swami and Ammavaru at Devasthanam with devotion. Intermingled with the devotees in Qline and got to know their opinions and suggestions. Devotees were asked and collected details about darshan time, queue management, drinking water, medical facilities and rest arrangements. After darshan, she personally distributed free laddu prasadam to the devotees. The District Collector was examined the laddu counters, the token system, orderly supply process, reserves, crowd control of devotees etc. They ensured that the distribution of prasadam was done in a speedy and transparent manner. The authorities have been advised to further strengthen the arrangements such as appointment of additional staff and guidance boards so that the devotees do not face any inconvenience. Similarly, the Collector, who went to the Annadana Satram run by the Devasthanam along with the devotees through Qline, sat together and had a meal. A comprehensive review was conducted on food quality, kitchen cleanliness, drinking water supply, serving system and seating arrangements. The officials were ordered to make the supervision more strict so that the devotees get the meal in a dignified and speedy manner. The District Collector suggested that the officials of all the departments should work in coordination keeping in mind the increasing number of devotees in view of Brahmotsavam. Special attention should be given to cleanliness, traffic control, medical facilities, drinking water supply and security measures. The District Collector said that arrangements have been made with a comprehensive plan so that the devotees do not face any difficulties and every department is under constant supervision.

MEPA Telangana State Committee Attends New Clothing & Floral Blessing Ceremony, Blesses Sana Mudhiraj



Hanamkonda: The Telangana State Committee of MEPA (Mudhiraj Employees and Professionals Association Telangana) attended and blessed the New Clothing, Fruit and Floral Decoration ceremony held for Sana Mudhiraj, daughter of MEPA committee member Neerati Satish Mudhiraj and Mounika Mudhiraj of Nallabelli village, Sangem mandal, Warangal district. The ceremony was conducted in a traditional and festive atmosphere with the participation of community elders, relatives, and well-wishers. MEPA Founder Puli Devender Mudhiraj, State Vice President Ponnamm Raju, and State Secretary Neerati Raju attended the programme and extended their blessings to Sana Mudhiraj. On the occasion, they presented a portrait of Goddess Peddamma Thalli, revered as the presiding deity of the Mudhiraj community. Speaking at the event, Puli Devender Mudhiraj said it should become a tradition to present the portrait of Peddamma Thalli at such auspicious family

Heartfelt Thanks to Constituency People TPCC Working President Jagga Reddy Nirmala

Sangareddy, February 13 (TSIT) Jagga Reddy, Nirmala TPCC Working President, expressed her heartfelt gratitude to the people for supporting the Congress Party and ensuring a resounding victory in the Sangareddy and Sadashivpet municipalities. She thanked the voters for their overwhelming support and also conveyed her sincere appreciation to the party leaders and workers who worked tirelessly day and night for the victory of the Congress candidates. Jagga Reddy stated that she remains committed to fulfilling the promises made and to ensuring the comprehensive development of Sangareddy and Sadashivpet municipalities. With the support of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, District Minister Damodar Rajanarasimha, and District In-charge Minister Vivek Venkataswamy, she assured that both municipalities would witness all-round development. She once again extended her gratitude to the people of both municipalities for delivering such a significant victory to the Congress Party.

National English Day celebrated



Hanamkonda, Feb 13 (TSIT): The PM Sree Govt Practicing High School in Lashkar Bazar celebrated National English Day on Friday honoring the birth anniversary of the renowned English poet and social activist Sarojini Naidu. Teachers of English M. Roja Reddy and Lakshmana Chary highlighted the importance of mastering the English language in today's competitive world. Roja Reddy also discussed Naidu's significant contributions to the nation. The celebration included a Rangoli competition for the girl students, with prizes awarded by in-charge HM Jagannadham to the winners. Music teacher Vaddiraju Nivedita and physical science teacher Padma served as judges for the event. All the 28 teachers and staff joined in to support and celebrate with the students.

FOR ADVERTISEMENT PLEASE CONTACT: 9948480279, 7330778889

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

PUBLIC AUCTION FOR SALE OF MORTGAGED PROPERTY

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

Table with 10 columns: Name of Borrower and Co-Borrower, Secured Property Address, Loan Account Number(s), Physical Possession taken, Earnest Money Deposit 10% or more of RP (in ₹), Secured Debt, Reserve Price (in ₹), Date of Inspection, Date and Time of Auction. Includes items for Vijaya Kumari M, Ramesh Mikikkil, Bala Kotaiah Mikikkil, and Manda Lakshmi Kumari.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF PUBLIC AUCTION

- 1. The E-auction Sale is being conducted online by the Authorised Officer through the website https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net/EPROC/ under the provisions of SARFAESI Act with the aid and through public e-auction mode. 2. The public e-auction will be conducted on the date and time mentioned herein above, when the secured asset/s mentioned above will be sold on "AS IS WHERE IS" BASIS & "AS IS WHAT IT IS" CONDITION. 3. For participating in the public e-auction, intending purchasers/bidders will have to submit the details of payment of refundable Earnest Money Deposit of 10 % of the reserve price of the secured assets along with copies of the PANCARD, Board Resolutions in case of company and Address Proof on or before 19/03/2026. 4. The EMD of all other bidders who did not succeed in the public e-auction will be refunded by LTF within 7 days of the closure of the public e-auction. The EMD will not carry any interest. 5. The successful purchaser/bidder shall deposit the 25 % (inclusive of EMD) of his/its offer by way of D.D./P. O favoring "L&T Finance Limited" payable at Mumbai on or before 18:00 hours on 20/03/2026 i.e., day of e-auction or on the next working day i.e., 21/03/2026, which deposit will have to be confirmed by L&T Finance Limited, failing which the sale will be deemed to have failed and the EMD of the said successful bidder shall be forfeited. The balance amount i.e., 75% of purchase price payable shall be paid by the purchaser to L&T Finance Limited on or before the fifteenth day of confirmation of sale of immovable property or such extended period as per provisions of law. 6. For inspection of property or more information, the prospective bidders may contact the authorised officer i.e. Name - Mr. Vikas Singh, Contact No. 8669189048 & Mr. Satheesh R, Contact No. 9738141146, L&T Finance Ltd, Brindavan, Plot no. 177, CST Road, Kalina, Santacruz (East), Mumbai - 400 098, Maharashtra, India, Contact No. 0222-68076666. At any stage of the e-auction, the Authorised Officer may accept/reject/modify/cancel the bid/offer or post-pone the e-auction without assigning any reason thereof and without any prior notice. 7. The successful purchaser/bidder shall bear any statutory dues, taxes, fees payable, stamp duty, registration fees, etc. that is required to be paid in order to get the property conveyed/delivered in his/her/its favour as per the applicable law. 8. The Borrower/Guarantors, who are liable for the said outstanding dues, shall treat this Sale Notice as a notice under Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, and the holding of above-mentioned public e-auction sale. 9. The Borrower (s) Co-Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s) are hereby called upon to pay the entire loan outstanding dues as mentioned above before the said e-auction date failing which the L&T Finance Ltd shall sell the property as per the provisions laid down in the SARFAESI ACT, 2002. 10. The Borrower (s) Co-Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s)/Mortgagor(s) public at large are hereby restrained from transferring by way of sale, lease or otherwise with the secured assets referred to in the notice without prior written consent of L&T Finance Limited.

Date: 14.02.2026 Place: Vijayawada Sd/- Authorized Officer For L&T Finance Limited

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

ICICI Home Finance Registered Office: ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai- 400051 Corporate Office: ICICI HFC Tower, JB Nagar, Andheri Kurla Road, Andheri East, Mumbai- 400059

Branch Office: D. No.13-1-54, 1st Floor, D. N. V. Ramesh Complex, Ramayya Street, Main Road, Kakinada- 533001 Branch Office: North Side, 1st Floor, Plot No. A 36, 2nd Block, 76-1-4; Lalitha Bhaskar Enterprises, Gandhi Puram-II, Rajamahendravaram, AP- 533103 Branch Office: Supriya Towers, Upper Ground Floor, D. No. 5-37-155, 4/15 Brodipet, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh- 532002 Branch Office: Ground Floor, 47-9-14, Ganta Arcade, 3rd Lane, Dwarkanagar, Vishakhapatnam, A.P.- 530016

Whereas The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICICI Home Finance Company Limited under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notices upon the borrowers mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. As the borrower failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/ her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower 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 ICICI Home Finance Company Limited. The Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Table with 6 columns: Sr. No., Name of the Borrower/Co-Borrower/Loan Account Number, Description of property/Date of Possession, Date of Demand/Noticed Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.), Name of Branch. Includes entries for Guttula Sattibabu, Guttula Lovakumar, Guttula Sattibabu, Srirama Krishna Nalla, Kondapi Sivaramakrishna, Kondapi Abhinesh, Kondapi Vijay Kumar, Kondapi Maruthi Kumar, Kondapi Sivaramakrishna, Kondapi Abhinesh, Kondapi Vijay Kumar, Tanka Tara Turumala, Tanka Tara Turumala, Tanka Tara Turumala.

The above-mentioned borrowers/s/ guarantors/s/ are hereby given a 30 day notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002. Date: February 14, 2026 Place: Turangi Kda, Rajahmundry, Ongole, Tekkali Authorized Office ICICI Home Finance Company Limited

EDITORIAL

Goodbye, South Block: From Child Visitor To Secretary, The Corridors That Made Me

It was 1951. I was seven years old when I first climbed the sandstone steps of the North Block. My mother had just joined the Government of India as a mid-level officer, directly recruited three years after independence and posted in the Ministry of Home Affairs. I had joined my mother coming from a middle-class locality in Mumbai, and a Marathi education. That ascent, my small hand trailing against the cool pink, stone, head craned upward - was my first encounter with the architecture of authority. And to see her name, Lilla Wagle Dhume, in brass lettering outside her room on the first floor. Did my 'Ai' really work here? Even at that age, I was struck by how regal it all looked - imposing without being ostentatious - solid, symmetrical, so certain of its place. Occasionally, I would visit my mother's room overlooking the then Rajpath and sit as quietly as possible, absorbing the movement of the turbaned peon carrying files, the low-hanging ceiling fan, and the murmur of officialdom. It was 1951. I was seven years old when I first climbed the sandstone steps of the North Block. My mother had just joined the Government of India as a mid-level officer, directly recruited three years after independence and posted in the Ministry of Home Affairs. I had joined my mother coming from a middle-class locality in Mumbai, and a Marathi education. That ascent, my small hand trailing against the cool pink, stone, head craned upward - was my first encounter with the architecture of authority. And to see her name, Lilla Wagle Dhume, in brass lettering outside her room on the first floor. Did my 'Ai' really work here? Even at that age, I was struck by how regal it all looked - imposing without being ostentatious - solid, symmetrical, so certain of its place. Occasionally, I would visit my mother's room overlooking the then Rajpath and sit as quietly as possible, absorbing the movement of the turbaned peon carrying files, the low-hanging ceiling fan, and the murmur of officialdom.

Advertisement - Scroll to continue

A Story About My Mother, Too

This is not only a story about buildings; it is about my mother. I remember her Kanjivaram sarees, her flared woollen coat, and her high-heeled brown shoes - elegant, dignified and purposeful. For sixteen years, she worked in North Block. As I grew older, I began to understand that she had issued letters of appointment on behalf of the Government of India to the earliest batches of the Indian Administrative Service - a new steel frame for a new republic. In those years, the corridors still carried the cadence of the ICS era, but the files bore the urgency of a nation finding its administrative voice. North Block and South Block had been built as part of the great imperial capital of New Delhi in the early decades of the twentieth century. But after Independence, their meanings quietly shifted. What had once symbolised imperial command had become the nerve centre of a democratic state. The same domes and colonnades now framed decisions taken in the name of "We, the People". Years later, history completed its circle. I joined the Ministry of Defence as a Director. My room was in South Block, on the side facing the Ministry of External Affairs. Beyond lay the Prime Minister's Office and the Cabinet Secretariat. If North Block had impressed me as a child, South Block took my breath away as an officer. The corridors were lined with red coir matting stretching endlessly from one end to the other. It took ten minutes to walk from my room at one end to that of the Defence Secretary - distance measured not only in steps but in hierarchy.

Those Power Corridors

I remember the wood-paneled walls of the Defence Secretary's office, where I was called in with fellow officers. I remember the inside of the offices of SM Ghosh and PK Kaul. I also remember the office of the Raksha Mantri, R Venkataraman, especially during Parliament sessions. We were expected to have every fact at our fingertips - not to brief the Minister directly, but through the Joint Secretary. My boss was Bhaskar Ghose, who never lost a moment puncturing pomposity by imitating the most powerful - behind their backs!

Fashion, Identity, and Delusion: The Real Challenge Facing Today's Youth

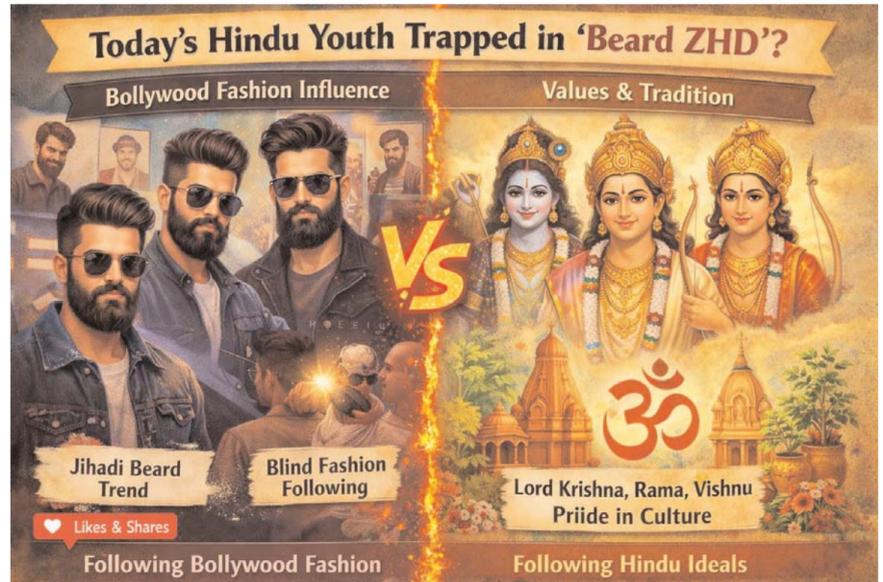


Every era has its own identity. This identity isn't simply defined by clothing, hairstyles, or facial hair, but by the mindset that guides both the individual and society. The biggest challenge facing young people today is that how they look has become less important, and what they think and who they emulate has become more important. External attraction, the glamour of social media, and instant popularity have made the definition of identity superficial.

Over the past few years, a heated debate has emerged regarding beards. Some consider them a symbol of modern fashion, while others see them as an example of cultural confusion and blind imitation. This debate becomes even more complex when it is linked to religion, politics, or conspiracy. Therefore, it is crucial that we rise above emotions, away from the noise, and approach this topic with a rational and factual perspective. Because when issues become a battle of identity rather than ideas, it creates division, not solutions.

History bears witness that both beards and clean shaves have been integral to Indian society. Vedic sages and saints sported matted hair, while royal courts also featured well-groomed, clean-shaven figures. Whether it's medieval or modern, both styles coexisted in every era. During the freedom struggle, Mahatma Gandhi, Subhas Chandra Bose, Bhagat Singh, and Pandit Nehru all had distinct looks, but shared a common purpose. Clearly, a beard is not something new or foreign, nor is a clean shave a foreign concept. Both have evolved according to time, circumstances, and personal preferences.

Today, the beard trend isn't limited to India. It's become a global fashion trend. Hollywood, European fashion,



sports, the music industry, and digital influencers—beards are seen everywhere in varying styles. Social media has further accelerated these trends. With a single photo, video, or reel, trends spread across the world in an instant. Therefore, to assume that a single industry, group, or ideology is "spreading" a particular fashion would be an oversimplification of reality.

But it's equally true that blind imitation has become a serious problem. When young people blindly adopt a trend simply because it's popular or considered "cool," their personality becomes borrowed. Fashion becomes a problem when it overshadows thinking and reduces identity to mere external symbols. The question isn't whether to have a beard or not; the question is whether we understand the reasons behind our choices, or are we simply following the crowd?

In this context, it's important to discuss the role of cinema and digital media. The entertainment industry not only tells stories but also sets lifestyle standards. Repeatedly portraying the same "look," "style," and "heroism" as ideals limits the choices available to young people. This reduces diversity and increases uniformity. Responsible media is one that reflects the diversity of society—

where simplicity is attractive, and diverse personalities are acceptable. But as viewers, it's also our responsibility to learn to distinguish between appearance and value. Balance is essential even in discussions of God, culture, and beauty. Our traditions have been extremely diverse. Some have ascetics with matted hair, others decorated idols; some have renunciation, others adornment. Beauty isn't just about outward appearance, but also about conduct, compassion, restraint, and prudence. If we limit beauty to just the face, beard, or fashion, we diminish our own cultural depth.

The real threat facing today's youth isn't a single fashion, but a lack of self-awareness. When young people understand their history, values, and cultural diversity, adopting—or not adopting—a trend is their conscious and independent decision. But when identity rests solely on external symbols, confusion arises and individuals become easily influenced.

The solution doesn't lie in the language of fear, blame, or conspiracy. The solution lies in education, dialogue, and self-confidence. It's important to teach young people that fashion is fleeting, but character is enduring. Trends today may change tomorrow, but the values you embrace

will last a lifetime. Therefore, choices must be made thoughtfully—not under pressure, fear, or blind imitation. Society must also be wary of the language of division. When we view trends through the lens of fear or conspiracy, dialogue is stifled and polarization grows. Conversely, when we ask questions—"Why?"; "How?"; and "To what extent?"—understanding develops. A healthy society is one that allows for disagreement, but with respect and facts. Today, we need to teach young people critical thinking—so that they don't blindly follow every trend. They should have a sense of ownership over their bodies, time, and identity. It's not wrong to follow fashion; what's wrong is to lose oneself in it. The true beauty of a person lies not in external adornment, but in self-confidence and discernment. Ultimately, this debate isn't about beards, it's about direction. What are we building our identities on—appearance or ideas? If we give young people education, opportunity, and self-respect, they will be secure in any fashion—because their roots will be strong. The future of society is determined not by outward appearances, but by the strength of thought. And that same thought teaches us that trends come and go, but values are what endure the test of time.

Coaching culture and child deaths: A failing society in the name of success



PRIYANKA SAURABH

The suicide of another student in Kota—this is not ordinary news, nor merely the personal tragedy of a single family. It raises serious questions about the education system, social mindset, and the so-called "success model" that we have unquestioningly accepted over the past two decades. The suicide note of student Kriti, who committed suicide, is not merely a document of personal anguish, but an indictment of our entire society—parents, coaching institutes, schools, and policymakers all fall under its purview. In her suicide note, Kriti appealed to the Indian government and the Ministry of Human Resources, stating that if they truly wanted to ensure no children died, coaching institutes should be shut down as soon as possible, as these institutions leave students hollow from within. This statement wasn't the result of a momentary impulse, but rather an expression of the long-standing mental torture that millions of students endure daily. The real question isn't why Kriti wrote this, but whether she was wrong. Today, coaching in India is no longer a means of education, but has become a massive, profit-driven industry. Cities like Kota, Sikar, Hyderabad, Delhi, and Patna are called "education hubs," where millions of teenagers arrive each year carrying the burden of their parents' dreams. At the center of these dreams are a few narrow words—IIT, AIMS, NEET, rank, and selection. Coaching institutes convince students that if they don't get selected, they are failures. This definition of success is so narrow that it leaves no room



for the average student, and there's no human process for recovery from failure. Kriti's statement that "even a girl who scores 90+ can commit suicide" shatters our myth that mental distress is limited to weak or unsuccessful students. This thinking is not only wrong but also dangerous. Today, the pressure is no longer just about passing exams or getting good marks, but about meeting the expectations of parents, teachers, and society. Every child carries within themselves an imaginary image of the "perfect student," which they constantly lose. Even high marks and excellent performance no longer guarantee mental peace, because the problem isn't the studies themselves, but the environment in which they are taught. The lines Kriti writes for her mother reveal the root of this entire crisis. She explains that she was forced to choose science, even though her true interests lay in English literature and history. This story isn't limited to one household. It's the reality of thousands, if not millions, of homes across the country, where societal expectations matter more than a child's interests. Parents often forget that a child is not an extension of their unfulfilled ambitions, but an independent individual. Social comparison—that so-and-so's son became a

doctor or that so-and-so's daughter made it to IIT—blinds us so much that we overlook our children's desires, abilities, and limitations. Kriti's warning to her younger sister makes this suicide note even more poignant. She wants her sister to be allowed to study what she wants to study and become what she wants to be. Ironically, even as she dies, she's trying to save someone else's life. This warning isn't just for a mother, but for society as a whole, which imposes its dreams on children instead of listening to them. Today's schools and coaching institutes teach children mathematical formulas, chemical equations, and competitive exam strategies, but they are completely failing to impart life's most important lessons. They fail to teach children how to deal with failure, how to understand mental stress, and that asking for help is not a weakness. Competition has been transformed into a tool of fear rather than inspiration. Rank lists, mock tests, and constant comparisons instill a lasting inferiority complex in children, causing them to view themselves only through the lens of marks and selection. Each such death is followed by a formal government statement, an investigation ordered, and a few days of debate. After that, everything returns to normal.

Bangladesh Polls: What Are Jamaat And Yunus Planning Next?

There's a tectonic shift in Bangladesh - not quite unexpected - in its entirety, but also in its less obvious facets. The Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) has managed to win a two-thirds majority, getting 212 of 299 seats as of today. At first sight, the win seems to portend a period of stability for Bangladesh to mend its bruises and get its act together. But not so fast. The Jamaat-e-Islami, long accustomed to winning a maximum of 18 seats earlier, has now got an unprecedented 68 seats - 71 in total with its 11-party alliance.

While the BNP's win is logical given the complete absence of the Awami League, the shift in Jamaat's performance is not so easily explained. There are other factors at play here. There is also the affirming of the referendum, which means Bangladesh's political set-up will change in ways that are difficult to predict, even for its new leaders.

How 'Gen Z' Went West

Important aspects that need to be noted are as follows. First, the so-called 'Gen Z' revolutionary party leaders were remarkable in their near absence. It won just five seats and contested only 30. That slide has been apparent as some five universities voted for the Jamaat's student wing, rather than the aspiring 'student' leaders themselves. Put plainly, they were routed. Clearly, the glowing references that Chief Advisor Mohammed Yunus once gave to them as being the planners behind the revolution, fell flat. Somewhere, somebody erred. Certainly not the Jamaat. But taking them onboard ruined whatever prospects the students may have had. The Jamaat itself wound up gaining a certain 'secular' image, with rumours - which cost nothing - of Nahid-ul-Islam, all of 27 years old, being their Prime Ministerial face. In the event, he won his Dhaka-11 seat, against formidable odds. But that's about all. There's a 'use-and-throw' sense to this whole exercise, which merits a lot more scrutiny.

The Forgotten Awami League



Second, the impact of the total absence of the Awami League was apparent in the low turnout, which, again, was expected. Also, not quite unexpectedly, the Gopalganj seat, long an Awami League (AL) stronghold, saw a total BNP victory. Clearly, there is an 'understanding' among the two that a win for a mainstream party is better than the Jamaat taking over. Along with this, however, come worrying reports of threats against Awami voters. Moreover, the AL has been unable to garner international support against its complete ban.

No one among the 300-plus foreign observers seems to have pointed this out, and major international newspapers barely mentioned the AL. Those were also the news outlets that continuously hammered home the story of rigged elections earlier. Much of this was true, but hardly unique, if you consider Bangladesh's election history. In short, the AL needs to desperately burnish its image as a party and reinvigorate its leaders on the ground.

It's The Jamaat's Quiet Victory

Third, and most important, is the Jamaat win. It's not just its largest win in its history. Even in the Dhaka-17 constituency, where Tarique Rehman is said to have won by a 'landslide', the actual vote difference with the Jamaat rival was a mere 4,399 votes, though he did win big in Bogura-6. Jamaat is also

only marginally behind the BNP in vital seats along the Indian border, such as Lalmonirhat (where the Chinese have a strong presence in multiple capacities) and Nilphamari, winning entirely in Rangpur and other border areas. All of this is concerning for Delhi, given Jamaat's past hostility and its continuing proximity to Pakistan despite recent assurances of friendship with all neighbours (that list of neighbours even included the smallest nation - Bhutan - alongside India, sending a firm signal to Delhi). Among major parties, it is the Jamaat that has been the most vociferous against India during election rallies. The Daily Star also reports that it was the most notable in weaponising social media to spread disinformation.

There is another critical issue. The Jamaat Chief declared total support for the referendum when others had strong reservations. That piece of complex legislation is what matters, since it will change the way Bangladesh is run for the foreseeable future. It aims to reduce the powers of the Prime Minister and give more to the opposition. And the Jamaat intends to see the step through. What one must watch out for is how it will again use its domination in universities to create disaffection against the ruling party down the line. For the immediate future, it will bat for peace and tranquillity for a population that has had enough chaos.

Dubai's tourism industry achieves third successive record-breaking year with 19.59 million international visitors in 2025, up 5% YoY

13th February 2026: Strategic partnerships, global marketing campaigns and major events contributed to Dubai welcoming 19.59 million international overnight visitors in 2025, marking a 5% increase compared to 18.72 million arrivals in 2024, according to data published by the Dubai Department of Economy and Tourism (DET), and the third successive year of record-setting figures. The city ended the year by welcoming more than 2 million visitors in a single calendar month for the first time in December, building strong momentum heading into 2026. DET's diversified year-round market strategy, delivered in collaboration with domestic stakeholders and more than 3,000 international partners, showcased Dubai to new and returning visitors from both traditional and emerging markets. This led to an increase in arrivals from key regions, while also attracting new permanent residents, investors and businesses. In December, the city welcomed 2.04 million international overnight visitors, marking +6% year-on-year growth. The previous record month for the city was January 2025, with 1.94 million visitors. His Excellency



Issam Kazim, CEO of the Dubai Corporation for Tourism and Commerce Marketing (Visit Dubai), part of DET, said: "Guided by visionary leadership, Dubai's record international visitation is a testament to global confidence in the destination and the effectiveness of policies aligned with the Dubai Economic Agenda, D33, as well as the collective strength of partnerships across sectors and communities that defines our city. As we look forward,

our priorities will be to continue enhancing Dubai's global competitiveness through digital innovation and providing exceptional guest experiences at every touchpoint, with powerful momentum after surpassing the 2 million figure for a single month in December for the first time. In partnership with stakeholders across the public and sectors, we remain dedicated to sustained investment in capacity, infrastructure development, and initiatives to

make Dubai the world's best city to visit, live and work in." According to DET's full year data, the GCC and MENA proximity markets had a combined 26% share of overall visitors to Dubai in 2025, with 2.99 million (15%) and 2.17 million (11%) arrivals respectively. Western Europe was again the largest source market to Dubai, with 4.10 million visitors (21%), up from 3.74 million in 2024, followed by CIS and Eastern Europe (2.89 million; 15%), South Asia (2.89

million; 15%), North East and South East Asia (1.85 million; 9%), the Americas (1.40 million; 7%), Africa (897,000; 5%) and Australasia (401,000; 2%).

Hotel sector performance

Adding to its appeal for international audiences, new openings and the launch of strategic initiatives saw Dubai's hotel and hospitality sectors record impressive results in 2025. By the end of December, the city's hotel inventory reached 154,264 rooms across 827 establishments, which puts it well ahead of global peer cities such as Bangkok, New York, Paris and Singapore, and almost on par with London in terms of total room inventory, openings properties across all segments and in various locations. In 2025, a number of new initiatives were introduced to drive the growth in Dubai's hospitality sector. Launched by DET in October, the Hotel Incentive Programme for investors is designed to stimulate development in future high-growth areas, and applies to new hotels, resorts, hotel apartments and other facilities located within Dubai South, Palm Jebel Ali, Dubai Parks, and the Dubai Islands.

India's Spam Shield: The Truecaller Community Blocked Nearly 1,200 Crore Unwanted Calls in 2025



New Delhi, 13 February 2026:

Indians received more than 4,000 crore spam calls in 2025, reflecting the growing scale of fraud, disruption, and digital risk in everyday communication. In India, every phone call carries meaning - it can open doors to opportunity, deliver vital information, or even expose individuals to serious risk. As the country accelerates towards becoming a digitally empowered and globally competitive economy under the vision of Viksit Bharat, trust in communication has become a defining pillar of progress. Truecaller's latest report shows that 1,189 crore of these unwanted calls were blocked before reaching users, helping millions avoid scams, wasted time, and unnecessary stress in an increasingly connected economy. With over 100 crore active phone connections in the country powering com-

merce, governance, and personal relationships, Truecaller today released its 2025 India Insights Report, offering a data-driven view of how spam and fraud are reshaping the nation's communication landscape and how technology is helping protect crores of people every day. The report captures how these decisions played out across 2025, revealing both the scale of digital risk and the growing importance of protection. "In a country where connectivity is powering opportunity at every level, trust has become our most valuable digital asset," said Rishit Jhunjhunwala, CEO, Truecaller. "Fraud today is not just a technical problem, it is a human one. It exploits fear, urgency, and uncertainty in moments that matter most. Our responsibility is to make sure that no Indian has to choose between staying

connected and staying safe. Our focus at Truecaller is simple: help people stay connected without compromising their safety and stopping risk before it turns into loss."

The Scale of Communication Risk in 2025

According to the report, Truecaller identified more than 4,168 crore spam calls across India in 2025, reflecting the full extent of disruptive and potentially harmful communication. Of these, 1,189 crore unwanted calls were blocked by Truecaller users. In addition, 770 crore fraudulent calls were detected, many of them impersonating banks, government authorities, payment platforms, and well-known brands. Spam messaging also remained a major concern. During the year, over 12,903 crore spam SMS were identified, with volumes increasing significantly in the second half of 2025.

Motovolt Mobility earns 2026 Great Place to Work Certification™

Kolkata February 2026 - Motovolt Mobility, an advanced and reliable electric two-wheeler solutions provider, has been certified as a Great Place to Work® by Great Place to Work Institute India. 95% of employees said Motovolt is a great place to work. This prestigious certification, based on comprehensive employee feedback, underscores Motovolt's dedication to creating a workplace built on trust, pride, and camaraderie. The certification follows a rigorous evaluation process conducted by Great Place to Work®, the global authority on workplace culture. Through a proprietary employee experience survey, the assessment measured the quality of relationships between employees and leadership, employees and their work, and among team members themselves. Commenting on the recognition, Mr. Tushar Choudhary, Founder & CEO of Motovolt Mobility, said, "We are delighted to be certified as a Great Place To



Work®. At Motovolt, we believe and work together as one big family. Since our inception, we have considered employee experience a top priority every day. This certification is a testament to the culture we have incul-

cated among our employees. Their discipline and dedication have helped us earn this incredible recognition." The results paint a compelling picture of Motovolt's organisational health: 97% of respondents find

Motovolt a safe place to work 97% feel good about how they contribute to the community 95% are proud to tell others that they work at Motovolt 95% feel people here are treated fairly, regardless of their gender 95% consider Motovolt a great place to work overall Founded in 2019, Motovolt has grown rapidly while maintaining its focus on employee well-being and organisational culture. The Great Place to Work® certification comes at a pivotal moment as the company expands its operations, launches new products, including the flagship M7 range of e-scooters, and scales its distribution network across India. This recognition reinforces Motovolt's position not only as a leader in sustainable transportation but also as an employer of choice in India's burgeoning EV industry. The certification validates the company's belief that creating great products begins with empowering great people.

Reliance receives US licence to import Venezuelan crude oil

New Delhi: Billionaire Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries Limited has received a US general licence to purchase Venezuelan crude oil directly, enabling India's largest private refiner to resume imports of discounted heavy feedstock that aligns with its Jamnagar refinery configuration and optimises refining margins. Reliance, which operates the world's largest single-site refining complex at Gujarat's Jamnagar, was among international companies which in late January got a general licence from the US for buying Venezuelan oil directly without violating sanctions, sources aware of the matter said. Since capturing Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro last month, the US has eased sanctions on the South American nation's energy industry to resume the flow of oil from the country that holds the world's largest reserves. Reliance did not respond to requests for comments. So far, the US has permitted the



sale of Venezuelan oil through traders, but now a general licence will give authorisation to purchase oil directly from an entity that has already extracted it from below ground or is in possession of it. Reliance was a regular buyer of Venezuelan crude before the US slapped sanctions on Nicolas Maduro's regime in 2019-20. It bought oil when the US introduced a temporary sanctions relief in 2024. And when Venezuelan oil started flowing again through traders this year, it bought 2 million barrels from Vitol. The window was also utilised by state-owned Indian Oil Corporation

(IOC) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL), who have jointly bought 2 million barrels (1.5 million barrels for IOC's Paradip refinery in Odisha and rest 500,000 barrels for HPCL's Visakhapatnam unit in Andhra Pradesh). Prior to sanctions, IOC too was a regular buyer of Venezuelan crude. US President Donald Trump last week said Prime Minister Narendra Modi had agreed to stop buying Russian oil and purchase more oil from the US, and possibly Venezuela, following a key US trade deal with India. That agreement has led to the US dropping puni-

tive 25 per cent tariffs imposed on Indian goods for the import of Russian oil. Sources said tapping Venezuela is also part of India's efforts to diversify its crude sources. This comes at a time when imports from Russia are set to fall. Venezuela's crude grades, especially from the Orinoco Belt, are predominantly heavy and extra-heavy. Reliance's Jamnagar refineries are among the world's most complex and geared toward efficiently processing heavy, sour crudes, which trade at a deep discount to international benchmarks due to production challenges and logistical constraints. Buying Venezuelan oil will allow Reliance to optimise its refining margins because these barrels can be upgraded into higher-value products like diesel, kerosene and LPG that fetch strong demand in India and export markets. Also, Reliance's business model is built on integrated refining-petrochemical operations.

US adds 1.3 lakh jobs; past payroll figures cut sharply

Washington: US employers added a surprisingly strong 1,30,000 jobs last month, but government revisions cut 2024-2025 US payrolls by hundreds of thousands. The unemployment rate fell to 4.3 per cent, the Labour Department said Wednesday, February 11. The report included major revisions that reduced the number of jobs created last year to just 1,81,000, weakest since the pandemic year of 2020, and less than half the previously reported 5,84,000. The job market has been sluggish for months even though the economy is registering solid growth. But the January numbers came in stronger than the 75,000 economists had expected. Healthcare accounted for nearly 82,000, or more than 60 per cent, of last month's new jobs. Factories added 5,000, snapping a streak of 13 straight months of job losses. The federal government shed 34,000 jobs.



Average hourly wages rose a solid 0.4 per cent from December to January. The unemployment rate fell from 4.4 per cent in December as the number of employed Americans rose and the number of unemployed fell. Weak hiring over the past year reflects the lingering impact of high interest rates, billionaire Elon Musk's purge last year of the federal workforce and uncertainty arising from President Donald Trump's erratic trade policies, which have left businesses unsure about hiring. Dreary numbers have been coming in ahead of

Wednesday's report. Employers posted just 6.5 million job openings in December, fewest in more than five years. Payroll processor ADP reported last week that private employers added 22,000 jobs in January, far fewer than economists had forecast. And the outplacement firm Challenger, Gray & Christmas reported that companies slashed more than 1,08,000 jobs last month, the most since October and the worst January for job cuts since 2009. Several well-known companies announced layoffs last month.

ICAR-IIMR and Gourmet Popcornica Collaboration Paves the Way for an Aatmanirbhar Popcorn Maize Ecosystem

February 12, 2026: The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) - Indian Institute of Maize Research (IIMR), in collaboration with Gourmet Popcornica Private Limited, India's largest popcorn company, is witnessing the successful outcomes of a strategic partnership aimed at strengthening India's popcorn maize value chain, enhancing farmer incomes, and advancing India's ambition to become a global hub for high-quality popcorn maize production. ICAR-IIMR Recognises Gourmet Popcornica for Stellar Contribution Towards Making India aatmanirbhar in Popcorn Maize On ICAR-IIMR's Founder's Day on 9th February, 2026, Gourmet Popcornica received an award for its ongoing work with in the popcorn maize ecosystem. The Award recognises staff, progressive farmers and India companies for contribution in the extension and expansion of Maize in India. The award was presented by



Dr Hanuman Sahay Jat - Director of Maize, ICAR-IIMR to Mr. Y Yugandhar - CEO Crop integration, Gourmet Popcornica and Mr. K Mahiadhar Reddy - Director, Gourmet Popcornica. Luminaries present at the Award Ceremony included the Chief Guest for the event, Vice Chancellor of PAU, Dr. Satbir Singh Gosal, Dr Sian Das (former Director of IIMR), Dr Nachiket Kotwaliwale (Director -

ICAR -CIPHET), Dr Ashok Mehta (former Director of ICAR), Dr Sarabjeet Singh (progressive agri machinery entrepreneur) and Mr. O P Choudhary (Senior Soil Scientist, PAU), and other senior scientists from PAU and IIMR. Over the last decade, India's popcorn maize market has expanded from 50,000 tonnes to over 130,000 tonnes. This growth has been largely driven by the successful development

and domestication of high-expansion popcorn maize cultivation. Earlier, nearly 100 per cent of the popcorn consumed in India was imported. Today, domestic production accounts for nearly 65 per cent of the market, significantly reducing reliance on imports and creating a new and sustainable income stream for Indian farmers. Over the past five years, ICAR-IIMR's scientific and agronomic expertise,

combined with Gourmet Popcornica's decade-long experience in large-scale high-expansion popcorn maize cultivation, has strengthened specialised value chains such as popcorn maize. This collaboration demonstrates the importance of science-led partnerships in diversifying farmer incomes and reducing import dependence. The partnership formally began in February 2021 with the signing of agreements for IIMR-bred popcorn hybrid's, reflecting ICAR-IIMR's commitment to translating agricultural science into tangible economic outcomes for farmers. Over the last four years, with the guidance of ICAR-IIMR scientists and its own breeding team, Gourmet Popcornica has developed new hybrids with high yield, high popping and resistance to diseases/pests. The partnership aligns with national priorities under Aatmanirbhar Bharat, promoting rural livelihoods, value-added agriculture, and export readiness.

Trump revokes landmark ruling that greenhouse gases endanger public health

US President Donald Trump has reversed a key Obama-era scientific ruling that underpins all federal actions on curbing planet-warming gases. The so-called 2009 "endangerment finding" concluded that a range of greenhouse gases were a threat to public health. It's become the legal bedrock of federal efforts to rein in emissions, especially in vehicles. The White House called the reversal the "largest deregulation in American history", saying it would make cars cheaper, bringing down costs for automakers by \$2,400 per vehicle. Environmental groups say the move is by far the most significant rollback on climate change yet attempted and are set to challenge it in the courts. Speaking in the Oval Office on Thursday, Trump said the 2009 ruling was "a disastrous Obama era policy that severely damaged the American auto industry

and massively drove up prices for American consumers". "This radical rule became the legal foundation for the Green New Scam, one of the greatest scams in history," added the Republican president, about the Democrats' climate agenda. Former President Barack Obama, who infrequently comments on the policies of sitting presidents, said that repealing the finding would make Americans more vulnerable. "Without it, we'll be less safe, less healthy and less able to fight climate change — all so the fossil fuel industry can make even more money," he wrote on X. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) first took a stance on the impacts of greenhouse gases in 2009, in the first year of Obama's first term. The agency decided that six key planet-warming greenhouse gases, including carbon dioxide and methane,



were a danger to human health. With a divided Congress unable to agree on legislation to tackle rising global temperatures, the EPA finding became central to federal efforts to rein in emissions in the years that followed. "The endangerment finding has really served as the lynchpin of US

regulation of greenhouse gases," said Meghan Greenfield, a former EPA and Department of Justice attorney. "So that includes motor vehicles, but it also includes power plants, the oil and gas sector, methane from landfills, even aircraft. So it really runs the gamut, all of the standards for each of the sectors is premised on this one thing." Trump administration officials are stressing that overturning the regulation will save more than \$1tn and will help cut the price of energy and transport. Reversing the finding will reduce automobile manufacturers' costs by \$2,400 per vehicle, the White House claimed. These regulations have been an economic strain, said Diana Furchtgott-Roth, who served in the US Department of Transportation during the first Trump term. "The burden on the economy results in higher prices and manufacturing has left. It's gone to China, where it's made in a dirtier way," she told the BBC. "So to say that we're reducing global emissions by ending energy intensive manufacturing in some countries, then having it go to China and India, where it's made in a dirtier way, does not reduce global emissions."

Many environmentalists are sceptical of the potential cost savings being touted by the Trump team. "It's going to force Americans to spend more money, around \$1.4tn in additional fuel costs to power these less efficient and higher polluting vehicles," said Peter Zalzal from the Environmental Defense Fund. "We've also analysed the health impacts and found that the action would result in up to 58,000 additional premature deaths, 37 million more asthma attacks," he said. For some in the US car industry there will be uncertainty about the rollback as manufacturing less fuel-efficient vehicles might limit their sales overseas. "This rollback is sort of cementing things that have already been done, such as the relaxation of the fuel economy standards," said Michael Gerrard, a climate law expert from Columbia University.

FBI RELEASES DESCRIPTION OF SUSPECT IN NANCY GUTHRIE KIDNAPPING



The FBI has released the first physical description of the man believed to have kidnapped Nancy Guthrie, the mother of US news anchor Savannah Guthrie. Nancy Guthrie, 84, disappeared in the middle of night from her Tucson, Arizona, home and was last seen two weeks ago. The authorities believe she was taken against her will. The FBI has analysed footage from a doorbell camera outside her home and believes she was kidnapped by a male who is between 5ft 9in (175cm) and 5ft 10in tall, with an average build. It is first time the man in the video has been officially identified as a suspect in the case, which has drawn a huge amount of attention both in the US and abroad. In its latest statement, the FBI said it had been able to establish identifying details after carrying out a forensic analysis. It highlighted the backpack being worn by the suspect in the video, which was released earlier this week, and identified it as a 25-litre Ozark Trail Hiker Pack. A pair of black gloves has also been found during the search for Guthrie, the BBC's US broadcast partner. CBS reported on Thursday, Nancy Guthrie was last seen on the evening of Saturday 31 January when family members dropped her home. Members of her church noticed her absence at Sunday's service and notified her family.

AUSTRALIA'S LIBERAL PARTY OUSTS FIRST WOMAN LEADER



The first female leader of Australia's Liberal Party, Sussan Ley, has been ousted after just nine months in the job, losing a leadership ballot to her former shadow defence minister Angus Taylor. Ley was elevated to the role after the party suffered a resounding defeat in last year's election, but since then has been plagued by poor poll numbers and infighting among the conservative Liberal-National Coalition. Taylor had announced he would challenge her for leadership of the opposition on Wednesday, ending months of speculation. In a social media post he said his election on Friday was "an immense honour" and that he looked forward to working with new deputy leader Jane Hume. Taylor, from the party's conservative faction, won the secret ballot, 34 votes to 17. Shortly after the results were announced, Ley said that she would resign as an MP and step away "completely and comprehensively from public life". She told waiting reporters she harboured "no hard feelings" towards the new leader although, in an

apparent job at the infighting she has endured, she added that it was important to get "clear air, something that is not always afforded to leaders". Taylor, who narrowly lost the 2025 leadership contest to Ley, is a former management consultant who first entered parliament in 2013. He served as a minister under Malcolm Turnbull and Scott Morrison. Ley's position had never seemed secure. The Liberal-National coalition, a partnership dating back to the 1940s, twice split under her leadership, the first time immediately after the May election and the second time just weeks ago. A series of recent polls have also shown the populist One Nation Party - which only got 6% of the national vote last year - overtaking the Coalition to take second place behind Labor. Ley's personal ratings have also been poor. The coalition has largely failed to agree on what caused its crushing election defeat to Labor, which saw the Liberals all but wiped out in the major cities, with disagreements on energy and climate policy in a particular.

Steven Spielberg donates \$25,000 to James Van Der Beek's \$2m GoFundMe

Oscar-winning film director Steven Spielberg and his wife, Kate Capshaw, have donated \$25,000 (£21,000) to the \$2m (£1.6m) GoFundMe pot collected for the late Dawson's Creek actor James Van Der Beek. The star died this week aged 48, leaving behind his wife Kimberly and their six children, and the crowd-funder for his family has now surpassed its \$2m target. Another Oscar winner, actress Zoe Saldana-Perego donated \$2,500 (£2,108) monthly, according to the Hollywood Reporter; while Wicked: For Good director Jon M Chu also gave \$10,000 (£8,432). A statement released by Friends of the Van Der Beek family, who arranged the collection, thanked contributors



"from the bottom of our hearts for showing up for James and his beautiful family". It read: "Your kindness has meant more than we can put into words. In the middle of deep grief, your support has been a light. It reminds us that love is real, that community is strong, and that James's spirit continues to bring people together."

Bangladesh Nationalist Party sweeps to victory in first election since Gen Z uprising

The centre-right Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) has secured a landslide majority in parliament, 18 months after mass protests ousted the country's longest serving prime minister Sheikh Hasina. The party took more than two-thirds of seats in the historic general election, with Jamaat, the country's main Islamist party, coming second. Hasina's Awami League was banned from taking part. BNP leader Tarique Rahman is set to be the next prime minister and faces huge challenges in getting the economy back on its feet and restoring democracy after 15 years of authoritarian rule under Hasina. Voters also backed sweeping democratic reforms in a referendum held alongside

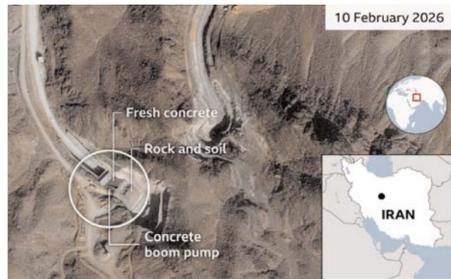


the election. "I am grateful for the love you have shown me," Tarique Rahman told well-wishers in Dhaka as he attended Friday prayers. His party has said there would be no victory procession. He was elected to parliament for the first time as one of 212 successful BNP candidates. The Election Commission put voter turnout at 59.44%. It is a huge change of fortunes for

young population are the big challenges facing the new government. Repairing strained ties with giant neighbour India is also high up the list of priorities. Within hours of his win, Rahman had received a call from India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi who congratulated him on a "remarkable victory". "As two close neighbours with deep-rooted historical and cultural ties, I reaffirmed India's continued commitment to the peace, progress, and prosperity of both our peoples," Modi wrote on X. Although the BNP are promising to lead change in the country, the party was criticised for corruption and accused of human rights violations when it was last in government in the early 2000s.

Iran fortifies underground complex near nuclear site, satellite images show

Iran has been fortifying an underground complex near one of its nuclear facilities, according to analysis of new satellite images. This activity comes at a time of heightened tensions as talks between Iranian and US officials continue, with President Donald Trump threatening fresh military action against Iran if it does not agree a new deal on its nuclear programme. The photos, first analysed by the Institute for Science and International Security (ISIS), a US-based think tank, show tunnel entrances being strengthened at Mount Kolang Gaz La - also known as Pickaxe Mountain. Experts say this



facility may be designed to protect Iran's uranium enrichment activities or key equipment, but its exact purpose - and whether it is operational - remains unclear. Iran insists its nuclear programme is entirely peace-

ful and denies it is seeking to develop nuclear weapons. However, Trump said Iran was as little as a month away from having a nuclear weapon in June 2025, when he ordered strikes on three underground nuclear sites where

centrifuges were being used to produce highly enriched uranium during a 12-day war between Israel and Iran last year. Trump said the strikes had "obliterated" Iran's enrichment capacity, but that Iranian officials "were thinking about starting a new site". Pickaxe Mountain was not one of the locations attacked in US and Israeli air strikes in June 2025, but the Natanz nuclear facility, located about 2km (1.24 miles) north, was hit. A satellite image from 10 February shows what appears to be fresh concrete laid on top of one of the Pickaxe Mountain entrance areas.

Japan says it seized Chinese vessel amid tensions with Beijing



Japanese authorities say they have seized a Chinese fishing vessel that tried to flee when ordered to stop for an inspection, in a move that may further fuel tensions with Beijing. The boat was in Japan's exclusive economic zone off Nagasaki Prefecture in the south-west when it was intercepted and its captain arrested on Thursday, according to the country's fisheries agency. "The vessel's captain was ordered to stop for an inspection by a fisheries inspector, but the vessel failed to comply and fled," the fisheries agency said. The seizure is the first time since 2022 that the agency has seized a Chinese fishing boat. China has yet to react to Japan's statement. There were 11 people aboard, including the captain who is a 47-year-old Chinese national, the fisheries agency said. Authorities and Japanese media have described the seized vessel as a "tiger net fishing boat" with a high capacity. "We will continue to take resolute action in our enforcement activities to prevent and deter illegal fishing operations by foreign vessels," Japan's Chief Cabinet Secretary Minoru

Kihara said on Friday. Thursday's incident comes amid strained relations after Japan's Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi enraged China in November by suggesting Tokyo would intervene militarily if Beijing sought to take Taiwan by force. China has long insisted that Taiwan, occupied for decades by Japan until 1945, is its territory. It has not ruled out using force to achieve what it calls "reunification". In response to Takaichi's remarks, which China's foreign ministry described as "egregious", Beijing summoned Tokyo's ambassador and warned its citizens to reconsider travel and study in Japan. That led to a sharp drop in visits to Japan by Chinese tourists, and a subsequent hit to Japanese stocks related to tourism and retail. As the diplomatic spat deepened during the end of 2025, Beijing repeatedly demanded that Takaichi retract her comments, and its foreign ministry warned Japan to "stop playing with fire". Japanese artists touring China have also had shows cancelled and releases of popular Japanese movies have been postponed.

RUBIO WARNS EUROPE OF NEW ERA IN GEOPOLITICS BEFORE BIG MUNICH SPEECH

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio has spoken of a defining moment and a "new era" as he travels to Europe for a major speech to the Munich Security Conference. Rubio will lead the US delegation at the first major global event since President Donald Trump threatened Danish sovereignty with a pledge to annex Greenland. French President Emmanuel Macron has insisted Europe must prepare for independence from the US, while Nato Secretary General Mark Rutte has stressed that transatlantic bonds are as close and important as ever. The war in Ukraine, tensions with China and a potential nuclear deal between Iran and the US are also on the agenda as the security conference gets

under way. "The world is changing very fast right in front of us," Rubio told reporters, when asked if his message to Europeans would be more conciliatory than a year ago. "We live in a new era in geopolitics, and it's going to require all of us to sort of re-examine what that looks like and what our role is going to be." At last year's conference, US Vice-President JD Vance attacked Europe, including the UK, for policies on free speech and immigration. His speech triggered a year of unprecedented transatlantic tension. Some 50 world leaders are set to attend this year's event, where European defence and the future of the transatlantic relationship will be discussed at a time when



US commitments to Nato have been called into question. Tensions have been heightened in recent months as Trump has repeatedly said that Greenland is vital to US national security, stating without evidence that it was "covered with Russian and Chinese ships all over the place". Danish Prime Minister

Mette Frederiksen told reporters on Friday she planned to meet with Rubio to discuss the US threats to seize Denmark's semi-autonomous territory from its Nato ally. The US threats have been viewed by many European leaders as a watershed moment that has eroded trust with its biggest ally. Ahead of

the conference, eight former US ambassadors to Nato and eight former American supreme commanders in Europe issued an open letter calling for Washington to maintain its support for the Western defensive alliance. "Far from being a charity," they said Nato was a "force multiplier" that allowed the US to assert its power and influence "in ways that would be impossible - or prohibitively expensive - to achieve on its own". The transatlantic relationship has come under increasing strain following the Republican president's introduction of tariffs and a suggestion in the US national security strategy that European nations may not remain "reliable allies" in the

long term. Dutch Foreign Minister David van Weel told the BBC on Friday that he recognised "the world has changed" and that he hoped the "transatlantic bond" remains "solid". Van Weel said he recognised that the Netherlands needed to "step up" when it came to its own security but that his country was making a "big sacrifice" to increase its defence spending. "It will take time before we can really take over [the security] burden from the Americans in Europe," he warned. The Netherlands was among Nato allies that last year agreed to ramp up defence spending to 5% of their countries' economic output by 2035, following months of pressure from Trump.

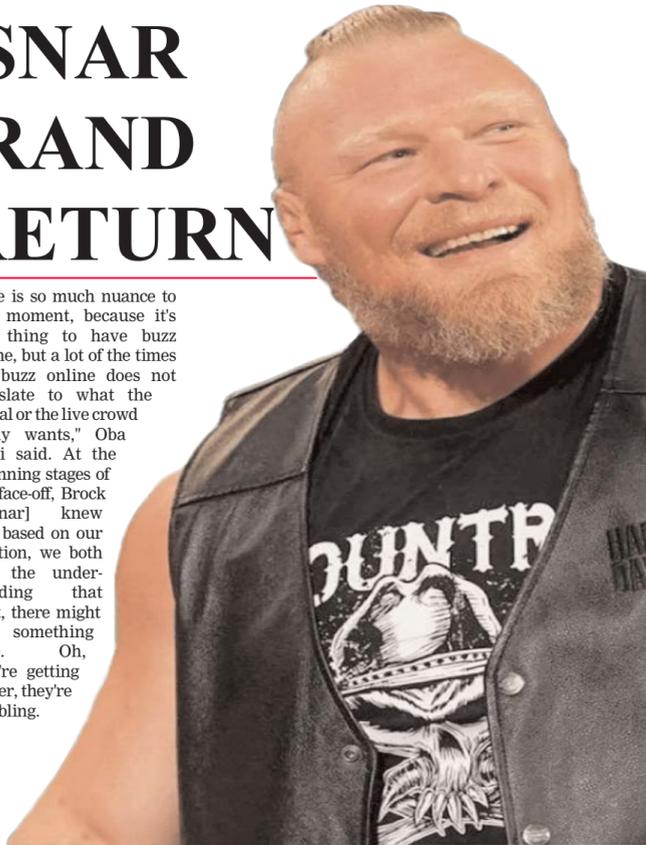


BROCK LESNAR SET FOR GRAND WWE RAW RETURN

"The Beast Incarnate" Brock Lesnar is officially off the leash. After a brief but explosive appearance at the Royal Rumble in Riyadh, WWE has confirmed that Brock Lesnar is back for the long haul as the wrestling universe moves towards WrestleMania 42 in Las Vegas. The WWE has officially announced that Lesnar will be live on Monday Night Raw at the State Farm Arena in Atlanta. After being dumped out of the Rumble by the combined force of Cody Rhodes and LA Knight, Lesnar has plenty of scores to settle, but the real intrigue lies in the storyline that is built for him. In all likelihood, Lesnar is set to take on a new face in the ring. As speculations grow, two names have emerged as potential candidates to take

on Lesnar. The first is Obafemi, who looks like the matchup fans are currently screaming for. At the Rumble, the NXT powerhouse didn't blink when he faced Lesnar, and reports suggest WWE is leaning heavily towards this showdown between the two. If WWE wants a pure, hard-hitting clinic, Gunther remains the second choice. He is coming off a massive win where he retired John Cena, and a clash with Lesnar would be the ultimate test of his status in the WWE Universe. There is also a bit of a bittersweet edge to this comeback, as whispers are growing that 2026 might be Lesnar's final year in the ring. Obafemi also spoke about the potential match against Brock Lesnar during a chat with No-Contest Wrestling. So,

there is so much nuance to that moment, because it's one thing to have buzz online, but a lot of the times the buzz online does not translate to what the casual or the live crowd really wants," Obafemi said. At the beginning stages of our face-off, Brock [Lesnar] knew that based on our reaction, we both had the understanding that 'wait, there might be something here. Oh, they're getting louder, they're rumbling.



Lights Out, Game On: RB Leipzig Unveil "Glow In The Dark" Special Edition Jersey

RB Leipzig and PUMA are continuing their creative partnership by unveiling the 'Glow in the Dark' jersey. The unique special-edition shirt takes the bond between the club, city and fans to a whole new level. The innovative jersey combines cutting-edge textile technology with an artistic portrait of the city, making Leipzig glow in the truest sense of the word. Following on from 2024's 'Jingle Jersey,' the first jersey to be made entirely from high-quality red velvet, this represents another statement design in the world of football. Debut under the floodlights RB Leipzig will don the 'Glow in the Dark' jersey for the first time at home against Borussia Dortmund on 21st February. The unique design will therefore make its debut in the stadium and in front of a big crowd, in a special moment for both the fans and the team. A jersey that comes to life in the dark Under the tagline of "Energised by Light. Activated at Night", RB Leipzig present their first



jersey featuring fluorescent logo elements on the front and back. Pre-finished details - including the PUMA logo, RBL crest, double bull emblem and lettering reading "YCDA" and "RB Leipzig" - can be charged under UV light in order to then glow in the dark. This creates a spectacular effect that makes the jersey a real eye-catcher. The glowing elements serve as visual accents along key lines of the city pattern and bring Leipzig's diversity to life in a special way. A jersey for the whole city The pattern on the jersey is based on a stylised map of Leipzig's districts. Distinctive structures, street layouts and architectural features come together to form a dynamic, urban landscape, without explicitly highlighting any individual district. The result is a design that captures Leipzig's pulsating energy and brings it to the pitch. The 'Glow in the Dark' jersey is more than just a special-edition shirt - it's a statement. A symbol of diversity, creativity and identity.

"Has Technical Problem": Sunil Gavaskar On India Star Days Ahead Of T20 World Cup Match vs Pakistan

Sanju Samson continues his lean patch in T20I cricket. The wicketkeeper-batter was dropped from India's playing XI in T20 World Cup 2026 at the expense of Ishan Kishan following a string of low scores. He could muster only 46 runs across five matches against New Zealand in the series that served as the final dress rehearsal for the mega event. On the other hand, Kishan has been in sensational form upon his return to India colours. Kishan's impressive performance forced the team management to bench Samson for the side's campaign opener against the USA. As fate would have it, an unwell Abhishek Sharma missed out on



India's second match, which was against Namibia, and Samson got his chance. The wicketkeeper-batter started well, dealing in boundaries, but failed to take his innings deep. He scored 22 off eight with the help of one four and three sixes. Samson got out after chipping the ball to the fielder at deep mid-

wicket. He went deep inside his crease to manufacture the shot but failed to get the placement right. Reacting to his dismissal, former India captain Sunil Gavaskar said on JioHotstar that Samson needs to fix a technical issue in his batting. Diving deep into it, the cricket legend explained, "Sanju

Samson has a technical problem. He goes too deep into the crease and plays that flick shot. You can only hope he times it into the gap or that it goes for six." "He needs to make improvements, especially when he opens against the new ball. Namibia were clever with their field placements. They set a field specifically to get Samson out. But it was good that he played some nice shots - that must have given him confidence. If he plays the next match against Pakistan, he needs to spend more time at the crease," he added. There is uncertainty about Abhishek Sharma's return to the playing XI for India's match vs Pakistan, as he is currently recovering from a stomach infection.

Kabir Bedi Cheers For Italy After 1st T20 World Cup Match Win: "So Lucky To Have Witnessed This"

Thursday will be a day etched in Italian cricket history. The debutants crushed Nepal by 10 wickets in a Group C match of the T20 World Cup in Mumbai, recording a massive achievement in only their second game of the tournament. After their spinners ruled the roost to bowl Nepal out for a paltry 123, brothers Anthony Mosca (62 not out) and Justin Mosca (60 not out) put on a ruthless unbeaten opening stand to overwhelm the Rhinos, who failed to live up to expectations. Chasing 124, Italy knocked off the runs with 7.2 overs to spare. Actor Kabir Bedi, who is a very popular figure in Italy, was ecstatic after the win. In the 1970s, Bedi played the pirate Sandokan in an eponymous



Italian miniseries. The role made him a household name in the European country. He was even awarded the Order of Merit of the Italian Republic (the highest Italian civilian honour). "History was made! Italy's first win in the T20 World Cup championship is an amazing achievement for a non-cricketing country that wor-

touted as favourites for this clash after their enormous effort against England at the same venue, cut a sorry figure. None of their batters could find a way to counter Italy's accurate spin bowling and sharp fielding, while they inexplicably held their best spinner, Sandeep Lamichhane, back for most of the powerplay. By the time Lamichhane who has featured in various T20 leagues including the Indian Premier League was introduced into the attack, the Italian openers had already knocked 58 runs off the modest target. Anthony smacked one over long-on in the first over to set the tone, while Justin tore into Karan KC in the third, hammering two fours and a six, as Italy made a fiery start.

T20 World Cup: USA's Shayan Jahangir Calls Out ICC Over Lack Of Support For Associate Nations



Associate nations like the USA, Nepal, the Netherlands, and most recently Italy have made the cricketing world stand up and take notice at the ongoing T20 World Cup 2026 in India and Sri Lanka. The Netherlands came close to beating Pakistan in the tournament opener, while the USA troubled India far more than expected. Nepal arguably produced the best performance by an associate nation so far, falling just 5 runs short of defeating England. Now, USA batter Shayan Jahangir has criticised the International Cricket Council (ICC) for its lack of financial support to associate nations in their bid to make cricket a truly global sport. "The exposure and the kind of funding that we get from the ICC is lacking. I think we've been given the tag of Associate nation, but we are nothing short of a great team. As you've seen in this World Cup, all the teams tagged as Associate nations have put on a show and given a very tough time to the big teams," Jahangir said during a press conference ahead of USA's Group

A clash against the Netherlands. Jahangir believes the performances of associate nations in this T20 World Cup have proven that they are already pushing the best sides in the world. He pointed out that these efforts have come despite very little financial backing from the ICC. "I would say we have not been watered properly. We haven't been nurtured properly. But again, it's our players who are putting in the hard yards. Without financial resources and infrastructure, I think if the ICC pays more attention to us and all the Associate nations, you'll see more big games and you'll see these teams changing their tag from Associate nations to big teams as well," Jahangir added. "We almost beat India, having them 75 for 6 - again, Surya (Kumar Yadav) played the way he did. But if we had seized those moments, we would have beaten the powerhouse of a World Cup team," he said, recalling how the USA came close to defeating India in their opening match.



Winter Olympics: GB's Banks falls short in snowboard medal bid

ENGLAND AND SPAIN DRAW TOGETHER IN NEXT EDITION OF UEFA NATIONS LEAGUE

Spain and England will face each other in the next edition of the UEFA Nations League following Thursday's draw, which also threw up a clash between France and Italy while Germany and the Netherlands will renew their rivalry. Spain, who beat England in the final of Euro 2024, won the Nations League in 2023 and lost last year's final, on penalties, to Portugal. They will come up against Thomas Tuchel's England side in Group A3, with the Czech Republic and beaten 2023 finalists Croatia completing the section. The Nations League will be the focus for European international football for the year after the 2026 World Cup, before attention switches to Euro 2028 qualifying. Group matches, with everyone playing each other home and away, will take place



between September and November this year. The top two in each of the four groups in League A will advance to the quarter-finals in March 2027, the winners of which will progress to the four-team finals in June that year - likely to be hosted by one of the participating teams. Reigning Nations League champions Portugal, who also won the inaugural edition in 2019, are in Group A4 with Denmark, Norway and

Wales. France, winners in 2021 and semi-finalists last year, will take on Italy, Belgium and Turkey in Group A1. Germany, the Netherlands, Serbia and Greece make up Group A2. Draw for the 2026/27 UEFA Nations League, held in Brussels on Thursday: Group A1: France, Italy, Belgium, Turkey Group A2: Germany, Netherlands, Serbia, Greece Group A3: Spain, Croatia, England, Czech Republic Group A4:

Portugal, Denmark, Norway, Wales Group B1: Scotland, Switzerland, Slovenia, North Macedonia Group B2: Hungary, Ukraine, Georgia, Northern Ireland Group B3: Israel, Austria, Republic of Ireland, Kosovo Group B4: Poland, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Romania, Sweden Group C1: Albania, Finland, Belarus, San Marino Group C2: Montenegro, Armenia, Cyprus, Latvia/Gibraltar Group C3: Kazakhstan, Slovakia, Faroe Islands, Moldova Group C4: Iceland, Bulgaria, Estonia, Luxembourg/Malta Group D1: Gibraltar/Latvia, Malta/Luxembourg, Andorra Group D2: Lithuania, Azerbaijan, Liechtenstein - Latvia v Gibraltar and Luxembourg v Malta meet in two-legged play-off ties in March 2026 to decide their leagues.

Hull's 'complete nobody' out to stun Chelsea on Rosenior return



"Yet another bizarre appointment by the chairman." "I don't get it... why not go for someone with a proven track record in the Championship?" "I cannot believe we are doing this again... a complete nobody with no experience in English football." Hull City's decision to appoint Sergej Jakirovic as their new head coach in June last year was not met with much, or indeed any, enthusiasm from a number of fans. The Tigers had just avoided relegation to League One on goal difference, one season after now Chelsea boss Liam Rosenior was sacked for only managing a seventh-placed finish. Yet many were still surprised Ruben Selles was fired after keeping them up. However, Jakirovic and Hull have founded expectations to sit just five points off the top two in the Championship. As the former Bosnia international prepares to welcome Chelsea for a FA Cup fourth-round tie, how did the much-travelled 49-year-old end up leading an unexpected promotion charge

in East Yorkshire? "A steely gaze that could burn a hole through concrete" "With a towering stature and steely gaze that could burn a hole through concrete, Sergej Jakirovic walked into the media suite at Hull City's MKM Stadium last summer and immediately commanded the attention of everyone in attendance." BBC Radio Humberside's Hull City reporter Mike White said. "Based on that first impression, you'd be forgiven for thinking he was going to be a tough nut to crack for those of us in the media who'd be dealing with him all the time." "However, it didn't take long for us to realise that first impressions aren't always the best way to judge someone. "He's personable with an engaging sense of humour, intelligent, passionate and always forthright in his views." It took a while for Jakirovic to make those first impressions count on the pitch as City made a mixed start to the season, with two wins, three draws and three losses in their opening eight league matches.

“THANK YOU TO THE AUDIENCE FOR SHOWERING LOVE ON FUNKY,” SAYS THE TEAM AT THE SUCCESS PRESS MEET

All distributors are happy with Funky,” says producer Suryadevara Naga Vamsi. Released today (February 13) as a Valentine’s Day treat, Funky is receiving praise from audiences across all sections while bringing waves of laughter to theatres.

On



Anudeep, and with promotional content generating strong buzz, Funky released in theatres on February 13 amid high expectations. The film, which runs as a full-on entertainer from start to finish, has kept audiences laughing for two hours straight.

As a result, it has been receiving an excellent response from the very first show. The team recently conducted a success press meet to share their happiness and thank the audience wholeheartedly.

Vishwak Sen said: “It’s natural to feel pressure before a film’s release. But before Funky, I felt very calm. This morning, I watched the film with the audience at Sriramulu Theatre. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed it. Anudeep

has made this film as a breezy entertainer that families can sit together and laugh at. Funky has given me great relief. The response from all sections of the audience has been wonderful. Doing a film like Funky in my career has given me immense happiness.”

Kayadu Lohar said: “We watched Funky with the audience this morning. Seeing them laugh and enjoy every joke made us very happy. Thank you to the audience for showering so much love on our film.”

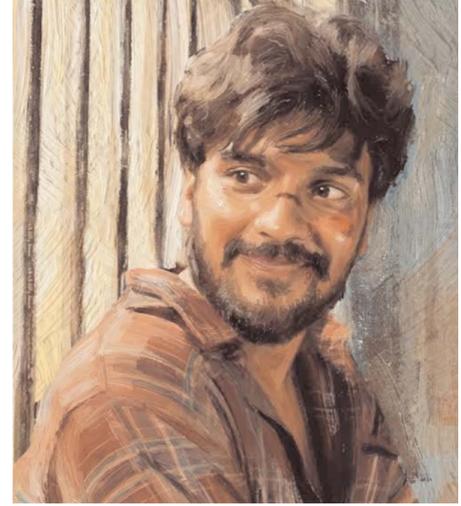
Director K.V. Anudeep said: “We made Funky with the intention of creating a family entertainer that can be enjoyed together. Along with comedy, the film also has a well-developed love story and emotional

moments. I am very happy with the response we are receiving from the audience.”

Producer Suryadevara Naga Vamsi said: “I believe you all liked Funky. From the beginning, we have been saying it’s a film that will make you laugh comfortably for two hours. Our belief has come true, and we are getting a very positive response from audiences. This film was made purely to make people laugh, and we have succeeded in that. Distributors are calling and saying the film is good. They say the comedy works well, and the mother sentiment in the second half is very effective. I request everyone to go to theatres and watch the film. Your ticket money will definitely be worth it. Come to the theatre to laugh you will not be disappointed.”

Happy to have a strong-content film like “Markandeya” as the first project under the DilRaju Dreams banner: Producer Dil Raju at the title glimpse release event

To encourage young talent, prominent producer Dil Raju has established a new banner titled “DilRaju Dreams.” As the first project under this banner, he is producing a film called “Markandeya” starring young hero Vikranth. Vikranth, who earned a good recognition among audiences with the film Santhana Prapthirasthu, is set to gain a significant advantage in his career by playing the lead in the first film produced under the DilRaju Dreams banner. The film is being directed by Sistla VMK as a mythological thriller. The title glimpse of “Markandeya” was grandly released today in Hyderabad. DOP Jagadeesh Varma Bhoopathi Raju said, “This is my first film as a DOP. I thank DilRaju garu, Vikranth, and director Sistla for giving me this opportunity. We feel our heartbeat has just begun with this glimpse.” Music director Hari SR said, “First of all, I thank my mentor Thaman garu. I believe this film’s soundtrack will gain global recognition. They trusted me and gave me this opportunity. The script has come out very well. This is a film that everyone must watch.” Director Sistla VMK said, “I thank DilRaju garu and his entire team for giving opportunities and supporting newcomers like us. A while ago, Dil Raju garu told me that we must work very hard. I can never forget those words. We will live up to the trust he has placed in us. We used AI only as a support tool in making this film; no shots generated by AI have been



included in the movie. Vikranth is my Markandeya, I call him by that name. We had many meaningful discussions for this movie. From today, Vikranth has become your Markandeya.” Hero Vikranth said, “In Hollywood, multiverse and superhero films have been widely made in recent years. But concepts like countless universes and immortals have existed in our mythology for thousands of years. Our movie is a modern interpretation of such a story inspired by epics. ‘Markandeya’ is a mystical thriller based on an epic concept. We planned this film with a young team. However, such a film needs proper guidance and support. To encourage young talent, Dil Raju garu created the DilRaju Dreams platform. We

narrated our story to him and showed him the content we had developed. He liked it and agreed to produce our film under the DilRaju Dreams banner. In every aspect, how the script should be structured, how to control the budget, and how to take the movie to the audience, Dil Raju garu is guiding us. We are working hard to meet his expectations. This film involves extensive CG work. We will bring even better content next. Since this is the first film under the DilRaju Dreams banner, we will make sure it remains memorable. This film presents a modern version of the character Markandeya. Just as Markandeya faced hardships and challenges, this modern Markandeya also encounters many obstacles. With the grace of Lord Shiva, how he finds

solutions and overcomes these challenges is what the movie portrays. More than technology, we are giving priority to human emotions in this film.” Producer Dil Raju said, “Advance Mahashivaratri wishes to everyone. Our SVC banner has completed 60 films in 23 years, and Dil Raju Dreams is another division under it. You all know about our banner. If we make 10 films with stars, at least 2 may not succeed. But with mid-range heroes and small films, we have achieved around 70 percent success. When I first entered the industry, I lost a large amount of money unknowingly. Later, the film Pellipandiri helped us stand strong. Vikranth also lost a significant amount of money with his first film as a hero. Later, he saw profits with Santhana Prapthirasthu, made in association with Madhura Sridhar Reddy. By his second film, he had learned to be cautious. Vikranth approached me for ‘Markandeya.’ He has successful businesses and is doing well, but I saw in him a strong desire to succeed as a hero. I liked the content of ‘Markandeya’ and decided to take it up as the first film under the Dil Raju Dreams banner.

KING OF ENTERTAINMENT SRI VISHNU AND NAYANA SARIKA RELEASE BEAUTIFUL LOVE SONG MUDALE MUDALE FROM 'VISHNU VINYASAM'



King of Entertainment Sri Vishnu is going to entertain with a unique project called 'Vishnu Vinyasam'. Newcomer Yadunath Maruthi Rao is directing

this film. Produced by Sumanth Naidu G under the banner of Sri Subrahmanyeshwara Cinemas, the film is presented by Hema and Shalini, and is co-produced by

Subrahmanyam Naidu G and Ramachari M. The film’s title glimpse and first single 'Dekho Vishnu Vinyasam' have received a wonderful response. Today, the makers released the second single,

Modale Modale. Music director Radhan has composed this song as a beautiful love melody. The lyrics written by Ramajogayya Sastry beautifully present the feeling of love. Madhusree and Naresh Iyer’s vocals add more melody. The chemistry between Sri Vishnu and Nayana Sarika in this song is lovely and impressive. This song, which is a perfect gift for Valentine’s Day, is becoming an instant hit. Satya, Brahmaji, Praveen, Murali Sharma, Srikanth Iyengar, Satyam Rajesh, Srinivas Vadlamani, and Goparaju Ramana are playing key roles in this film. Sai Sriram provided the cinematography for the film, A. Ramananjanyulu was the art director, and Karthikeyan Rohini was the editor. Preparations are underway to release this film in theaters soon.

John Abraham’s rise: Rs 6 lunch to big investments

Hyderabad: John Abraham is one of Bollywood’s most popular action stars. Known for his fit body, intense screen presence, and stylish roles, he has built a loyal fan base over the years. From being called one of India’s most desirable men to becoming a dependable action hero, John has enjoyed strong stardom in Hindi cinema. His blockbuster films include Dhoom, Race 2, Satyameva Jayate, Batla House, and the massive hit Pathaan in 2023. According to Box Office India, Pathaan earned over Rs. 600 crore in India and crossed Rs. 1,000 crore worldwide. Even earlier, his debut film Jism in 2003 was a hit and turned him into a national sensation.

saving and investing stayed with him even after fame arrived.

FOOTBALL AND SPORTS OWNERSHIP
In 2015, John became the principal pro-

But like many successful stars, John’s story is not only about movies. It is also about smart investments and financial discipline.

FROM A CORPORATE JOB TO THE CINEMA

Before entering films, John studied at Bombay Scottish School, graduated from Jai Hind College, and completed his MBA from NMIMS. In 1999, he worked as a media planner with a salary of about Rs. 6,500 per month. He once shared that his lunch cost Rs. 6, he travelled by train, had no mobile phone, and saved most of his income. He invested early in equity mutual funds. That habit of

owner of NorthEast United FC in the Indian Super League. The club has reached the playoffs and won the Durand Cup in 2024 and 2025. He has also committed to building a 15-acre football academy in Shillong to support young talent. He also owns Goa Aces JA Racing in the Indian Racing Festival.



Hey Bhagavan” will have emotion along with entertainment: Producer B. Narendra Reddy

After recently delivering blockbuster films like Little Hearts, Raju Weds Rambai, and Eesha, the successful duo Bunny Vas and Vamsi Nandipati are now bringing a full-length, out-and-out entertainer titled Hey Bhagavan under the banners of Nandipati Entertainments and Bunny Vas Works.

The film stars Suhas, Shivani Nagaram, senior actor Naresh, and anchor Sravanthi in key roles. Directed by Gopi Acharya, the film is produced by B. Narendra Reddy under the Trishul Visionary Studios banner. The movie is set to release on February 20. On this occasion, producer B. Narendra Reddy shared details about the film with the media.

What is your background? How did you develop an interest in films?

I am originally from Proddatur in Kadapa district. Currently, I am in the construction field in Bengaluru. I have loved movies since childhood. Because of that interest, I entered the Kannada film industry as a producer. Hey Bhagavan is my first film as a producer in Telugu.

How did you enter the film industry?

I used to finance films in the Kannada film industry. Later, due to my passion for films, I became a producer.

How did the Hey Bhagavan project get finalized?

I heard this story through

our company’s executive producer Ramana Reddy. Before Hey Bhagavan, I heard ten stories, but none impressed me. The moment I heard this story, I found it very entertaining and interesting. It is a film that has both entertainment and emotional depth.

What is the main reason for doing this film? How was your first film experience?

I liked the story, so I am doing this film. The movie was completed within budget. Everything went according to planning. Every rupee spent on the film will be visible on screen. The output is very high quality. Especially, the father-son emotion in this movie will touch everyone’s hearts.

