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DRIVING NEXT-GEN INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT IN TAMIL NADU

New Pamban Bridge, India's first vertical lift railway sea bridge, showcasing engineering innovation

Railway budget for Tamil Nadu rose **7.5 times** in 10 years; **77** stations being redeveloped under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme, ensuring safer and faster travel

97% railway electrification and **16** Vande Bharat Express services, enabling cleaner, faster travel and better connectivity

6,800+ km of National Highways and Greenfield Corridors expanding seamless connectivity across the state

26,000+ km rural roads built under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, improving connectivity

₹235 crore port infrastructure project in Tamil Nadu, focusing on resilience, safety and modernisation at Chennai Port and improved access infrastructure at Kamarajar Port

₹5,600 crore worth Double-tier Elevated Corridor from Chennai Port to Maduravoyal, transforming Chennai into a global trade hub

₹3 lakh crore invested for infrastructure development ensuring rapid modernisation and socio-economic development

RCS-UDAN: 10 regional routes operational and a new **₹450 crore** terminal at Tuticorin Airport, boosting regional air connectivity

726 projects of Smart City worth nearly **₹18,000 crore** completed, improving urban infrastructure

**DEVELOPED TAMIL NADU
FOR DEVELOPED INDIA
MODI GOVERNMENT'S RESOLVE**

“Our goal is a developed Tamil Nadu for developed India. The Central Government remains fully committed to enabling inclusive development and the state's progress.”

-Prime Minister Narendra Modi



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EDITORIAL

Paradoxical Statecraft:
Sharp Tongue, Weak Knees

On the final day of the Raisina Dialogue 2026, external affairs minister S. Jaishankar delivered a resounding rebuttal to US deputy secretary of state Christopher Landau's warning that Washington wouldn't allow India to rise economically like China. Jaishankar asserted: "India's rise will be determined solely by India. It will be defined by our strength, not by the mistakes of others." He further emphasised the emergence of multipolarity, stating: "Multipolarity is now a permanent reality. The world is unlikely to revert to a system where a few powers dictate major agreements and expect the rest to simply comply." Earlier that day, foreign secretary Vikram Misri questioned the legitimacy of a rules-based international order that excluded India's participation, prompting a pointed question: "India supports a rules-based order, but did we have a role in shaping those rules?" Misri also advocated for moving beyond shared values, suggesting that countries could compete in one domain while cooperating in another. Together, these statements challenge the multilateral dominance of the US and the West and propose that countries don't necessarily need to be strategic allies to function cooperatively. They implicitly reject the US's framing of the relationship as one where India must choose between aligning with Washington and pursuing its own interests. At a time when Modi's foreign policy faces scrutiny even from some of his supporters, these statements serve as a bold assertion of Indian strategic autonomy. However, there's a significant contradiction. The twelve months preceding these statements paint a very different picture. In Washington, India conceded to US pressure while in Delhi, India firmly refused. The capitulation began even before Trump initiated the tariff war and weaponised trade, dominating conversations. Prime minister Narendra Modi presented a list of concessions when he met the newly inaugurated Trump in February 2025. Before any tariffs were imposed, India offered to reduce duties on some American exports and suggested purchasing more US energy and defence products. India remained silent on Trump's demonstrative decision to deport illegal immigrants in chains, which was filmed for maximum embarrassment. Modi remained silent. Washington acknowledged Delhi's submission and praised the partnership. Trump called Modi a great leader and Modi declared that MAGA plus MIGA equals mega – a mega partnership for prosperity. However, within weeks, Trump imposed a 25% reciprocal tariff on Indian goods in April 2025 as part of his 'Liberation Day' executive order regardless. When the tariff was doubled to 50% as India was importing Russian oil, India labelled it 'unfair unjustified and unreasonable'. However, it did not take retaliatory action nor initiate a formal multilateral challenge. India simply absorbed the blow meekly. In May, following the Pahalgam attacks, India launched Operation Sindoor. However, this response was abruptly and unceremoniously extinguished by Trump's unilateral announcement of a ceasefire on social media. Trump claimed credit for mediation, but India denied the claim. Modi failed to respond to the repeated barbs of a dictated ceasefire. The strategic autonomy, so eloquently articulated at the Raisina Dialogues, was lacking. At the Raisina, Misri asked if India had a hand in shaping the rules. The US Trade deal answers this question: NO. In the US-India Joint Statement on the Framework for Trade Agreement, India almost unquestioningly accepted the rules set by the US regarding tariffs, data, agricultural product access, pharmaceutical trade and all industrial products.

'We Protect America, Not Vice Versa': Inside
Gulf's Growing Frustration With Trump

Soon after Operation Epic Fury began, the Deputy Foreign Minister of Iran, Saeed Khatibzade, who was visiting India to participate in the Raisina Dialogue, announced that Iran and the Gulf states had been engaged in back-channel talks when the joint Israel-US attacks on Iran began. The messaging was clear. The assaults were, in part, to sabotage these talks; they began also when Iran had been negotiating with the US over its nuclear programme through Omani mediation. For decades after the 1979 Islamic Revolution in Iran - which, by the way, the Arabs have always called an "Iranian revolution", dismissing claims of it being "Islamic" - the security architecture of the Gulf countries has been developed as a counter to Iran and to pre-empt its export of the 'revolution' to their lands. The primary fear has been the toppling of the monarchies in these countries. Saudi Arabia, for instance, had admitted that it had invested millions in exporting Wahhabism across the world, primarily as a counter to the Shiite political Islam that Iran was exporting.

The Birth Of The Carter Doctrine Intra-Gulf relations were transferred, as were the relations between the Gulf countries and the US. America's reliance on Iran and Saudi Arabia, the two largest energy powerhouses in the region, was replaced by the Carter Doctrine. In 1980, the then US President, Jimmy Carter, unveiled it in his State of the Union address, which declared that the US would use military force to defend its interests in the Persian Gulf. In 1981, the Gulf monarchies joined forces to form the Gulf Cooperation Council. Since then, the security architecture of the region has been anchored in the Carter Doctrine, which made the US the net security provider in the region. While the Shiite threat remained, with Iran forming its axis of resistance through the creation of proxies like Hezbollah in Lebanon, Hamas in Gaza, Houthis in Yemen, and, much later, the Hashed al Shabi, or armed Shiite militias in Iraq, yet another threat arose over the last decade. The Arab Spring, which brought back political Islam on the Arab map and led to the rise of Sunni militants such as ISIS - which even launched attacks on facilities such



as Saudi Aramco - shook the GCC. The perceived US disinterest in the region following its pivot to Asia, together with its endorsement of the Arab Spring, led to Arab capitals rethinking their security doctrine.

The Abraham Accords Israel capitalised fully on this window of opportunity that had opened up against common goals. It had long been trying to cultivate ties with the Arab and Muslim world. However, while it had been successful in the Muslim world, it could establish ties with only two Arab countries - Egypt and Jordan. Intense back-channel talks and lobbying by the first Trump Administration resulted in the path-breaking Abraham Accords in 2020, where a range of Arab countries, beginning with GCC heavyweight UAE, then Bahrain, and then Morocco, normalised ties and established diplomatic relations with Israel. While Saudi Arabia, as Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, was more circumspect, it did engage in unofficial relations with Israel. The common threat that underpinned these Accords was Iran. Therefore, a normalisation of the ties between GCC states and Iran would hardly have been looked upon benignly by Israel, or, for that matter, even by the US under a second Trump administration.

Questioning It All Now In spite of their security arrange-

ments with the US, the GCC countries have, during the current crisis, come to terms with the fact that this arrangement has been counterproductive for them. For one, Iran has retaliated by targeting not just Israel but also US bases in the Gulf as well as civilian infrastructure, where US military personnel have a presence with their drones and missiles. As Israel bombed Iran's oil storage refineries and sites, Iran struck energy infrastructures in the GCC, including Shaybah oilfields in Saudi Arabia and its most important refinery, Ras Tanura, and Qatar Energy's facilities at Ras Laffan, which made the world's largest LNG producer halt production entirely. GCC stocks have plummeted, trade and tourism have come to a grinding halt, and the image of the region as an oasis for global business and money now lies tainted. Worldwide, oil prices have spiked to more than \$100 a barrel for the first time since 2022. On the other hand, the GCC has also come to face the bitter truth that the US prioritised Israel's security over the Gulf's safety. As Israel's air defence system was overwhelmed with Iran's barrage of drones and missiles, the US began moving its air defence systems from the GCC to Israel.

'Step-Fatherly' Treatment For Middle East? Ironically, while Israel is not an immediate neighbour of Iran, most GCC states are. They have been in the line of fire and had anticipated this. In spite of this, they were not

taken into confidence or informed in advance of the joint Israel-US assault on Iran, leaving them susceptible to the very threat they had long anticipated. Moreover, while Israel received mostly military aid and grants, the GCC pays for its security arrangements with the US but still doesn't have many of the US technologies that Israel has been given access to. Transactions run into billions of dollars; just a year ago, President Trump had agreed to arms sales of \$142 billion dollars to Saudi Arabia.

'We Constantly Informed You' Inevitably, the pushback has begun. The GCC states have publicly announced that they would not allow their territories to be used for launching attacks. On Iran, they also know that part of its military doctrine is guided by the fact that US bases in the region, in the case of any attacks on Iran, become legitimate targets. The UAE's ambassador to the UN stated, plainly, "We have constantly informed [you] that our territories would not be used for any attacks against Iran. Yet, we are being targeted, frankly, in a very unwarranted manner." Similarly, influential UAE billionaire Khalaf Ahmad Al Habtoor has stated, "The truth is that hasty American decisions are what embroiled the region in a war whose peoples were not party to its decision-making, and its local allies were not consulted before it was launched."

This Poll Season, Mamata Banerjee's
Hindu Outreach Goes The Extra Mile



West Bengal Chief Minister and Trinamool Congress chief Mamata Banerjee has been on an overdrive for about a year, to announce and inaugurate temples in various corners of the state, amid BJP allegations that she is "appeasing" the minority Muslim community. Banerjee -- a devotee of goddess Kali -- holds an annual Kali Puja for decades at her home, barely a couple of kilometers away from the famous Kali temple in Kalighat. But she never played up her personal religious credentials in the political arena before the BJP landed in a big way on Bengal's battleground in 2019. Now she seems to have decided to play up the Bengali-Hindu sentiment on the political stage to counter the BJP brand of "Hindutva" in a bipolar political state. She had trodden this path for the 2021 assembly polls, reciting from the "Chandi" (invocation of Durga) on stage at election campaigns, to counter BJP's Hindutva push with "Jai Sri Ram" slogans and Hanuman Jayanti rallies that lack a Bengali cultural identity to it. Now, in the run up to the 2026 assembly polls where she is seeking a fourth straight term as Chief Minister, she has decided to showcase her temple building spree and development of traditional Hindu religious sites and events. The first big splash

came last year when her government built a Jagannath temple in Digha, modelled after the famous temple in Puri in Odisha. Inaugurated on April 30 by the chief minister, the temple was also the first of its kind since the roughly Rs 250-crore project was implemented by the state government's housing corporation (HIDCO), sparking a controversy on whether public money should be used to build religious structures. The footfall since has been overwhelming - a factor the ruling Trinamool Congress thinks could be to the party's advantage. Digha is in East Midnapore district, where BJP's Suwendu Adhikari - who defeated Mamata from Nandigram, in 2021, after shifting to the BJP -- holds a lot of cards. In December 2025, a grand Mahakal temple in Siliguri has been announced for which a trust has been formed. The Chief Minister also inaugurated a bridge project in Gangasagar that will connect the little islands at the delta where pilgrims gather for the auspicious Makar Sankranti in January. The foundation stone for a Rs 262 crore "Durga Angan" project in New Town, Kolkata, was also laid by the Chief Minister, who at the time had dismissed any allegation of appeasement politics, saying it was a tribute to UNESCO's recognition of

Durga Puja as a cultural heritage. The 17-acre complex will have temples, museums and cultural spaces. If the Durga Angan and Gangasagar projects are large scale, Banerjee also inaugurated a local temple of goddess Bagalamukhi in Kalighat, close to her home. A new temple complex has come up where a non-descript tiny temple of the goddess stood, and mostly devotees from the neighborhood offered prayers. Banerjee is a worshipper of "Ma Bagala" since childhood. While the Chief Minister has plied the state's 27 per cent minority Muslim population with government schemes and stipends for minority students and developing religious sites, she is being extra cautious this round to establish that it is not by overlooking the interests of the majority Hindu community. To prove the point, she has raised her government's grants to the 40,000 Durga Puja committees across the state from Rs 85,000 to Rs 1.10 lakh recently. Durga Puja is the state's biggest religious-cultural festival. As a political veteran, Banerjee is reaching out to her core Bengali-Hindu voters amid attempts by her rivals -- outfits like Humayun Kabir's JUP or the ISF or even Assaduddin Owasi's AIMIM -- to split the minority votes.

Nitish Kumar, And The Great Bihar
Promise That Never Came

The politics of dour men is often workmanlike, yet effective when they acquire power. Take PV Narasimha Rao, for instance. Until he became Prime Minister, he was barely acknowledged as a charismatic leader, but finished his political innings as arguably one of the most wily and consequential politicians independent India had seen. So was his political protege, Manmohan Singh. At one of the lowest points in his career as a politician and the last press conference as Prime Minister, Singh famously quipped: "History will be kinder to me than the contemporary media or, for that matter, the Opposition in the Parliament." Those were prescient words by a man content to remain in others' shadow most of his political life but managed to irrevocably change India's destiny. Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar could be clubbed with such men in the way he played the game of politics, but falls well short in his achievements. Kumar has indicated he is hanging up his more than 20-year-old chief ministerial boots and has filed to contest the Rajya Sabha elections. Victory is almost certain as the numbers are on his side. Unlike Rao and Singh, however, Nitish will not be remembered for his impact but the promise he wasted.

Ace Of The Pack Nitish was easily eclipsed by charismatic socialist colleagues such as Laloo Prasad Yadav and Ram Vilas Paswan in the early years. By the time he won his first election in 1985, Yadav and Paswan were veterans of legislative affairs. Belonging to the numerically weak Kurmi caste, he did not have the backing of a large community vote bank such as the Yadavs' for Laloo and Paswans' for Ram Vilas. Nor was he a rousing speaker. His relevance was always tied to the mercy of a larger, stronger political ally than his own stature. Alliance and compromise kept him in power even as he created maneuvering space in coalitions



by holding on to a bare minimum set of values rooted in socialism and secularism. When he partnered with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), he didn't let the party's Hindutva politics permeate deeply in Bihar. As a Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) ally, he kept the Yadavs, accustomed to getting their way, on a tight leash. But over the years, his political formula evolved into an unabashed pursuit of power combined with undiluted populism. It gained him the nickname 'Paltu Ram', or flip-flopper, but helped him emerge as a leader with a loyal vote base. Over time, Nitish engineered a grassroots coalition of non-Yadav backward communities, Pasmanda Muslims, Bhumihars, and women cutting across caste and religion, which made him a winner in his own right. If he could not rule Bihar on his own, nobody else could either.

Bicycle Man Soon after becoming Bihar's Chief Minister in 2005, Nitish's initiatives to gift bicycles to high school girl students to keep them in school is now part of political lore and a global case study in development economics emulated as far as Africa. The success of the scheme and the political dividends it paid Nitish were keenly watched by rivals and paved the way for women's empowerment, becoming central to every future election strategy and

development plan. In that first term (technically the second because he was CM for a week in 2000), Kumar focused on improving law and order in the state, earning him his other nickname, Sushasan Babu (the good governor). He set up fast-track courts, which convicted over 50,000 criminals between 2006 and 2010. A state known for rampant kidnappings and murders was suddenly safe for women to walk even at night. In 2006, Bihar became the first state to reserve half the seats in local governance bodies for women. It was also one of the early-bird states to have a separate gender budget, from 2008-09. Yet, Nitish's party, Janata Dal (United), fielded only 13 women in the 101 seats it contested in the 2025 assembly elections. Between 2005 and 2010, Nitish picked the low-hanging fruits of governance and administrative presence in a state lounging at the bottom of the national rankings for socio-economic development. The bicycle scheme saw girls' enrolment and attendance improving, while better policing made streets relatively safer for them. A state notorious for a lack of roads saw rapidly improving connectivity, although much of it was through a centre-funded rural roads project. Nitish's cynicism was on display when he gave a party ticket to strongman Anant Singh even as his police locked up sundry criminals.

OM NAMO VENKATESAYA

10-03-2026

Total pilgrims: 73,572

Tonsures: 22,747

Hundi kanakalu: 4.38 CR

Waiting Compartments...29

Approx. Darsan Time for Sarvadarshanam (with out SSD Tokens): 12 - 14-H

TO BOOK YOUR ADS CALL

99484 80279, 73307 78889

PM MODI ARRIVES IN KOCHI, TO LAUNCH NDA CAMPAIGN, UNVEIL PROJECTS

FUNERAL HELD FOR COMMANDERS IN TEHRAN, SHIP HIT NEAR HORMUZ

IPL 2026 SCHEDULE RELEASED, RCB TO TAKE ON SRH ON MARCH 28

IN BRIFS

SC ALLOWS FIRST PASSIVE EUTHANASIA, PERMITS WITHDRAWAL OF LIFE SUPPORT FOR MAN

New Delhi, March 11: The Supreme Court on Wednesday allowed a 31-year-old man from Ghaziabad who has been in a comatose condition for almost 13 years passive euthanasia by withdrawing his life support. In terms of its 2018 Common Cause judgment (as modified in 2023) recognising the fundamental right to die with dignity, a bench comprising justices JB Pardiwala and KV Viswanathan allowed the withdrawal of life support for a 32-year-old Harish Rana. Rana has remained in an irreversible permanent vegetative state for the past 13 years after falling from a building. His brain injury left him in a condition of Persistent Vegetative State (PSV) with 100 per cent quadriplegia. According to medical reports, his medical condition has not improved in the past 13 years. He is sustaining life only on Clinically Administered Nutrition (CAN) administered through surgically installed PEG tubes. The bench passed the order on a miscellaneous application of the father seeking to remove all life-sustaining treatment from his son.

CM Revanth reviews road development plans with R&B officials

HYDERABAD TSIT BUREAU: Chief Minister A.Revanth Reddy held a review meeting with senior officials of the Roads and Buildings Department to discuss road infrastructure development plans in the state in line with the Vision 2047 document. Meeting was attended by R&B Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy, Special Chief Secretary (R&B) Vikas Raj, Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister Srinivasa Raju, Enc Mohan Naik and other senior officials. During the meeting, the Chief Minister directed officials to prepare comprehensive plans for road development in accordance with the proposed Road Sector Policy-2047. He emphasized that the road network should be strengthened so that people can reach any part of the state from Hyderabad within a fixed and reasonable time. Revanth Reddy also instructed officials to identify and develop connectivity roads required to transform Hyderabad into a traffic-free city. He asked officials to take necessary steps to begin road development works in the areas that have already been identified.

WEST ASIA CRISIS: 2 INDIANS DEAD, 778 SEAFARERS ABOARD 28 INDIAN SHIPS STUCK IN PERSIAN GULF, SAYS GOVT

New Delhi (TSIT) Amid escalating tensions in West Asia, the government on Wednesday said that 778 Indian seafarers are currently aboard 28 Indian-flagged vessels operating in the Persian Gulf region, even as New Delhi stepped up monitoring and security measures to safeguard maritime personnel and trade. Addressing a special inter-ministerial briefing, Rajesh Kumar Sinha, Special Secretary in the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, said 24 of the vessels are operating west of the Strait of Hormuz with 677 Indian seafarers on board, while four vessels east of the strategic chokepoint carry 101 Indian crew members. Security agencies, ship managers and recruitment firms are coordinating closely with Indian embassies and local authorities to ensure the safety of the seafarers and provide medical assistance if required, he said. Advisories issued by the Directorate General of Shipping on February 28 have directed Indian-flagged vessels and seafarers to adopt enhanced security protocols and strict reporting procedures, including submission of crew details to authorities. Sinha said that port operations across India remain stable despite the regional tensions. Ports have been asked to extend all assistance to exporters and shipping operators to ensure continuity of external trade. Major ports are conducting round-the-clock monitoring of vessel movements, real-time assessment of developments in the region and regular reporting on cargo and ship status. Dedicated 24-hour control rooms have also been set up both in the ministry and in the Directorate General of Shipping to coordinate responses and maintain contact with ship owners, operators and families of seafarers.

SHIV PRATAP SHUKLA TAKES OATH AS GOVERNOR OF TELANGANA

HYDERABAD TSIT BUREAU: Shiv Pratap Shukla was sworn in as the Governor of Telangana at a solemn ceremony held at Lok Bhavan on Wednesday. The oath of office and secrecy was administered by the Chief Justice of the Telangana High Court, Justice Aparesh Kumar Singh. The swearing-in ceremony was attended by Chief Minister A.Revanth Reddy, Legislative Assembly Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar, Legislative Council Chairman Gutta Sukender Reddy, Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, several State Ministers, Members of Parliament, MLAs, and MLCs. Senior officials including Chief Secretary Ramakrishna Rao, DGP B. Shivadhar Reddy, and other top government officials were also present at the event. Leaders from various political parties and dignitaries attended the ceremony, extending their greetings to the newly sworn-in Governor. The event marked an important constitutional occasion in the state with the participation of prominent political leaders and officials.



Minister of State for Defense Shri Sanjay Seth participated in the National Symposium on 'Changing Dimensions in India's Neighbourhood' as part of the programs organized to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of Headquarters Integrated Defense Staff (HQ IDS) in New Delhi on 11th March, 2026.

US strikes 5,500 Iran targets, 60 ships

Washington, March 11 : US forces have struck more than 5,500 targets inside Iran, including more than 60 ships, since launching 'Operation Epic Fury', the top American commander overseeing the campaign has said, describing the operation as delivering sustained military pressure on Tehran's capabilities. Admiral Brad Cooper, Commander of United States Central Command, said that the operation continues to expand as US forces intensify strikes across multiple domains. "In short, US forces continue delivering devastating combat power against the Iranian regime," he said. According to the commander, American forces have already conducted thousands of strikes targeting Iran's military infrastructure. "To date, we have struck more than 5,500 targets inside Iran, including more than 60 ships, using a variety of precision weapon systems," Cooper said. The targets include Iranian missile and drone capabilities, naval assets, and elements of the country's defence industrial net-



work. "Every day, we're striking hard at Iranian ballistic missiles and drones," he said. The campaign is designed to neutralise current threats and reduce Iran's ability to launch future attacks. "Just last night, our bomber force hit a large ballistic missile manufacturing facility, as an example," Cooper said. "Since the first 24 hours of this campaign, Iranian ballistic missile and drone attacks have dropped drastically," Cooper said. Naval strikes have also played a major role in the operation. Cooper said the US military has neutralised key Iranian vessels believed to be involved in threatening maritime routes. "We also took out the last of

four Soleimani-class warships. That's an entire class of Iranian ships now out of the fight," he said. The Commander described the strikes as "unpredictable, dynamic, and decisive." Air operations have involved waves of advanced fighters and bombers operating from multiple locations. "From the air, we've achieved a concentration of air power with back-to-back waves of advanced fighters creating constant pressure on the enemy every single day," Cooper said. He also pointed to the increasing role of emerging technologies in modern warfare, including artificial intelligence systems used to analyse battlefield data rapidly. "Our warfighters are leveraging a variety of advanced AI tools. These systems help us sift through vast amounts of data in seconds so our leaders can cut through the noise and make smarter decisions faster than the enemy can react," he said. Cooper stressed that final targeting decisions remain with human commanders.

West Asia conflict: 15 Nepalis injured in Iranian missile and drone attacks

Kathmandu, March 11 : A total of 15 Nepali nationals have so far been injured in Iranian attacks in West Asian countries, while the country has already lost one of its citizens, Nepal's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said on Wednesday. Among those injured, 14 have returned to work after receiving treatment, the ministry said at a press meet on Wednesday. More than 1.7 million Nepalis are residing in the region, with the United Arab Emirates (UAE) hosting the largest — 700,000 Nepali nationals - according to the ministry. Ram Kaji Khadka, Joint Secretary at the ministry, said that the 15 Nepalis sustained minor injuries due to missile and drone attacks launched by Iran. "One Nepali national is still undergoing treatment, but his condition is normal," he said. In response to joint attacks by the United States and Israel, Iran has been launching retaliatory strikes on several countries in the region



that host US military assets, and civilian infrastructure in many Gulf nations has been hit by Iranian missiles and drones. The Nepali government has already confirmed that a Nepali youth, Diwas Shrestha, from the western

district of Gorkha, was killed during a drone interception operation at Zayed International Airport in the UAE. Speaking at the press meet, Nepal's Foreign Secretary Amrit Bahaur Rai however, said there was no

immediate need to evacuate Nepali workers from the Gulf region on security grounds. "Our analysis suggests that there is no need to bring them back immediately due to risks to their lives," Rai said. The Nepali government has also launched an online rescue tracking system to gather updated information on Nepali nationals in the region amid the ongoing conflict that has engulfed large parts of West Asia. About 61,989 Nepalis had registered their details in the online system operated by the Department of Consular Services under the ministry by Tuesday evening, the ministry said. The information submitted through the registration is being reviewed, and further procedures are being carried out as necessary, it added. The governments of the concerned countries and Nepali diplomatic missions have been regularly issuing advisories regarding security in West Asia. The ministry has urged Nepali citizens to remain aware and vigilant about updates, information, and safety precautions.

Domestic LPG production rises 25 pc as govt directs supply to households amid Middle East tensions

New Delhi, March 11 : The government has increased domestic LPG production by about 25 per cent and is directing the entire output towards household consumers to ensure uninterrupted cooking gas supply amid the evolving situation in West Asia, it was informed on Wednesday. According to the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, the government issued an order on March 8 asking refineries and petrochemical complexes to maximise LPG production. Officials said India imports nearly 60 per cent of its LPG needs and around 90 per cent



of those imports usually pass through the Strait of Hormuz, which has been affected by recent develop-

ments in the region. To ensure essential supply, priority is being given to domestic users while non-domestic

LPG is being reserved for critical sectors such as hospitals and educational institutions. A three-member committee consisting of executive directors from Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited has been formed to review LPG allocations to restaurants, hotels and other commercial users and ensure fair distribution. The government said the price of a domestic LPG cylinder in Delhi currently stands at Rs 913 after a recent Rs 60 increase.

G7 welcomes potential record release of oil reserves as prices surge

G7 nations have said they would support the collective release of oil from their reserves to tackle soaring prices since the start of the US-Israel war with Iran. The group of countries has been meeting with the International Energy Agency (IEA), which is reported to be readying its biggest ever intervention in the oil market on Wednesday afternoon. The conflict has caused oil exports through the vital Strait of Hormuz - which carries a fifth of global oil supplies - to virtually stop and production in the region to slump. Prices have jumped since the conflict started but stabilised following reports that oil could be released from countries' stockpiles though some experts say the move would only be a short-term solution. According to reports, the IEA could release 300 to 400 million barrels of oil — more than double the amount it released following Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in early 2022. However, the reported figure would only amount to around three or four days' worth of global supply or roughly a fortnight's worth of what would normally be shipped out of the Strait of



Hormuz. Following a meeting with the IEA on Wednesday, G7 energy ministers said: "In principle, we support the implementation of proactive measures to address the situation, including the use of strategic reserves." All IEA member countries are required to keep 90 days' worth of their nation's oil use in reserve in case of global disruption. The oil itself is not in a single place. For example, producers like Shell and BP keep stocks at terminals and refineries around the UK and can earmark stocks held elsewhere as counting towards their reserves. When it is released, it does

not mean a sudden flood of new oil starts moving. Instead, producers will make more available in the market for refineries to order, though energy analysts have told the BBC that there is a shortage of refining capacity. The other issue with releasing reserves is that it is not something you can do again. The impact of the US and Israel's war in Iran is starting to hit home — no matter where you live. As the conflict blocks oil gas, and other exports from the Gulf region, and producers start to cut output, the supply shock has sent prices soaring. This has rattled financial markets. However,

it is also affecting people's day-to-day lives, with prices for petrol and diesel at the pump already rising. And the effects could get wider still with the possibility that everything from food prices to holidays could become pricier. Analysts have also raised the possibility of an economic downturn, with some countries more at risk than others. "This is essentially the biggest supply shock at least in modern global oil market history," said Hunter Kornfeind, senior macro energy analyst of Rapid Energy Group. Motorists across the world are feeling this at the pump.

In the US, average petrol prices have risen above \$3.50 (£2.60) per US gallon, from about \$2.92 a month ago, while diesel had risen from \$3.66 to \$4.78 over the same period, according to the American Automobile Association. In the UK, the most recent data from the RAC motoring organisation shows that since the war began, average UK petrol prices have risen by 4.95p to 137.78p a litre. Diesel has increased by 9.43p to 151.81p. There is normally a time lag, with movements in oil markets taking about a fortnight to feed in to fuel prices. Meanwhile, the Gulf is where Europe gets around half of its jet fuel from. The disruption has caused the continent's benchmark jet fuel price to almost double to its highest level since the wake of Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Fuel typically makes up 20-40% of airlines' operating costs. This means flights could become more expensive, while any shortage of fuel could mean some flight cancellations. However, the impact might not be equal across the board. Many European airlines use contracts to get their fuel at fixed or capped prices for months, or even years, in advance.

Sensex, Nifty tumble over 1 pc during afternoon session



Mumbai: Benchmark equity indices Sensex and Nifty were trading sharply lower during afternoon session on Wednesday, March 11, after a day's breather as investors' sentiment remained cautious amid the ongoing tensions in West Asia and sustained foreign fund outflows. Besides, selling in blue-chip bank stocks also drove the markets lower. The 30-share BSE Sensex tumbled 1,045.15 points or 1.33 per cent to 77,160.83. The 50-share NSE Nifty tanked 290 points or 1.19 per cent to 23,971.60. From the 30-Sensex firms, Bajaj Finance, Axis Bank, Mahindra & Mahindra, Bajaj Finserv, Bharti Airtel and HDFC Bank were among the major laggards. Sun Pharma, NTPC, Adani Ports and Power Grid were

among the gainers. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, dipped 0.06 per cent to USD 87.75 per barrel. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth Rs 4,672.64 crore on Tuesday, according to exchange data. Domestic Institutional Investors (DIIs), however bought stocks worth Rs 6,333.26 crore. "Although equity markets staged a technical rebound on Tuesday, the underlying sentiment remains cautious as the deepening crisis in the Middle East begins to influence global financial markets through higher energy prices, disruptions to key shipping routes, and shifting investor risk appetite," Ponnudi R, CEO of Enrich Money, an online trading

and wealth tech firm, said. From an equity market standpoint, geopolitical disruptions of this nature tend to trigger sharp bouts of volatility as global investors rotate toward safer assets and reduce exposure to risk-sensitive markets, he added. In Asian markets, South Korea's Kospi and Japan's Nikkei 225 traded over 1 per cent higher. Shanghai's SSE Composite index and Hong Kong's Hang Seng index were also quoting in positive territory. The US market ended flat on Tuesday. On Tuesday, the Sensex jumped 639.82 points or 0.82 per cent to settle at 78,205.98. The Nifty climbed 233.55 points or 0.97 per cent to end at 24,261.60. The 30-share BSE Sensex tumbled 1,045.15 points or 1.33 per cent to 77,160.83.

Rashtriya Ayurveda Vidyapeeth holds 29th Convocation & Shishyopanayaniya Samskara Ceremony at BHU

The 29th Convocation and Shishyopanayaniya Samskara Ceremony of Rashtriya Ayurveda Vidyapeeth (RAV), an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Ayush, Government of India, was held today at Swatantrata Bhawan, Banaras Hindu University (BHU), Varanasi. The ceremony celebrated the achievements of scholars trained under the Certificate of Rashtriya Ayurveda Vidyapeeth (CRAV) programme and reaffirmed the enduring Guru-Shishya tradition of Ayurveda. Shri Prataprao Jadhav, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Ayush and Minister of State in the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India, addressed the gathering through a virtual message as the Chief Guest. In his address, Shri Jadhav said it was a matter of great pride to address such an august gathering of scholars in the sacred city of Kashi, the ancient seat of Ayurvedic knowledge and the land

associated with Dhanvantari Divodasa, regarded as the originator of surgical science in Ashtanga Ayurveda. He paid tribute to Mahamana Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, the founder of Banaras Hindu University, whose vision made BHU one of the historic centres of Ayurveda education. The Minister emphasised that Ayurveda is not merely a system of medicine but a holistic knowledge system that offers comprehensive insights into health and life. He highlighted the significance of the Guru-Shishya tradition, which has preserved and transmitted Ayurvedic wisdom across generations. He noted that legendary figures such as Dhanvantari, Charaka, Sushruta, and Vagbhata emerged through this tradition. Shri Jadhav appreciated the efforts of Rashtriya Ayurveda Vidyapeeth in sustaining this tradition by enabling young physicians to learn directly from eminent and experienced Vaidyas through structured programmes such as CRAV

and MRAV. He also commended the leadership of Padma Bhushan awardee Vaidya Devendra Triguna, President of the Governing Body of RAV, and Dr. Vandana Siroha, Director of RAV, for strengthening Ayurveda education and training. Highlighting the growing reach of Ayush systems under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the Minister said that Yoga and Ayush have gained global recognition and are increasingly contributing to India's healthcare diplomacy. He stated that the Ministry of Ayush is working to strengthen education, research, and training in the recognised systems of traditional medicine—Ayurveda, Yoga, Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, Sowa Rigpa, and Homoeopathy. Addressing the graduating scholars, Shri Jadhav said the convocation marked not just an academic milestone but the beginning of a new responsibility. He urged them to integrate traditional knowledge with modern scientific research and con-

tribute to making Ayurveda evidence-based and globally accepted. He also emphasised the importance of compassion, ethics, and soft skills in medical practice. Padma Shri Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha, Secretary, Ministry of Ayush, congratulated the graduating scholars and encouraged them to actively engage in research and scientific writing, stressing that evidence-based studies are essential for strengthening the credibility and global acceptance of Ayush systems. He also highlighted the Ministry's initiatives, including the development of All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) institutions and the upgradation of the WHO Global Traditional Medicine Centre, aimed at advancing research and global collaboration in traditional medicine. Prof. Ajit Kumar Chaturvedi, Vice Chancellor of Banaras Hindu University, emphasised the need for students to maintain academic focus and dedication while contributing to the advancement of the Ayush sector.

Hyland appoints Kumaran Sasikanthan as Managing Director, India and Senior Vice President of Engineering

Highlights

■ Hyland, the pioneer of The Content Innovation Cloud™, is pleased to announce the appointment of Kumaran Sasikanthan as Managing Director, India and Senior Vice President of Engineering. With more than 25 years of enterprise engineering and leadership experience.



Hyderabad, India – 11 March, 2026 – Hyland, the pioneer of The Content Innovation Cloud™, is pleased to announce the appointment of Kumaran Sasikanthan as Managing Director, India and Senior Vice President of Engineering. With more than 25 years of enterprise engineering and leadership experience, Sasikanthan is a seasoned enterprise software executive with a strong track record of scaling global engineering organizations. In this dual role, Sasikanthan will play a strategic leadership role in advancing Hyland's growth across its India operations while also

leading the company's global OnBase and Perceptive Content engineering teams. His appointment reflects Hyland's continued investment in India as a key driver of innovation, scale, and global collaboration. "Kumaran's appointment is a significant step forward in how we continue to scale Hyland globally while staying deeply connected to our customers' needs," said Tim McIntire, chief technology officer at Hyland. "India is a critical engine for innovation, engineering excellence, and collaboration across Hyland, and Kumaran's proven

ability to build and lead high-performing global teams will help us accelerate delivery, strengthen our platforms, and better serve customers worldwide." "Hyland's role as an enterprise content management leader, and agentic automation pioneer makes this a transformative time to join the company," said Sasikanthan. "I'm energized by the opportunity to lead Hyland's India organization and partner with our global engineering teams to drive innovation at scale." Most recently, Sasikanthan served as Senior Vice President of Product Development at

Informatica, where he played a key role in maturing distributed engineering teams and expanding engineering leadership across India. As part of Hyland's executive leadership team, he will be essential in driving the continued growth and maturity of the company's India operations, especially in Kolkata and Hyderabad. This includes attracting, developing, and retaining top technical talent to enable future-focused expansion, strengthening engineering culture and leadership capability at scale, while advancing Hyland's global engineering strategy and execution.

A SIGNIFICANT STEP TOWARDS STRENGTHENING COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH IN TRADITIONAL MEDICINE

A Tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed on 6 March 2026 at Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi, among the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) – Central Ayurveda Research Institute (CARI), New Delhi, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), and A & U Tibbia College & Hospital for the collaborative research project titled: "Effect of Seasonal Emesis (Vasanthik Vamana) on Metabolic, Inflammatory, and Microbiome Markers in Apparently Healthy Adults – An Exploratory Randomized Controlled Study." This collaborative initiative aims to explore the scientific basis and health impacts of Vasanthik Vamana by assessing its effects on metabolic, inflammatory, and microbiome markers in apparently healthy adults. The study reflects a shared commitment to



generating evidence-based insights in Ayurveda through rigorous clinical research. Representatives from JNU- Prof. Kedar Singh, Director, R & D, Prof. Arun Kharat and Prof. Amal Chandra from school of life sciences and from CCRAS-CARI Dr. Hemanta Panigrahi, Institute Incharge, Dr.

Babita Yadav, Dr. Shaizi Layeeq and Dr. Renu Rani were present during the signing ceremony. We look forward to meaningful outcomes from this partnership that will contribute to advancing integrative healthcare and strengthening the evidence base of traditional therapeutic practices.

91% of Indian Sales Professionals Say AI Agents Are Mission-Critical to Business Success

Hyderabad, 11 March 2026: Salesforce, the world's #1 AI CRM*, today announced findings from its latest State of Sales report, revealing that 91% of Indian sales professionals say AI agents are essential to driving business success. As sales teams kick off 2026 with ambitious new quotas, they're turning to AI — especially agents — to hit their numbers. The survey reveals AI as the top tactic to drive company growth this year. The data also reveals why: Sales teams are increasingly stretched between changing customer demands and limited bandwidth to meet them. The real drag on productivity, the research suggests, isn't effort or skill; it's administrative bottlenecks.

Detailed Findings: Sellers are doubling down on AI agents and deploying them across the entire sales cycle. AI adoption in sales is already mainstream: 90% of Indian sales organizations

currently use some form of AI for tasks like prospecting, forecasting, lead scoring, or drafting emails. Indian sellers using AI report meaningful value: 94% say AI deepens customer understanding, and 89% say it makes their job less stressful. AI agent adoption is accelerating quickly: 54% of Indian sellers say they've used agents, and nearly 43% plan to by 2027. Once fully implemented, Indian sellers expect agents to cut prospect research time by 35% and email drafting by 38%, giving sales teams meaningful time back in their day. Top-performing sellers are 1.7 times more likely to use prospecting AI agents for outreach than underperformers. 58% of Indian sales reps point to cold calling as the worst part of their job, yet a strong pipeline requires more contacts and more engagement than teams can deliver on their own.



Despite devoting nearly one full day of their workweek to prospecting efforts, 61% of Indian sellers say they lack bandwidth to do adequate cold outreach. To close the capacity gap, 54% of Indian sales professionals are using AI for prospecting, with another 41% planning to do so in the future. 92% of global sellers with AI agents say it benefits their prospecting efforts. Globally, high performers — sellers who have sub-

stantially increased year-over-year revenue — are 1.7 times more likely to use agents to help with prospecting than underperformers who merely maintained or decreased YOY revenue. Administrative friction is hitting the lower rungs of the career ladder hardest. The grunt work tax is real: While the average seller spends 40% of their time selling (or 41% in India), Gen Z reps overall are trapped at just 35% — losing approximately two full hours each week to manual data entry that senior reps spend researching prospects and building relationships. **They're also navigating a mentorship drought:** 46% rarely get feedback on their sales conversations. 47% don't get enough roleplay opportunities before customer calls. When asked what prevents effective enablement, Gen Z points to lack of manager time as the #1 obstacle, while millennials, Gen Xers,

and baby boomers cite lack of access to data and insights. Sales teams — particularly high-performing ones — are tackling messy data to better support AI initiatives. To get the most from AI, sales professionals are focusing on trusted, connected data — with high performers leading the charge. Over half of Indian sales leaders with AI (66%) say disconnected systems are slowing down their AI initiatives. To help, 82% of Indian sales professionals are focusing on data cleansing — doing the unglamorous but essential work of removing duplicates, correcting errors or omissions, and standardizing formats across siloed systems to maximize their AI returns. **High performers take it further:** 79% prioritize data hygiene compared with only 54% of underperformers overall.

CM Stalin inaugurates projects worth Rs 179 cr under North Chennai Development Plan

CHENNAI: Chief Minister MK Stalin on Wednesday inaugurated development works worth Rs 179.04 crore under the North Chennai Development Plan and laid foundation stones for new projects estimated at Rs 51.01 crore. At an event held on Wall Tax Road, the CM inaugurated a 700-tenement housing complex built at a cost of Rs 133 crore on Thanneer Thotti Street. Developed by the Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA), it consists of two blocks with ground plus nine floors and includes



parking for two-wheelers, eight lifts, water storage facilities and open spaces. Thirty-five units have been reserved for persons with

disabilities. Allocation orders for ten beneficiaries were handed over during the event. He also inaugurated a marriage hall built at Rs 18.42 crore and GCC's printing press, built at Rs 8.14 crore on Anna Pillai Street. The hall can seat 648 persons, and marriages for 10 couples were conducted during the inauguration. Other facilities developed by CMDA under the NCDP include a sports complex with courts for badminton, basketball, volleyball and football, built at Rs 9.81 crore, and a dialysis and rehabilitation centre.



MoU signed with Hirose, Japan, to establish an Electrical and Electronic Connectors manufacturing unit in Tiruvallur district in the presence of the Honble Chief Minister

IOC's lube plant in Chennai among world's largest: PM Modi

The upcoming Bharat Petroleum's City Gas distribution network will cover the Nilgiris and Erode



TIRUCHY: The newly dedicated Indian Oil Corporation's Lube Blending Plant in Chennai is one of the world's largest facilities of its kind and it would fulfill the demands of many major industries in Tamil Nadu and beyond, would reduce imports and save money for the nation, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said here on Wednesday.

The inaugurated projects would boost energy access, connectivity and create thousands of jobs for the youth of Tamil Nadu. The upcoming Bharat Petroleum's City Gas distribution network will cover the Nilgiris and Erode. The Piped Natural Gas is expected to benefit nearly nine lakh families and hundreds of commercial organisations. Piped gas will flow directly to homes, boosting ease of living, the PM said. Thousands of jobs will be created directly and indirectly, and natural gas is an environment-friendly fuel that plays an important role in reducing air pollution, he noted, adding, "I am told that the environmental impact of this project in just

eight years will be similar to the planting four crore trees." Citing that he inaugurated the rural road connectivity project, which covers 370 km under the Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, the PM assured that each road was not just a piece of infrastructure but will also provide patients with better access to healthcare, students with comfortable travel to schools and colleges, and farmers with easy travel to different markets. "Above all, each road lifts the rural economy and improves ease of living," he said. Prime Minister Modi recalled his visit to Gangaikonda Cholapuram for the Aadi Thiruvathirai festival and the celebration

of 1,000 years of the construction of the grand temple by Emperor Rajendra Chola. "It is a UNESCO-recognised site that attracts tourists from across the world, but the existing highway passes very close to the temple, causing safety concerns to pilgrims and tourists. So, a new bypass has been planned and vehicles will now be diverted away from the temple. This means better safety for everyone," he said. The PM also assured that the Centre is fully committed to the welfare of the people of Tamil Nadu, and the NDA government is working on the state's welfare. He said work on the projects inaugurated in Madurai a few days back will continue. Apart from inaugurating eight modernised and redeveloped railway stations under the Amrit Bharat programme in Madurai, the prime minister said he had flagged off several new trains, which would connect Nagercoil, Coimbatore, Rameshwaram, Tirunelveli, Mayiladuthurai and Karaikudi with other regions and boost tourism and generate jobs.

Bring back Tamils stuck in warzone: NTK chief Seeman

In a statement, Seeman said it was a "historic tragedy" that fishermen from the State are forced to travel to foreign countries for fishing-related work



CHENNAI: Taking note of the worsening situation due to the ongoing war in the Persian Gulf, the Union government should take immediate steps to safely repatriate Tamil fishermen and workers stranded in Iran, Israel, and Gulf countries and reunite them with their families, Naam Tamilar Katchi (NTK) chief coordinator Seeman urged on Wednesday. In a statement, Seeman said it was a "historic tragedy" that fishermen from the State are forced to travel to foreign countries for

fishing-related work. Highlighting the plight of the fishermen's families, who are unable to contact their loved ones, he said they were left in tears worrying about the safety of their family members. This, he said, was extremely distressing. He called upon the Union government to immediately intervene and ensure that the stranded fishermen and also other Tamil people who are working in

Iran, Israel and Gulf nations were safely brought back to their homeland and reunited with their families. Seeman also urged the Tamil Nadu government to speed up efforts to rescue the stranded Tamils through the Department for Welfare of Non-Resident Tamils and coordinate with Indian embassies in the countries concerned to facilitate their return.

Jumbo tramples 65-year-old daily wage to death in Erode

COIMBATORE: A Tamil Nadu Electricity Board employee, his wife who was undergoing treatment for breast cancer, and their minor daughter were found dead at their house in Thambu Nagar here on Saturday night, with police suspecting suicide. The deceased were identified as Kamalesh (42), a junior engineer at a Tangedco substation in Kathirnaickenpalayam under the Thoppampatti division; his wife Ilakkiya (38); and their daughter Yakshita Angel (10), a Class 5 student of a private school in the area. Police said Ilakkiya had been suffering from breast cancer for the past three years and was undergoing treatment. As her condition did not improve and she was reportedly in severe pain, she is said to have shared her distress with her husband. Investigators said the couple had informed relatives that they were "going to join the Lord" before allegedly consuming potassium cyanide along with their daughter on the night of February 1, according to a Daily Thanthi report.

Hidden belly fat may raise kidney disease risk even in slim people

New Delhi, Mar 11: Doctors are increasingly warning that being thin does not always mean being healthy, as growing evidence shows that people with normal body weight can still develop serious metabolic diseases due to hidden internal fat. Health experts say a rising number of patients, particularly in South Asia, are being diagnosed with metabolic disorders despite having a normal Body Mass Index. The problem is often linked to visceral fat, a type of fat that accumulates deep inside the abdomen around vital organs. Visceral fat forms a layer around organs such as the liver, pancreas and kidneys.

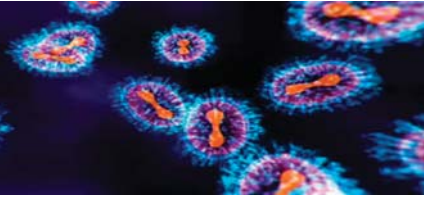
SURYODAY
A SURVIVOR OF
Suryoday Small Finance Bank Limited
Registered Office: 1101, Sharda Terrace, Plot 65, Sector 11, CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai - 400614.
Corporate Office: 1, Sankar, Grand Central, Plot 1, Sector-40, Seawoods
Railway Station, Nerul, Navi Mumbai 400706.
CIN: 165923MH2008PLC261472

Publication Notice: Photographs of Willful Defaulters
Name of the Borrower: Muthukumar M
Address: 20/1279 Gaavinashi Nagar, Tirupur Tirup TN641602
Name of the Co-Borrower 1: Rhythu Varshiny M
Address: 97/95 Thirunilagadar Street Pollachi, Polla TN-642001
Mr/Mrs. Muthukumar M was sanctioned with credit limit of Rs. 28,80,000/- (Rupees Twenty Eight Lakh Eighty Thousand Only) with LAP product from our bank. The present balance outstanding is Rs.31,30,278/- (Rupees Thirty One Lakh Thirty Thousand Two Hundred Seventy Eight Only) plus non-repayment of dues to the bank the account was declared NPA on 04.07.2025. The Borrower/ Co-Borrower(s) has not repaid the dues owed to the bank despite several notices/actions taken by the bank. The Borrower and its Co-Borrower(s) were declared as willful defaulters by the bank and their name reported to the Credit Information Companies for public information.
Sd/-
CCRO, Navi Mumbai

Protium
Protium Finance Limited
(erstwhile Growth Source Financial Technologies Limited)
Registered & Corporate Office Address: 7th Floor, Block B2, Phase - I Nirilon Knowledge Park, Pahadi Village, Off. Western Express Highway, Cama Industrial Estate, Goregaon(E), Mumbai- 400063, Maharashtra.
POSSESSION NOTICE: (U/S 13(4) & As per Appendix IV read with rule 8(1) of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002)
WHEREAS, the undersigned, being the Authorized Officer of Protium Finance Limited (erstwhile Growth Source Financial Technologies Ltd.) (hereinafter referred to as "Protium Finance Limited"), under the provisions of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act No. 54 of 2002) (the "SARFAESI Act"), and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a Demand Notice dated 2nd Jan 2026, calling upon the Borrowers Lakshmi Stores Through its Proprietor Varalakshmi W/o Raman Parimalam, And the Co-Borrowers: 1. Raman Parimalam S/o Raman, 2. Varalakshmi W/o Raman Parimalam, in respect of the Loan Account Bearing No. GS021EEL2165380, to repay the amount mentioned in the said notice, being INR 46,09,780.54/- (Forty Six Lakh Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Eighty Rupees and Fifty Four Paise Only) as on 2nd Jan 2026, within 60 (sixty) days from the date of receipt of the said notice.
The borrowers having failed to repay the said amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic Possession of the property described hereinbelow, in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, on this 11th March 2026. The borrowers in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the said property, and any dealings with the property shall be subject to the charge of Protium Finance Limited for an amount of INR 46,09,780.54/- (Forty Six Lakh Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Eighty Rupees and Fifty Four Paise Only) as on 2nd Jan 2026 together with further interest thereon, and all costs, charges, and expenses incurred.
The borrowers' attention is invited to the provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of the time available to redeem the secured assets.
DESCRIPTION OF THE MORTGAGED PROPERTY
All That Piece And Parcel Of Land And Proposed Building, Bearing Plot Nos. C & D, Comprised In Gramanathan S.No.260/1 Part, T.S.No.13, Ward D, Block No.14, Measuring With An Extent Of 790 Sq.Ft., Situated At No.47C, Bramin Street, Pattaravakkam Village, Ambattur Taluk, Chennai District And Bounded On The North By: Avin Main Road, South By: Plot No.8 Belongs To Mr. Murthy, East By: 5 Feet Wide Common Passage, West By: Land Belongs To Mr.Baskar, Measuring East To West On The Northern Side: 21 Feet, East To West On The Southern Side: 21 Feet, North To South On The Eastern Side: 38 Feet, North To South On The Western Side: 38 Feet, Situated Within The Sub-Registration District Of Konnur And The Registration District Of North Chennai.
Date: 11th March 2026
Place: Tiruvallur, Tamil Nadu
Sd/-, For Protium Finance Limited
Authorized Officer

ADITYA BIRLA CAPITAL LIMITED
Registered Office : Indian Rayon Compound, Veraval, Gujarat-362266.
Corporate Office : R-Tech Park, 12th Floor, Nirilon Complex, off Western Expressway, Goregaon East -Mumbai - 400063.
E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE
15 Days E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (54 of 2002).
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 below, stands transferred to Aditya Birla Capital Ltd., the amalgamated company.
Accordingly the Authorized Officer of Aditya Birla Capital Limited / Secured Creditor has taken possession of the following secured assets pursuant to notice issued under Sec. 13(2) of Securitization & Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI) for recovery of the secured debts of the secured creditor, for the dues as mentioned herein below with further charges and cost thereon from the following Borrowers and Co-Borrowers. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrowers and Co-Borrowers that e-auction of the following property for realization of the debts due to the Aditya Birla Capital Limited will be held on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" basis.
DATE & TIME OF E-AUCTION : 30th MARCH 2026 & LAST DATE OF RECEIPT OF KYC & EARNEST MONEY DEPOSIT (EMD) : 27th MARCH 2026
Sr No Name of the Borrower(s) & Co-Borrower(s) Description of Properties /Secured Assets Reserve Price (In Rs.) Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (In Rs.) / Incremental Value (In Rs.) Demand Notice Date & Total Amt (In Rs.)
1 1.M/S MADURAI MESS, THROUGH ITS PROPRIETOR K PRAVEENKUMAR, 2 K PRAVEENKUMAR, S/O KRISHNAMOORTHY, 3. VISHNULAKSHMI P, W/O PRAVEENKUMAR, 4. MEENATCHI SUNDARAM S, S/O SAKTHIVEL Loan Ac No. ABS_TST500000793247 MADURAI DISTRICT, MADURAI NORTH REGISTRATION DISTRICT, VADIPATTI SUB REGISTRATION DISTRICT, VADIPATTI TALUK, VADIPATTI PANCHAYAT 8th WARD SOUTH STREET, NEERETHAN VILLAGE, PUNJAI R.S. 13/11, MEASURING 66 CENTS, OUT OF THE SAID EXTENT ON THE SOUTHERN SIDE EASTERN PORTION, HOUSE SITE, MEASURING 900 SQ.FT WITHIN THE FOLLOWING BOUNDARIES:- NORTH BY: SITE SOLD IN FAVOUR OF BOSE RAJ, EAST BY:- POLICE STATION SITE, SOUTH BY:- SITE SOLD IN FAVOUR OF SARADHA, W/O LANGO, WEST BY:- NORTH SOUTH COMMON PATHWAY, WITHIN THIS MEASURING, EAST- WEST : 60 FEET, NORTH - SOUTH : 15 FEET. THIS TOTALING 900 SQ.FT, NOW BEARING NEW SUB DIVISION PATTI No.2819 S.No.13/116. Rs. 30,21,300/- (Rupees THIRTY LACS TWENTY ONE THOUSAND AND THREE HUNDRED ONLY) Rs. 3,02,130 (RUPEES THREE LACS TWO THOUSAND AND ONE HUNDRED THIRTY ONLY) Rs. 25,000/- (Rupees twenty five thousand only) 06-FEB-2025 & Rs. 42,89,076/- (RUPEES FORTY TWO LAKHS EIGHTY NINE THOUSAND SEVENTY SIX ONLY) as on 06-FEB-2025
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in Secured Creditor's website i.e. <https://adbi.adityabirlacapital.com/Pages/Individual/Properties-for-Auction-under-SARFAESI-Act.aspx> or <https://BidDeal.in>. Contact Details - Aditya Birla Capital Limited. Authorized Officer - Apoorva Dhanpal (9930909725), Komal Patil (9867895795), Jahirul Laskar (9706003075), Hareesh Kumar (9176547103), Sunder Cornelius (9952231674) and Srikanth S(9884002027) and Dhanilpanje Ns (8056375928)
Date : 12.03.2026, Place : MADURAI
Authorized Officer, Aditya Birla Capital Limited

Nipah, bird flu outbreaks highlight common public mistakes during viral scares



Recent public health alerts in India, including the Nipah virus outbreak in West Bengal and the avian influenza (bird flu) outbreak in Bihar, have once again underlined how swiftly viral infections can emerge and spread. While health authorities activate containment measures, experts say individual behaviour often determines whether transmission accelerates or is brought under control. Medical professionals warn that during viral outbreaks, fear and misinformation frequently spread faster than the virus itself. This panic-driven response leads people to make dangerous mistakes such as ignoring early symptoms, self-medicating without advice, and relying on unverified social media remedies. Such actions not only increase personal risk but also endanger vulnerable groups and add pressure on healthcare systems. Dr Dip Narayan Mukherjee, Consultant – Microbiology and Infectious Diseases at CK Birla Hospitals, CMRI, said outbreaks test not just immunity but collective discipline. He stressed that understanding common behavioural errors and avoiding them is crucial, especially during high-risk outbreaks like Nipah and bird flu, which carry significant fatality rates. One of the most critical mistakes, according to Dr Mukherjee, is ignoring early symptoms. Mild fever, sore throat, fatigue or body ache are often dismissed as seasonal illnesses, delaying medical consultation and isolation. In infections such as Nipah, early symptoms may appear mild but can rapidly progress to severe neurological complications. The World Health Organization (WHO) has consistently emphasised that early detection and isolation are key to limiting transmission and improving outcomes. Another major concern is inconsistent use of preventive measures. People may follow precautions in public places but relax them in homes, offices or social gatherings. Health agencies like the WHO and the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) stress that hand hygiene, respiratory etiquette and mask use, when advised, must be practiced consistently across all settings to be effective. Self-medication has also emerged as a serious issue during outbreaks. Dr Mukherjee cautioned against the use of antibiotics, ste-

roids or unproven home remedies without medical supervision, noting that antibiotics have no role in treating viral infections. The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has repeatedly warned that misuse of antibiotics fuels antimicrobial resistance, while inappropriate steroid use can weaken immunity and worsen outcomes in viral infections. Misinformation circulating on social media further complicates outbreak responses. Health authorities have observed that unverified claims and so-called miracle cures undermine evidence-based public health measures. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has advised citizens to rely only on official advisories and qualified healthcare professionals. Experts also point to neglect of isolation as a major risk factor. Many people continue attending work or social events despite being symptomatic, often due to professional or social pressure. In high-risk infections like Nipah, even brief exposure can have serious consequences. The WHO has reiterated that staying home when unwell is a public health responsibility. Improper use of masks and disinfectants is another concern. Reusing disposable masks, wearing them incorrectly or excessive use of disinfectants without proper ventilation can reduce protection and cause health issues.

Cargo ship catches fire in Strait of Hormuz after three vessels hit by 'unknown projectiles'

Iran says it won't allow 'a single litre of oil' to pass through Strait of Hormuz Iran says its policy for reciprocal strikes "has ended", a spokesman for Tehran's Khatam al-Anbiya military command headquarters says in a statement. Tehran's policy now will be "strike upon strike," spokesman Ebrahim Zolfaqari says. Tehran will "not allow even a single litre of oil" to pass through the Strait of Hormuz to reach the US, Israel and their partners, Zolfaqari adds. "Any vessel or tanker bound to them will be a legitimate target." "Get ready for the oil barrel to be at \$200 because the oil price depends on the regional security which you have destabilised," the spokesman adds. Germany's economy minister appears to have confirmed plans for the International Energy Agency (IEA) to make the biggest release of oil reserves in its history. She said the 32 members have been asked to release 400m barrels collectively. That's a



significant chunk because it's about a third of the total these governments hold. Katherina Reiche said her country would contribute to what she called "an instrument for dealing with supply shortages" and that it was "clear that there must be a visible signal to the market to curb high risk premiums and speculative gains with such a significant step". This global effort to calm energy markets comes after oil prices have

been particularly volatile in recent days, sending shockwaves through the global economy. They remain significantly ahead of where they were before the Iran war started - as I write this, a barrel of benchmark Brent Crude is trading at over \$91 (£68). Earlier, Japan, which has one of the biggest reserves, said it was planning to release 15 days' worth of private-sector oil reserves and one month's worth of

state oil reserves, according to Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi. She said "rather than wait for formal IEA approval of a coordinated international reserve release, Japan will act first to ease global energy market supply and demand, releasing reserves as early as the 16th of this month". Meanwhile Austria's energy minister says they "will support a decision in principle". All are members of the IEA which is

reported to be announcing a decision on a release in the coming hours but hasn't responded to my enquiries. Israel has announced a "wide-scale wave" of attacks against Iran and further attacks against Beirut while Iran continues to strike neighbouring countries in the Gulf region. Strait of Hormuz Thailand's navy says it is assisting after a Thai-flagged cargo ship was attacked in the Strait of Hormuz, with 20 of the 23 crew members already rescued by Oman's navy The UK Maritime Trade Operations (UKMTO) has reports that, in total, three cargo vessels have been hit by unknown projectiles in the strait today Overnight the US military said it destroyed 16 mine-laying Iranian ships in the strait Continued airstrikes Israel has announced a further "wide-scale wave" of strikes against both Beirut and Iran after confirming that it struck targets in the Dahieh suburb Beirut earlier on Wednesday BBC reporter

Alice Cuddy was at the scene of an Israeli strike in southern Lebanon which left a four-storey building ablaze, while Carine Torbey reports from a strike in central Beirut Four people have been injured after two drones fell near Dubai International Airport, while the UAE, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Oman have all reported Iranian attacks Oil prices Sources tell the BBC that the UK is prepared to support a coordinated release of collective Energy Agency oil reserves as prices remain volatile due to the conflict It comes as energy ministers in the G7 say they have given support "in principle" for the use of strategic energy reserves In the UK, Prime Minister's Questions is under way and the focus is on the war in Iran, with Keir Starmer asked about the knock-on impact on the British public and whether British troops will get involved.

AT LEAST SIX DEAD IN SWITZERLAND BUS FIRE



At least six people have been killed and others injured after a bus caught fire in a town in western Switzerland, according to police. The incident took place at around 18:25 local time (19:25 GMT) on Tuesday in the centre of Kerzers - known in French as Chiètres - in Fribourg canton, about 20km (12 miles) from the capital, Bern. At least three people were taken to hospital, police said, and there were reports that a rescuer was also hurt. The cause of the fire is not yet known but local police said the fire was believed to have been started deliberately. There have been reports that a person doused themselves

in gasoline but the authorities said they could not immediately confirm this. While the act is thought to be intentional, there is no evidence it was terror related, a spokesperson for Fribourg police told Swiss national broadcaster RTS on Wednesday. Romain Collaud, a local politician, also confirmed to RTS that "we have no indication that suggests we might be dealing with a terrorist attack". Video posted by local media shows a bus in flames, and a local resident described seeing a thick column of smoke. The bus involved had reportedly travelled from the Düringen municipality, 17km south of Kerzers.

MUGABE'S SON DROPS BAIL REQUEST - WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO THE FAMILY AFTER LOSING POWER



The arrest in South Africa of the youngest son of Zimbabwe's former President, Robert Mugabe, has brought renewed attention to the former first family and their controversies over the years. Bellarmine Mugabe, who appeared in court on Wednesday for a bail hearing, is accused of attempted murder, among other charges, after a 23-year-old man was shot and injured at a property in an upmarket suburb of Johannesburg. He has not commented on the charges but in an unexpected move, he abandoned his request for bail and agreed to plea negotiations with South African prosecutors. He is charged alongside his bodyguard. Their lawyer Sinenhlanhla Mnguni said it was "premature to say... whether we will plead guilty to anything at this stage". The matter returns to court next Tuesday. His father led Zimbabwe for 37 years before being forced out of power at the age of 93 in 2017. He died two years later. The long-serving president and his second wife Grace had three children together: Bona Mugabe - now 37 Robert Mugabe Jr - now 33 Bellarmine Mugabe

- now 28. Grace also had a son from an earlier marriage: Russell Goreraza - now in his early 40s. Managing editor of Zimbabwean privately owned NewsHawks website, Dumisani Muleya, told the BBC that the Mugabe family had "lived a life of privilege" and that the children "grew up in that environment where they were protected from the broader realities of the Zimbabwean political and socio-economic situation". The family had amassed a vast personal fortune, including \$10m (£7.5m) in cash, four houses, 10 cars, a farm and an orchard among other assets. These details emerged three months after Robert Mugabe's death in a legal letter submitted to the high court in Zimbabwe by his daughter Bona. At the time, a lawyer for the family, Terrence Hussein, told the BBC that none of the properties were under the former leader's name. In 2013, Grace denied that her husband was accumulating wealth while in office, saying her husband did not earn as much as people thought as he was a civil servant. "The allowance I get is just a pittance.

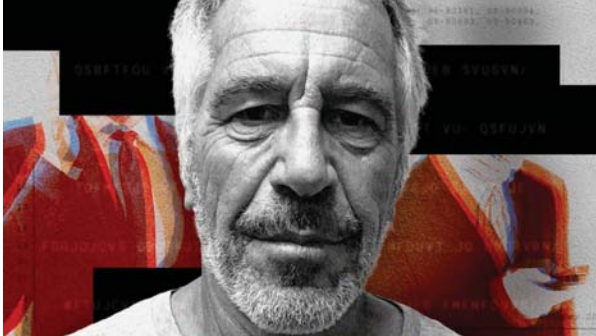
GEORGIA RACE TO REPLACE MARJORIE TAYLOR GREENE HEADS TO A RUNOFF

The special election to replace former Georgia Congresswoman Marjorie Taylor Greene is projected to head to a runoff after none of the candidates secured a majority of the votes on Tuesday night. Republican Clay Fuller, who received President Donald Trump's endorsement, is projected to face Democrat Shawn Harris to represent Georgia's 14th congressional district, according to a projection by the BBC's US partner CBS. The two candidates beat out a crowded field of 17 candidates for the runoff slots. Trump gave Fuller his "complete and total endorsement" in a Truth Social post and while holding a rally in Rome, Georgia, last month. Tuesday's election served as an early test of Trump's power to shape the upcoming

midterm elections in November. "For those of you who questioned how important Donald J Trump is to this country, to Georgia 14, and the state of Georgia, you see what this man means to this community, what he means to the people in this country, and what he means to the MAGA movement," Fuller, a former district attorney, said on Tuesday night. The runoff election will be held 7 April. Whoever wins the seat will serve out the rest of Greene's term, which ends in January, but they must begin campaigning again immediately to win their own full term in Congress in the midterms. Harris, the Democrat, received the most votes on Tuesday night, likely due to the fact that the Republican base splintered among many candidates.

JEFFREY EPSTEIN HAD TWO KEY AIDES - WHY DO THEY STILL CONTROL HIS MONEY AND SECRETS?

When the FBI raided Jeffrey Epstein's New York mansion in July 2019, on the day he was arrested for child sex trafficking, agents forced open a large safe to find diamonds, bundles of cash, passports, binders of CDs and hard drives. But an issue with the warrant meant they could not leave with the items. And when they returned with a new one, the safe had been emptied while they were gone - according to FBI documents. Richard Kahn, Epstein's accountant and bookkeeper since 2005, had told the mansion's staff to pack two suitcases with the contents of the safe and deliver them to his home, agents wrote. After the FBI spoke to Kahn's then lawyer, Kahn agreed to hand over the suitcases untouched, but he did not want agents coming to



his house and declined to say who had told him to remove the items. However, a source close to the investigation into Epstein told us that he was not aware of Kahn ever being interviewed or investigated in relation to the paedophile financier's criminal investigation. Kahn's current lawyer told BBC News that his client had fully co-operated with the FBI's requests. Kahn, and Epstein's long-

serving lawyer Darren Indyke, are the sole executors of Epstein's estate, controlling all his wealth and possessions. Although hardly household names, the pair now hold control over compensation owed to survivors and the secrets contained in the documents still held by the Epstein estate - which, upon request, have been released to the House Oversight Committee. As

part of its investigation into Epstein's network, the congressional committee has subpoenaed - summoned - the pair to testify. Kahn is appearing on Wednesday 11 March, while Indyke is due to testify on Thursday 19 March. We have spoken to people associated with investigations linked to Epstein, looked through papers from multiple court cases, and analysed the most recent material released in the Epstein files by the US Department of Justice - to try to uncover more about the role the two men are alleged to have played in Epstein's life and continue to play after his death. Epstein appointed Indyke and Kahn as co-executors in August 2019, just two days before he died in jail awaiting trial for sex-trafficking minors.

LARGE PARTS OF DRESDEN EVACUATED AFTER 250KG WW2 BOMB FOUND

Much of the centre of the German city of Dresden has been evacuated, after the discovery of a large unexploded British World War Two bomb. The 250kg (551lb) device was discovered near the former Carola Bridge, which collapsed in the Elbe River in 2024. The fire brigade in Dresden says this is the city's largest evacuation to date for such an incident, affecting around 18,000 residents, tourists and commuters. Much of the old town has been cordoned off, including some of the city's most famous buildings - the iconic Frauenkirche Lutheran church, the



Residenzschloss Palace and the Semper Opera. The police headquarters, Saxony's state parliament, several ministries, retirement and nursing homes, daycare centres and other social institutions are also located in the evacuated area. The authorities are

providing emergency accommodation at the Dresden Exhibition Centre from 07:00 (06:00 GMT), while additional buses and trams will be running to this location. It is not clear how long it will take to defuse the bomb. Dresden was attacked by

British aircraft on 13 February 1945. In the days that followed, the British and their US allies dropped nearly 4,000 tons of bombs in the assault on the city. The ensuing firestorm killed 25,000 people and ravaged the city centre, once known as the Jewel Box because of its Baroque and Rococo architecture. Four other bombs were found during demolition work on the Carola Bridge last year. The attack on Dresden is one of the most controversial Allied acts of World War Two. Some say it was strategically justified. Others argue it was a war crime.

CARNEY INCHES CLOSER TO MAJORITY, AS FOURTH MP DEFECTS TO LIBERALS



A fourth MP of the current Canadian parliament has defected to join the Liberals, bringing Prime Minister Mark Carney closer to a majority in the House of Commons. Lori Idlout, a member of the left-leaning New Democrats (NDP), is joining the governing party. In a statement issued by the Liberals, she said she had undergone "much personal reflection and encouragement from my community, family, and supporters". Interim NDP leader Don Davies said he was "very disappointed", adding: "We believe that when someone rejects the decision of their electors and wants to join another party, they should put that decision to their voters." The Liberals said they were "deeply excited to welcome" Idlout. Idlout was first elected as an MP from the Canadian territory of Nunavut in 2021. She told the CBC in January that she had been asked to consider joining the Liberals but was not yet ready to make the move. Carney, who leads a minority government, has been closing in on a majority in recent months - largely helped by recent defections by three former Conservative members of parliament. In February, Matt Jeneroux, a

Conservative from Edmonton, joined the Liberal caucus. Two other Conservative MPs, Chris d'Entremont of Nova Scotia and Michael Ma of Ontario, had crossed the floor late last year to join Carney's government. Opposition Conservatives have accused the Liberals of using "pressure tactics" on their members. Over the weekend, Carney also announced three by-elections on 13 April - races that could secure the Liberals the majority government that they crave. Two of the by-elections will be held in Toronto, in constituencies that are considered Liberal strongholds. The third will be a closely-watched contest in Montreal that his party won by just one vote in the last election - a result that was nullified by the Supreme Court. If the Liberals win all three seats in April, following the addition of Idlout, they would secure 173 seats in the House of Commons, allowing the prime minister to likely avoid an election for three more years. In the federal election a year ago, the NDP won just seven seats after losing significant vote share to rival parties. The NDP will vote for a new leader later this month.



Ukraine says it has hit Russian 'missile component' plant

Zelensky sends drone teams to Middle East, touting Ukraine's expertise

=Teams of Ukrainian military experts have been sent to Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia to help them defend against drones being launched from Iran in retaliation for the massive US and Israeli air attacks. Others are also helping the US defend its military presence in Jordan, according to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky. In a video address, Zelensky said Ukraine had "the greatest experience in the world in countering attack drones" - a reference to expertise built up over the more than four years of attacks by Russia on its neighbour. Ukraine says the US and 10 more countries across the Middle East and Europe have asked for help countering the threat of



drones that have wrought much damage. There has been no comment by any of the countries concerned. Last week President Trump said he would take help from "any country" that offered it, including Ukraine. In his address, Zelensky said one of Ukraine's top officials, Rustem Umerov, secretary of the National Security and Defence Council, was on his way to the Gulf.



Manchu Manoj Powers Up for David Reddy with a Gritty “Real Stunts Mode” Transformation

Manchu Manoj has once again caught the attention of fans with a powerful social media post that shows his renewed discipline and dedication towards his craft. Known for his intense screen presence and commitment to performance, Manoj shared an update from his ongoing physical transformation, revealing that he has spent the last three weeks pushing himself beyond comfort in preparation for his upcoming projects. The post, accompanied by striking workout images, quickly gained traction among fans who praised the actor's determination. In the post, Manoj spoke candidly about his decision to cut out excuses and put in the work. “Three weeks ago, I made a decision. No more negotiating with comfort. No more excuses. Just the work,” he wrote, talking about how demanding action filmmaking really is. He went on to say that performing stunts on camera leaves no room for shortcuts. “In action cinema, nobody can fake it for you. Every punch, every fall, every hit. Your body either shows up or it doesn't. The camera doesn't lie.” He said he has stopped training for looks and is now focused on building endurance and resilience, with the goal of becoming “unbreakable.” Calling the update “Week 3,” Manoj said the journey has only begun but that he already feels like a different man from who he was just 21



days ago. Manoj's recent work on screen has also kept him in the spotlight. He made a strong comeback with Mirai, where he played the powerful antagonist Mahabir Lama, also known as “Black Sword.” The film did well at the box office and Manoj's intense performance was widely appreciated by audiences and critics. It was yet another reminder of the physical intensity and emotional conviction he brings to his roles. Looking ahead, Manoj is gearing up for one of the most ambitious films of his career, David Reddy, a large-scale pan-India period action drama directed by Hanuma Reddy Yakkanti and produced by Nallagangula

Venkat Reddy and Bharat Motukuri. Set during the British colonial period between 1897 and 1920, the film follows a fierce warrior who rises against oppression. The cast includes international actress Maria Ryaboshapka, and the project is being mounted on a grand scale for audiences across India. The recently released David Reddy glimpse has already crossed 10 million digital views, building strong buzz and raising anticipation around Manoj's powerful new avatar. Apart from David Reddy, Manoj has several other projects in the pipeline, signalling a busy and exciting phase in his career.

SUDIGALI SUDHEER'S G.O.A.T SET FOR WORLDWIDE RELEASE ON MARCH 26



The latest film G.O.A.T (Greatest Of All Times) starring popular comedian-turned-hero Sudigali Sudheer is gearing up for release. The film features Divya Bharathi as the female lead and is directed by Vedavyas. It is jointly produced under the banners Mahateja Creations and Jaishnav Productions, with Chandrasekhar Reddy Mogulla as the producer. Currently in the post-production stage, the film is scheduled for a worldwide theatrical release on March 26. All

the content released so far from the movie has received a positive response. The makers are also planning to release the trailer soon. Speaking about the film, the producer said, “We are currently completing the remaining work. We are making the film on a rich scale without compromising on expenses. Technically too, the film will be of a high standard. This movie will stand as a milestone in Sudigali Sudheer's career. Every frame of the film looks fantastic.

“Bapu Bomma – Vishwa Mahila” Awards Ceremony By Noted Actress & Bapu Bomma K. Divyavani Choudary



The prestigious “Bapu Bomma – Vishwa Mahila” Awards ceremony was organized in a grand manner by noted actress K. Divyavani Choudary. The first award recipient was Mega Mother Mrs. Konidela Anjanidevi. Divyavani Choudary, a prominent actress who earned a permanent place in the hearts of Telugu audiences as a “Bapu Bomma”, and who has also been making her mark in the social and political spheres, instituted these awards on the occasion of International Women's Day 2026 under the title “Bapu Bomma – Vishwa Mahila.” Among the distinguished women who received the awards were Mrs. Konidela Anjanidevi, wife of Rebel Star Krishnam Raju – Mrs. Shyamala Devi, Anchor Swapna, Janeta Kancherla

(USA), Dr. Vennela Gaddar, Dr. Padmaja Chandrakant, Sameera Bharadwaj, Rekharani, and D. Jyothi Reddy (USA), among others. The grand event was held at Daspalla Hotel, Hyderabad, with the support of Telangana Minister Jupally Krishna Rao. Several prominent personalities attended the ceremony as guests, including Telangana Congress Party President Mahesh Goud, Telugu One Chairman K. Ravishankar, noted actor and writer Harshavardhan, Deputy Collector E. Venkatachari, and Assistant Commissioner of Police M. Kiran kumar, among others. Speakers at the event appreciated Divyavani for launching the prestigious “Bapu Bomma – Vishwa Mahila Awards” and for beginning this initiative by

honouring Mega Matriarch Mrs. Konidela Anjanidevi. Divyavani, who has been actively contributing to the film, political, and social sectors, stated that the purpose of this initiative is to honour women who excel in various fields and inspire other women in society. She expressed her heartfelt gratitude to everyone who contributed to the grand success of the event. Divyavani also conveyed special thanks to the Government of Telangana under Chief Minister Revanth Reddy for its efforts towards women's empowerment in the state. On this occasion, Divyavani announced that the “Bapu Bomma – Vishwa Mahila Awards” will soon be expanded beyond the two Telugu states and conducted across India and internationally!!

MARDAANI 3 OTT RELEASE: WHEN AND WHERE TO WATCH IT IN INDIA

Rani Mukerji's latest crime thriller Mardaani 3 is preparing for its digital debut after completing a decent run in theatres. The film, which released in cinemas on January 30, 2026, marked the return of the fearless cop Shivani Shivaji Roy, a character loved by fans since the

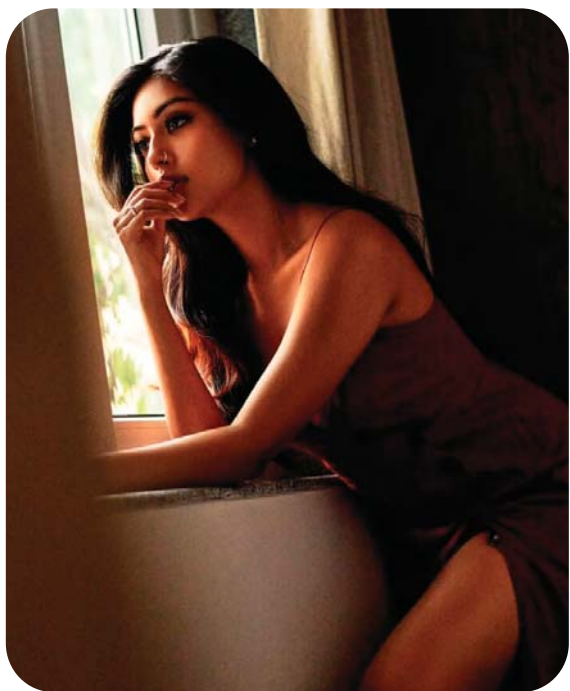


first film in the franchise. Despite receiving mixed reviews from critics and audiences, the movie performed well at the box office and became the highest-grossing film in the Mardaani franchise. When and Where to Watch Mardaani 3 on OTT According to

several reports, Mardaani 3 is expected to start streaming on Netflix from March 27, 2026. The date follows the typical eight-week theatrical window that many Hindi films follow before arriving on OTT platforms. Netflix holds the post-theatrical streaming rights for the film. However, the makers, Yash

Raj Films, have not yet made an official announcement confirming the digital release date. The OTT premiere is expected to help the film reach a wider global audience, especially viewers who missed watching it in theatres. Box Office Performance During its theatrical run, Mardaani 3 collected around Rs. 50.78 crore nett in India and approximately Rs. 75 crore gross worldwide. By its sixth week in cinemas, the film had already crossed the Rs. 50 crore mark in India. Reports also suggest that the film became the third-highest-grossing Hindi film of 2026, after big releases like Border 2 and O'Romeo.

ANU EMMANUEL TURNS SULTRY IN WINDOWLIGHT POSE



THE REPORTED AMOUNT HANIA AAMIR ASKED FOR A PODCAST APPEARANCE



Islamabad: Pakistani actress Hania Aamir knows how to stay in the headlines. From making buzz around her rumoured wedding with singer Asim Azhar to impressing audiences with her role as Ayra in the ongoing hit drama Meri Zindagi Hai Tu, the actress has been grabbing attention for both personal and professional reasons. And now, she is once again trending after a video surfaced about the amount she allegedly demanded to appear on a popular Pakistani podcast. Hania Aamir's fees goes viral. In a clip that is now going viral on social media, podcast host and journalist Adnan Faisal revealed that Hania Aamir had asked for 2 million Pakistani rupees (PKR 20 lakh) to appear on his podcast. According to Faisal, he found the amount too high. especially since he

claims he has never paid such a fee to any of his previous guests. Speaking about the matter, Faisal said that even established names like Faysal Quraishi have appeared on his show without such payment demands. He added that while it was entirely Hania's choice to quote that figure, he personally does not pay guests for interviews. “It was Hania Aamir's choice to ask for 2 million rupees to appear on my podcast, but I've never given this kind of money to anyone for an interview,” Faisal said in a video. Soon after the video surfaced online, it triggered a heated debate among fans and social media users. While some questioned the large appearance fee, many others came out in support of the actress, arguing that her current popularity and stardom justify such a demand.



NEARLY 60 STILL SERVING SIZZLING STYLE

Madhuri Dixit once again proves that true style and grace never fade. The legendary actress recently shared stunning new pictures where she looks elegant and confident in a striking black gown. The outfit features a fitted silhouette that highlights her graceful posture, while the dramatic silver ruffled shoulder design adds a bold fashion statement. Standing under soft spotlight lighting, Madhuri's pose with her hands on her waist brings out her timeless charm and strong

screen presence. The gown beautifully blends classic glamour with modern style. The sleek black lower portion flows smoothly to the floor, giving a sophisticated red-carpet feel, while the textured silver detailing around the shoulders adds volume and drama to the look. Her wavy hairstyle, subtle makeup, and sparkling earrings perfectly complement the outfit. The entire look feels polished yet effortless, showing why she continues to remain a fashion inspiration even after decades in the industry. With a career spanning nearly four decades, Madhuri Dixit has successfully evolved from being one of Bollywood's top heroines to exploring

new platforms like OTT shows. She was recently seen in the series Mrs. Deshpande and will soon appear in the upcoming film Ma Behen. Even at 58, her latest pictures have left fans amazed, as she looks radiant and confident, proving that her star power and elegance remain as strong as ever. The voluminous silver ruffle almost resembled a wearable piece of art, cascading across the neckline like a couture collar. Beneath the ruffled layer, a subtle sweetheart-style inner neckline added structure and balance to the design, lending the look a refined sensuality. Keeping the styling in sync with the gown's glamorous mood, Madhuri opted for soft, side-parted

waves that fell gracefully over her shoulders. Her makeup followed a classic red-carpet formula — luminous skin, softly defined eyes and a muted lip — enhancing her natural elegance without overpowering the ensemble. Accessories were kept polished and minimal. Statement diamond earrings and a sparkling ring added just the right amount of sparkle, complementing the metallic drama of the neckline. The fashion spectacle unfolded alongside a celebration of storytelling excellence. The News18 Showsha Reel Awards continues to recognise outstanding achievements across Indian cinema and the rapidly growing OTT space.