

OM NAMO VENKATESAYA

15-03-2026  
Total pilgrims: 82,057  
Tonsures: 30,990  
Hundi karakals: 4,22CR  
Waiting Compartments: Out side line at Krishna Teja Guest house.

Approx. Darshan Time for Sarvadarshanam (with out SSD Tokens) : 1H

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HYDERABAD | BENGALURU | CHENNAI | VIJAYAWADA | KOCHI

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### VIJAY AIMS FOR CM'S POST, NOT DEPUTY CM ROLE: SENGOTTAIYAN

### IRAN HITS KEY UAE OIL PORT AND DUBAI AIRPORT



### SABALENKA BATTLES TO INDIAN WELLS TITLE



## SHORT TAKES

#### MAMATA QUESTIONS ECI'S MIDNIGHT TRANSFERS, ALLEGES BJP BIAS

Kolkata, March 16 : West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday lashed out at the Election Commission of India (ECI) after it carried out a major reshuffle in the state administration. In a move executed late at night, Chief Secretary Nandini Chakraborty and Home Secretary J.P. Meena were transferred. Several senior police officials - including the Director General of Police and the Kolkata Police Commissioner - were also shifted. Launching a sharp attack on the Election Commission, Banerjee said: "I received a message at 1 a.m. Have you ever heard of such actions being taken in the dead of night? The Chief Secretary is a Bengali woman. They removed her. They are anti-Bengali and anti-women." She further said that earlier the Election Commission used to seek a panel of names from the state government before making such decisions.

#### GREECE AND GERMANY RULE OUT INVOLVEMENT IN POSSIBLE OPERATION IN STRAIT OF HORMUZ

Athens, March 16 : Greece has no plans to participate in any military operation in the Strait of Hormuz, government spokesman Pavlos Marinakis said on Monday, stressing that the country has no intention of becoming involved in war. Speaking at a regular briefing, Marinakis said Greece's current involvement in the European Union's Operation Shield is "geographically defined in the Red Sea and does not concern the Strait of Hormuz." He noted that only vessels from Greece and Italy are currently participating in the operation, whose mission is to safeguard commercial shipping in the region. Marinakis said Greece consistently advocates the universal application of international law, Xinhua news agency reported. "Under no circumstances do we intend to get involved in war," he said. US President Donald Trump said on Sunday that he had "demanded" some countries heavily reliant on Middle Eastern oil join a coalition to escort vessels through the Strait of Hormuz, but did not name the countries the White House was negotiating with. On Monday, German Defence Minister Boris Pistorius also rejected a US demand for military support in the Strait of Hormuz, saying Germany would not become militarily involved in the region. Pistorius made the remarks in Berlin at a press conference after meeting with his Latvian counterpart Andris Sprudis.

## CM REVANTH ASKS CONGRESS LEGISLATORS TO ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN BUDGET SESSION



Hyderabad TSIT BUREAU: Chief Minister A.Revanth Reddy directed all Congress MLAs and MLCs, including women legislators, to attend the ongoing Budget Session of the Telangana Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council without fail and actively participate in the debates.

Addressing the Congress Legislature Party (CLP) meeting held in Hyderabad, the Chief Minister emphasized the need for better coordination between Government Whips and legislators during discussions in the House. He instructed the whips to ensure proper coordination in selecting topics and issues to be raised during the debates so that the proceedings run smoothly.

Chief Minister noted that the People's Government is presenting its third budget in the current session. He said the Governor's Address outlines the government's priorities and

future plans, describing it as a roadmap that would guide the administration and also serve as an agenda for the upcoming elections.

Revanth Reddy advised the legislators to focus more on highlighting the achievements of the government and its future plans, rather than repeatedly debating the failures of the previous BRS government. He said the current focus should be on fulfilling the aspirations of the people and explaining the government's development agenda.

Chief Minister also stressed the importance of active participation by women legislators, asking them not only to ensure their presence but also to contribute meaningfully to the debates.

Recalling past experiences, Revanth Reddy said that during the previous BRS regime, the opposition was not given sufficient opportunities to speak on important issues. He noted that

former CLP leaders Bhatti Vikramarka and Jana Reddy were also denied opportunities to speak in the Assembly, and he himself was suspended for an entire session and barred from entering the House during his tenure as an MLA.

The Chief Minister further announced that Assembly committees will be constituted soon and suggested that MLAs and MLCs visit other states to study best governance practices.

He also asked legislators to pay special attention to the drinking water situation during the summer season and ensure that issues faced by people are addressed promptly.

Revanth Reddy urged party legislators to take the "99-Day Praja Palana Pragati Pranalika" programme directly to the grassroots level and communicate the government's welfare and development initiatives effectively to the people.

## Jaishankar meets EC President, his counterparts from Belgium and Cyprus in Brussels

New Delhi, Mar 16 (TSIT): External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar called on European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen in Belgium this afternoon, and said her 'highly successful' State visit to India in January marks a turning point in India-EU ties.

Dr Jaishankar said in a tweet that India is following up vigorously on her visit. He also appreciated her insights on contemporary global developments. The External Affairs Minister arrived in Brussels on a two-day official visit to Belgium at the invitation of the European union (EU) High Representative and Vice President, Ms Kaja Kallas, to interact with Foreign Ministers of the 27 EU Member



States at the Foreign Affairs Council Meeting. The EAM is scheduled to hold meetings with the leadership of the European union and his counterparts from Belgium and other EU Member States. The visit of the EAM comes soon after the historic 16th India-

EU Summit. Earlier, Dr Jaishankar met Maxime Prevet, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, European Affairs and Development Cooperation of Belgium and discussed intensifying India-Belgium cooperation in trade and investment, semiconductors, health, technology and innovation.

The two agreed to establish an India-Belgium Strategic Dialogue. Dr Jaishankar, who arrived in Belgium on Sunday, met Foreign Minister Constantinos Kombos of Cyprus. The two discussed ways to strengthen the Strategic Partnership and exchanged views on the situation in West Asia.

## CM Naidu unveils 58-foot statue of Potti Sriramulu in Amaravati

Amaravati, March 16 (TSIT) : Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu unveiled a 58-foot-tall statue of Amarajeevi Potti Sriramulu in Amaravati on Monday. The bronze statue of Potti Sriramulu has been installed as the Statue of Sacrifice at Sakhamuru Park to reflect the sacrifice he made for the creation of a separate state for Telugu-speaking people.

The government has developed the park and installed the statue in memory of Potti Sriramulu, who died in 1952 after a 58-day hunger strike in Madras demanding a separate state for Telugu people. The statue unveiling to mark the occasion of the 125th birth anniversary of Potti Sriramulu was attended by Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, Minister Nara Lokesh, state BJP president PVN Madhav, ministers and other public representatives.

The first phase of the project, undertaken at an estimated cost of Rs 150 crore, has been completed on 6.80 acres of land.

Officials said the Potti Sriramulu Memorial Trust completed the construction of the 58-ft statue in a record time of just six months. A total of 26 tonnes of bronze and 42 tonnes of iron structure were used for the statue. In the second phase, a museum, photo gallery, auditorium and skill development centre will be constructed at the site.

Speaking on the occasion, Chandrababu Naidu said that Potti Sriramulu is synonymous with sacrifice. He said the great leader was not confined to one caste but belonged to everyone,



and he sacrificed his life to get recognition for the entire Telugu community. "We have the Statue of Liberty, and we have the Statue of Unity. Now, Andhra Pradesh has the Statue of Sacrifice," he said. The Chief Minister emphasised that everyone must learn about Potti Sreeramulu's sacrifice and draw inspiration from him.

"Potti Sriramulu demonstrated the true potential of the Telugu people during an era when they lacked even a distinct identity. He actively participated in numerous movements. While Mahatma Gandhi secured independence through the philosophy of non-violence, Potti Sriramulu achieved stardom through the ultimate act of self-sacrifice," he said.

He noted that it was after Potti Sriramulu's sacrifice that the Central government paved the way for the formation of states based on linguistic lines.

Chandrababu Naidu said that over the course of five decades, Potti Sriramulu engaged in relentless struggles over vari-

ous issues. Even after enduring the tragedy of losing his wife and children, he suppressed his personal grief and continued to fight for the nation. He fought for temple entry rights for Dalits, and for this, he undertook a hunger strike for 29 days. Stating that the Telugu people must remember the sacrifice made by Potti Sriramulu, the Chief Minister said that they faced numerous challenges throughout history.

He recalled that Andhra State was formed with Kurnool as the capital, and later Hyderabad was made the capital of Andhra Pradesh. In 2014, the new state of Andhra Pradesh was formed with Amaravati as its capital.

Chandrababu Naidu slammed the previous government of YSRCP for playing what he called a divisive game in the name of three capitals between 2019 and 2024. "They spoke of three capitals but created a situation where there was effectively no capital at all. Now, Amaravati is being developed as the people's capital," he said.

## Governor, CM and Dignitaries Pay Floral Tributes to Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. B.R. Ambedkar at Assembly

Hyderabad TSIT BUREAU: Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla, Chief Minister A.Revanth Reddy, Legislative Assembly Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar, Legislative Council Chairman Gutha Sukender Reddy, Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu, along with several ministers and public representatives, paid floral tributes to the statues of Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. B.R. Ambedkar in the Telangana Legislative Assembly premises. The dignitaries garlanded the statues and offered homage to the two great national leaders, recalling their immense contributions to India's freedom struggle, democratic values, and the framing of the Constitution.

Speaking on the occasion, the leaders highlighted the timeless ideals of truth, non-violence, equality, and social justice advocated by Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. They



emphasized that these principles continue to guide the governance and democratic functioning of the country. The Governor and the Chief Minister noted that Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's vision of social empowerment and constitutional rights remains a guiding force for building an inclusive and progressive society. They also remembered

Mahatma Gandhi's message of peace, harmony, and moral leadership that inspired millions during the freedom movement. Several ministers, legislators, senior officials, and staff of the Assembly Secretariat were present during the programme and joined the leaders in paying respects to the national icons.

## Trump accuses Iran of spreading 'lies', blasts media for 'Disinformation, fake news'

New Delhi, Mar 16 (TSIT) United States President Donald Trump accused Iran of resorting to "Disinformation" and "Fake News" by using AI and blasted "Radical Left-Wing" media for spreading "lies" about the Iran war.

Accusing media outlets, including the Wall Street Journal, of "spreading lies" and using American Airwaves for anti-US propaganda, he said such media outlets should be booked for "Treason."

Trump maintained that Iran is being 'decimated.' He described Iran as "master of media manipulation and public relations," and said that they (Iran) are militarily ineffective and weak, but are real-



ly good at "feeding" the very appreciative "fake news media" false information. "Now, AI has become another Disinformation weapon that Iran uses, quite well, considering they are being annihilated by the day," he said on his

social media platform on Monday (today).

Trump said Iran showed "phony Kamikaze Boats," shooting at various ships at sea, which looks "wonderful, powerful, and vicious." "But these boats don't exist - It's all false information to show how tough their already defeated Military is!" The five US Refueling Planes that were supposedly struck down and badly damaged, according to the "Wall Street Journal's false reporting," and others, are all in service, with the exception of one, which will soon be flying the skies, Trump claimed.

"Buildings and Ships that are shown to be on fire are not - It's FAKE NEWS, generated

by AI." He accused Iran of working in close coordination with the fake news media, showing USS Abraham Lincoln Aircraft Carrier, one of the largest and most prestigious Ships in the World, burning uncontrollably in the Ocean. Not only was it not burning, it was not even shot at - Iran knows better than to do that! The story was knowingly FAKE and those media outlets that generated it should be brought up on charges for treason for dissemination of false information. The fact is, Iran is being decimated, and the only battles they "win" are those that they create through AI, and are distributed by corrupt media outlets.

## Iran links Hormuz passage for Indian vessels to release of seized tankers

New Delhi (TSIT): Iran has asked India to release three tankers seized in February, as part of ongoing talks seeking safe passage for Indian-flagged or India-bound vessels through the Strait of Hormuz, Reuters reported on Monday, March 16. According to the report citing three sources with knowledge of the matter, Indian authorities had seized the three Iran-linked tankers near Indian waters, alleging that they had concealed or altered their identities and were involved in illegal ship-to-ship transfers at sea. Tehran has also sought supplies of certain medicines and medical equipment, an Iran official told Reuters. Iran's Ambassador to New



Delhi met Indian Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) officials on Monday to discuss the issue, the source said.

INDIAN VESSELS STILL STRANDED IN THE GULF

New Delhi said on Monday that at least 22 Indian-flagged vessels and 611 Indian seafarers remained in the Gulf. An Indian source told Reuters that six of the vessels were loaded with liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) and that the country was keen to secure their passage first, given a mounting shortage of the cooking fuel. Around 90 per cent of India's total LPG imports come from the Gulf.

Iran recently allowed two Indian LPG tankers to pass through the strait and one of them returned to Mudra in Gujarat on Monday. Traffic through the Strait of Hormuz has ground to a near standstill since the beginning of the war in Iran on February 28.

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SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED... CORRIGENDUM... SHIVMPT 1710310005 - DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY...

DR. MADUGULA NAGAPHANI SHARMA SAYS 'PARABHAVA' YEAR WILL BRING AUSPICIOUS DEVELOPMENTS... Hyderabad TSIT: Padma Shri awardee and renowned Dwi-Shatavadhani Dr. Madugula Nagaphani Sharma said that the forthcoming Telugu New Year 'Parabhava Nama Samvatsaram' will bring auspicious developments and positive outcomes in the lives of people.



CM Revanth Reddy, Dy CM Bhatti Vikramarka and Leaders at Legislative Council Entrance... Hyderabad: Chief Minister A.Revanth Reddy, Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu, along with several ministers, MLAs and MLCs, gathered at the entrance of the Telangana Legislative Council premises in Hyderabad on Monday.

TGIC Chairperson Nirmala Jaggareddy Participates in Iftar Feasts... Hyderabad TSIT: TGIC Chairperson Nirmala Jaggareddy participated in several Iftar feasts organised in the Sangareddy constituency on the occasion of the holy month of Ramadan.



FEDBANK FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED... PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION CUM SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES... 30 days' Notice of Sale of Immovable Secured Assets is hereby given by Fedbank Financial Services Limited (Secured Creditor) under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with Rule 8(6) & 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

DGP B.Shivadhar Reddy Announces All India Police Football Championship in Hyderabad... Hyderabad TSIT: Telangana Director General of Police (DGP) B.Shivadhar Reddy announced that all arrangements have been completed for hosting the prestigious 74th B.N. Mallik Memorial All India Police Football Championship in Hyderabad.

Hyderabad TSIT: Moinabad, National Police Academy Ground in Shivarampalli, Artillery Centre Ground in Golconda, and Telangana Police Academy Ground. He stated that flood-light facilities are available at the Gachibowli and HFC grounds, enabling matches to be conducted during night hours as well.

CHANGE OF NAME I, VIMALA BEN M/O: SEP Bhoi Vikrambhai Ramanbhai, R/O: KANAJAV, PANI NI TANKI, BHOIVADA, LUNAWADA, KANJAV, MAHISAGAR, KIDIA, GUJARAT - 388270, have changed my name from VIMALA BEN TO BHOI VIMALABEN RAMANBHAI and DOB is: 01-06-1957 vide Affidavit dt. 16-03-2026 AT Hyderabad

CHANGE OF NAME I, BHOI RAMAN BHAI, F/O: SEP Bhoi Vikrambhai Ramanbhai, R/O: KANAJAV, PANI NI TANKI, BHOIVADA, LUNAWADA, KANJAV, MAHISAGAR, KIDIA, GUJARAT - 388270, have changed my name from BHOI RAMAN BHAI TO BHOI RAMANBHAI SOMABHAI vide Affidavit dt. 16-03-2026 AT Hyderabad

Canara Bank... HO : BENGALURU, DD: HYDERABAD (BRANCH OFFICE - DPDO REFERENCE PENSION DISBURSEMENT OFFICE (13051) Door No.10-1126, Ground Floor, Asoka Plaza, Beside Golkonda Hotel, Masab Tank, Hyderabad - 500028... SALE NOTICE... E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Indian Overseas Bank... HYDERABAD-ADARSH NAGAR Branch (Address: HYDERABAD-ADARSH NAGAR, 5-9-305A BASHEER BAGH, Himayathnagar, Telangana-500029... Demand notice to Borrowers / Mortgagees/Guarantors Under Sub-section (2) of section 13 of the SARFAESI Act, 2002

Central Bank of India... HYDERABAD MAIN BRANCH, BANK'S STREET, KOTI, HYDERABAD - 500 095 PH: 040 - 23469938 Mob: 6304903700 E-mail: agnilyde0808@centralbank.co.in... APPENDIX-IV (Rule 8-11) POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable property)

Clix Capital Services Pvt. Ltd. NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF THE SECURITIZATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002... The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of Clix Capital Services Pvt. Ltd., a Non Bank Financial Company (duly registered with Reserve Bank of India) under the provision of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) (hereinafter referred to as 'SARFAESI Act, 2002') having its Registered Office: W2/14, 1st Floor, West Patel Nagar, Delhi - 110006 (hereinafter referred to as 'CLIX'), and is engaged in the business of providing financial assistance to meet the needs of over millions of its customers all over India, hereby issues to you the following notice:-

DCB Bank Limited... Jyothi Majestic, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad, Telangana 500 034... POSSESSION NOTICE... The undersigned being the authorized officer of the DCB Bank Ltd., under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice on below mentioned dates calling upon the borrowers (Borrower's and Co-Borrower's) to repay the amount mentioned in the notice as detailed below in tabular form with further interest thereon from within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

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

Indian Overseas Bank... Demand notice to Borrowers / Mortgagees/Guarantors Under Sub-section (2) of section 13 of the SARFAESI Act, 2002... To: SI.No 1 MD SHAKEEL PASHA, Permanent Address: H No: 1-3-183/40/46/28(A)(Portion), 1-3-183/40/46/28(Portion), Kavadiyada, New Bakaram, Hyderabad - 500080

DCB Bank Limited... POSSESSION NOTICE... 1. Symbolic Possession Date - 13th March, 2026... Demand Notice Dated 26-12-2025... Name of Borrower(S) and (Co-borrower(S)) MR. VENKATESHAM VADLA, MR. VADLA SANTHOSH KUMAR, MRS. VADLA PADMA AND MRS. VENKATESHWARA SAWMILL IT'S AUTHORIZED SIGNATORY

Shikha Goel Launches Anti-Piracy Disclaimer and SOP to Curb Film Piracy



Hyderabad TSIT: Shikha Goel Director of the Telangana Cyber Security Bureau (TGCSB), launched a new Anti-Piracy Disclaimer and a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the Investigation of Anti-Piracy Cases aimed at curbing digital film piracy and strengthening enforcement mechanisms.

ment agencies and the film industry in tackling piracy. The Anti-Piracy Disclaimer, which will be displayed before movie screenings in theatres across the state, is intended to create awareness among audiences about the legal consequences of film piracy and unauthorized cam-cording inside cinema halls.

CM Revanth Along with Congress Leaders Felicitate Vem Narender Reddy on His Election to Rajya Sabha



Hyderabad (TSIT): Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and senior Congress leaders felicitated Vem Narender Reddy, who was recently elected to the Rajya Sabha, during the Congress Legislature Party (CLP) meeting held on Monday.

BRS and BJP Leaders from Adilabad Join Congress in Presence of TPCC Chief



Hyderabad: Several leaders belonging to the BRS and BJP from Adilabad district joined the Congress Party on Monday in the presence of TPCC President Mahesh Kumar Goud and in-charge Minister Jupally Krishna Rao.

welcomed into the party fold by the TPCC President and senior Congress leaders during a programme held in Hyderabad. The joining is seen as a boost to the Congress party in Adilabad district ahead of upcoming political activities.

Youth Congress Protests Against Indo-US Trade Deal at Jantar Mantar



New Delhi: Responding to the call given by Indian Youth Congress National President Uday Bhanu Chib and the directions of Telangana Youth Congress President Jakkidi Shiva Charan, leaders and members of the Youth Congress from the undivided Mahabubnagar district staged a protest at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi against the proposed Indo-US trade deal.

The protest was led by Telangana Youth Congress State General Secretary and Mahabubnagar District In-charge Shivanth Reddy, with district presidents and several Youth Congress leaders participating in large numbers. The protesters raised slogans against the agreement signed between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the United States, expressing concerns over its possible impact on India's economy and farmers.

Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla Unveils Telangana Talli Statue at Assembly Premises



Hyderabad (TSIT BUREAU): In a significant event symbolizing the pride and cultural identity of the state Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla unveiled the statue of Telangana Talli in the premises of the Telangana Legislative Assembly on Monday. The programme was attended by Chief Minister A.Revanth Reddy, Legislative Assembly Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar, Legislative Council Chairman Gutha Sukender Reddy, Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu, along with several state ministers, legislators, and senior officials.

spirit, and aspirations of the people of Telangana. The statue installation in the Assembly premises is seen as a tribute to the identity and self-respect of the state. Speaking on the occasion, the leaders emphasized that Telangana Talli is a powerful symbol of the state's history, sacrifices, and the struggles of the people during the Telangana movement.

TGO'S ASSOCIATION LEADERS MEET HYDERABAD COLLECTOR HARICHANDANA DASARI



Hyderabad (TSIT): A delegation of TGO's Association leaders met Hyderabad District Collector

Harichandana Dasari and submitted a representation seeking land allotment for the construction of their association building and suitable accommodation for the TGO's Hyderabad District Branch Office within the Collectorate premises.

tion building and suitable accommodation for the TGO's Hyderabad District Branch Office within the Collectorate premises. The delegation was led by TGO's Association President M.B. Krishna Yadav, along with Associate President G. Ashama, Vice President Dr. Surender, and members Manvitha and Srinath. During the meeting, the association leaders explained the need for a dedicated building for the association and requested the Collector to allot land for the purpose.

Harichandana Dasari Reviews Prajavani Petitions, Seeks Quick Resolution



Hyderabad, March 16: Harichandana Dasari directed officials to promptly resolve public grievances received through the Praja Vani programme. During the meeting held at the Collectorate, the Collector received petitions from citizens along with Additional Collector G. Jitender Reddy and District Revenue Officer E. Venkatchari. A total of 331 petitions were submitted, including 271 related to housing, 42 to the revenue department, and 18 concerning other departments.

Mudhiraj Employees and Professionals Association Assures Support to Family of Late Vijender Mudiraj



Hanamkonda: The Mudhiraj Employees and Professionals Association (MEPA) has assured support to the family of Cheththaboina Vijender Mudiraj (32) from Chennaraopet mandal, Warangal district, who recently passed away after suffering a brain stroke. MEPA Founding State President Puli Devender Mudhiraj and State Vice-President Ponnamp Raju Mudhiraj visited the bereaved family and expressed condolences.

Reliance Asset Reconstruction Company Ltd. DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13 (2) OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002. Details include borrower names, amounts, and secured assets.

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

FOR ADVERTISEMENT PLEASE CONTACT: 9948480279, 7330778889

Canara Bank CHAITANYAPURI BRANCH, H.No: 1-1-904, Siddarth Nagar, Near Fathima Complex, Hanamkonda, Warangal - 506 004. E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE. Details include auction date, time, and terms.

NIWAS HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED (Formerly, Niwas Housing Finance Private Limited). POSSESSION NOTICE [Rule 8 (1) and (2)]. Details include borrower information, amount, and possession date.

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA REVENUE DEPARTMENT. DISTRICT COLLECTOR (LA), ADILABAD. PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION. Details include land parcels, owners, and acquisition information.

### Certificate Course on AI & Employability Skills Held at Government Degree College Hayathnagar, PG MA English Coaching Launched

Hyderabad, March 16: The Department of English at Government Degree College Hayathnagar, in collaboration with Magic Bus Foundation, organized a certificate course titled "AI: The Roots of Life and Employability Skills"



to equip students with knowledge of artificial intelligence and essential career skills. The programme focused on providing students with a better understanding of Artificial Intelligence along with key life and employability skills needed in today's competitive environment. Students actively participated in interactive sessions, practical learning modules, and skill-building activities that enhanced their digital literacy, communication abilities, and career

readiness. Certificates were awarded to participants upon successful completion of the course. As part of its academic initiatives, the Department of English also launched coaching classes for the PG MA English entrance programme. The coaching sessions are being conducted for final-year students following their request, helping them prepare for higher education opportunities. College Principal Dr. P. Suresh Babu congratulated the students for successfully completing the certificate course and appreciated the Department of English for initiating the PG MA English coaching programme. The event was attended by Dr. D. Makla, Head of the Department of English; Dr. Madhu Dharmapuri, IQAC Coordinator; Dr. A. Durga Prasad, Convener of the Career Guidance and Placement Cell; Dr. B. Narasimha, Academic Coordinator; Dr. P. Vijayalakshmi; Dr. G. Praveen Kumar; and V. Nagaraju, TSKC Mentor. Dr. Sarada, in-charge of the certificate course, extended her support and guidance for the successful conduct of the programme.

### Special attention should be given to the welfare of SC-STs

Karimnagar, March 16, TSIT : State SC-ST Commission Chairman Bakki Venkataiah suggested that the officials should work with special attention for the welfare of SC and ST communities. He arrived in Karimnagar for a private function and was accorded a warm welcome by the authorities at the NTR statue in the city. In-charge SC Corporation ED Tirupati Rao, District SC Welfare Officer Vijayapal Reddy, In-charge District Tribal Welfare Officer Diwakar Rao and others presented bouquets and felicitated them with shawls. On this occasion, Chairman Venkataiah asked the officials about the welfare of SC and ST communities and the schemes being implemented in the district. The Chairman suggested that special measures should be taken for the development of SCs and STs. He stated that officials should work responsibly and work for the upliftment of poor people.



### Customs Short Film Right Turn Wins International Recognition at Film Festival



Visakhapatnam: A special screening of the short film Right Turn, produced by the Visakhapatnam Customs House, was held on Monday evening at Varun INOX Theater in the city.

Released in February 2025, the film is based on the theme of the World Customs Organization — "Customs Dedicated to Efficiency, Security, and Prosperity." The short film highlights the daily responsibilities of Customs officials, their dedication to society, and their crucial role in safeguarding the nation's economic interests. Speaking after the screening, Sanjay Rathi, Principal Chief Commissioner of Customs, and N. Sridhar, Principal Commissioner, said the film achieved remarkable recognition at the 10th Indian

World Film Festival held in Hyderabad. Out of 417 films competing globally, Right Turn was among the 94 films selected and received the Honorable Jury Mention award.

Officials noted that it is a rare achievement for a film produced by a government department to gain recognition on a platform that largely promotes independent filmmakers. They also stated that the department's responsibilities include monitoring international trade through Visakhapatnam Port, Gangavaram Port, and the international airport under the Visakhapatnam Customs jurisdiction. Along with facilitating trade, the department works to curb smuggling and protect the country's economic interests.



TTD Chairman Sri BR Naidu offered prayers in Vontimitta and later reviewed vontimitta brahmotsavam arrangements



Special decorations to uphold Telugu tradition during ontimitta sree Ramanavami Brahmotsavams: TTD Additional EO Sri CH Venkaiah Chowdhury

### Celebrated 125th birth anniversary of Potti Sriramulu with grandeur



Karimnagar, March 16, TSIT : Kolagani Srinivas, the mayor of the city, said that Amarajivi Potti Sriramulu, who worked for the formation of language-based states the 125th birth anniversary of Amarjevi Potti Sriramulu was celebrated in Karimnagar on Monday. Mayor Kolagani Srinivas participated as the chief guest in the Jayanthi celebrations organized by the Arya Vaishya Sangam near Tower Circle in the city and paid tributes to the statue of Potti Sriramulu. Later he remembered his services.

### Asian Institute of Nephrology and Urology Screens Over 10,000 People; Study Highlights Link Between Kidney Health, Hypertension and Lifestyle



Hyderabad: The Asian Institute of Nephrology and Urology (AINU) has screened more than 10,368 individuals under its Mobile Kidney Screening Initiative launched on World Kidney Day 2025, aiming to promote early detection and prevention of kidney diseases in the community. The initiative, part of AINU's Community Kidney Health Programme, has become one of the largest community-level kidney screening efforts in the state. The programme focuses on identifying early signs of Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) and understanding the impact of risk factors such as Hypertension and unhealthy lifestyle habits.

According to the analysis of 10,368 participants, the average age of those screened was 39.06 years, with 66 percent men and 34 percent women. Significantly, about 58.9 percent of the participants were between 21 and 40 years of age, indicating that kidney health risks are increasingly affecting younger adults. One of the major findings of the screening programme was the prevalence of high blood pressure. Nearly 24.01 percent of the screened population was found to have hypertension, a major risk factor for kidney damage as prolonged elevated blood pressure can affect the delicate blood vessels of the kidneys. The study

also identified individuals already in advanced stages of CKD, with 2.46 percent in Stage 3, 0.33 percent in Stage 4, and 0.07 percent in Stage 5. Experts note that early identification through such screening programmes allows timely medical intervention and can help slow the progression of kidney disease. Medical experts emphasize that CKD is often called a "silent disease," as symptoms usually appear only in advanced stages. Lifestyle factors such as sedentary work patterns, high salt intake, obesity, inadequate hydration, and uncontrolled diabetes are contributing to the rising incidence of kidney disease. Recent studies indicate that the prevalence of CKD in Telangana has nearly doubled over the past decade, rising from about 3-4 percent earlier to around 7.4 percent among adults today. Health experts stress that regular blood pressure monitoring, reduced salt consumption, maintaining healthy body weight, regular physical activity, and avoiding tobacco can significantly lower the risk of kidney disease and improve long-term health outcomes.

### Chinta Prabhakar Slams State Government; Demands Legal Guarantee for Six Promises

Sangareddy, March 16 (TSIT): Sangareddy MLA Chinta Prabhakar criticized the state government, alleging that the administration is misleading farmers and failing to fulfill the promises made during the elections. At the start of the Assembly Budget sessions, leaders of the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) paid tributes at the Gun Park Martyrs' Memorial. K. T. Rama Rao, Working President of BRS, along with party MLAs and MLCs, participated in the tribute. MLA Chinta Prabhakar also attended the pro-



gramme. Speaking on the occasion, Prabhakar said BRS legislators demanded that the government provide legal backing to the six guarantees announced during the elections and allocate sufficient funds in the state budget for their implementa-

tion. During the protest, BRS leaders held placards and raised slogans against the government, accusing it of betraying farmers and neglecting the poor. The slogans included "Betrayal of farmers - 1000 crores for Rahul" and "We don't want Rahul Bandhu... We want Rythu Bandhu." The BRS leaders further alleged that promises such as increasing pensions and implementing welfare schemes like Mahalakshmi had not been fulfilled, causing hardship to the poor and women.

### Details of Release of June Darshan Quota

Tirumala :The quota details for various darshans and accommodation for June 2026 to be released by Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams are as follows. The tickets for Srivari Arjita Sevas (Suprabhatam, Thomala, Archana and Ashtadala Pada Padmaradhana) will be released online at 10 AM on March 18. Devotees can register online for the electronic dip for these seva tickets till 10 AM on March 20. Those who are allotted tickets in the electronic dip should make the payment between March 20 and March 22 before 12 noon, after which the tickets will be confirmed. Arjita Seva Tickets Release on March 21 The tickets for Kalyanotsavam, Unjal Seva, Arjita Brahmotsavam, Sahasra Deepalankara Seva and Jyeshthabishekam will be released online at 10 AM on March 21. Release of Virtual Seva Quota The quota for Virtual Sevams and their darshan slots will be released online at 3 PM on March 21. Angapradakshinam Tokens Release on March 23 The Angapradakshinam tokens will be released online at 10 AM on March 23. Srivani Trust Darshan Quota The quota for Srivani Trust darshan tickets will be released online at 11 AM on March 23. Darshan Quota for Senior Citizens and Differently-abled The quota for five special darshan tokens for senior citizens, differently-abled persons and devotees with chronic illnesses will be released online at 3 PM on March 23. Special Entry Darshan Tickets on March 24 The Special Entry Darshan tickets will be released online at 10 AM on March 24. Release of Accommodation Quota The accommodation quota for Tirumala and Tirupati will be released online at 3 PM on March 24. Devotees are requested to book Srivari Arjita Sevams and darshan tickets through the official website: <https://tdevasthanams.ap.gov.in>

### BCCI Annual Awards 2026: Andhra Cricketers Shine on the National Stage

The Southindia Times, Visakhapatnam : The prestigious BCCI Annual Awards-2026 ceremony was held grandly yesterday in Delhi. Cricket legends from across the country participated in this event, where cricketers from the Andhra Cricket Association (ACA) shone with their extraordinary talent. Notably, Indian women's cricket legend Mithali Raj received the prestigious 'Lifetime Achievement' award in recognition of her long sporting journey. ACA President Kesineni Chinni and Secretary Sana Satish Babu expressed their joy, stating that her receiving this award from ICC Chairman Jay Shah is a



moment of pride for Andhra Cricket. Andhra cricketers clinched awards in several key categories during the ceremony. Shree Charani won the 'International Best Debut Cricketer' award, while Mohammad Shabnam, a

member of the Under-19 World Cup-winning team, was honored with a special award. ICC Chairman Jay Shah, ACA Secretary Sana Satish Babu, and other representatives of the Andhra Cricket Association attended as chief guests and con-

gratulated the winners. Regarding the grand success of Andhra cricketers, ACA President Kesineni Chinni and Secretary Sana Satish Babu stated, "It is a matter of immense pride for us that our Andhra cricketers are being honored with such great awards at the national level. With their dedication and hard work, they have spread the fame of our state far and wide." Extending their heartfelt congratulations to all the winners, they clarified on this occasion that the ACA would continuously strive to bring out more cricketers from the state.

### Medicover Hospital Secunderabad Launches Obesity Clinic

Hyderabad, March 16, 2026: In response to the rising health concerns associated with obesity, Medicover Hospital, Secunderabad has launched a dedicated Obesity Clinic to provide comprehensive care for weight-related health issues.

The clinic was inaugurated by Hyderabad District Collector Ms. Dasari Harichandana. Speaking on the occasion, she said that obesity is rapidly increasing due to unhealthy dietary habits and lack of physical activity in today's lifestyle, leading to several health complications such as diabetes, hypertension, and cardiovascular diseases. She emphasized that obesity can be effectively controlled through early medical consultation and timely lifestyle modifications. The newly launched Obesity Clinic will offer

#### INAUGURATED BY HYDERABAD DISTRICT COLLECTOR MS. DASARI HARICHANDANA



comprehensive services including BMI assessment, nutritional counselling, hormonal evaluation, exercise guidance, and bariatric surgery whenever required. Dr. Pawan Addala, Chief Consultant Surgical Gastroenterologist & Program Head - Liver and Pancreas Transplant, said, Obesity is not merely excess body weight; it is also a major cause of fatty liver disease, cardiovascular disorders, and gastro-

intestinal problems. With proper medical supervision and, when necessary, bariatric surgery, long-term solutions can be achieved. Dr. Madhavi Verpula, Senior Consultant Endocrinologist, stated that obesity affects hormonal balance in the body and can lead to several complications including Type-2 diabetes, thyroid disorders, and sleep apnea. She added that obesity can be managed effectively

through personalized diet plans, exercise, and medical management based on individual health conditions.

Doctors explained that obesity not only increases body weight but also affects the functioning of multiple organs in the body. They highlighted that it is a major contributing factor for health issues such as Type-2 diabetes, high blood pressure, sleep apnea, fatty liver disease, joint pain, and hormonal disorders.

The event was attended by Medical Gastroenterologists Dr. Krishna Gopal Bhandari, Dr. Santosh M. Narayanakar, Dr. Ajay Shesherao Shinde, DMHO, Dr. Venkati, Regional Director Dr. Janaki Ram, Center Head Krishnaveni, Medical Superintendent Dr. Prashanth, along with doctors and healthcare experts from the hospital.

### GITAM Conducts Online Training on ScienceDirect AI Tool "Leapspace" for Researchers

Hyderabad, March 16: The Knowledge Resource Centre (KRC) at GITAM Deemed to be University, Hyderabad, organized a one-day online training session on the ScienceDirect AI tool "Leapspace" on March 16, 2026, to help researchers enhance their ability to discover and analyze scholarly literature effectively.

Shivalika Verma, Customer Success Manager at Elsevier, served as the resource person for the session. She provided practical guidance on using the AI-powered platform Leapspace for advanced literature discovery, generating research insights, and facilitating academic collaboration. During the training, Verma explained how the platform integrates data from ScienceDirect and Scopus to generate deeper



research insights. She highlighted key features such as Explore Topics, Find Experts, and Find Funding, which enable researchers to explore emerging research areas, identify subject experts, and locate potential funding opportunities. She also discussed current research themes, including advancements in solid-state battery technology, the impact of microplastics on human health, and recent developments in CRISPR gene editing. The session further demonstrated how researchers can identify leading authors in areas such as generative AI safety, PFAS contamination and remediation, and large language model evaluation. Earlier, Pranav Shukla from Elsevier explained the organization's support for research initiatives at GITAM. Faculty members and research scholars from various departments actively participated in the programme. The training session was conducted under the supervision of S. P. A. Balasubramanian, Director of KRC, and K. Ramakrishna, Deputy Librarian, while K. Durga Prasad, Assistant Librarian, coordinated the programme.

www.thesouthindiatimes.com

info.southindiatimes@gmail.com

navi FINSERV Navi Finserv Limited

Registered Office- 2nd Floor, Vaishnavi Tech Square, Ibbalur Village, Begur Hobli, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560102. E: help@navi.com | T: +91 81475 44555 | www.navi.com/finserv | CIN: U65923KA2012PLC062537

POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, The undersigned is the Authorised Officer of Navi Finserv Limited, 2nd Floor, Vaishnavi Tech Square, Survey No.14/2 of Ibbalur Village, Taluk, Bagalur, Begur, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560 102. Under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the power conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice dated 06/01/2026 calling upon the Borrowers / Guarantors Mr. Magham Venkata Pardha Manoj VILLA NO 345 PHASE 1 APR PRAVEENS, GMR CONVENTION CENTER, LUXURIA APR NAGAR PATANCHERU, Hyderabad, TS - 502319 to repay the amount mentioned in the demand notice being Rs. 45,83,695/- (Rupees Forty-Five Lakhs Eighty-Three Thousand Six Hundred Ninety-Five only) together with future interest thereon at contractual rate of interest along with cost and charges within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrowers / Guarantors having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower and Guarantor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sub-Section (4) of section 13 of the Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this the 13th day of March of the year 2026.

The Borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Navi Finserv Limited, 2nd Floor, Survey No. 14/2 of Ibbalur Village, Vaishnavi Tech Square, Begur Hobli, Bengaluru, Bengaluru Urban, Karnataka, 560 102.

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

Schedule Property - Details of Securities: All that the entire piece and parcel of Flat No.411 in 4th Floor of Block "A" of the project name "ALPINE SQUARE" building named and styled as "ANTILLA" with built up area of 940 Square feet including common areas, amenities and one Car parking space and proportionate undivided share of 41/20 Square yards, to be constructed on land measuring 03 Acres 30 3/4 Guntes in Survey Nos. 740, 741, & 742, Situated at Patancheru Town under the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation Patancheru, Town and Mandal Sanga Reddy District (Ershwile Medak District), Telangana State, and bounded by: NORTH: Corridor, SOUTH: Open to Sky, EAST: Corridor, WEST: Open to Sky.

Date: 17/03/2026 Place: Hyderabad

AUTHORISED OFFICER NAVI FINSERV LIMITED

Form No. INC-26

[Pursuant to Rule 30 the Companies (Incorporation) Rules, 2014]

Advertisement to be published in the newspaper for change of registered office of the Company from one state to another

BEFORE THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT Ministry of Corporate Affairs Regional Director, South East Region

In the matter of sub-section (4) of Section 13 of Companies Act, 2013 and clause (a) of sub-rule (5) of Rule 30 of the Companies (Incorporation) Rules, 2014

AND In the matter of FINSQUARE FINTECH PRIVATE LIMITED

A Company registered under the Companies Act, 2013 and having its registered office at 1-120/M/Y/913, Flat No. 913, Vayu Block, My Home Navadweepa, Madhapur, Hyderabad, Telangana, India-500081.....PETITIONER

NOTICE is hereby given to the General Public that the Company proposes to make application to the Central Government under Section 13 of the Companies Act, 2013 seeking confirmation of alteration of the Memorandum of Association of the Company in terms of the special resolution passed at the Extra-Ordinary General Meeting held on 30th January, 2026 to enable the Company to change its Registered Office from the "Jurisdiction of ROC Hyderabad", to the "Jurisdiction of ROC Mumbai in the state of Maharashtra".

Any person whose interest is likely to be affected by the proposed change of the registered office of the Company may deliver either on the MCA-21 portal (www.mca.gov.in) by filing investor complaint form or cause to be delivered or send by registered post of his/her objections supported by an affidavit stating the nature of his/her interest and grounds of opposition to the Regional Director, Ministry of Corporate Affairs, South East Region at the address 3rd Floor, Corporate Bhavan, Bandlaguda, Nagole, Tattinnaram Village, Hayat Nagar Mandal, Ranga Reddy District, Hyderabad-500068, Telangana within fourteen days of the date of publication of this notice with a copy to the applicant Company at its registered office at the address mentioned below: 1-120/M/Y/913, Flat No. 913, Vayu Block, My Home Navadweepa, Madhapur, Hyderabad, Telangana, India-500081.

FOR FINSQUARE FINTECH PRIVATE LIMITED

RAJESH MATTA DIRECTOR DIN: 10145675

केनरा बँक Canara Bank Regional Office West Chitrapur Mutt Complex, Malleswaram 15th Cross, Bangalore-560055.

DEMAND NOTICE (SECTION 13(2)) TO BORROWERS/GUARANTORS/MORTGAGORS

NOTICE ISSUED UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Canara Bank, Regional Office West has issued Demand Notice under Section 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Security Interest Act 2002 by Speed Post to the addresses furnished to the Bank as mentioned below. Since the notice has not been acknowledged and returned due to non-availability of addresses at the said addresses / due to evading of service of the notices sent by Speed Post, notice could not be served. The contents of the said notice are mentioned herein below.

1. Name and Address of the Borrowers / Co-Borrowers / Mortgagors / Guarantors : 1.Mr. Hareesh Pabbati (Borrower) S/o P. Janardhana Rao, No.6-25/1, Chinthalahopu, Jaggayapeta, Ibrahimpatnam, Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh-521175. 1A.Mr.Hareesh Pabbati (Borrower) S/o P. Janardhana Rao, #34, Mullur Village, Varthur Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District, Bengaluru-560087. 1B.Mr.Hareesh Pabbati (Borrower) S/o P. Janardhana Rao, Flat No.A-102, 1st Floor "Aban Desire" Apartment A-Block, Sy.No.216 of Medahalli Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-562125. 2.Mr. Dudekula Rajasekhara Babu (Guarantor) #3 99, Santhapeta, Kolikunta Mandalam, Kolikunta, Kumool Andhra Pradesh-518134.

[Details of the credit facilities/ies availed by the Borrower]

Table with columns: Sl. No., Loan No, Nature of Loan/Limit, Date of sanction/ Renewal, Sanction Amount, Liability With Interest as on Date 06.03.2026, Rate of Interest

Total Liability Amount: Rs.38,37,198 (Rupees Thirty Eight Lakhs Thirty Seven Thousand One Hundred and Ninety Eight only) as on 06.03.2026 together with further interest thereon and incidental expenses and costs.

NPA Date : 04.03.2026 Demand Notice Dated : 07.03.2026

Name of Title Holder: Mr. Hareesh Pabbati

Immovable Property: SCHEDULE "A" PROPERTY : (Description of entire property on which apartment being constructed) All that piece and parcel of the immovable property comprising converted land (converted vide Official Memorandum No.ALN-(A)-(HS)-SR-02/2011-12, dated 11-05-2011, issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District), bearing Sy.No.216, situated in S. Medahalli Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, measuring 2.00 Acres; and bounded on: East by: Narayana Reddy's land in Sy.No.216, West by: Chikka Muni Reddy's land in Sy.No.214, North by: Property bearing Sy.No.215, South by: Road.

SCHEDULE "B" PROPERTY: (Description of the un divided interest of land agreed to be conveyed): 648 Sft of undivided share, rights, title and interest in the Schedule 'A' Property, which is the corresponding undivided share in respect of Schedule-A Apartment unit.

SCHEDULE "C" PROPERTY: (Description of the Apartment Unit/Flat agreed to be conveyed) : All that piece and parcel of one Flat Apartment Unit, i.e., Flat No. A-102, measuring a super built-up area of 1440 Sft (which is also inclusive of balconies and a proportionate share in the common areas), situated in First Floor, in A-Block (as per plan attached here to) with One Covered Car Parking Space in the Surface Floor, in the residential apartment Building known as "ABAN DESIRE", being constructed on the Schedule-A Property.

CERSAI ID:400068027771

You are hereby called upon to pay Canara Bank, within a period of 60 days from the date of publication of this notice, the respective amount mentioned here above, failing which Canara Bank will take necessary action under the provisions of the said Act, against the secured assets including taking possession of the secured assets of the Borrowers, Mortgagors and Guarantors. The powers available to Canara Bank under the Act include (i) power to take possession of the secured assets of the Borrowers / Guarantors / Mortgagors including the rights to transfer by way of lease, assignment or sale for realising secured assets and any transfer of secured assets by Canara Bank shall vest in the transferee rights in or in relation to, the secured asset transferred as if the transfer has been made by you. In terms of the provisions of section 13(13) of the said Act, you are hereby prohibited from transferring, either by way of sale, lease or otherwise (other than in the ordinary course of your business), any of the secured assets as referred to in the Demand Notice and also Hypothecated / Mortgaged to the bank without prior written consent of the Bank. The notice is issued in terms of Section 13(2) of the said Act.

Date : 13.03.2026 Place : Bengaluru

Sd/- Authorised Officer Canara Bank

Corruption Allegations Surface at Chigurumamidi Tahsildar Office; Farmers Demand Inquiry

Serious allegations of corruption have surfaced against officials at the Tahsildar office in Chigurumamidi mandal, with farmers claiming that their land-related issues are resolved only when money is paid through middlemen. According to locals, farmers visiting the revenue office for land registrations or other services are often made to wait for long hours, with their files reportedly delayed on various technical grounds. However, it is alleged that matters are cleared quickly when approached through intermediaries. Residents say that even after booking appointments and submitting required documents, farmers face repeated objections and delays. They claim that rules are cited frequently for ordinary applicants, while some cases are reportedly processed faster through unofficial channels.



Chigurumamidi Tahsildar Office

INAUGURAL CEREMONY OF KITS MUN 2026 HELD AT KITS WARANGAL

WARANGAL, March 16, TSIT : The Model United Nations 9.O (KITS MUN 2026) is being organized by the Literary & Extramural club, Student Activity Center(SAC), Kakatiya Institute of Technology & Science Warangal (KITSW), a three day academic simulation of the United Nations where students play the role of delegates from different countries and attempt to solve real world issues along with national and state level policies and perspectives of their assigned country said by the Principal Prof. K. Ashoka Reddy.. It was inaugurated by the Principal Prof. K. Ashoka Reddy in association with Dean student affairs, Prof. K. Sridhar, Faculty in-charges, Literary club, Dr. W. Grace Shanthi by lighting the lamp. It is being conducted from 16th to

18th March, 2026 at various venues of silver jubilee seminar hall, Civil Seminar hall, Centre for i2RE and Auditorium KITS Warangal campus. In this regard the former RS MP and KITSW Governing Body Chairman, Capt. V. Lakshminathan Rao, Treasurer P. Narayana Reddy and Husnabad constituency former MLA & KITSW Additional secretary Vodithala Sateesh Kumar have appreciated the Literary Club-SAC and team of student representatives for the successful conduction of the inaugural ceremony.



Inauguration ceremony at KITS Warangal

Chahat Bajpai Orders Strict Action Against Roadside Littering in Warangal

Hanamkonda District Collector and Greater Warangal Municipal Corporation (GWMC) Commissioner Chahat Bajpai directed officials to take strict measures to prevent people from littering on roads and strengthen sanitation management in the city. As part of the "Public Governance - Progress Plan" 99-day programme, the Collector conducted surprise sanitation inspections in the Hasanparthi area covering the 1st and 66th divisions on Monday. She instructed tollun-

teers, sanitary inspectors and sanitation workers to create awareness among residents about segregating wet and dry waste and handing it over to Swachh Autos. Drivers were also advised to ensure sepa-

rate collection of the two types of garbage. Logbooks have been issued to sanitation workers to record daily sanitation activities in their respective areas. Officials were also asked to collect trade licenses

from shops under their jurisdiction. The Collector suggested involving NSS students to conduct door-to-door awareness campaigns on waste segregation. During the visit, she inspected the DRCC centre and also directed authorities to ensure that vegetable vendors in the Hasanparthi market area operate within designated market spaces instead of selling on the roadside. Corporator Gurumurthy Sivakumar and other officials participated in the programme.

Ramzan month Celebrations Shine in Hyder nagar with Successful "Eid Ka Tohfa" Distribution Program



Eid Ka Tohfa distribution program in Hyder nagar

SERILINGAMPALLY TSIT— The spirit of Eid al-Fitr filled the air in Hyder nagar as the "Eid Mubarak & Eid Ka Tohfa" distribution program was carried out successfully, bringing joy and relief to local residents during the festive season. The initiative, aimed at supporting the community through generous Eid gift distributions, received continued backing from the Telangana State Government. Organizers expressed deep gratitude for the state's encouragement and support in facilitating such meaningful welfare activities. The event was honored by the presence of MLA Arekapudi Gandhi, along with Corporator Srinivas Rao Damodar, and their dedicated team. Their participation added significant prestige and highlighted the collaborative spirit behind the program. Local leaders Ravi Hafiz Abdul Razak, Shabbuddin Qureshi, Jamshed, Rafeeq participated in program.

The government should take measures to support the rice farmers - Former Minister Jeevan Reddy

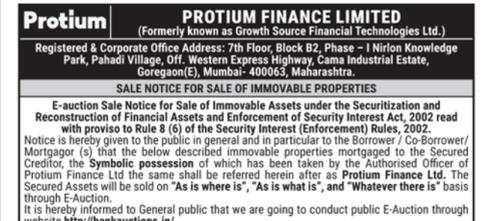


Former minister Jeevan Reddy

Jagityala, March 16, TSIT : Former minister Tatiparthi Jeevan Reddy said that the government should set up maize purchase centers through Markfed to help the rice donors financially. Handed over the petition to Additional Collector Raja Goud along with the farmers in a Prajavnani programme held at the collector's office in Jagityala. On this occasion, he said that the government will promote dry season crops, but despite the threat of monkeys, wild boars and birds in the maize crop, farmers are cultivating maize crops as an alternative crop. Jeevan Reddy stated in the petition that if the government purchases through the purchase centers at a support price of Rs.2400, the farmer will have a chance to grow financially, otherwise the farmers will lose by selling to private traders at the beginning of the season.

Foundation Stone Laid for Gram Panchayat Building in Balapala

Mahabubabad (TSIT) The foundation stone for a new Gram Panchayat building was laid in Balapala village of Kuravi mandal in Mahabubabad district.



Foundation stone laying ceremony in Balapala

Protium PROTIUM FINANCE LIMITED (Formerly known as Growth Source Financial Technologies Ltd.) Registered & Corporate Office Address: 7th Floor, Block B2, Phase - 1 Nirlon Knowledge Park, Pahadi Village, Off. Western Express Highway, Guna Industrial Estate, Goregaon(E), Mumbai - 400063, Maharashtra. SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower / Co-Borrower / Mortgagors that the below described immovable properties mortgaged to the Secured Creditor, the Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Protium Finance Ltd the same shall be referred hereinafter as Protium Finance Ltd. The Secured Assets will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis through E-Auction. It is hereby informed to General public that we are going to conduct public E-Auction through website http://bankauctions.in/

AXIS BANK LIMITED #5-2-183/184, 3rd Floor, Modi Square, RP Road, Secunderabad-500003. (CIN: L6510GJ1993PLC020769)

APPENDIX-IV [Rule -8(1)] POSSESSION NOTICE

WHEREAS The Authorized Officer of the Axis Bank Ltd (Formerly known as UTI Bank Ltd), having its Registered Office: "TRIUMPH", Opposite Sanshodhan Tower, Near Law Garden, Ellimbrige, Ahmedabad-380006, among other places its Branch office at Axis Bank Ltd, Retail Asset Centre, D.No.5-2-183/184, 3rd Floor, Modi Square, R.P. Road, Secunderabad Branch, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice under Section 13(2) of the SARFAESI Act on 14-11-2025 calling upon the borrower / guarantors / mortgagors: 1.MS. SUNITHA LUBRICANTS (Applicant) REP BY ITS PROPRIETOR: MRS. SUNITHA SINGH,205, SILPA PARADISE, PRAGATHI NAGRA, MEDCHAL, MALKAJGIRI, HYDERABAD, TELANGANA - 500090.2.MRS. SUNITHA SINGH,W/O. VEERE NDER SINGH,FLAT 204, PLOT NO. 76-76, YASWANTH RESIDENCY,NEAR ALEAP, PRAGATHI NAGAR,KUKATPALLY, HYDERABAD, TELANGANA - 500090.3.MR. VEERENDER SINGH SUNDARWARI S/O. UMESH SINGH,FLAT 204, PLOT NO. 76-76, YASWANTH RESIDENCY, NEAR ALEAP, PRAGATHI NAGAR,KUKATPALLY, HYDERABAD, TELANGANA - 500090. 4.MR. MAHESH SINGH (GUARANTOR),S/O. BAHADUR SINGH,NO. 2-3-7702, 3rd FLOOR, FLOR NO. 301, SAI BABA TEMPLE LANE,GOLNAKA, AMBERPET,HYDERABAD, TELANGANA -500013. Loan Number: 9232030004487707 To repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs. 56,95,772/- due under Loan Ac. No. 9232030004487707, as on 05-11-2025 (this amount includes interest applied till date required) being the amounts due on termination of the agreements together with further unpaid interest at contractual rate of interest, contractual rate, costs and other consequences, damages etc., including the expenses for the said takeover and sale of assets within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower/guarantors/mortgagors having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower/guarantors/mortgagors and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on this date, i.e., 12-03-2026.

The borrower/guarantors/mortgagors in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Axis Bank Limited, for an amount: Rs. 56,95,772/- due under Loan Ac. No. 9232030004487707, as on 05-11-2025 (this amount includes interest applied till date required) being the amounts due on termination of the agreements together with further unpaid interest at contractual rate of interest, contractual rate, costs and other consequences, damages etc., including the expenses for the said takeover and sale of assets thereon. The borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-Section (8) of Section 13 of the SARFAESI Act, 2002 in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Where the amount of dues of the secured creditor together with all costs, charges and expenses incurred by him is tendered to the secured creditor at any time before the date of publication of notice for public auction or inviting quotations or tender from public or private treaty transfer by way of lease, assignment or sale of the secured assets, i.e. The secured assets shall not be transferred by way of lease, assignment or sale by the secured creditor, and in case, any step has been taken by the secured creditor for transfer by way of lease or assignment or sale of the assets before tendering of such amount under this sub-section, no further step shall be taken by such secured creditor for transfer by way of lease or assignment or sale of such secured assets."

SCHEDULE IMMOVABLE ASSET

All that the piece and parcel of the Residential Flat No. 403, in Fifth Floor, Door No. 06-105/H/A/102 & 103/403, PTH No. 1150667922 admeasuring 1450 Sq. Feet (including Common Area) and One Car Parking, along with undivided share of Land of 757.77 Square Yards (out of 758.77 Square yards) in the building complex of "RICH HOMES" constructed on Plot bearing No. 102/Part and 103 in Survey No. 150, Cover Under Block No. 06, Gayatri Nagar, Near Godavari Homes, Situated at JEEDIMETLA Village, Quathbulpur Mandal, under GHMC Quathbulpur Circle, Mandal Malkajgiri District, Telangana standing in the name of Mr. MAHESH SINGH S/o. Bahadur Singh and bounded by BOUNDARIES FOR LAND: NORTH - 40' Wide Road,SOUTH - Plot No. 104,EAST - Plot No. 102/Part, EAST - 40' Wide Road. BOUNDARIES FOR FLAT:NORTH - Open to Sky,SOUTH - Open to Sky, WEST - OPEN TO SKY WEST: Corridor and Staircase.

Note: For any further details please contact: Mr. R. Balakrishna (Collections Manager): 9949186618. Yours faithfully, Place: Hyderabad Date:12-03-2026. Authorised Officer Axis Bank Limited

Central Bank of India HYDERABAD MAIN BRANCH, BANKS' STREET, KOTI, HYDERABAD - 500 095 PH: 040 - 23468938 Mob: 6304903700 E-mail: agnyide0808@centralbank.co.in

APPENDIX-IV [Rule-8(1)] POSSESSION NOTICE (For immovable property)

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorized officer of the Central Bank of India, Hyderabad Main Branch, HYDERABAD, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated 19.11.2025 calling upon the borrowers M/s Sri Sowbhagya Villas & Resorts Private Ltd (Borrower), & Mr. Venkateshwarlu Vemula S/o. Mr. V Ramaiah and Mrs. Sowbhagya Vemula W/o Mr. Venkateshwarlu Vemula (Guarantors), repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs. 2,50,01,446.22 ( Rupees Two Crore Fifty Lakh One Thousand Four hundred forty Six and Twenty Two Paise Only ) (which represents the principal plus interest due as on the 19/11/2025), plus interest and other charges from 19/11/2025 to till date within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Sub-Section 4 of the Section 13 of the Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules on this 10.03.2026

The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Central Bank of India, Hyderabad Main Branch for an amount Rs. 2,50,01,446.22 ( Rupees Two Crore Fifty Lakh One Thousand Four hundred forty Six and Twenty Two Paise Only ) (which represents the principal plus interest due as on the 19/11/2025), plus interest and other charges from 19/11/2025 The borrowers attention is invited to provisions of sub section (8) of Section 13 of the SARFAESI Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

DESCRIPTION OF THE SECURED ASSETS/IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

All that land and building bearing Hno. 7-71/40, on plot No 40, in Sy. No. 30 Part, Plot admeasuring 222 Sq. yards, situated at Maheshwari Nagar ( Near Ravindranagar), Habita, Jagtala Mandal and Municipality Ranga Reddy District and bounded by:NORTH-Plot no. 39, SOUTH-Plot no.43,EAST-Plot no. 41, WEST-25 Ft wide Road

Place: Hyderabad Date: 10.03.2026 (Authorised Officer) Central Bank of India

Northern ARC Capital Ltd Head Off: 10th Floor - Phase 1, IT- Madras Research Park, Kanagam Village, Taramani, Chennai 600113

DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF SECURITIZATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST (SARFAESI) ACT, 2002

Whereas you, the Borrower's, Co-Borrower's, Guarantors and Mortgagors mentioned in Para No. 1 of the table hereinbelow have availed loans from Northern Arc Capital Ltd by mortgaging your immovable property. Consequently to the defaults committed by you all, your loan account has been classified as a Non-Performing Asset in accordance with Reserve Bank of India's guidelines and whereas Northern Arc Capital Ltd being a secured creditor under the SARFAESI Act, and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice calling upon to repay the amount mentioned in the notices within 60 days. The amounts due and payable by you to Northern Arc Capital Ltd are more particularly described in the following table. Please note, further interest and charges thereon on the said amount till the date of payment shall also be applicable.

1) Name of the Applicant (Co-Applicants/Guarantors and Mortgagors): (1a). ARURI PAVITRA VANI (BORROWER) 1-148, ALLAPURAM, CHOUTUPPAL, YADADRI BHUVANAGIRI, Telangana, 508252. Email ID: CDS\_kumara@gmail.com, and arushiva105@gmail.com. 2(b). ARROORI SHIVAKUMAR (CO-BORROWER), 1-148, ALLAPURAM, CHOUTUPPAL, YADADRI BHUVANAGIRI, Telangana, 508252. 3(c). ARROORI PADMA (CO-BORROWER), 1-148, ALLAPURAM, CHOUTUPPAL, YADADRI BHUVANAGIRI, Telangana, 508252.

2) Loan details (Disbursement/NPA & Notice date/Outstanding amount: (a) Loan Account No. 1. 102026808104. 2. 103026197667. for an amount of 1. INR 1548430/- (Rupees Fifteen Lakh Forty Eight Thousand Four Hundred And Thirty only). 2. INR 498286/- (Rupees Four Lakh Ninety Eight Thousand Two Hundred Eighty Six Only) (b) Non-Performing Asset as of 4th March, 2026. (c) Demand notice dated 16th March 2026. Outstanding dues is of loan account No. 102026808104, Rs. 16,82,941.74/- and for loan account No. 103026197667, Rs. 5,52,796.71/- total amount of INR 22,35,738.45/- (Rupees Twenty Two Lakhs Thirty Five Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty Eight and Forty Five Paise only) as on 16th March, 2026 along with future interest at the contractual rate on the aforesaid amount together with incidental expenses, costs, charges, etc.

3) Description of the Immovable Properties: House No.1-104 in Sy.No.274, constructed with brick walls and R.C.C. Roof, Built up area: 375.00 Sq.Fts. Covered with R.C.C. Roof in Ground Floor. Total Area (Including built up and open place) 225.00 Sq. Yds. or equivalent to 188.10 Sq.Ms. Situated at ALLAPUR Village, Choutuppal Mandal, Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District. Under Gram Panchayat: Allapur, M.P. Choutuppal, Z.P. Yadadri Bhuvanagiri Under Regn: Sub-Dist. Choutuppal and Regn.Dist: Nalgonda, North: House of Rachakonda Lingiah, South: 20 Fts. Road, East: 18 Fts. Road, West: House of Singgappa Yadaiah

You are hereby called upon to make the payment of the aggregate amount as per the details mentioned in the above table along with further interest at contractual rate and other costs, charges and incidental expenses thereon till the date of payment within 60 days from the date of publication of this notice failing which the undersigned will be constrained to initiate appropriate proceedings under section 13(4) and section 14 of the SARFAESI Act against the mortgaged property mentioned hereinabove to realise the amount due to Northern Arc Capital Ltd. Further, you are prohibited under section 13(13) of the said act from transferring the said secured asset either by way of Sale/Lease or otherwise.

Place: YADADRI BHUVANAGIRI, Telangana Authorised Officer Date: 17th March 2026 For Northern Arc Capital Limited

HINDUJA HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED Corporate office at #161-169, 2nd Floor, Little Mount, Saidapet, Chennai-600 015.

APPENDIX -IV Possession Notice (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Hinduja Housing Finance Limited (HHFL) under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, Demand Notice(s) issued by the Authorized Officer of the company to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) mentioned herein below to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sub-Section (4) of the Section 13 of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of HHFL for an amount as mentioned herein under with interest thereon.

Table with columns: Name of the Borrower/Co-Borrower/Guarantor/LAN No., Demand Amount, DATE OF POSSESSION

1.Mr. Venkatesham Adi 20/11/2025 Rs.1012976 12-03-2026

He Was Died On Date:06/02/2025 Rs.1012976 (Ten Lakhs Twelve Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy Six Only)

2.Mr. Rohit Adhi .....Co-Borrower

3.Mr. Rahul Adhi .....Co-Borrower

Note:-CO-Borrower-1 & 2 Both Are Legal Heir of Adi Venkatesham.

Both R/O No. 1-12-116/15, Bhavani Nagar Colony, Jammikunta, Near DON BOSCO SCHOOL, Medak Dist, TG-502210.

Loan Account Nos. AP/HDB/SGR/DA000000004

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: All That The Part Parcel of the 1/3rd Undivided Share in open Place With Basement Bearing Municipal No.1-12-116/15, Consisting Of 1239.50 Fts OR 137.73 Sq.Yds In Sy.No.510/P. Situated At Bhavani Nagar Colony, Near GOVT Civil Hospital, Ward No. 1, Block No. 12, Medak Town, TG and bounded by: North: Open Place Of Others South: 180 Fts Wide Road, East: Open Place Of Others West: 250 Fts Wide Road

NOTE: "Through this notice, all the previous notices issued in this LAN is hereby recalled"

# EDITORIAL

## 4 Leaders In Congress Are Vying For One Job - And None Is Ready To Step Aside

"All for one, and one for all" (Tous pour un, un pour tous), is the motto of the titular heroes of Alexandre Dumas's *The Three Musketeers*. Such comradeship is seldom associated with chief-ministerial aspirants in a political party, and least of all when it comes to Congress. The 'Three Musketeers' of the Congress state unit in Kerala - VD Satheesan, Ramesh Chennithala and KC Venugopal - once part of the Karunakaran faction before drifting apart, have closed ranks to make sure that they are on the same page going into the election. The unprecedented projection of unity, nevertheless, cannot mask the individual efforts undertaken by these leaders to assume the position of Kerala Chief Minister.

### Satheesan In Prime Position

VD Satheesan has a natural edge as the incumbent leader of the opposition (LoP). Satheesan's performance against Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan - who's battling a two-term anti-incumbency - has been generally regarded as superior to his predecessor Ramesh Chennithala's. The very appointment in 2021 of Satheesan as LoP was controversial, as it was orchestrated by the central leadership overruling the show of hands of the party legislators. It was necessitated on account of Vijayan bucking the four-decade trend of alternating governments in the state. As a lone ranger, Satheesan never had a massive following within the party, and that situation remains more or less the same today. Moreover, Satheesan is also hobbled by the opposition to his leadership from Hindu community outfits such as the Nair Service Society (NSS) and the Sree Narayana Dharma Paripalana (SNDP) Yogam. Back in 2011, when Oommen Chandy formed the government with a wafer-thin majority, the NSS had overruled Satheesan's name in favour of VS Sivakumar as its Nair nominee in the Cabinet, and it remains a sore point in his relationship with the NSS. Satheesan attempted to mend his ties with the NSS in recent times, but that hasn't worked out. The SNDP Yogam of the Ezhava community has been antagonistic towards the Congress in general, and its leader, Vellappally Natesan, has been engaged in a war of words with Satheesan. The Nair and Ezhava communities make up more than a third of Kerala's population, and Satheesan's weak ties with these community outfits make it risky for the Congress to project him as a challenger to Vijayan. Satheesan himself is acutely aware of it, and he has been on a mission to get minority communities and the general public to back him instead. As chairman of the Congress-led United Democratic Front (UDF), Satheesan has taken ownership of the risky association with the Jamaat-e-Islami, thereby not letting ally Indian Union Muslim League (IUM) get besmirched by the unholy alliance. Satheesan's decision to criticise Vellappally Natesan at a recent event of the Samastha Kerala Jemiyathul Ulama was another action aimed at endearing himself to the supporters of the outfit. Satheesan has also been trying to enlist the support of various Christian denominations by making his presence felt at church events, and his gift of the gab and the knowledge of Bible verses have held him in good stead. But Satheesan still hasn't acquired a huge following within the wider Christian community - unlike Shashi Tharoor, for instance. Satheesan likens his outreach to different groups, including Pentecostal churches, to Pinarayi Vijayan's brand of social engineering. His detractors within Congress claim that Satheesan has also taken a leaf out of Vijayan's public relations tactics, including undergoing a hair transplant to cast himself in a new avatar.

## Amateur 'Advisors', Ignored Generals: How Trump Shunned Protocol To Launch Iran War

A Council on Foreign Relations survey of US foreign policy ranked the 2003 Iraq invasion the worst decision in American foreign policy. Key reasons included ignoring intelligence warnings, sidelining professionals, launching the war without a credible endgame, and decision-making by a small group bypassing formal deliberation.

Two decades later, the United States again finds itself at war in the Middle East under circumstances echoing that earlier episode. The actors differ, and the geopolitical context has changed, yet the pattern of decision-making shows familiar weaknesses. Both conflicts reveal a tendency to marginalise professional advice, rely on a small circle of policymakers, and announce shifting objectives. The Iran conflict also reflects the growing influence of informal advisers and the diminished role of institutional review in the national security system.

### A President Without Strategy

The starting point is the President Donald Trump offered several explanations in one day for why the United States entered conflict with Iran. At different moments, the stated objectives ranged from destroying Iran's nuclear programme, reopening the Strait of Hormuz, to preventing Iranian retaliation against Israel, and regime change. Each explanation pointed to a different strategic objective. Military campaigns require clear political goals because operations derive their logic from those aims. When objectives shift, strategic planning becomes difficult. The decision process



also raised questions. Final authorisation for strikes reportedly occurred during discussions at Mar-a-Lago rather than through deliberations organised through the National Security Council. General Dan Caine, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, warned against escalation, citing risks to American personnel and strained weapons stockpiles. Trump dismissed those warnings and authorised the strikes. Presidents weigh military advice alongside political considerations. When decisions occur outside the standard interagency process, policy depends more on individual judgment than institutional review.

### An Unprepared Defence Secretary

Strategic direction from the President requires translation into operational planning at the Pentagon. The tenure of Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth has raised questions about that process. Hegseth entered office with

out experience managing large defence institutions or supervising strategic planning. He declared that earlier strikes had "obliterated" Iran's nuclear programme, an assertion later challenged by independent assessments. After six American service members were killed in an Iranian attack, he accused journalists of exploiting their deaths to embarrass the administration. Before hostilities began, he abolished the Pentagon office responsible for tracking civilian casualties in American operations. The Secretary of Defence serves as the institutional link between presidential objectives and military execution and requires close coordination with the professional military.

### The Primacy of Informal 'Advisors'

The weakening of formal decision channels has elevated informal advisers. Steve Witkoff and Jared Kushner, whose careers developed in real estate rather than diplo-

macy or national security, are leading Trump's Middle East policy. Less than two days before the strikes on Iran, the pair met Iran's Foreign Minister in Geneva under Omani mediation. Participants described the discussions as substantive, and further meetings were expected. The diplomatic channel ended soon afterwards, when Trump expressed dissatisfaction with the talks and authorised military action. Recordings obtained by the Arms Control Association suggested that Witkoff misunderstood key technical aspects of Iran's nuclear programme, including the purpose of the Tehran Research Reactor, a facility originally supplied by the United States for medical isotope production. After initial setbacks, Trump blamed the advice received from Kushner and Witkoff.

Earlier administrations relied on institutional review by diplomats, technical experts, and intelligence analysts to identify such

errors before decisions reached the President.

### Professional Advice Sidelined

Professional assessments from the intelligence community and the military that discouraged the campaign were ignored. A classified National Intelligence Council assessment concluded that a large-scale war with Iran would be unlikely to remove the country's government or fundamentally alter its strategic behaviour. Members of Congress who attended classified briefings later described the administration's strategy as confused and inconsistent. Military leaders warned about objective attainment, escalation risks and the strain on American resources. Technical nuclear expertise also carried limited influence. Specialists note that the Tehran Research Reactor cited in public debate mainly produces medical isotopes and does not indicate a weapons programme.

## THE STORY OF BENGAL'S 'REAL' OUTSIDERS

In the maze of Indian parliamentary politics, the All India Trinamool Congress (TMC) stands out for adopting a deliberate strategy. The party's recent slate of Rajya Sabha nominees - Supreme Court advocate Menaka Guruswamy, top cop Rajeev Kumar, singer-turned-politician Babul Supriyo, and Bengali actress Koel Mallick - highlights how Mamata Banerjee leverages the Upper House. The balance of gender parity, professional expertise, and outreach to marginalised communities signals a deliberate effort to move beyond identity politics. The lateral entry of professionals who are not career politicians stands out. Beyond her legal acumen, Menaka Guruswamy is an advocate for LGBTQ+ rights. Pushed to the margin by India's socio-legal system, LGBTQ+ groups across India, following her nomination, have posted a barrage of welcoming, even effusive, comments on social media pages, indicating a sense of vicarious empowerment.



The nomination of former West Bengal Director General of Police Rajeev Kumar signals an effort to bring administrative and internal security expertise into the legislative fold. While Babul Supriyo brings to the table - in addition to his mellifluous voice - administrative knowledge of being a central minister, with Koel Mallick, TMC has continued the trend of bringing in prominent women from the cultural domain to the TMC arena. In the past, renowned names from Bengal's film industry, especially women, have been involved with the Trinamool, from Moon Moon Sen to Nusrat Jahan, Mimi Chakraborty to Satabdi Roy, and more. In the 2024 Rajya Sabha nominations, the inclusion of journalist

### Bengal's History of Welcoming 'Outsiders'

Bengal has always had a rich tradition of enabling 'outsiders', or non-Bangla speakers, including those making it to the Lok Sabha. Calcutta's position as the capital of British India until 1911 shaped its evolution into a major trading, industrial, and political centre. People from various states migrated there for livelihood and education, and over time, this movement helped the city evolve into a natural cauldron of cosmopolitan culture. For years, even

decades, Darjeeling and Asansol have elected non-Bengalis such as Jaswant Singh, Inderjit Khullar, and SS Ahluwalia. Even football star Bhaichung Bhutia, who lost to Ahluwalia, carried the outsider tag as he hailed from neighbouring Sikkim. Former Union Railways Minister Dinesh Trivedi, a Gujarati, won the Barrackpore seat as a Trinamool nominee till he fell out with Mamata Banerjee to join the BJP, and disappeared. Taking a few steps back, among the stalwarts of the 19th century who played a pivotal role in shaping the destiny of free India, the name of Dr BR Ambedkar shines like a beacon. Ambedkar was first elected to the Constituent Assembly from Bengal in July 1946, when an Interim Government was formed under Jawaharlal Nehru. Nehru chose Ambedkar to be his law minister.

Then, in 1969, a beleaguered VK Krishna Menon, India's former defence minister and a native of Kerala, was elected to the Lok Sabha as a Congress candidate from Medinipur. He was supported by the Communist-controlled United Front, a coalition of Left parties that ruled West Bengal at that time. In

1971, he shifted his constituency to Trivandrum, now Thiruvananthapuram. Jaswant Singh, who had served as the Union Defence and External Affairs Minister in the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government, reached Darjeeling in April 2009. He was escorted by a then-united Gorkha Janamukti Morcha (GJM) leadership. Singh filed his nomination for the Darjeeling Lok Sabha constituency, describing it as a big day in his life. "I feel humble. Filing the nomination with the support of the GJM is a big day for me," Singh had said after completing the nomination formalities at the district magistrate's office. The crowd shouted: "Jai Gorkha, Jai Jaswant." That the Gorkhaland statehood issue was never taken up or debated in the Lok Sabha is another story. This despite the fact that the Gorkha National Liberation Front (GNLF) under the leadership of Subhash Ghisingh had won the parliamentary elections from Darjeeling in 1989. With GNLF pacified with limited autonomy and unlimited ropeway in terms of auditing the Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council (DGHC) accounts, Indrajit Khullar, the GNLF MP, never raised the issue.

## Bra-Burning, Tree Hugging Feminists and the Making of Myths



Sometimes a casual sensory experience may trigger memories that the mind had tucked deep within. Writer Julian Barnes has a term for this - IAM (Involuntary Autobiographical Memory); memories that the mind had not saved voluntarily, but just tucked away in some deep recess of the brain. The trigger to remember these forgotten stories can be anything from a certain smell, taste, a line in a report or even a visual of a fast-fading past. This columnist came across two such instances almost simultaneously. Come Women's Day on March 8 and the usual avalanche of misreporting and media-created myths about feminists is let loose.

One such instance was a smirking reference to assertive and stubborn feminists' vocal push for equality. They were, as usual, labelled as 'those bra-burning types.' The second was an iconic black and white photograph of a group of women from Raini village who participated in the Chipko movement in Uttarakhand, hugging forest trees they wished to save from loggers' axes.

**'The bra-burning feminists'** This was a much reported incident from 1968 reported

in various New York papers. The bare bones of the story were that a bunch of feisty feminists took out a parade to condemn the beauty pageant culture popularised by the media and fashion designers. The women alleged that fashion parades that guzzled so much space in the media were no more than a presentation of women as eye candy for men who judged their rankings on the basis of their vital statistics on display in bikinis. Three women demonstrators were reported to have been incensed enough to burn their bras in a drum near the Chicago river. The mainstream media in the 60s and 70s expectedly smirked and termed such incendiary feminism as a passing fad. But the media image of undergarments burning in a drum became a sort of mascot for feminism baiters through the decades even as beauty pageants first began to wither and then became almost irrelevant. As I read the term 'bra-burning', it triggered a whole cascade of memories. I was in the US a year after the incident and by then it had been revealed that the whole story about women burning their garments in public was a man-made stunt, quite literally. A male disc jockey and his

architect friend had hired three women to create a juicy side story to discredit what they considered a perverse fad of women seeking attention in the name of liberation and thereby ruining an annual gala parade of beauties viewed all over by millions on telly. Chipko movement Let's now move to the photograph of tree huggers being waved in our faces to celebrate the dramatic gesture of poor rural women for saving the forests. Looking at it, one was reminded of how the 1975 report commissioned by the government of India on the status of women had startled the public with its grim findings about the socio-economic and political marginalisation of Indian women. Politically, it meshed well with an age that was promoting justified dissent and debating the centuries-old colonisation of India in politics. By the 90s, the debate had also embraced larger questions about the lives of rural women and how gathering fuel and fodder for family cattle and fetching water from distant areas had kept them home-bound, depriving young girls of education. This was when the famous 1991 Chipko movement took shape in a remote village in

Uttarakhand under the initial leadership of a gutsy woman by the name of Gaura Devi. It started not with media reports that hardly reached that poor area but by real life experiences of men and women in one of the poorest regions in Uttarakhand. Women, who spent most of their waking hours collecting fuel and fodder from the forests around were suddenly being threatened by the arrival of bands of loggers who wanted to chop down the trees and sell the valuable timber. The women led non-violent rallies and Dharnas under Devi. This aging matriarch later told Chandi Prasad Bhatt, a male activist who later joined the movement, that her determination to stand up to the powerful lobby of timber sellers grew out of the visible decline of their fields and drying up of rivers around the area stretching from Joshimath to Malari. In March 1974, when Gaura Devi and her band of women chased away the loggers, there were no photographers present in the area. Many famous photographs with women actually hugging trees were organised and captured photographers who got the women to re-enact the scene.

### Deve Gowda Writes to Sonia Gandhi Expressing Concern Over Parliament Disruptions



the foundational principles of India's parliamentary democracy.

"I Have Spent Nearly 90 Percent of My Political Life in the Opposition"

In the letter, H.D. Deve Gowda reflected on his 65 years of public life, stating that nearly ninety percent of his political career had been spent in the opposition. He noted that Smt. Sonia Gandhi too has spent a significant portion of her political career in opposition and would therefore understand the responsibilities that come with that role. While opposition parties certainly have the right to express dissent, he emphasized that such expressions must not violate established rules, traditions, or the dignity of Parliament. He remarked that the current behaviour of some opposition members had caused him considerable distress. Even while serving in the opposition, he had always made conscious efforts to uphold parliamentary traditions and maintain the dignity of the institution.

The former Prime Minister said he had expected opposition members, particularly those from the Congress, to correct their conduct and uphold the sanctity of the parliamentary system. However, he observed that certain members continued to engage in provocative behaviour both inside the House and within the Parliament complex, thereby obstructing the functioning of Parliament.

New Delhi : Former Prime Minister and Rajya Sabha Member H.D. Deve Gowda has expressed deep concern over the persistent disruptions in Parliament caused by opposition parties, particularly members of the Congress. In this regard, he has written a letter to Congress Parliamentary Party Chairperson Smt. Sonia Gandhi, urging her to advise party members to exercise restraint and uphold parliamentary decorum.

Referring to the ongoing Budget Session of Parliament, the former Prime Minister conveyed serious anxiety over what he described as excessive and disorderly conduct by opposition members, especially Congress MPs. According to him, members have been repeatedly disrupting proceedings by raising slogans inside and outside the House, displaying placards, shouting specific names, staging protests, and forcing adjournments of the session.

He cautioned that such actions undermine the dignity of Parliament and weaken

### Maintain Hennur Service Road Boulevard Properly – Lokhande Snehal Sudhakar

Bengaluru: Additional Commissioner (Development) Lokhande Snehal Sudhakar visited and inspected the Outer Ring Road service road stretch from Ramamurthy Nagar to Benniganahalli in the K.R. Puram Zone under the Bengaluru East City Corporation. During the inspection, the Additional Commissioner conducted a comprehensive review of the road condition, status of footpaths, boulevard maintenance, and drainage systems, and issued necessary directions to the officials. Inspection of Road Potholes and Footpaths

The Additional Commissioner directed officials to immediately fill potholes identified at several locations along the Outer Ring Road stretch from Ramamurthy Nagar to Benniganahalli. He also instructed the officials to

repair damaged footpaths to ensure safe and convenient movement for pedestrians.

Boulevard Maintenance While inspecting the boulevard near the Hennur Police Station service road, the Additional Commissioner directed the Horticulture Department officials to restore the damaged boulevard at the earliest.

Drain Desilting Works Between the Outer Ring Road and the service road near Hennur Police Station, silt and waste had accumulated in the drain, obstructing the smooth flow of rainwater. The Additional Commissioner instructed officials to immediately clear the silt and waste to ensure proper drainage.

Inspection of Benniganahalli Lake Inlet The Additional Commissioner

also inspected the stormwater drain inlet connecting to Benniganahalli Lake and directed officials to complete the ongoing work properly and with good quality. Inspection of Waste Transfer Station

The Dry Waste Transfer Station located under the Kasturi Nagar flyover was also inspected. Officials were instructed to ensure proper waste collection and transfer operations and maintain cleanliness around the facility.

The Additional Commissioner stated that the Bengaluru East City Corporation is committed to improving road infrastructure, maintaining an efficient stormwater drainage system, and ensuring cleanliness across the city. During the inspection, Chief Engineer of K.R. Puram Zone Krishnamurthy and other officials were present.

### Ugadi festival is a new year and is celebrated more specially than all other festivals : Ramalinga Reddy



Bengaluru: Minister Ramalinga Reddy said that Ugadi festival is a new year for Hindus and is celebrated more specially than all other festivals.

Speaking after distributing groceries to 3000 people at the Ugadi celebration program at IttaMadu of Hosakerehalli Ward, he said that It is special to welcome the new year with the sprouting of trees and plants, which is a symbol of the arrival of spring and prosperity.

Congress leader V. Raghunath Naidu said that, KPCC President D.K. Shivakumar refused to wear any garlands during sixth year celebrations and gave message that the money should be used for poor. This motivated us by distributing grocery kits to public and helped us to engage in more social work in addition to the service we were doing.

Padmanabhanagar constituency in-charge Madan Patil said. Hosakerehalli Ward President Naveen, Congress leader Shilpa Naveen, Hosakerehalli Congress leaders and citizens participated in large numbers.

### Klook Spring Readiness Index: Indian travellers turn to Japan and South Korea for spring travel

Bengaluru : Klook has released its Spring Readiness Index, offering a snapshot of how Indian travellers are planning for the spring travel season across Japan and South Korea. The Spring Readiness Index is based on insights from 900 travellers across nine Asia markets, Japan remains the top spring destination, with 78% of respondents naming it as their preferred choice, followed by South Korea at 52%.



For Indian travellers, the main draw during the March-April travel window is seasonal attractions, reinforcing a broader shift toward experience-led travel shaped by natural spectacles, cultural moments, and limited-time opportunities. This is reinforced by Search interest on Klook's platform for spring-related terms such as "cherry blossom" and "sakura" rose 57% from December 2025 to February 2026, highlighting strong momentum for seasonal travel.

### Sri Sri Nanjavadhuta Mahaswamiiji inaugurated the customer-friendly Neo Fresh Supermarket in K.R.Pura

Bengaluru: Sri Sri Sri Nanjavadhuta Mahaswamiiji of Spatikapuri Mahasamsthan said, The work plan formulated by Neo Fresh with the aim of making the lives of farmers and workers engaged in cottage industries better and bringing light into their lives is commendable. Providing good quality products to the customers at reasonable prices is equal to serving God."

Speaking after inaugurating the fifth branch of Neo Fresh, a customer-friendly mega store of Smart Quick E-Commerce, established with the aim of providing quality groceries, fresh fruits and vegetables and daily necessities to the customers at one place, in K.R.Pura, Medahalli, he also mentioned with appreciation



that Neo Fresh stores have created employment opportunities for the youth of rural areas and helped them lead a self-reliant life. Founder Deepugowda said that the fifth supermarket is being inaugurated in K.R.Pura. Our goal is to open more than 30 supermarkets in the urban area. He said that supermarkets will be inaugurated in Thanisandra and Kanakapura next month.

Our supermarket is a product of the love, trust, He said that people are coming to Neo Fresh because quality products are available to the public. On this occasion, Deepu Gowda, founder of Smart Quick, along with Sudeep Gowda, Shivu Gowda, Udaya Shetty, Kalyan Patil, Sethu Kumar and Naveen Chandrashekar, Sunil Kumar were present.

### Popularly acclaimed Spurthi, Vijnana Gurukul and Vyadi Vaidya

Bengaluru: B. L. R Media and The Media Association of Karnataka conducted a survey through the program Janabhipraya on several programs aired on prestigious cable network channels in Karnataka. The following are the



popularly acclaimed programs of the year 2025. The programs Spurthi: Survivors' Stories and Vyadi Vaidya, produced by Sri Shankara Cancer Hospital and Research Center and Aim Info Media, are in the first and third positions to create awareness about cancer, while the children's competition program Science Gurukul, which is in the second position, is receiving the most public recognition and is being successfully implemented. People are of the opinion that such awareness programs should be implemented more.

### 19 Achievers from Karnataka Selected in UPSC 2025-26 Felicitated



Bengaluru : Agriculture Minister N. Cheluvarayana Swamy said, In recent years, candidates from rural areas have been performing well in the UPSC and other competitive examinations, which is a very positive development. More encouragement should be given to students from rural backgrounds. He was speaking at a felicitation program held at Puttanna Chetty Town Hall in the city, where 19 achievers from Karnataka who cleared the UPSC 2025-26 examination after receiving training from India for IAS Academy were honoured. He said that civil services provide one of the highest and most prestigious opportunities to serve the nation. Decisions taken under the leadership of the Prime Minister are implemented through orders by officers, and the Constitution has granted significant authority to civil servants. Many officers have done exemplary work through civil service, he added. Advising the successful candidates, Cheluvarayana Swamy said that officers must work with common sense and responsibility.

## Banning RMGs could end up like Bihar's prohibition. Poor will suffer most

The Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Bill 2025, passed by Parliament on Thursday, seeks to protect people from addiction, financial loss, and fraud, according to its preamble. It aims to do so by prohibiting online money games, also known as real money games or RMGs, where users deposit funds in the hope of winnings. A ban is offered as a silver bullet.

However, plenty of evidence suggests that bans do not stop people from accessing harmful products or activities. Instead, they tend to push consumers into informal, unregulated, and unsafe markets. Consumers are likely to be redirected to offshore betting and gambling services. There, they will encounter heightened risks of financial fraud and cybersecurity threats, and will lack access to any meaningful grievance redressal mechanisms.

The gaming law also has significant economic consequences. Gaming businesses have created over 200,000 jobs and helped sustain the build-out of digital infrastructure. A blanket ban threatens to erode such gains.

The bill identifies real concerns such as the risk of addiction and financial loss, the prevalence of manipulative and fraudulent practices in the RMG market, and the use of digital networks for enabling financial crimes such as money laundering and terror financing. Let us consider the efficacy of an outright ban against each of these issues, in turn.

Prohibition has repeatedly proven ineffective against addictive consumer behaviours. The nature of activities that lead to addiction is such that demand for them does not disappear when legal supply is cut off.

Bihar's alcohol ban, much like the online gaming ban, was introduced in 2016 to curb behavioural issues such as addiction and domestic violence. Since then, at



least 190 people have died from consuming illicit liquor in the state—and studies suggest that between 2013 and 2019, the plight of women suffering domestic violence, the supposed reason for enacting the ban, did not change. The new law also states that the economically disadvantaged are most vulnerable to online gaming-related harms. Yet blanket bans have consistently hurt these groups the most. Wealthier households continue to access banned products such as e-cigarettes and vapes through private networks, while poorer households rarely find safe substitutes and are instead exposed to dangerous, unregulated alternatives.

This same dynamic, where the poor and disadvantaged suffer the consequences of well-meaning legislative action, will likely apply to RMGs. These users also tend to have lower levels of digital literacy and, as seen in Telangana, are more likely to be driven toward fraudulent sites with no safeguards—where the risks of fraud,

data theft, predatory lending, and unchecked gambling losses are far higher.

Experience from other shores South Korea's "Cinderella Law" banned under-16s from online games after midnight. The measure was rolled back a decade later, when policymakers realised that young users had simply migrated to unregulated platforms. The revised approach was to require greater parental controls, awareness campaigns, and moderation requirements.

The new law also cites the use of manipulative design features (like bots) which undermine platform fairness, and can even enable money laundering. But prohibition hands the entire market to offshore operators on a platter. The United States offers a cautionary tale. After the 2006 Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act barred payment providers from servicing gambling sites, legitimate operators exited the market. Americans turned to foreign banks and offshore platforms,

heightening risks around fraud and money laundering.

By contrast, domestic gaming services, in a quest to seek legitimacy from the state, have voluntarily adopted industry codes of conduct, mandating measures such as platform integrity and anti-money laundering practices like robust Know Your Customer protocols. While such standards are not adopted uniformly in all segments of the RMG industry, they are a starting point for meaningful self-regulation and standard-setting, which can ensure greater accountability and transparency in any industry. Pushing consumers away from entities that were voluntarily walking this path makes little sense.

From regulation to retreat Gaming is also a driver of Digital India. In FY 2022-23, UPI transactions worth Rs 8,370 crore were processed via gaming platforms, with some handling over four billion micro-transactions a month—accounting for one in 300 transactions in the country.

## B-complex vitamins boost brain power beyond B6 and B12



New Delhi: When it comes to brain memory in people at risk. Studies health, most people have heard about also highlight benefits like the importance of vitamin B6 and B12. Improved mood, reduced fatigue, But science is uncovering a bigger and enhanced mental energy, even picture – the entire B-complex group for those without deficiencies. may hold the key to keeping the Among them, folate (B9) stands out. brain sharp, energized, and resilient. A large meta-analysis revealed that From thiamine (B1), which helps higher folate intake was linked to a convert glucose into brain fuel, to lower risk of dementia. Other B folate (B9), vital for DNA repair and vitamins like niacin (B3) show memory, researchers say the eight promise in protecting brain cells water-soluble B vitamins work through DNA repair and healthy together to support energy production, neurotransmitter formation, and cognitive health.

Well-known neuroscientist Dr Robert W B Love, who studies Alzheimer's prevention, stresses that a steady intake of B-complex vitamins could even help slow down age-related cognitive decline. Recent clinical trials, including VITACOG and FACT, show that B-complex supplementation may slow brain shrinkage and improve

lipid production. So how can one get these brain-friendly nutrients naturally? Nutritionists suggest:

- Whole grains and legumes – lentils, chickpeas, whole wheat, kidney beans.
- Leafy greens – spinach, kale, and other greens rich in folate.
- Nuts and seeds – excellent sources of biotin (B7) and pantothenic acid (B5).
- Eggs, dairy, fish, and lean meat – rich in several B vitamins.

## Madras HC grants interim stay in property case related to actress Sridevi

CHENNAI: The Madras High Court has granted an interim stay on the trial proceedings in a civil suit pending before the Chengalpattu court concerning a property allegedly purchased by the late actress Sridevi.

According to the case records, in 1988, Sridevi had purchased a 4.77-acre property located on the East Coast Road in Chennai from the family of Sambanda Mudaliar. It was submitted that the actress had been in possession and enjoyment of the property for the past 37 years. Subsequently, three individuals-Natarajan and Sivagami, the son and daughter of Chandrasekaran Mudaliar (son of Sambandha Mudaliar), along with Chandrasekaran Mudaliar's second wife, obtained a legal heir certificate and filed a civil suit before the Additional Sessions

Court in Chengalpattu claiming a share in the property.

Challenging the maintainability of the suit, Sridevi's husband Boney Kapoor and their daughters, actresses Janhvi Kapoor and Khushi Kapoor, filed an application before the Chengalpattu court seeking dismissal of the suit. However, the Chengalpattu court dismissed their plea, observing that the issue of title over the property could be determined only after a full-fledged trial.

Aggrieved by the said order, Boney Kapoor, along with Janhvi Kapoor and Khushi Kapoor, filed a petition before the Madras High Court. Justice TV Thamilselvi, after hearing the matter, adjourned the case to March 26 for final hearing and granted an interim stay on the proceedings before the Chengalpattu court until then.



## Poll body directs officers transferred out not to be assigned election duties

CHENNAI: With the Model Code of Conduct coming into effect in Tamil Nadu, the Election Commission of India (ECI) has ordered the appointment of new Superintendent of Police (SPs) in four districts of the state as part of election preparedness and administrative reshuffle. The ECI has also clarified that officers transferred out of these positions should not be assigned any election-related duties until the completion of the electoral process, a measure aimed at ensuring neutrality and transparency during the polls.

According to an official communication issued on Monday to the Tamil Nadu Chief Secretary, the commission reviewed poll preparedness for the 2026 Assembly elections and directed immediate transfers and postings of senior IPS officers.

As per the order DN Harikiran Prasad, has been appointed as SP of



Karur replacing Josh Thangiah, DV Kiran Shruthi asked to take charge as SP of Erode in the place A Sujatha, Sujith Kumar, has been posted as SP of Nagapattinam replacing KS Balla Krishnan and N Shreenatha, will take charge as SP of Virudhunagar in the place of D Kannan.

The commission directed the Tamil Nadu government to imple-

ment the postings with immediate effect and submit a compliance report regarding the officers' joining by 11 am on Tuesday. The move is part of the commission's standard protocol to reshuffle key administrative and police officials in districts ahead of elections to maintain a level playing field and ensure free and fair polling across the state.

## Amid talks of TVK tie-up, Edappadi condemns Aadhav for Rajini remarks



CHENNAI: Amid speculation over a possible alliance with actor Vijay's Tamilaga Vetri Kazhagam (TVK), AIADMK general secretary Edappadi K Palaniswami on Monday condemned remarks made by TVK election propaganda secretary Aadhav Arjuna against actor Rajinikanth over his decision not to enter politics.

Reacting to Aadhav Arjuna's recent remarks alleging that Rajinikanth had stepped back from entering politics under pressure and threats from the DMK, Palaniswami criticised the senior TVK functionary's comments. Palaniswami described Rajinikanth as the "superstar of Tamil cinema" and an "affectionate brother,"

hitting out at what he called defamatory and condemnable comments of Aadhav Arjuna.

He said Rajinikanth was a film personality respected by people across political lines. The actor had also enjoyed the affection of former Chief Minister MG Ramachandran and the goodwill of former Chief Minister Jayalalithaa, he noted. TVK holds stir for caste survey; Aadhav says DMK can't brush off Vijay like Rajini

Palaniswami said it was unacceptable to make remarks that could tarnish the reputation of such a widely respected personality.

He added that just as entering politics was an individual's right, so too was choosing not to enter politics. Rajinikanth had already explained the reasons for staying away from politics, and those reasons should be respected, he said. Approaching the issue with political motives and making defamatory remarks against him reflected a lack of political civility, Palaniswami said.

## Wealthy and Unwell: Decoding India's Rising Health Crisis

In the past decade, India has undergone an economic transformation, with a remarkable increase in per capita income. This financial prosperity has improved the quality of life for many people across the country. However, this economic progress has also brought challenges, especially for public health. As incomes rise in India, so do lifestyle diseases, revealing the delicate balance that exists between prosperity and wellness.

As per World Health Organisation (WHO), nearly 500 million people are anticipated to develop lifestyle diseases by 2030. This is estimated to cost the global economy close to USD 27 billion per annum. As such, we're presented with a concerning picture - as incomes increase, so does the prevalence of conditions like diabetes, heart disease, cancer, mental illness, and obesity.

Healthcare Sector in India: Shortcomings and the Challenges Ahead

India's Unforeseen Health Crisis

Despite the Indian economic boom in its early stages, the effects of this sudden influx of prosperity are already clearly apparent. Increasingly sedentary lifestyles, lack of work-life balance, overconsumption of processed foods and rising tobacco and alcohol addiction have added to a sharp spike in health issues. Ailments such as heart disease, chronic respiratory diseases and diabetes are estimated to account for a massive 60% of all



deaths, leading causes of mortality in the country.

India is also in the midst of a diabetes epidemic, with over 70 million cases as of 2022, projected to rise to 134 million by 2045. The cascade effects of diabetes also contribute to this healthcare crisis, with a higher likelihood of kidney disorders, eye issues leading even to blindness, nerve damage, wounds not healing properly, and greater susceptibility to other infections.

The Shifting Face of Illness

The demographics who are being affected by lifestyle diseases are changing. These disorders are now claiming the lives of younger individuals, often still in their productive years, and frequently affecting

individuals who haven't even reached middle age. 50 percent of all heart attacks in India occur in men under the age of 50, in this 25% occur in men under the age of 40. This shifting paradigm demands significant transformation in India's healthcare approach, moving from a predominantly reactionary model focused on diagnosis and treatment to one that prioritises early screening, active monitoring, and preventative healthcare strategies.

It's clear that an increase in income goes hand-in-hand with a greater chance of developing certain illnesses. This mirrors a pattern seen across the world - as economies develop and household

incomes rise, so do a specific set of diseases. We've already seen the pattern play out in the United States in their post-World War II boom and in China in the late 90s and early 2000s. As individuals transition from lower-middle-class to middle-class status, their consumption habits undergo significant changes. With increased disposable income, there's a tendency to indulge in more processed foods, sugary beverages, and dining out. The availability and affordability of alcohol and tobacco products also contribute to lifestyle choices that can lead to chronic health conditions. The Middle-Class Wellness Trap Once individuals move to the upper-

middle classes, they typically prioritise their health and well-being. This is when they move beyond material comforts and begin investing in self-improvement - gym memberships, organic foods, and preventive healthcare measures such as regular check-ups and screenings. However the transition to a health-conscious lifestyle is not immediate for everyone. In a country like India, this is made even worse by the difficulty in crossing that final socio economic barrier. While much of the country has begun the shift from lower to middle class, moving from the middle to the upper-middle class is a much tougher hurdle to cross. As our economy continues to grow, its concurrent drop in wellness is raising alarms about the nation's health trajectory. There is a need for proactive measures to address the root causes of lifestyle diseases. This includes comprehensive public health campaigns promoting healthy eating, regular physical activity, stress management and smoking cessation. Workplace wellness programs can also play a crucial role in encouraging employees to prioritise their health amidst demanding work schedules. By raising awareness, fostering individual responsibility and implementing policies that support healthy lifestyles, India can navigate the complexities of affluence while safeguarding the well-being of its population.

## Travel trends to look forward



New Delhi: The unwavering appetite for exploration among Indian travellers is evident. As we step into 2024, Rajeev Kale - President and Country Head, Holidays, MICE, Visa - Thomas Cook (India) Limited, believes that the robust travel sentiment persists, and anticipates a sustained surge in demand from the dynamic Indian market. The onset of new beginnings brings positivity and anticipation and according to the data analysis of Thomas Cook, it reveals key trends gaining traction among Indian consumers in 2024, further accelerating to meet evolving preferences. "Event-based travel is emerging as a significant trend, driven by the enthusiasm of Young India's millennials, young professionals, and Gen Z. Their keen interest in the thrill of live concerts, events, and cultural immersion is poised to be a driving force for travel in the upcoming year. This demographic seeks immersive experiences that go beyond traditional tourism, reflecting a desire for dynamic and culturally rich journeys," says Rajeev.

As we look ahead, to the year 2024, the data analysis of Thomas Cook reveals tourism industry anticipates the following trend not only to persist but to evolve, shaping the preferences and choices of contemporary Indian travellers. Sleep Tourism and Wellness Retreats for Rejuvenation: Young Indians are diverging significantly from the travel habits of previous generations, moving away from tightly scheduled sightseeing holidays to embrace more relaxed vacations. The current generation, burdened by work fatigue, seeks opportunities for rest and rejuvenation. Trends like sleep tourism, which go beyond uninterrupted sleep to include activities like yoga, swimming, and spa wellness therapy, are gaining widespread popularity. Consequently, accommodations offering soundproof rooms, sleep consultations, recorded sleep meditations, pillow menus, sleep kits, and concierge services are experiencing a surge in demand. Notable destinations for such experiences include Goa, Coorg, Mysore, Kodaikanal, Alleppey, and Puducherry. At the same time, more people are choosing wellness retreats for peace and well-being. This has led to a noticeable increase in yoga and meditation tourism in places like Rishikesh, Mysore, and Pondicherry, showing how people today prefer a holistic approach to travel Personalised and Curated Travel: Indians increasingly seek personalised and tailor-made journeys, gaining more control over their itineraries. The demand for fully customisable private holidays, especially among discerning travellers, is on the rise. This trend caters to those looking for premium, experience-led travel, with a focus on a leisurely exploration of a destination's history, culture, cuisine, and hidden gems. This is anticipated to attract interest from High Net Worth Individuals (HNIs), multigenerational families, ad-hoc groups of friends, and honeymooners/couples, reflecting a preference for exclusive and tailored travel adventures. Visa-Friendly Destinations on the Rise: The recent announcements of free visa travel to countries like Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia, and Kenya are expected to spark increased interest among Indian travellers. The accessibility of easy-visa and visa-on-arrival options in these destinations further contributes to the growing appeal for hassle-free international travel. Top Destinations Overview: We foresee Australia, New Zealand, France, Switzerland, Spain, Portugal, Hungary, and Finland to be top choices when it comes to long-haul journeys. Meanwhile, those opting for shorter getaways favour bustling locations such as Singapore, Malaysia, the Maldives, Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Thailand, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, Ras Al Khaimah, Oman, Hong Kong, Vietnam, and Bhutan. And for those seeking something mid-way, destinations like South Korea, Japan, and Türkiye offer compelling options. Daniel D'Souza, President and Country Head of Holidays, SOTC Travel, adds, "In 2024, a dynamic shift in the global travel landscape is anticipated, blending enduring trends with compelling new ones. With 75 years of expertise, we believe no one understands the Indian traveller better than us."

## AI can reliably detect emotions at par with psychotherapist

AI systems can reliably determine the emotional states of patients as accurately as a psychotherapist, according to research. The face reflects a person's emotional state. The interpretation of facial expressions as part of psychotherapy or psychotherapeutic research, for example, is an effective way of characterising how a person is feeling in that particular moment. But the process of analysing and interpreting recorded facial expressions as part of research projects or psychotherapy is extremely time-consuming, which is why psychiatry specialists often use less reliable, indirect methods such as skin conductance measurements, which can also be a measure of emotional arousal.

Researchers at the University of Basel in Switzerland said AI could become an important tool in therapy and research. AI systems could be used in the analysis of existing video recordings from research studies in order to detect emotionally relevant moments in a conversation more easily and more directly. This ability could also help support the supervision of psychotherapists, they noted in the study published in the Journal Psychopathology.

To determine whether AI systems can reli-



ably determine the emotional states of patients in video recordings, they used freely available artificial neural networks that were trained in the detection of six basic

emotions (happiness, surprise, anger, disgust, sadness and fear) using more than 30,000 facial photos.

This AI system then analysed video data

from therapy sessions with a total of 23 patients with borderline personality pathology. The high-performance computer had to process more than 950 hours of video recordings for this study. The results were astonishing: Statistical comparisons between the analysis of three trained therapists and the AI system showed a remarkable level of agreement, the researchers said.

The AI system assessed facial expressions as reliably as a human but was also able to detect even the most fleeting of emotions within the millisecond range, such as a brief smile or expression of disgust. These types of micro expressions have the potential to be missed by therapists or may only be perceived subconsciously. The AI system is therefore able to measure fleeting emotions with an increased level of sensitivity compared to trained therapists. "We were really surprised to find that relatively simple AI systems can allocate facial expressions to their emotional states so reliably," said Dr. Martin Steppan, psychologist at the University's Faculty of Psychology. "Nevertheless, therapeutic work is still primarily about human relationships, and remains a human domain," Steppan said. "At least for the time being."

# 25,605 LPG distributorships in India, 17,677 in rural areas: Govt

**New Delhi:** The government on Monday, March 16, informed that there are 25,605 Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) distributorships in India (as of March 1, 2026), including 17,677 in rural areas, served by 214 LPG bottling plants of Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs). To improve LPG access in rural and remote areas, 8,037 distributorships were commissioned between April 2016 and February 2026, of which 7,444 (93 per cent) serve rural regions, said Suresh Gopi, Minister of State Petroleum and Natural Gas of India, replying to a question in the Rajya Sabha. "To enhance transparency and consumer empowerment, IVRS/SMS refill booking has been implemented nationwide, providing SMS alerts at key stages such as booking, cash meter generation, and delivery. Additionally, OMCs have introduced the Delivery Authentication Code (DAC), sent via SMS and shared with delivery personnel to ensure verified delivery," the minister added. For ensuring affordable LPG prices to consumers, the government has paid a compensation of Rs 22,000 crore to OMCs in FY 2022-23 and has approved



another compensation of Rs 30,000 crore in FY 2025-26, said Gopi. The minister further stated that the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) was launched in May, 2016 with an objective to provide deposit free LPG connection to adult women from poor households across the country. "As on 01.03.2026, there were about 10.56 crore PMUY connections across the country," he added. The retail selling price of a 14.2 kg domestic LPG cylinder is currently Rs 913 in Delhi. After a targeted subsidy of Rs 300/cylinder to PMUY consumers, the government is providing 14.2 kg LPG cylin-

ders at an effective price of Rs 613 per cylinder (in Delhi) to all eligible PMUY beneficiaries. India remains self-sufficient in the production of petrol and diesel and no imports of the fuels are required to meet domestic demand as all refineries across the country are operating at high capacity and maintaining adequate crude oil inventories, according to the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. The government continues to prioritise the interests of domestic consumers and ensure uninterrupted LPG supply, particularly for households and priority sectors such as hospi-

itals and educational institutions, the ministry said in a statement. Commercial LPG cylinder distribution has begun in 29 states and Union Territories, while authorities have stepped up raids and surprise inspections across the country to curb hoarding and black-marketing amid heightened pressure on cooking gas supplies, a senior oil ministry official said on Saturday, March 14. Sujata Sharma, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, said panic booking continues to rise despite the fact that there are enough stocks available to meet domestic household

requirements of cooking gas LPG. India, she said, has adequate crude oil inventories, and domestic refineries are operating at full capacity, ensuring sufficient availability of petrol and diesel across the country. "There are no dry-out reports from any retail outlets. Our refineries are operating at full capacity, and sufficient petrol and diesel are available. Based on our requirements, we produce adequate petrol and diesel domestically and do not need to import," she said. Sharma said domestic LPG supply is being prioritised even as the government continues to closely monitor the situation amid the prevailing geopolitical developments that hampered energy supplies from the Gulf countries. India imports 88 per cent of its crude oil needs, 50 per cent of its natural gas requirement and 60 per cent of its LPG demand. Before the US and Israel attacked Iran on February 28, and Tehran retaliated by hitting US bases in neighbouring countries as well as Israel, more than half of the crude oil requirement came from the Middle East countries, 30 per cent of gas from the region and 85-90 per cent of LPG.

# QANTAS AGREES TO PAY \$74M OVER COVID-19 TRAVEL VOUCHER REFUNDS

Qantas Airways has agreed to pay A\$105m (£55m; \$74m) over claims that it should have issued cash refunds for cancelled flights during the Covid-19 pandemic. The class action lawsuit was made on behalf of passengers whose flights were cancelled by the carrier between 2020 and 2022 and received travel credits instead of cash. The settlement is almost double the amount that Qantas had expected to pay, according to its results published in February. The national flag carrier said on Friday that it has agreed to pay the sum "with no admission of liability". The settlement is subject to court approval and details of how customers can claim refunds will be made soon, said Echo Law, the legal firm leading the class action. The firm had alleged that Qantas breached its contracts with customers by failing to provide cash refunds for cancelled flights in a timely manner, and instead offered travel credits. The airline engaged in "misleading or deceptive conduct" over the rights of customers over their cancelled flights in violation of Australian law, Echo Law said. By doing so, Qantas "unlawfully benefited from

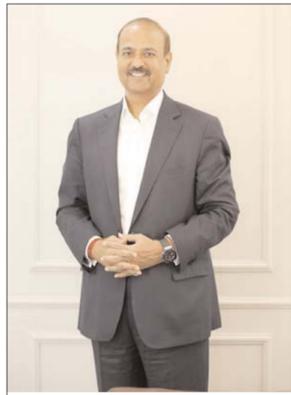


customers by holding for years a very significant amount of customer funds that ought to have been refunded," it added. Qantas said in its statement that in 2023 that it had removed the expiry date on flight credits issued during the pandemic so that customers could request a cash refund right away. The airline told investors in its half-year report that it expected to pay A\$55m to settle the case. Echo Law is leading a similar class action lawsuit against Australian budget carrier, Jetstar, over allegedly issuing customers travel credits that were worth less

than the refunds that customers were entitled to. "By acting in this way, Jetstar has enjoyed significant financial benefits at its customers' expense," said Echo Law. Qantas was fined a record A\$90m in August 2025 for illegally sacking more than 1,800 ground workers during the pandemic. The penalty was the largest ever imposed by an Australian court for violations of industrial relations laws. At the time, Qantas said it had agreed to pay the fine and that the ruling holds it accountable for actions that caused "real harm" to its employees.

## Bajaj General Insurance launches 'Eco Assure' for Commercial Vehicles, enabling cost-efficient and reliable repair coverage

**Visakhapatnam, March 2026:** Bajaj General Insurance Limited (formerly known as Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Company Limited), one of India's leading private general insurers, today announced the launch of Eco Assure for Commercial Vehicles, a new add-on cover designed to help commercial vehicle owners manage repair costs more efficiently while ensuring their vehicles remain operational with minimal disruption. Commercial vehicles play a critical role in supporting logistics, supply chains and business mobility across India. However, rising repair costs, growing maintenance challenges, and commercial vehicle vulnerabilities, often make repairs expensive for vehicle owners and operators. Eco Assure has been developed to address these challenges by offering wider repair coverage, reliable repair options and enhanced protection benefits. The add-on is available in two options: Eco Assure Essential and Eco Assure Advantage, giving customers the flexibility to choose a plan that suits their needs. The key benefits of the Eco Repair cover are that it helps reduce repair costs by offering a 100% waiver on depreciation when reconditioned parts are used for repairs. In cases where new parts are opted for repair, it provides up to 25% depreciation waiver, depending on the plan selected. Eco Assure - for commercial vehicles, also eliminates the compulsory deductible at the time of claim, helping customers reduce immediate out-of-pocket expenses



during repairs. The add-on further includes 100% coverage for paintwork and inbuilt protection for commonly damaged components such as lamps, bumpers, bonnet and side parts, ensuring broader coverage for routine repair scenarios. To support commercial vehicle owners during accidents or emergencies, Eco Assure provides overturning cover along with towing benefits. Eco Assure Essential offers Eco Repair cover along with towing support. The plan also includes inbuilt coverage for consumables expenses, key and lock replacement, and protection against rodent damage. Eco Assure Advantage builds on these benefits, with more comprehensive extensions. It provides retrieval assistance for vehicles strand-

ed in inaccessible or difficult locations, and further enhances protection with a dedicated cover for electric and hybrid systems, safeguarding owners against risks associated with both conventional and electric/hybrid vehicles. Additionally, it includes defence cost cover, offering financial assistance towards legal expenses when required. Importantly, all benefits under the add-on are applicable for repairs carried out at any workshop, ensuring flexibility and convenience for policyholders. Commenting on the launch, Dr. Tapan Singhel, MD & CEO, Bajaj General Insurance, said: "Commercial vehicles are the backbone of everyday India. They keep goods moving, power last mile deliveries and enable millions of people to commute every day through taxis, cabs and transport services. For commercial vehicle owners, every day off the road means lost time, lost income and added stress. With Eco Assure, we have introduced a solution that goes beyond just insurance protection. It helps make repairs more practical, more efficient and more sustainable by enabling the use of refurbished parts while covering common operational risks. This can also support quicker claim resolution, reduce downtime and help vehicles get back on the road faster. In turn, it strengthens resilience for vehicle owners and helps them get back to business with greater confidence and continuity." The claims process under Eco Assure is designed to be simple and accessible.

## Meta and TikTok let harmful content rise after evidence outrage drove engagement, say whistleblowers

Social media giants made decisions which allowed more harmful content on people's feeds, after internal research into their algorithms showed how outrage fuelled engagement, whistleblowers told the BBC. More than a dozen whistleblowers and insiders have laid bare how the companies took risks with safety on issues including violence, sexual blackmail and terrorism as they battled for users' attention. An engineer at Meta, which owns Facebook and Instagram, described how he had been told by senior management to allow more "borderline" harmful content - which includes misogyny and conspiracy theories - in user's feeds to compete with TikTok. "They sort of told us that it's because the stock price is down," the engineer said. A TikTok employee gave the BBC rare access to the company's internal dashboards of user complaints - as well as other evidence of how staff had been instructed to prioritise several cases involving politicians over a series of reports of harmful posts featuring children. Decisions were being made



to "maintain a strong relationship" with political figures to avoid threats of regulation or bans, not because of the risks to users, the TikTok staffer said. The whistleblowers who spoke to the BBC documentary, Inside the Rage Machine, offer a close-up view of how the industry responded following the explosive growth of TikTok, whose highly engaging algorithm for recommending short videos upended social media, leaving rivals scrambling to catch up. A senior Meta researcher, Matt Motyl, said the company's competitor to TikTok, Instagram Reels, was launched in 2020 without sufficient safeguards. Internal

research shared with the BBC showed comments on Reels had significantly higher prevalence of bullying and harassment, hate speech, and violence or incitement than elsewhere on Instagram. The company invested in 700 staff to grow Reels, while safety teams were refused two specialist staff to deal with protecting children and 10 more to help with the integrity of elections, another former senior Meta employee said. Motyl gave the BBC dozens of what he described as "high-level research documents showing all sorts of harms to users on these platforms". Among them, was evidence that shows Facebook was aware

of problems caused by its algorithm. The algorithm offered content creators a "path that maximizes profits at the expense of their audience's wellbeing" and the "current set of financial incentives our algorithms create does not appear to be aligned with our mission" to bring the world closer together, according to one internal study. It said Facebook can "choose to be idle and keep feeding users fast-food, but that only works for so long". In response to the whistleblowers' claims, Meta said: "Any suggestion that we deliberately amplify harmful content for financial gain is wrong." TikTok said these were "fabricated claims" and the company invested in technology that prevented harmful content from ever being viewed. The algorithms are a "black box" whose internal workings are difficult to scrutinise, said Ruofan Ding, who worked as a machine-learning engineer building TikTok's recommendation engine from 2020 until 2024. It was hard to build systems like this that were completely safe, he said.

## HCLTech announces expanded collaboration with Google Cloud to help accelerate Agentic AI adoption across industries

**NOIDA, India, March 2026** — HCLTech, a leading global technology company, today announced the expansion of its strategic collaboration with Google Cloud to help accelerate enterprise adoption of Agentic AI. HCLTech will use Gemini Enterprise and Gemini models to build custom AI agents for global clients, while strengthening collaboration and security through Google Workspace, supporting their scalable, AI-driven transformation. As enterprises scale AI, HCLTech's Gemini-enabled offerings embed AI into systems, workflows and decision-making to unlock new market opportunities, introduce innovative capabilities and boost operational efficiency. Many of the agents HCLTech has developed are already available on the Google Cloud Marketplace. This expanded collaboration formalizes a structured program to accelerate clients' GenAI and Agentic AI adoption, cultivate Google Cloud

champions across HCLTech and support over 2,000 GenAI-led customer engagements. **Key focus areas include:** **Solution Innovation:** Building unique offerings with Data and AI at its core, HCLTech's AI Force platform integrates with Google's Gemini family of models and Gemini Code Assist to transform software development and IT operations. Additional offerings include Unified Migrations, including Oracle, SAP and VMware transformation to Google Cloud and Security transformation. **Agentic CoE:** Growing its Center of Excellence to expand industry-specific agentic solutions. **Advancing Agentic AI solutions,** building on offerings such as Insight for manufacturing and Netsight for telecommunications. **Gemini Experience Zones:** Launching Physical AI innovation hubs at key global locations.

**Talent Development:** Expanding its Google Cloud-certified workforce from 12,000 to over 35,000 within three years. "This strategic collaboration reinforces the strength of our partnership and shared vision with Google Cloud to help enterprises scale AI adoption in alignment with their business objectives," said Vijay Guntur, CTO and Head of Ecosystems at HCLTech. "We are excited to bring our joint capabilities to life across industries, helping clients unlock new efficiencies, insights and growth." "HCLTech is bringing Gemini Enterprise to more customers through its industry solutions," said Kevin Ichhpurani, President, Global Ecosystem and Channels at Google Cloud. "With over 23,000 Google Cloud-trained experts and deep AI implementation expertise, HCLTech is delivering high-impact, production-ready AI agents to enterprises today."

## Swiggy and HDFC Bank Elevate Everyday and Travel Rewards with the Launch of Two New Co-branded Credit Cards

**Bengaluru March 2026:** Swiggy, India's pioneering on-demand convenience platform, and HDFC Bank, India's largest private sector bank, today announced the expansion of their co-branded credit card portfolio with the launch of two new variants: the Swiggy BLCK HDFC Bank Credit Card and the Swiggy Ornge HDFC Bank Credit Card. These new cards are designed to seamlessly integrate into the modern consumer's lifestyle, delivering exceptional value and maximizing rewards on high-frequency everyday spending, from food delivery and quick commerce to dining out, lifestyle shopping, and travel. Existing users of the Swiggy HDFC Bank Credit Card continue to enjoy strong cashback benefits across Swiggy and over 30+ leading online platforms like Cleartrip, Nykaa, Paytm Travel, Amazon, Flipkart, and Myntra. **A stronger rewards ecosystem**



Building on the success of the inaugural 2023 launch, both new and existing card members will now have access to a robust suite of elevated travel and lifestyle benefits. This includes instant discounts and additional cashback on leading partner platforms, Cleartrip: Flat 19% off + 5% cashback on hotel bookings; Flat 6% off + 5% cashback on

flight bookings; and Flat 5% off + 5% cashback across all Nykaa apps. The variants amplify the cashback earning in the 5% category across various merchants, along with the Swiggy cashback. The Swiggy BLCK HDFC Bank Credit Card targets lifestyle spenders with 10% cashback on Swiggy, up to

5% on leading entertainment, travel, and e-commerce platforms, 1% cashback on other transactions, and a complimentary 3-month Swiggy One BLCK membership. For frequent everyday shoppers, the Swiggy Ornge HDFC Bank Credit Card delivers 5% cashback across Swiggy and a broad range of essential

online categories from travel to local cabs, 1% cashback on other transactions, and a 12-month Swiggy One membership. On the latest launch, Phani Kishan Addepalli - Chief Growth Officer and Co-Founder, Swiggy Ltd., said, "The Swiggy HDFC Bank Credit Card was launched two years ago to make everyday spending more rewarding and convenient. As consumers spend more across lifestyle categories, they're seeking payment solutions that deliver meaningful value. With the launch of the BLCK and Ornge cards, we're making our co-branded card more accessible and relevant - helping users unlock greater rewards across the Swiggy ecosystem, shopping, travel, and beyond." Speaking about the new variants, Vidya Pradeep, Head - Credit and Debit Cards Product and Portfolio, HDFC Bank said, "This expanded partnership with Swiggy reflects our focus on building differentiated, category-led propositions."

# UK won't be drawn into 'wider war' and will work with allies on Strait of Hormuz plan, Starmer says

"De-escalate" is the new buzz word in a war which still seems to be escalating. Western leaders being ordered by US President Donald Trump to bring military support to America's war against Iran are emphasising the need to find another way out. UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer called de-escalation the most "simple and effective" way to combat the cost of living in the UK. France's President Emmanuel Macron said much the same when the US commander-in-chief asked for assistance to escort tankers through the Strait of Hormuz. India has managed to get two gas tankers through this crucial waterway through their own diplomacy with Tehran and is calling on others to do the same. But, for now, there mainly seems to be talks about talks. In his latest remarks, Trump said "we're talking to them," without giving any details. He added "I don't think they're ready. But they are getting pretty close." Iran's



Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi has repeatedly denied any talks are taking place and, even more, insists they're not asking for them. But he did tell the Al-Araby Al-Jadeed news outlet that countries in the region were putting forward ideas and Iran was prepared "to study any proposals." The foreign minister of Oman, Badr Al-Busaidi, the traditional mediator, has again called for restoring "the political and diplomatic track" in a post on

X. For now Trump, Araghchi, and others on their teams keep talking at each other through their social media platforms. The Strait of Hormuz is the world's busiest oil shipping channel and about 20% of the world's oil passes through it. This equates to about 3,000 ships sailing through the strait every month. In 2025, an average of about 20 million barrels of oil passed through it every single day. This means that Iran's effective closure of

the strait has had a catastrophic impact on global supply chains and energy prices. The conflict has led to volatility in global oil prices and led the International Energy Agency authorising its "largest ever" release of 400 million barrels of oil reserves to offset to loss from the strait's closure. On Saturday, US President Trump urged the UK, along with China, France, Japan and South Korea, to send warships to the region to secure the ship-

ping route from Iranian attacks. Earlier today, UK PM Keir Starmer said he has had discussions with Trump about a plan to move oil through the area, but added it is "not a simple task". Strikes have continued on Iran today as the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) announced it was launching a "wide-scale" wave of strikes earlier this morning in Tehran, Shiraz and Tabriz. Photos show smoke and emergency workers looking through the rubble. Qatar says it has intercepted a second wave of missiles from Iran following an attack earlier this afternoon. The BBC's chief presenter, Maryam Moshiri, earlier reported hearing four explosions following the launch of Qatari air defences following this first attack. Qatar's Ministry of Defence says the second wave has been intercepted "successfully". Despite the tightened restrictions on internet use in Iran that we reported on earlier, BBC Verify has seen footage and photos from Tehran that

have been newly shared on social media today. One video shows a large smoke plume rising above an area of northern Tehran while another shows people looking on as smoke issues from a building which appears to have been completely destroyed in the same part of the city. We haven't been able to confirm if they're the same incident. A third photo shows a police building that was heavily damaged in north-east Tehran which is still smouldering from a reported strike. Earlier this morning the Israel Defence Forces said, external it had begun "a wide-scale wave of strikes" in the cities of Tehran, Shiraz and Tabriz. It's a relatively slow morning at the White House, with many staff members and journalists opting to stay home ahead of an expected storm later today. Among those who are in their offices today is Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt, who spoke to reporters for a few minutes outside the West Wing earlier this morning.

## Whistleblower murder suspect is former elite officer, South African police say



A former member of an elite police unit has been charged with the murder of a whistleblower who testified at a major police corruption inquiry in South Africa. Matipandile Sotheni, 41, appeared in court accused of killing Marius van der Merwe in December last year. Sotheni is accused of shooting dead Van der Merwe in full view of his family in a case that caused national outrage. He has not commented on the charges. Van der Merwe, identified only as "Witness D" during his appearance at the inquiry, known as the Madlanga commission, had

implicated police officials in the torture and murder of a robbery suspect in his testimony. His testimony was seen as blowing the lid on the extent of police corruption at a local level in South Africa and led to the suspension of several of the officers he had named. The Madlanga commission was established by President Cyril Ramaphosa after a senior police officer alleged that organised crime groups had infiltrated the government. This led to the suspension of South Africa's Police Minister Senzo Mchunu, who has denied having any links to criminal gangs.

## RUSSIA AGREES TO STOP USING KENYAN RECRUITS IN UKRAINE CONFLICT, KENYA SAYS



Kenya's foreign minister says Russia has agreed to stop deploying Kenyan nationals to fight in the war in Ukraine, after talks in Moscow. Sitting beside his Russian counterpart, Sergei Lavrov, Musalia Mudavadi said both sides had agreed that Kenyans would no longer be recruited through Russia's defence ministry. "They will no longer be eligible to be enlisted," he said. Lavrov did not comment on the deal and insisted that all foreign fighters had joined voluntarily "in full compliance with Russian law". A Kenyan intelligence report in February warned that more than 1,000 citizens had been recruited to fight for Russia in Ukraine. Some Kenyans have said they were lured to fight for Russia with promises of well-paid civilian jobs, only to find themselves forced into fighting in Ukraine. During his visit to Moscow, Mudavadi is also seeking the repatriation of Kenyans who wish to return home. He last month told the BBC that Kenyan authorities had closed more than 600 recruitment agencies suspected of duping Kenyans with promises of jobs overseas. Kenyan lawmakers

say rogue state officials have been working with human trafficking networks to recruit citizens to fight for Russia in Ukraine. So far 27 Kenyans who had been fighting in Russia have been repatriated, with authorities providing psychological care to address their trauma and "de-radicalise" them, Mudavadi said. "It is not clear how many Kenyans have died fighting for Russian forces, and Russia has not formally addressed such reports. Relatives who have approached the Russian embassy in Nairobi for answers report being turned away. Public pressure has also grown. In February, families of Kenyans believed to be fighting in Ukraine held a protest outside parliament in Nairobi, calling for government action and the return of their relatives. During his visit to Moscow, Mudavadi also intends to negotiate an agreement allowing Kenyans easier access to the Russian job market. "We do not want for any reason our partnership with Russia to be defined from the lenses of the special operation [in Ukraine] agenda only," he said.

## Sweden detains captain of Russian shadow fleet ship



A Swedish court has ordered the detention of the Russian captain of a ship suspected of sailing under a false flag as part of Moscow's shadow fleet. The man, who has not been named, appeared in court in Ystad after being arrested on Friday by the Swedish Prosecution Authority on suspicion of using forged documents. Members of the coast guard boarded the Sea Owl One in Swedish waters, where it was sailing under a

Comoran flag they thought may have been bogus. The 228m (748ft) tanker is on a list of vessels sanctioned by the EU. Moscow has relied on a network of tankers with obscure ownership or insurance to evade Western sanctions on its oil exports. The Sea Owl One had been travelling from Santos in Brazil to Primorsk on Russia's Baltic coast when it was intercepted, and was known to have transported oil between Russia and Brazil in recent years.

## IRAN HITS KEY UAE OIL PORT AND DUBAI AIRPORT

The United Arab Emirates' (UAE) biggest port and oil storage facility, Fujairah, and Dubai's international airport have come under further drone attacks as Iran continues to target Gulf transport and oil infrastructure. Flights were temporarily suspended on Monday after a fire broke out near the airport after a "drone-related incident". A fire also raged after a drone attack on the strategically important port and industrial zone at Fujairah, one of the largest oil storage facilities in the region. And a rocket attack on a car killed a Palestinian national on the outskirts of the UAE capital, Abu Dhabi, the city's Media Office reported. The attack occurred in the AlBahia area, it said. UAE air defence systems intercepted six ballistic



missiles and 21 drones on Monday, the Defence Ministry said. Iran has launched over 1,900 missiles and drones at the UAE since the war between the US and Israel, and Iran, began. Monday's drone strike was the third incident since the start of the war near Dubai's airport, which is the world's busiest for international pas-

sengers. Some flights were delayed, while others were cancelled altogether, in another hit to the UAE's image of safety and stability. The country's energy sector came under attack as a drone hit an oil storage tanker on Saturday, and another drone hit the oil facilities on Monday, causing a fire. Oil loading activities at the port were halted for a time

while damage assessments were carried out. UK won't be drawn into 'wider war' and will work with allies on Strait of Hormuz plan, Starmer says. Fujairah sits on the UAE's eastern coast, on the Gulf of Oman - rather than the Persian Gulf - and so vessels do not need to navigate the Strait of Hormuz to reach it. The location means the port plays a "crucial" role in "helping keep global supplies moving" when the Strait of Hormuz is blocked by Iran. Dubai-based Justin Harper, editor of CEO Middle East - who regularly speaks to Dubai's oil industry executives - told the BBC. "If tensions with Iran disrupt the chokepoint, the UAE can still export oil through Fujairah via pipelines from the oilfields in Abu Dhabi," he said.

## FRENCH NATIONAL JAILED FOR 10 YEARS IN AZERBAIJAN FOR SPYING

A French national has been found guilty of spying on the military in Azerbaijan and sentenced to 10 years in a maximum security prison, state media report. Martin Ryan was accused in December 2023 of spying on behalf of Paris and collecting secret information about Baku's military co-operation with Turkey and Pakistan. He was also accused of helping recruit



French-speaking Azerbaijanis to co-operate with French intelligence. Both France and Ryan have repeatedly denied the spying allegations. Ryan was put on trial alongside an Azerbaijani citizen, Azad Mamedli, who was sentenced to 12 years for treason, AFP news agency

reports. France previously described Ryan's detention as "arbitrary" and demanded his immediate release. During his trial, prosecutors alleged he had co-operated with employees of France's security services allegedly operating from the French embassy in Baku. Prosecutors said

tasked him with recruiting Azerbaijanis and Russians at a Moscow university where he studied. In Ryan's final statement to the court, he denied spying and said he had acted unknowingly. "I consider myself guilty only in that I should not have established contacts with some embassy employees, or that I should have shared information about them with the appropriate authorities," Ryan told the court. "I did not spy. I am not a spy, and during the court case I tried to prove this." France has argued that Ryan was caught in the cross-fire of diplomatic tensions, AFP notes. Relations between the two countries soured in recent years.

## UKRAINE'S URGENT FIGHT ON THE FINANCIAL FRONTLINE



For Ukraine the financial frontline is perhaps the unseen battlefield in the war with Russia. Keeping the economy on a level footing isn't just about today, but central to the future that they've spent four years fighting for. "We don't want to be just a poor neighbour [to the EU]," says Ukraine's Finance Minister Sergii Marchenko. "We want to provide for Europe, something which they lack," he explains, in reference to the military expertise that the country has reluctantly gained since February 2022. Marchenko adds that the "very painful" experience his country has gained could help the rest of the continent defend itself. Membership of the EU is a top priority for Kyiv, so there is a lot of gratitude for the bloc's financial support, which is bringing the two closer together, and aiming to give Ukraine the advantage over Russia. A new 90bn (\$105bn; £79bn) loan from the EU will help cover the shortfall in Ukraine's budget over the next two years. It's been approved by the European Parliament,

and the first payment could be made in April. That loan is the biggest share of a \$136.5bn (£101bn) international support package, without which Marchenko says his country cannot survive after everything it's been through. "Our strong army depends on our strong economy, because all of our resources, which we mobilize internally, we channel... to defend our nation," he says. "We are grateful for the support of other nations to help us, but definitely Ukraine's taxpayers are doing the best help for our army." In December 2024, taxes in Ukraine were increased for the first time since the war began, including on personal incomes, small businesses and financial institutions. That's part of the reason why domestic sources are expected to bring \$67.5bn into government coffers this year, a 15% increase from a year earlier. However, the government's budget for 2026 includes spending plans worth about \$112bn, with about 60% of that going towards the army.



Ten killed in fire at India hospital intensive care unit

## Far-left and far-right gains throw French mainstream parties into a quandary



The emerging strength of the far left and far right is creating awkward choices for mainstream parties after the first round of French mayoral elections. In many big towns and cities, Socialists and centre-right Republicans are tempted to make electoral pacts on their outside flanks in order to beat the opposition in next Sunday's run-off. But alliances with the National Rally (RN) on the far right or

France Unbowed (LFI) on the far left carry big risks as well as opportunities. Take Marseille. There, after round one, the incumbent Socialist Mayor, Benoit Payan, is only a whisker ahead of RN candidate Franck Allisio. But two other candidates have also qualified for round two, with lower scores: the Republicans' Martine Vassal and the LFI's Sébastien Delogu.

# SABALENKA BATTLES TO INDIAN WELLS TITLE

Getting a puppy, getting engaged, saving championship point and winning a long-awaited Indian Wells title - it has been a week world number one Aryna Sabalenka will remember "for the rest of my life". In the latest chapter of what has already developed into an extraordinary rivalry, Sabalenka put the ghosts of January's Australian Open final defeat against Elena Rybakina to bed with a 3-6 6-3 7-6 (8-6) victory over the Kazakh. The players pushed each other to the limit under the blazing sun in California until Sabalenka edged the tie-break, including saving championship point with a thumping backhand winner. After securing victory with a service winner, Sabalenka celebrated by dunking her head in an ice cooler. "What a week. Getting a puppy, getting engaged and winning a title



"I will definitely remember it for the rest of my life," Belarusian Sabalenka said. "This is truly tennis paradise and I'm always happy to come here. Thank God I finally got this trophy. "This is everything, this is the dream." Sabalenka opted to take some time

away from competitive action after suffering Grand Slam heartbreak at the start of the year, and that decision appears to have paid off. She has put in some dominant performances across the past two weeks and stood up to serious pressure against an opponent she tends to struggle against. The 27-year-old had lost four of her previous five meetings with Rybakina in finals but dug deep to land her second trophy of the year. It is not just against Rybakina that Sabalenka has struggled, though, with six of her previous 10 finals appearances ending in defeat. Sabalenka's last two appearances in finals at Indian Wells also ended in defeat - losing to Rybakina in 2023 and Mirra Andreeva last year. After losing the opening set - the first she had dropped all tournament - Sabalenka could be

excused for thinking she was destined for another defeat, but the four-time Grand Slam singles champion showed incredible character to force her way back in proceedings. Sabalenka has been known for letting her frustration get in the way, but she channelled any frustrations in a positive manner to break twice in succession and save four break points before wrapping up the second set. That momentum continued into the decider and an early break appeared to be enough for Sabalenka when she had the chance to serve for the match. However, Rybakina struck back and then went on to save five break points of her own. In a match full of twists, the conclusion lived up to the billing, with Sabalenka holding firm in a superb tie-break to come out on top.

## Akshay Kumar Asks For Abhishek Sharma's Autograph

Indian cricket team star batter Abhishek Sharma gifted Bollywood superstar Akshay Kumar the bat that he used during the T20 World Cup 2026. Abhishek slammed a brilliant 52 off 21 deliveries to guide his team to a record win against New Zealand in the final at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad. During the India Today Conclave, the duo shared a stage and Akshay requested Abhishek to give his autograph on a bat for him. However, the cricketer responded by saying that he will instead give him a bat that was used during the World Cup. Akshay thanked the cricketer instantly as they shared a hug. Earlier, Sanju Samson praised his opening partner Abhishek Sharma, describing their partnership as effortless and balanced. He highlighted their combination as "fire and fire", with both taking turns leading the attack. Samson noted the natural Kerala-



Punjabi friendship that underpins their understanding. Samson admired Sharma's bravery and composure, saying he enjoys both their on-field and off-field camaraderie. "We are not ice and fire, we are fire and fire. Sometimes he fires, sometimes I do. We have that kind of combination going. We have done this since 2024; we have a Kerala-Punjabi friendship in the middle. Everything comes pretty naturally to us, so we do not complicate it. He asks me, 'How is the ball coming?' I tell him that the ball is coming normally, and hit it for a six. It is really simple with him. Abhishek is very brave and collected. I love his character. I really love the partnership with him on and off the field," Sanju Samson said at the India Today Conclave. Samson and Sharma slammed New Zealand bowlers all over the park in the ICC Men's T20 World Cup final, adding 98 runs for the opening partnership, giving India a majestic start in the powerplay. Their brilliant start propelled India to 255 runs in the final.

## Suryakumar, Gambhir Differed On 1 Name In Indian T20 Team. India Captain Reveals 'Equation'

Suryakumar Yadav, Indian cricket team's T20 World Cup-winning captain, has highlighted his strong working relationship with coach Gautam Gambhir. In a podcast with news agency PTI, Yadav revealed that the duo was almost perfectly aligned when they first sat down to select the team after he was handed the reins and Gambhir took over as coach. "Out of 15 names we both suggested, 14 were common. That means the thinking was the same. When the goals are clear, there are no arguments, only discussions," he said. Despite their professional success, Suryakumar said their personal



dynamic remains unchanged. "I still call him 'Gauti bhai'. It is like a younger brother and elder brother relationship," he said. Known for his 360-degree strokeplay, Suryakumar described batting in T20 cricket as largely a reactive sport, with preparation accounting for only part of the process. "I feel batting is about 70-75 per cent reaction. The remaining 25 per cent is instinct - what you decide to do in the moment. Once you enter the ground, you are almost in autopilot mode. You try to bat with rhythm and

according to the situation," he said. He also traced the origins of his unconventional range of shots to childhood rubber-ball games in Mumbai, where uneven boundary sizes forced him to improvise. While his audacious strokeplay is often described as high risk, Suryakumar said he tries to stay on the right side of the fine line separating courage from recklessness. "There is a very thin line between being courageous and being reckless. I try to stay on the courageous side. But if the situation demands a high-risk shot, you have to take it. High rewards often require high-risk decisions," he explained.

## KL Rahul Shares Emotional Moment With Sanju Samson As BCCI Honours India's T20 World Cup-winning Team

Sanju Samson's exploits were a major factor in fuelling India's recent T20 World Cup triumph. Speaking on the sidelines of the BCCI Naman Awards 2026 in the capital, Samson likened his performance during India's march to the title to a movie and said it was yet to sink in. "Not yet, I am still like, actually, when I get up in the morning I'm like 'has it really happened'. So honestly, that's the feeling," Samson said when asked about last Sunday's triumph. He added, "But I feel that in the coming years, with the quality of players we have in our country, this is going to be repeated. It's not going to be, okay, it has happened once in a while.



The amount of players who are coming up... definitely India is going to do this more and more often." Samson was named Player of the Tournament in the 2026 T20 World Cup after a historic campaign, scoring 321 runs at a strike rate of nearly 200 in just five innings to lead India to the title. During the awards ceremony, Samson had a wholesome moment with KL Rahul. As Samson and the Indian team were called upon the stage, Rahul took the wicketkeeper's name. Samson returned to hug Rahul. Despite not playing initially, he delivered 80-plus scores in the must-win Super Eights match

against the West Indies, the semi-final against England, and the final against New Zealand. Samson further said he had been dreaming of helping India win a World Cup. "Absolutely, I think you can only dream where you want to go, but you can't definitely ride the path towards it. So my life or my career has been one of the best examples. I definitely wanted to do this a couple of years ago. "I wanted to win a World Cup for my country, but it had its own plan, its own script. So... more like a movie. I enjoyed it," Samson said. The unassuming star from Kerala has been toiling for years to leave an impact on the game, and the T20 World Cup was his finest moment.

## Kylian Mbappe, Jude Bellingham Included In Real Madrid Squad For Champions League 2nd Leg Against Manchester City

Kylian Mbappe is back in Real Madrid's squad for the second leg against Manchester City in the Champions League's round of 16 on Tuesday. The France striker hasn't played since Feb. 21 because of a knee problem. He has missed five matches in all competitions, including Madrid's 3-0 win over City in the first leg last week. Mbappe was selected in a 26-man squad announced by Madrid on Monday. Also included was England midfielder Jude Bellingham, who has been sidelined since Feb. 1 because of a thigh injury. Madrid coach Alvaro Arbeloa will conduct his pre-match news conference later Monday, when he might give an indication if Mbappe and



Bellingham are healthy enough to start at Etihad Stadium. How do you prepare to overturn a 3-0 deficit to the mighty Real Madrid in the Champions League? If you are Pep Guardiola, you give your players the day off. "The players are at home with their families today. And then they'll send each other WhatsApp messages, I imagine, and tomorrow we'll see each other," the Manchester City manager said Monday, the day before he leads his team into the second leg of their round-of-16 matchup against the record 15-time European champions.

## Spurs answer Tudor's call with show of fight in the face of crisis

Igor Tudor delivered a message of defiance amid Tottenham Hotspur's deepening crisis when he told his players before their visit to Liverpool: "You can stay and cry or you can fight". The smart money was on more tears after four straight losses under the Croatian saw an alarming drop towards relegation, along with a loss at Atletico Madrid in the Champions League last 16 first leg that was nothing short of a fiasco. Tudor came under heavy criticism, not just for replacing Antonin Kinsky after only 17 minutes following two mistakes in the 5-2 defeat, but for blanking the young keeper as he walked off. And yet here, against all odds and without 13 players



because of suspension and injuries, Spurs stood and fought every inch of the way at Anfield to earn a fully deserved point with a performance that may yet prove to be of wider significance as they fight against the drop into the Championship. Will it be enough to buy Tudor more time? We shall see. The sense is he is not out of the woods yet, but at least Tudor can have the satisfaction of demonstrating he can get a reaction, at least once, from Spurs players who had previously looked down and out. At the heart of it all was Richardson, every touch jeered by Liverpool fans because of his previous Everton connections.

## "No Emergency Situation": FIDE Breaks Silence On Cyprus Hosting Candidates Tournament Amid War Concerns



**New Delhi:** Not too far from the conflict-ridden Gulf region, there are concerns around Cyprus hosting the prestigious Candidates tournament this month but chess' world governing body FIDE has rejected a possible change of venues, saying there is nothing even "remotely dangerous" to warrant such a move. The Candidates, which will decide the challenger to the world championship crowns currently held by India's D Gukesh (men) and China's Ju Wenjun (women), is due to start on March 28. India's Koneru Humpy is reportedly considering withdrawing from the tournament due to security concerns. Earlier this month, a British air base in Cyprus endured a drone attack, raising fears that the conflict which started with the American and Israel bombing of Iran will engulf the island as well. Cyprus, the third largest island in the Mediterranean Sea, is situated south of Turkey and is a member of the European Union. "Our plans have not changed. We are in the final stages of preparing (for) the Candidates Tournament. Of course, we are monitoring the situation. Cyprus is not too far from, let's say, the war zone or conflict zone, but at the same time, it is not directly involved in any way and is not in a state of war," FIDE CEO Emil Sutovsky told 'Chessbase'. "There is no emergency situation or anything like that. Of course, about 10 days ago there were some worrying news, but since then the situation has appeared quite calm. "But we are, of course, not just hoping that nothing will happen. We are constantly monitoring the situation and also staying in contact with the state authorities who are assisting us with everything related to the tournament," he added. In the Open section, Praggnanandhaa is the lone Indian in fray, while World Cup winner Divya Deshmukh, Humpy and R Vaishali have qualified for the women's Candidates. Sutovsky expressed faith in the Cyprus government, saying it is well aware of the tournament's stature.

## NOVAK DJOKOVIC WITHDRAWS FROM MIAMI OPEN

Novak Djokovic has withdrawn from the Miami Open with a right shoulder injury, organizers said Sunday. The 24-time Grand Slam champion reached the fourth round at Indian Wells this week, but the six-time Miami champion opted out of the second leg of the "Sunshine Double" - where he fell to Jakub Mensik in last year's final. Indian Wells marked 38-year-old Djokovic's first tournament since he lost to Carlos Alcaraz in the Australian Open final. He played with a compression sleeve on his right arm,

telling Tennis Channel he was dealing with a forearm injury that was intermittently affecting his serve. "If I don't serve for five or six minutes then I feel like the first couple of serves of that game are a bit painful," Djokovic said. Health Priorities: The right shoulder has been a recurring issue for Djokovic throughout his career, and the medical team is reportedly focusing on a non-invasive rehabilitation program to avoid any mid-season surgery. Fan Reaction: Tournament Director James Blake expressed his regret, acknowledging that while

Djokovic's presence is always a highlight, the tournament still boasts a deep field of top-ten talent. **Rise of the Next Generation in South Florida** With the "Big Three" era effectively over and Djokovic sidelined, the Miami Open will serve as a critical proving ground for the ATP's rising stars. Carlos Alcaraz enters as the de facto favorite, looking to replicate the dominance he showed during his previous title run in Florida. Jannik Sinner, who has been the most consistent player on the tour in early 2026, also

stands to benefit from the open draw, as he seeks his first Masters 1000 title of the year. The lack of a dominant veteran figure has created one of the most unpredictable Miami draws in recent memory. Players like Holger Rune and Ben Shelton are expected to draw massive crowds as they attempt to capitalize on the vacuum left by the top seed. For the first time in years, the tournament is being marketed as a "new era" showcase, highlighting the athletic speed and aggressive baseline play that defines the younger generation of tennis professionals.



## Suriya's 'Vishwanath & Sons' Teaser Unveiled - Venky Atluri Promises a Powerful Emotional Drama



The teaser of Vishwanath & Sons starring Suriya has been released, offering a glimpse into the world of Sanjay Vishwanath. Directed by Venky Atluri and produced by Suryadevara Naga Vamsi, the film promises an emotional and engaging cinematic experience. The teaser introduces Sanjay Vishwanath, an international pistol shooter who continues to chase his dreams even in his 40s. Suriya appears in a layered role, portraying both fatherly warmth and emotional depth. His stylish presence and the impactful

dialogues penned by Venky Atluri bring back shades reminiscent of his iconic performances. Adding freshness to the narrative is Mamitha Baiju, who brings vibrant and charming energy to the film. The teaser hints at an unconventional love story involving a noticeable age gap. With Venky Atluri's sensibility in storytelling, the film is expected to handle this aspect with depth and emotional maturity. The teaser also highlights the film's strong technical craft. G. V. Prakash Kumar delivers a classy and powerful background score that elevates the visuals.

## Grand 'Ustaad Bhagat Singh' Pre-Release Event Held

I hope 'Ustaad Bhagat Singh' achieves a success on the scale of 'Gabbar Singh,'" says Power Star Pawan Kalyan. After the sensational success of Gabbar Singh, Power Star Pawan Kalyan has teamed up once again with Cult Captain Harish Shankar for the film Ustaad Bhagat Singh. The film is being produced on the banner of Mythri Movie Makers by Naveen Yerneni and Yalamanchili Ravi Shankar. The film stars Sreeleela and Raashii Khanna as the female leads. Music is composed by Devi Sri Prasad while the background score is by S. Thaman. The songs, teaser, and trailer released so far have impressed audiences and created huge expectations for the film. With expectations touching the sky, Ustaad Bhagat Singh is all



set to hit theatres on March 19, coinciding with Ugadi, promising to redefine mass entertainment. In this context, the film's team held a grand pre-release event on Sunday evening at Police Grounds in

Hyderabad, attended by thousands of enthusiastic fans.

### Pawan Kalyan's Speech

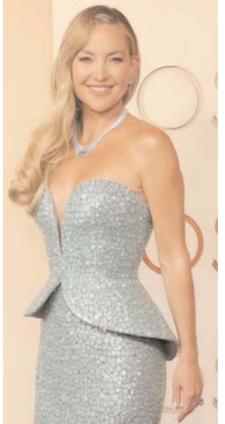
Speaking at the event, Pawan Kalyan said:

"Greetings to all the fans who attended the Ustaad Bhagat Singh pre-release event and to those watching it live. I love cinema deeply. Cinema is what fed me and gave me recognition to serve

the people today. That is why I always wish my producers to prosper and my fans—who come with so much excitement for my films—to feel happy. I never focus on how much money a film collects; I only wish that the film should be good. I don't see it as Telugu cinema or Tamil cinema—I see it as Indian cinema. It's a proud moment that our Telugu film industry has reached the level of winning Oscars. For me, there is only one hero—Megastar Chiranjeevi. When I stand beside him, I forget that I am a hero myself. I am very happy that my brother Chiranjeevi watched the Ustaad Bhagat Singh trailer and tweeted about it. My thanks to Ram Charan as well for his tweet. Everyone works together hoping for a film's success. But during that journey we

face many challenges. Completing a film despite those difficulties is not easy. This is the film I have done with Harish Shankar after Gabbar Singh. Initially we planned a different story, but later it changed. Then the pandemic happened. In between, I entered politics and took on public responsibilities. Despite all that, without affecting my duties, we completed this film in a very short time—within 40-45 days. I worked only about five to six hours a day. Harish planned the schedule brilliantly. Ustaad Bhagat Singh gave me the confidence that I can continue doing films. Mythri Movie Makers have delivered many successful films like Pushpa, Janatha Garage, and Srimanthudu. Their consistent success comes from their hard work.

## KATE HUDSON'S JEWELLERY PRICE SHOCKS EVERYONE



The Oscars are always a night of glamour, fashion, and unforgettable red carpet moments. Celebrities arrive in stunning outfits, but every year, there is one look that captures everyone's attention. At the 2026 Academy Awards, actress Kate Hudson created one such moment. Hudson arrived at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles looking absolutely radiant as she walked the red carpet. The actress was nominated for Best Actress for her role in the musical drama Song Sung Blue. While her outfit was breathtaking, it was her extraordinary jewellery that

truly stole the spotlight. Kate Hudson's Jewellery Price Do you know how much the jewellery Kate Hudson wore costs? According to reports, the actress wore rare green diamond jewellery worth a staggering 35 million USD, which is approximately Rs. 318 crore. The centrepiece of her look was a magnificent necklace featuring more than 41 carats of rare green diamonds, created by luxury Italian jeweller Garatti. The statement piece instantly became one of the most talked-about accessories of the night.

## Oscars 2026: Javier Bardem says 'Free Palestine' on stage with Priyanka Chopra



## Sudigali Sudheer's 'G.O.A.T' Gets U/A, Set for March 26 Release

Sudigali Sudheer's 'G.O.A.T' Gets U/A Certificate, March 26 Release. Confirmed. The upcoming Telugu film G.O.A.T (Greatest Of All Times), starring popular comedian-turned-hero Sudigali Sudheer, has successfully completed its censor formalities and is gearing up for a worldwide theatrical release on March 26. The film features Divya Bharathi as the female lead and is directed by Vedavyas. It is being produced by Chandrasekhar Reddy Mogulla under the banners of Mahateja Creations and Jaishnav Productions. The film is

currently undergoing post-production work. According to the makers, the content released from the film so far has received a positive response from the audience, and the trailer will be released soon. The film has now completed the censor process and has been awarded a U/A certificate by the censor board. Speaking about the film, the producer said that the movie is being made on a grand scale without compromising on quality. He added that the film will be technically strong and is expected to become a milestone in Sudigali

Sudheer's career. "Every frame of the film has come out beautifully. Along with being a complete commercial entertainer, the movie also carries a meaningful message that will make today's youth think," he said, expressing confidence that the film will entertain audiences of all sections. Apart from Sudigali Sudheer and Divya Bharathi, the film also features Sarvadaman Banerjee, Nithin Prasanna, Brahmani Prithvi Raj, Aadukalam Naren, Rajendran, Anand Ramraj, Chammak Chandra, Pammi Sai and Naveen Neni in important

roles. The film's music is composed by Leon James, with background score by Mani Sharma. Cinematography is handled by Rasool Ellore, while the editing is done by Vijay Muktavarapu. Rajeev Nair serves as the production designer. Samaira Reddy N is the co-producer and Prasoon Mandava is the creative producer. With its blend of commercial elements and a socially relevant message, G.O.A.T (Greatest Of All Times) is expected to entertain audiences when it hits theatres worldwide on March 26.



## HRITHIK ROSHAN CALLED ACTORS DOING THEIR OWN STUNTS 'STUPID AND SILLY'



Actor Hrithik Roshan, had once shared his firm thoughts on the concept of a few actors opting to perform their own stunts, during an old interview with Lehren TV. During the interaction, Hrithik, without mincing words, spoke about the risks involved in stunt sequences and explained why he believes actors should firmly rely on trained professionals instead of attempting dangerous action themselves. Speaking about it, Hrithik said, "I don't believe in doing your stunts yourself. I think it is stupid. It should be banned." He added, "The reason I say that is that it should not be about an ego trip. You're an actor, you're creating a magical world, a fantasy world. And there are a lot of things that go into creating that fantasy. Even your makeup, your dialogues, your hair, your clothes, it's all made to make the unreal look real." "People are specialised in doing certain specific jobs to help you create that entire world bit by bit in different pieces." "A stuntman's job is to do stunts. He comes into that space, does his job, and creates one more piece of that big picture, and then you carry on. If you have an ego there, it's like saying I will write my own dialogues.

## "Ustaad Bhagat Singh is a family film... everyone will enjoy it... you will see vintage Power Star": Actress Raashii Khanna



After the sensational success of Gabbar Singh, Power Star Pawan Kalyan and Cult Captain Harish Shankar have teamed up once again for the film Ustaad Bhagat Singh. The movie is being produced prestigiously under the banner of Mythri Movie Makers by Naveen Yerneni and Yalamanchili Ravi Shankar. The film stars Raashii Khanna and Sreeleela as the female leads. Music is composed by Devi Sri Prasad, while the background score is handled by S. Thaman. The songs, teaser, and trailer released so far have received a tremendous response and created huge expectations for the film. With expectations soaring high, Ustaad Bhagat Singh is set to release in theatres on March 19, coinciding with Ugadi. In this context, actress Raashii Khanna recently interacted with the media and shared several insights about the film.

ately said yes with great excitement—even before listening to the story. Ever since I did my first film, I had heard a lot about his stardom and the phenomenon called Pawanism. From then on, I wished to act with him at least once. With Ustaad Bhagat Singh, that dream has come true.

### What kind of role are you playing in this film?

My character's name is Shloka. She is a very modern girl. In this film, every character has importance, and my role also has a strong characterization. I have a mass song in the film. Since I love dancing, I really enjoyed shooting for that song.

### How was your experience working with Pawan Kalyan?

Pawan Garu is a very simple person. He is always seen reading books. There is an innocence about him that is hard to explain. On the first day itself, he asked me, "Did you always want to become an actress?" I told him that I actually wanted to become an IAS officer.

## MICHAEL B JORDAN WINS BEST ACTOR FOR 'SINNERS', TAKING HOME HIS FIRST OSCAR

