



Mamata Banerjee to meet party MLAs today to outline Oppn strategy

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SCAN FOR E-PAPER

CM Revanth reviews irrigation projects in Mahabubnagar district



Hyderabad TSIT:

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has instructed Ministers and officials to expedite the construction of pending irrigation projects in the erstwhile Mahabubnagar district, with special focus on the prestigious Palamuru-Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Scheme. During a review meeting held with Ministers and MLAs from the district, the Chief Minister reviewed the progress of major irrigation projects, including the Palamuru-Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Project.

He directed officials to undertake field visits and complete the land acquisition process for the project on a war footing. The Chief Minister emphasized that land acquisition for all other pending irrigation projects in the region should also be completed expeditiously. He assured

that the State Government would release the necessary funds required for land acquisition and other project-related works. CM Revanth Reddy further clarified that all pending bills related to irrigation projects would be cleared to ensure uninterrupted progress of works.

The Chief Minister instructed district Ministers to conduct regular review meetings with the concerned officials and continuously monitor the implementation and progress of irrigation projects in the Palamuru region. Ministers Jupally Krishna Rao and Vakiti Srihari, Government Whip Yennam Srinivas Reddy, MLAs Kasireddy Narayana Reddy, Madhusudan Reddy, Megha Reddy, Rajesh Reddy, Vamsi Krishna, Veerlapalli Shankarayya, Bandla Krishna Mohan Reddy and Chief Secretary K. Ramakrishna Rao participated in the meeting.

India must convert global uncertainties & geopolitical challenges into opportunities: Goyal

■ HE SAID INDIAN PRODUCTS SHOULD REACH GLOBAL SHELVES AS FINISHED PRODUCTS RATHER THAN MERELY AS RAW MATERIALS

New Delhi (TSIT)

Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal on Tuesday said the present global situation and geopolitical uncertainties should be viewed as an opportunity for India to strengthen business processes, undertake faster reforms, build greater resilience and strengthen supply chains. Addressing the ASSOCHAM India Business Reform Summit 2026 in New Delhi, Goyal called for deeper collaboration between industry and government to advance ease of doing business, enhance India's competitiveness and accelerate the country's journey towards Viksit Bharat 2047.

He said businesses should remain alert to both opportunities and risks without panicking. He said India had successfully overcome unpredictable challenges such as COVID-19 and emphasised the need for smarter and more efficient business practices, including reducing waste, improving productivity and adopting energy efficiency



measures.

Goyal noted that the lessons learnt during the COVID period had demonstrated the effectiveness of digital engagement and remote working models. Referring to the rapid growth of Global Capability Centres (GCCs) in India, Goyal said around 1,800 GCCs are operating in the country and generating nearly 2 million direct jobs and around 10 million indirect jobs. He highlighted that India is engaging with the world from a position of strength and noted that the country is a competitive manufacturer of goods and provider of services.

Referring to the Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) covering 38 countries, he said these agreements open doors for greater engagement and stressed that Indian businesses must leverage them for attracting investments and increasing exports rather than allowing imports alone to rise. Furthermore, Goyal said the government would continue to act as an enabler and referred to the Bhavya initiative and stakeholder consultations regarding the location of 100 new industrial parks. He informed that 20 parks are already at various stages of development.

Petrol, Diesel prices hiked again; fuel rates up by 90 paise per litre

New Delhi (TSIT)

Petrol and diesel prices were hiked again on Tuesday, with fuel rates rising by around 90 paise per litre across the country. This marks the second increase in less than a week as soaring global crude oil prices continue to put pressure on state-run oil companies.



With the latest revision, petrol price in Delhi increased to Rs 98.64 per litre from Rs 97.77, while diesel rose to Rs 91.58 per litre from Rs 90.67. Similar increases were recorded in Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai, pushing fuel prices higher across major cities. The latest hike comes just four days after oil marketing companies had raised petrol and diesel prices by Rs 3 per litre on May 15, which was the first major increase in fuel prices in nearly four years.

Sensex, Nifty end lower amid global tensions



Mumbai, May 19: Indian benchmark equity indices erased their intra-day gains and closed lower on Tuesday as weakness in banking, financial and metal stocks weighed on investor sentiment. The Sensex declined 114.19 points, or 0.15 per cent, to close at 75,200.85. The Nifty settled 31.95 points, or 0.14 per cent, lower at 23,618. Commenting on Nifty technical outlook, experts said that a sustained move above the 23,700-23,800 region will be essential to strengthen recovery momentum toward the psychological 24,000 mark, where stronger selling pressure is likely to emerge. "On the downside, the 23,600-23,500 zone continues to remain a crucial immediate support area, and a decisive breakdown below this region could extend weakness toward the broader 23,300 zone," a market expert mentioned. Among the major laggards in the Nifty index were Titan Company, UltraTech Cement and Tata Consumer Products. Kotak Mahindra Bank were the top loser on Sensex. Other top laggards were Titan Bharti Airtel, Sun Pharma and IndiGo. On the other hand, Infosys led the gainers pack. HCL Tech, Tech Mahindra, Eternal and TCS were among top gainers on the same index. The Indian rupee weakened sharply during the session, falling 25 paise to touch a fresh low of 96.61 against the US dollar. The currency eventually settled at 95.53 per dollar, compared to its previous close of 95.36. Sectorally, banking and financial shares remained under pressure throughout the session. The Nifty Private Bank index emerged as the worst-performing sectoral index, while the Nifty Bank and Nifty Financial Services indices also underperformed the broader market.

No compromise on safeguarding rights of fishermen, says CM Naidu



Amaravati (TSIT):

Amid reports of alleged trespassing and illegal fishing by mechanised fishing boats of Tamil Nadu in the territorial waters of Andhra Pradesh, Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Tuesday made it clear that Andhra Pradesh will not tolerate anyone from neighbouring states encroaching upon its coastal waters. "This coastline belongs to us; the boats are ours, and the fishing rights are ours - there will be no compromise on this matter," he declared while addressing fishermen at Thummalapenta Village in SPSR Nellore district. "We

will not tolerate anyone from neighbouring states encroaching upon our coastal waters. We will safeguard the rights of our fishermen," he said. The Chief Minister assured farm-

ers that the government will maintain strict surveillance along the coastline and take measures to prevent boats from neighbouring states from entering our waters.



Fishermen in 100 boats reach CM Naidu's house to thank him

Amaravati (TSIT) N. Chandrababu Naidu received a grand show of gratitude from Andhra Pradesh fishermen, who arrived in 100 boats at his Undavalli residence after the government released financial aid for the second consecutive year under the "In the Service of Fishermen" scheme. The state provided Rs

20,000 each to fishermen families during the fishing ban period. This year, Rs 262 crore was distributed to 1.3 lakh families. During a visit to Nellore, the Chief Minister assured fishermen of continued support and warned against illegal fishing by neighbouring states in Andhra Pradesh waters.

PM Modi, Icelandic counterpart Kristrun Frostadottir hold talks in Oslo

Oslo (TSIT)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a bilateral meeting with his Icelandic counterpart Kristrun Frostadottir in Oslo on Tuesday. External Affairs Minister (EAM) S. Jaishankar, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri and other officials attended the meeting. PM Modi is on a two-day visit to Norway, where he is scheduled to attend the third India-Nordic Summit and hold bilateral engagements.

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) stated, "The Summit will build upon the two previous Summits held in Stockholm in April 2018 and in Copenhagen in May 2022, and will impart a more strategic dimension to India's



relationship with the Nordic countries, especially in technology and innovation; green transition and renewable energy; sustainability; blue economy; defence; space and the Arctic." On Monday, PM Modi attended the India-Norway Business and Research Summit in Oslo,

highlighting the growing momentum in bilateral economic cooperation after the implementation of the India-EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement.

The event brought together CEOs of over 50 companies and more than 250 participants from the Indian and Norwegian

business and research communities. Several business agreements between Indian and Norwegian entities were also signed during the summit. Prime Minister Modi arrived in Norway on Monday as part of the fourth leg of his five-nation visit. In a special gesture, Norwegian Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Store personally received him at the airport. Norway's Ambassador to India, May-Elin Stener, India's Ambassador to Norway, Gloria Gangte, and senior officials were also present to welcome him. During his visit, PM Modi also met King Harald V at the Royal Palace in Oslo. The two leaders discussed the growing cooperation between Indian and Norwegian companies across sectors, particularly in emerging technologies.

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CBC 19108/13/0091/2627

FORM G INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR M/S. YYY INDUSTRIES PRIVATE LIMITED	
OPERATING COLD STORAGE AT NARAYANPUR VILLAGE, MANOPAD MANDAL, JOGULAMBA GADWAL DISTRICT, TELANGANA- 509128 (Under sub-regulation (1) of regulation 36A of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (Insolvency Resolution Process for Corporate Persons) Regulations, 2016)	
Sr.	RELEVANT PARTICULARS
1	Name of the corporate debtor along with PAN / CIN / LLP No. M/s. YYY Industries Private Limited, PAN: AAAC7161K, CIN: U50120G2014PTC097006
2	Address of the registered office (as per MCA records) # 3-12-93/138/102, Tummabowli, Road No.2 L.B Nagar, Saroor Nagar, Hyderabad, Telangana, India - 500074.
3	URL of website NA
4	Details of place where majority of fixed assets are located H.No. 3-143, Survey No. 38/B & 38/C, Narayanpur Village, Manopad Mandal, Jogulamba Gadwal District, Telangana-509128
5	Installed capacity of main products / services Cold Storage Facility having storage capacity of approximately 10,000 Metric Tonnes
6	Quantity and value of main products / services sold in last financial year The Corporate Debtor is engaged in operating a cold storage facility and derives income primarily from storage/rental charges
7	Number of employees / workmen 5
8	Further details including last available financial statements (with schedules) of two years, lists of creditors are available at URL: Not Available. Relevant information available with the Resolution Professional may be shared with eligible Prospective Resolution Applicants subject to applicable provisions.
9	Eligibility for resolution applicants under section 25(2)(h) of the Code is available at URL: Detailed eligibility criteria can be obtained by sending a request to: yyy.crp@gmail.com
10	Last date for receipt of expression of interest 04-06-2026
11	Date of issue of the provisional list of prospective resolution applicants 16-06-2026
12	Last date for submission of objections to provisional list 19-06-2026
13	Date of issue of the final list of prospective resolution applicants 29-06-2026
14	Date of issue of information memorandum, evaluation matrix, and request for resolution plans for prospective resolution applicants 04-07-2026
15	Last date for submission of resolution plans 03-08-2026
16	Process email id to submit Expression of Interest yyy.crp@gmail.com
Sd/- Date: 20-05-2026 Place: Hyderabad KALVAKOLANU MURALI KRISHNA PRASAD Resolution Professional M/s. YYY Industries Private Limited IBBI Regn. No.: IBBI/PA-001/PP-000967/2017-2018/11588 AFA Valid up to: 30-06-2027 RP Office Address: H. No. 8-72, Plot No. 106, Mythripuram Colony, Jiljiluga, Vyshakhnagar PO, Hyderabad - 500079	

UNION BANK OF INDIA
CHINTAL (13101) Branch,
Address at Chintal (13101), Medchal-malkajgiri, Telangana, 500054, Contact No: 8366813101, Mail ID: ubin0813109@unionbankofindia.bank.in

DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SEC. 13 (2) Date: 22-04-2026

The Borrower/s
1(a) Eeragani Nagaraju, S/O E. Veeraswami, H.No 4-13/1, Buddannagar, Narapally, Medchal Malkajgiri District, Hyderabad, 500080 Telangana.
2(a) Akshaya Rice Traders Proprietor Mr. Eeragani Nagaraju, S/O E. Veeraswami, H.No 4-13/1, Buddannagar, Narapally, Medchal Malkajgiri District, Hyderabad-500080, Telangana
1(b) Mr. Eeragani Nagaraju S/O E Veeraswami, H.No.7-211 (Old No. 7-9/3/39) Plot No.39, Sy. No 387 Part, Eswaralaha Enclave Phase-II, Dammaiguda, Ho Nagaram Village, Dammaiguda Municipality-500083, Keesara mandal, Medchal-Malkajgiri District, Telangana
2(b) Akshaya Rice Traders Proprietor Mr. Eeragani Nagaraju H.No.7-211 (Old No. 7-9/3/39) Plot No.39, Sy. No 387 Part, Eswaralaha Enclave Phase-II, Dammaiguda, Ho Nagaram Village, Dammaiguda Municipality-500083, Keesara Mandal, Medchal-Malkajgiri District, Telangana.
Sir/Madam,
Notice under Sec. 13 (2) read with Sec. 13 (3) of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.
You, the addressee No 1&2 herein have availed the following credit facilities from our CHINTAL (13101) Branch and failed to pay the due instalment interest / operate the accounts satisfactorily and hence, in terms of the RBI guidelines as to the Income Recognition and Prudential Accounting Norms, your accounts have been classified as Non-Performing Asset on 15-04-2026. As on 22-04-2026, a sum of Rs.1,04,45,154.43/- (Rupees One Crore Four Lakh Forty-Five Thousand One Hundred Fifty Four and Paise Forty Three Only) is outstanding in your account/s.
The particulars of amount due to the Bank from No. 1&2 of you in respect of the aforesaid account/s are as under:

Type of Facility	Outstanding amount as on date of NPA i.e. as on 15-04-2026	Un applied interest upto 22-04-2026	Penal Interest (Simple)	Costs/ Charges incurred by Bank.	Total dues
General Home Loan	56,30,933.00	1,61,592.51	0.00	0.00	57,92,525.51
CCSVU UNION MSME SUDVIDHA 13101501000013	44,99,997.92	1,52,631.00	0.00	0.00	46,52,628.92
Total Dues					1,04,45,154.43

To secure the repayment of the monies due or the monies that may become due to the Bank, Mr. Eeragani Nagaraju had executed documents on 20-11-2023 and created security interest by way of:
Mortgage of immovable property described herein below:
All that the Residential Duplex House No.7211 (Old No. 7-9/3/39), PTIN No. 1226206041, on Plot No.39, measuring 150 Sq.yards or 125.4 Sq.Mtrs with a pith area of 16325Sq.ft (Ground Floor 816 Sq.ft - First Floor 816 Sq.ft) R.C.C in Survey No. 387 Part, situated at 'ESWARALAH ENCLAVE PHASE-II' of Dammaiguda, Ho Nagaram Village, Dammaiguda Municipality, Keesara Mandal, Medchal-Malkajgiri District and bounded by- North: 38th, South Plot No. 40, East: 30' Wide Road, West Plot No.35
Therefore you are hereby called upon in terms of section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, to pay a sum of Rs.1,04,45,154.43/- (Rupees One Crore Four Lakh Forty Five Thousand One Hundred Fifty Four and Paise Forty Three Only) together with further interest and charges at the contractual rate as per the terms and conditions of loan documents executed by you and discharge your liabilities in full within 60 days from the date of receipt of this notice, failing which, we shall be constrained to enforce the aforesaid securities by exercising any or all of the rights given under the said Act.
As per section 13 (13) of the Act, on receipt of this notice you are restrained/prevented from disposing of or dealing with the above securities without the consent of the bank.
Your attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the SARFAESI in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.
Date: 19-05-2026
Place: Hyderabad
Authorised Officer
UNION BANK OF INDIA

FEDBANK FINANCIAL SERVICES LTD.
Registered office : Unit No: 1101, 11th Floor, Cignus, Plot No. 71 A, Powai, Paspoli, Mumbai - 400087

POSSESSION NOTICE
Whereas The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Fedbank Financial Services Ltd. 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 dated 05/01/2026 calling upon the Borrower, Mortgagor, Co-Borrower(s) and Guarantor:- (1) K SUKESH (Borrower); (2) MANDALA MOUNIKA (Co - Borrower); (3) KURA SANDHYA RANI (Co - Borrower); (4) M/s YADIAHYA SWEET HOUSE (Co - Borrower) to repay the amount mentioned in the said notice being Rs. 3887004/- (Rupees Thirty Eight Lac Eighty Seven Thousand Four Only) as on 5/1/2026 in Loan Account No. FEDHYCLAP0485930 together with further interest thereon at the contractual rate plus all costs charges and incidental expenses etc. within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said demand notice.
The Borrower, Mortgagor, Co-Borrower(s) and Guarantor mentioned hereinabove having failed to repay the above said amount within the specific period, notice is hereby given to the Borrower, Mortgagor, Co-Borrower(s), Guarantor and the public in general that the undersigned Authorised officer has taken PHYSICAL POSSESSION of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the SARFAESI Act read with Rule 8 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this May 16th of the year 2026
The Borrower, Mortgagor, Co-Borrower(s) and Guarantor mentioned hereinabove in particular and the public in general is/are hereby cautioned not to deal with the following property and any dealings with the following property will be subject to the charge of Fedbank Financial Services Ltd. for an amount Rs. 3887004/- (Rupees Thirty Eight Lac Eighty Seven Thousand Four Only) as on 5/1/2026 in Loan Account No. FEDHYCLAP0485930 together with further interest thereon at the contractual rate plus all the costs charges and incidental expenses etc.
The borrower's attention is invited to sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.
SCHEDULE I
DESCRIPTION OF THE MORTGAGED PROPERTY
All Piece And Parcel of Mortgaged Property Bearing House No10-3-35(New), Ptn No 1031001931 (Old H Nos 3-28 And 3-35) Land Admg 76 Sq Yards(63.54 Sq Mtrs) Out of 194 Sq Yards, Having Plinth Area 420 Sq Ft. in Ground Floor and 420 Sq Ft in First Floor With Rcc Roof Situated At Lingojiduda(Old) Village, Saroomnagar Revenue Mandal, Under Ghmc L.B Nagar Circle, Ranga Reddy District, Hyderabad-500035, Telangana. Bounded By: East: By Neighbor's House, West: By House No 10-3-38, North: By Neighbor's House, South: By Part of H No 10-3-35 Belongs To Kura Srikanth
All Piece And Parcel of Mortgaged Property Bearing House No10-3-35/1, Ptn No 1031001932 (Old H Nos 3-28 And 3-35) Land Admg 140 Sq Yards(117 Sq Mtrs) Out of 194 Sq Yards, Having Plinth Area 780 Sq Ft. in Ground Floor And 780 Sq Ft in First Floor With Rcc Roof Situated At Lingojiduda(Old) Village, Saroomnagar Revenue Mandal, Under Ghmc L.B Nagar Circle, Ranga Reddy District, Hyderabad-500035, Telangana. Bounded By: East: By 4'-6" Wide Passage, West: By House of Gopamma, North: By 15' Wide Road, South: By Part of H No 3-35
Date: 16-05-2026
Place: HYDERABAD
Sd/- (Authorized Officer)
Fedbank Financial Services Ltd

Journalists seek continuation of old accreditation system

Bhadradi Kothagudem, May 19 (TSIT): Members of the District Accreditation Committee urged the government to continue the old system of issuing accreditation cards, alleging that the new GO 252 guidelines were causing difficulties for journalists. During a meeting chaired by

Collector Ankit on Tuesday, members opposed the proposal to initially issue only four accreditation cards to major newspapers. They said the cards would be accepted only after mandal-level reporters were also included. The members demanded accreditation for all M-panel

newspapers, electronic media and cable channels, along with nine district-level cards for major media organisations. Collector Ankit assured that no journalist in the district would face injustice and said the issue would be discussed with the I&PR Commissioner.

Collector Inspects Feeder Channel and Jal Jeevan Mission Works at Satapur

THE SOUTH INDIA TIMES // NAGAR KURNOOL District Collector Hemanta Keshav Patil on Tuesday inspected the ongoing Employment Guarantee feeder channel works from Nagapumpu to Peddakunta in Satapur village of Peddakothapally mandal under Kollapur constituency.



labourers, and enquired about their problems. He instructed officials to ensure timely wage payments, provide basic facilities at work sites, and maintain transparency in implementation. He said the feeder channel works would improve irrigation facilities and benefit nearly 50 farmers. Later, he also reviewed JH Jeevan Mission OHSBR works and directed officials to complete them quickly to ensure safe drinking water supply to villagers.

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CM Revanth Reddy Rose from Ordinary Background to Strong Leadership Minister Adhuri Laxman Kumar



Hyderabad TSIT: strongly lashed out against the remarks made by BJP MP against Telangana Chief Minister and stated that the Congress party does not function under remote control like the BJP. Addressing the media at Gandhi Bhavan on Monday, Minister Adhuri Laxman Kumar said the Congress party is rooted in democratic values and public participation, unlike parties that operate under directives from Nagpur. Minister alleged that Arvind was unnecessarily making personal comments against Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and warned that if Congress leaders begin speaking about the alleged activities and political conduct of Arvind's family members in Nizamabad, the BJP would find it difficult to

respond. He remarked that Arvind's own political background had links with the Congress party and questioned why the BJP MP was not using his influence with the Central Government to secure Minimum Support Price (MSP) support for maize farmers. Minister asked why BJP leaders were remaining silent on issues concerning farmers, paddy procurement and maize cultivation despite the party being in power at the Centre since 2014. Referring to the present political situation in Telangana, Adhuri Laxman Kumar said Chief Minister Revanth Reddy emerged as a strong leader from an ordinary background and succeeded in gaining public confidence despite political challenges.

Fitness Certificate Mandatory for School Buses: DTO Chinna Balu



The South India Times // Nagar kurnool :District Transport Officer Chinna Balu has made it clear that fitness certificates are mandatory for all school buses to ensure student safety. He warned that strict action would be taken against those violating transport rules. The DTO stated that buses without valid fitness certificates would not be allowed on roads and that buses older than 15 years must be scrapped.

FOR ADVERTISEMENT PLEASE CONTACT: 9948480279, 7330778889

CHANGE OF NAME	CHANGE OF NAME
I, NIMBEWWA mother of Mr. RAMESHA CHALAWADI presently residing at Vill-Kodaganur, PO-Byalal, Teh-B Bagewadi, Distt- Bijapur (Karnataka), PIN-586203 have changed my name from NIMBEWWA to NIMBEVVA SHIVAPPA CHALAVADI vide affidavit dt. 15-05-2026 at Hyderabad.	I, SHIVAPP CHALAWADI father of Mr. RAMESHA CHALAWADI presently residing at Vill-Kodaganur, PO-Byalal, Teh-B Bagewadi, Distt- Bijapur (Karnataka), PIN - 586203 have changed my name from SHIVAPP CHALAWADI to SHIVAPPA MALLAPPA CHALAWADI vide affidavit dt. 15-05-2026 at Hyderabad.
I, VIMAL mother of No 15190633N Gnr (Tlr) Patare Sachin Venunath presently residing at Vill & PO- Karegaon, Teh- Shirurampur, Distt- Ahmednagar, State- Maharashtra, PIN-413717 have changed my name from VIMAL to VIMAL VENUNATH PATARE vide affidavit dt.15-05-2025 at Hyderabad.	I, VENUNATH father of No 15190633N Gnr (Tlr) Patare Sachin Venunath presently residing at Vill & PO- Karegaon, Teh- Shirurampur, Distt- Ahmednagar, State- Maharashtra, PIN-413717, have changed my name from VENUNATH to VENUNATH VISHWANATH Patare vide affidavit dt.15-05-2025 at Hyderabad.

NIWAS HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED
(Formerly, Niwas Housing Finance Private Limited)
Regd. Office: - Unit No. 305, 3rd Floor, Wing 2/E, Corporate Avenue, Andheri- Ghatkopar Link Road, Chakala, Andheri (East), Mumbai - 400093

Notice under Section 13 (2) of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002
NHFL has sanctioned home loan/mortgage loan/construction loan to the following borrowers against mortgage of residential premises. The repayment of the said loans were irregular and the accounts are finally classified as Non-Performing Asset in accordance with directions and guidelines of National Housing Bank/RBI. NHFL has therefore invoked its rights and issued a notice under section 13(2) of the SARFAESI ACT, 2002 and called upon the below listed borrowers to repay the total outstanding mentioned below within 60 days from the date of the demand notice. The following borrowers are hereby called upon by this publication to pay the total dues mentioned against them plus further charges & interest accrued till payment within 60 days from the date of the said demand notice, failing which NHFL shall resort to all or any of the legal rights to take possession of the secured assets, dispose/sale it and adjust the proceeds against the outstanding amount. The borrowers are also restrained from alienating or creating third party interest on the ownership of the properties.

Sr. No.	Location/ Loan Account Number	Name of Borrower/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantor	NPA Date	Date & Amount as per Demand Notice
1	WARANGAL / LNWGL0HL-02220022464	KOMALA VANGURI (BORROWER) CHINNAPAPA RAO VANGURI(CO-BORROWER)	06-May-2026	11-May-2026 & Rs.8,54,467 As on 08-May-2026

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY/SECURED ASSET - ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF THE PROPERTY BEARING OPEN PLACE BEARING SY NO. 5/A, 5/A/5/A/6, TO AN EXTENT OF 150 SQ YARDS OR 126 SQ MTRS PLOT NO 28 SITUATED AT VILL, MULUGU (MDL), MULUGU DISTRICT MULUGU AND IT IS IN THE LIMITS OF AND WITHIN THE REGISTRATION JURISDICTION OF DISTRICT SUB REGISTRAR MULUGU BOUNDED AS FOLLOWS: NORTH-PLOT NO 29, SOUTH-PLOT NO 27, EAST-PLOT NO 43, WEST-30 FEET ROAD
Date: 20-05-2026
Place: Telangana
Sd/- Authorized Officer
NIWAS HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

Motilal Oswal Home Finance Limited
Regd. Office: Motilal Oswal Tower, Rahimullullah Sayani Road, Opp. Parel ST Depot, Prabhadevi, Mumbai - 400 025, CS : 8291889898
Website: www.motilaloswal.com

DEMAND NOTICE
UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 ("the Act") AND THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002 ("the Rules")
The undersigned being the authorized officer of Motilal Oswal Home Finance Limited (MOHFL) under the Act and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) of the Act read with the Rule 3, issued Demand Notice(s) under Section 13(2) of the Act, calling upon the following borrower(s) to repay the amount mentioned in the respective notice(s) within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The undersigned reasonably believes that borrower(s) is/are avoiding the service of the demand notice(s), therefore the service of notice is being effected by affixation and publication as per Rules. The contents of demand notice(s) are extracted herein below:

Sr. No.	Loan Agreement No./Name of the Borrower(s)/Co-Borrower(s)/Co-Applicant Name/ Guarantor Name	Date of Demand Notice and Outstanding	Description of the Immovable Property
1	LXMOHYBH5425-260804990 / Borrower: Sathish Cheryala Co-Borrower: Manasa Cheryala	12-05-2026 For Rs. 23,46,205/- (Rupees Twenty Three Lac Forty Six Thousand Two Hundred Five Only)	"House No. 3-50/5&6, On Plot, Situated At Ahmedguda Village, Under Dammaiguda Municipality, Keesara Mandal, Medchal Malkajgiri District, Telangana, Cheryala, Ahmedguda, Vmnr Grammer High School, Gayatri Medical Store, Hyderabad - Secunderabad - Hyderabad - Telangana Quthubullapur Hyderabad - Telangana Boundaries East- House Of G Shobha West- House Of P Renuka North- Govt School South- 15' Wide Road

The borrower(s) are hereby advised to comply with the demand notice(s) and to pay the demand amount mentioned therein and heretofore within 60 days from the date of this publication together with applicable interest, additional interest, bounce charges, cost and expenses till the date of realization of payment. The borrower(s) may note that MOHFL is a secured creditor and the loan facility availed by the Borrower(s) is a secured debt against the immovable property/properties being the secured asset(s) mortgaged by the borrower(s). In the event borrower(s) are failed to discharge their liabilities in full within the stipulated time, MOHFL shall be entitled to exercise all the rights under Section 13(4) of the Act to take possession of the secured asset(s) including but not limited to transfer the same by way of sale or by invoking any other remedy available under the Act and the Rules thereunder and realize payment. MOHFL is also empowered to ATTACH AND/OR SEAL the secured asset(s) before enforcing the right to sale or transfer. Subsequent to the Sale of the secured asset(s), MOHFL also has a right to initiate separate legal proceedings to recover the balance dues, in case the value of the mortgaged properties is insufficient to cover the dues payable to the MOHFL. This remedy is in addition and independent of all the other remedies available to MOHFL under any other law. The attention of the borrower(s) is invited to Section 13(8) of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets and further to Section 13(13) of the Act, whereby the borrower(s) are restrained/prohibited from disposing of or dealing with the secured asset(s) or transferring by way of sale, lease or otherwise (other than in the ordinary course of business) any of the secured asset(s), without prior written consent of MOHFL and non-compliance with the above is an offence punishable under Section 29 of the said Act. The copy of the demand notice is available with the undersigned and the borrower(s) may, if they so desire, can collect the same from the undersigned on any working day during normal office hours.
Date: Telangana
Place: 20.05.2026
Sd/- Authorized Officer
(Motilal Oswal Home Finance Limited)

STATE BANK OF INDIA
OLD BUS STAND ROAD BRANCH (20176), SURYAPET
SURYAPET DISTRICT, T.S.-508213

APPENDIX-IV-A (SEE PROVISIO TO RULE 6(2) & 8(6))
SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Movable & Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 read with provision to Rule 6(2) & 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.
E-Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the borrower(s) and guarantor(s) that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/changed to the Secured Creditor, the constructive / physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorized officer STATE BANK OF INDIA (SBI), OLD BUS STAND ROAD BRANCH (20176), SURYAPET & SURYAPET DISTRICT, the Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is" "As is what is and whatever there is" basis on 24-06-2026 for recovery of Rs.1,01,11,288.80 (Rupees One Crore One Lakh Eleven Thousand Two Hundred Eighty Eight and Eighty Paise Only) as on 28.10.2025 + accrued interest, future interest and charges to the secured creditor from MSME - Cash Credit A/c. No: 43430634880 of the Borrower of M/s. HARSITH TRADING AGENCY, Prop: Smt. Kakkireni Uma Rani C/o K Sathaiha (Proprietor), Unit Address: H.No.1-1-119/A/9, Thallagadda, Suryapet Town, Suryapet District, Telangana- 508213. Guarantors: 1) Sri Balasani Praveen kumar S/o B Sreenivas Rao, D.No. 53p 54p, Phase-3, Road No. 4 Mythri Nagar, Near Vignan School Miyapur, KV Rangareddy (D)-500049. 2) Smt. Bathini Kalpana, W/o.K.Shiva Kumar, H.No. 1-76, Kuppireddy gudem village, Konkathimani Annaram, Suryapet- 508376.
ENCUMBRANCES KNOWN TO THE SECURED CREDITOR: NIL
Reserve Price: Rs.65,70,000/- Bid Increment Amount Rs.25,000/-
EMD: Rs.6,57,000/- Last Date of EMD: 23.06.2026 upto 4.00 PM
Auction Date: 24.06.2026 Auction Time: 12.00 Noon to 3.00 PM
Extension time 5 Minutes of Unlimited Extensions
SCHEDULE OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY / DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY
Residential House, H.No.13-68 in Plot No. 68, Sy No. 500/A, 499, 499/D, 499/A1, 500/D1 and 498, Jahnavi Township, Pillalamarri village, Suryapet, Suryapet - 508213 admeasuring 240 Sq yds equals 200.67 sq mts - Carpet area of 1283.39 Sq.fts. in ground floor under jurisdiction of Dist registrar-Nalgonda, Sub registrar-Suryapet, owned by Smt Bathini Kalpana W/o K Shiva kumar. Bounded by: North: 33 ft wide road; East: Open Plot No. 69; West: Open Plot No. 67; South: Open Plot No. 73. Coordinates: 17.140135, 79.590283 (Type this in google maps to find the exact location)
All prospective bidders are requested to register themselves in the web portal URL: <https://baanknet.com> on browser well before the auction date to participate in the e-auction of the above property.
The interested bidders who require assistance in creating Login ID & Password, uploading data, submitting Bid documents, Training/Demonstration, Terms & conditions on online inter-se bidding etc., may visit the website <https://baanknet.com>. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in website URL: <https://baanknet.com>
People interested to inspect the properties may contact State Bank of India, Old Bus Stand Road Branch(20176) Contact No. 9885509733,9848666532 and M/s. DEEKSHA RAM ASSOCIATES (Resolution Agency) Mobile No. 9701717618 from 01-06-2026 to 20-06-2026 on all working days during working hours from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.
Date: 19.05.2026
Place: SURYAPET
Sd/- Authorised Officer
State Bank of India

L&T Finance Limited
Registered Office: L&T Finance Limited, Brindavan Building Plot No. 177, Kalina, CST Road, Near Mercedes Showroom Santacruz (East), Mumbai 400 098
CIN No.: L67120MH2008PLC181893
Branch office: Hyderabad

DEMAND NOTICE
Under Section 13(2) of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (Herein after referred to as the Act)
We have issued Demand Notice under Section 13(2) of the Act to you all (Borrower/s, Co-borrower/s & Guarantor/s) through Registered Post Acknowledge Due, as you have defaulted in payment of interest and principal instalments of your loan account, and have failed and neglected to clear the said outstanding dues. As a result, the loan account has been classified as Non-Performing Asset (NPA) in the book of account in accordance with the directives relating to asset classification issued by the Reserve Bank of India. The Notice has been returned as "undelivered" and therefore we are now issuing this notice to you all under 13(2) of the Act and hereby calling upon to repay the amount mentioned in the notice appended below to the L&T Financial Limited, within the period of 60 days from the date of this Paper Notification together with further interest and other charges from the date of Demand Notice till payment or realization. In case you are not discharging your liabilities under the terms of this notice, we shall be constrained to exercise all or any one of the rights conferred under Section 13(4) or Section 14 of the Act. "This is without prejudice to any rights available to us under the Act and/or any other law in force from time to time."

Loan Account Number	Borrower/s & Co-borrower/s Name	Demand Notice date / NPA date / Outstanding Amount		Description of the Immovable Property (Mortgaged)
		NPA Date	Outstanding Amount (₹) As On	
H112HL2405161 60719, H112HL2405161 60719L	1. Mohammed Wasey Siddiqui	Demand Notice Date: 12/05/2026 NPA Date: 04/05/2026	Rs. 82,84,215.53/- (Rupees Eighty-Two Lakh Eighty-Four Thousand Two Hundred Fifteen and Fifty-Three Paise Only) As On Date 06/05/2026	Schedule -1 All That The House No. 1-19-1664/A, (Ptn No 116107893) (Old House No. 20-14/A) 4-6-21/41/A, Plot No.4 Part And 4A Part, In The Survey No. 271, Admeasuring 156 Sq Yards Or Equivalent To 130.41 Sq. Mts, Consisting Of Built Up Area Of 928.21 Sft In The Ground Floor, 778.59sft In The First Floor And 778.59 Sft In The Second Floor Totally 2485.39 Sft Situated At Venkatapuram, Alwal, Ghmc, Alwal Circle, Medchal - Malkajgiri District, TS And Bounded By:- Boundaries East By Plot No.4 Part West By Neighbour's Land And 20' Wide Road North By Open Plot South By Neighbour's Land
H1456721092312 3238, H1456721092312 3238L	1. Sunitha Singh 2. Veerender Singh Shekhwat 3. M/s. Sunitha Kalpanas (Through Its Proprietor Sunitha Singh)	Demand Notice Date: 12/05/2026 NPA Date: 04/05/2026	Rs. 2,51,99,515.76/- (Rupees Two Crore Fifty-One Lakh Ninety-Nine Thousand Five Hundred Fifteen and Seventy-Six Paise Only) As On Date 06/05/2026	Schedule -1 All That The Residential House Bearing No. 1-11-251/10/a, Consisting Of Ground And First Floors, Forming Part Of The Premises Bearing Municipal No 1-11-251/10, On Plot No.3, In Survey Nos. 183 And 57, Having A Total Built Up Area Of 2020.6 Square Feet (i.e.1010.3 Square Feet, Each In Ground And First Floor), Together With The Land Admeasuring 217 Square Yards Or Equivalent To 181.43 Square Meters, Situated At Begumpet, Secunderabad, Hyderabad Telangana State And Bounded As Follows Boundaries East By Remaining Portion Of House Property No. 1-11-251/10, Retained By The Vendor West By Road House Of Dr Shri G Shanker Rao North By House Of Dr Adiga South By House Property Sold To Smt Pravina

Date: 20.05.2026
Place: Hyderabad
Sd/-
Authorized Officer
For L&T FINANCE LIMITED

AP: SEIL energy lays foundation for world class inclusive sports academy



Nellore, May 19 (TSIT) SEIL Energy India Limited, one of the largest independent power producers (IPP) in India, here on Tuesday organized the Bhoomi Pooja for the Inclusive Sports Academy (ISA) at the Composite Regional Centre (CRC).

Mr. Tareq Mohamed Sultan Al Mugheiry, Chairman - SEIL Energy India Limited, and Cyrus Erach Cooper, Director - SEIL Energy India Limited, laid the foundation stone in the presence of Janmejaya Mahapatra, CEO - SEIL Energy India Limited, Dr. (Major) B V Ram Kumar, Director - NIEPID, and S P Manoj Kumar, Director - CRC. As part of its CSR initiatives, SEIL Energy India

Limited is contributing Rs 45 crore towards the construction of the comprehensive Inclusive Sports Academy for Divyangjan. CRC is a branch of NIEPID, under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India, and plays an important role in skill development, rehabilitation, and empowerment of persons with disabilities.

Speaking on the occasion, Janmejaya Mahapatra, CEO - SEIL Energy India Limited, said, "Every individual deserves access to opportunities that enable them to grow, compete, and realize their full potential. At SEIL Energy, we believe that true progress is possible only when

development is inclusive. Through the Inclusive Sports Academy, we hope to create a dedicated platform for Divyangjan to build confidence, pursue excellence in sports, and participate with dignity at district, state, and national levels. This initiative reflects our continued commitment to meaningful nation-building and community empowerment".

The Inclusive Sports Academy is envisaged as an enclosed all-weather indoor sports stadium designed to host multiple sporting disciplines for persons with physical and intellectual disabilities at the district, state, and national levels.

The approximately 15,000 sq ft inner stadium space will be able to accommodate sports such as badminton, table tennis, team handball, powerlifting, basketball, volleyball, floor hockey, foorball, wheelchair basketball, sitting volleyball, bocce, and others. The stadium will also include seating capacity for around 300 people, separate changing rooms and toilets for boys, girls, and officials, along with power backup facilities.

Andhra Pradesh Waqf Board set to receive records from Telangana

Amaravati, May 19: Records about Waqf properties in Andhra Pradesh are set to be handed over to the state from Telangana, a senior official said on Tuesday. The records are with the Waqf Board of the combined Andhra Pradesh, located in Telangana, and their transfer has been pending for more than a decade.

Andhra Pradesh Waqf Board Chairman Shaik Abdul Aziz said progress had been made towards resolving the long-pending issue regarding the records, which had remained stalled for 10 years. He said the positive development came after the intervention of Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu and Minister for Minority Welfare N.M.D. Farooq. According to Abdul Aziz, the Waqf Board has also initiated measures to secure



outstanding funds in addition to the records. Following the bifurcation of the combined Andhra Pradesh in 2014, key records, files, survey forms, district-wise gazettes, copies of Board resolutions and other vital documents pertaining to the Andhra Pradesh Waqf Board had remained under the jurisdiction of the Telangana Waqf Board. Although the Waqf Act, 1965, along with the bifurcation guidelines formulated by the Central Government, mandated the transfer of all records.

CPM LEADERS PAY TRIBUTES TO PUCHALAPALLI SUNDARAIHAH.



Mancherial, May 19, TSIT: The 41st death anniversary of veteran Communist leader and Telangana armed struggle icon Puchalapalli Sundaraiyah was observed across various mandals in Mancherial district on Monday under the aegis of the CPM. Addressing a meeting at Naspur, CPM State committee member Pailla Ashaiah said growing economic and social inequalities under the capitalist system were pushing workers and poor people into distress. He called upon youth and working-class sections to intensify struggles against exploitation and anti-people policies. At Jannaram, CPM Mandal secretary Kondagurula Linganna described Sundaraiyah as a symbol of simplicity, sacrifice and selfless politics. He said the present generation should draw inspiration from his life and work for social justice and human values.

Implement Jaladhar-Jalaharati effectively: Collector

Tirupati, May 19: District Collector Dr. S. Venkateswar has directed all concerned department officials to implement the Jaladhar-Jalaharati and Water User Associations' programmes in the district in a



comprehensive and planned manner. On Tuesday evening, the District Collector chaired a review meeting with district officials in the Mini Video Conference Hall at the Collectorate. Mandal-level officials including MPDOs, Irrigation staff, APOs, DWAMA, Horticulture, RWS, and other officials participated virtually. Speaking on the occasion, the District Collector instructed officials to take up rainwater conservation, recharge of groundwater, and restoration of tanks, canals, and ponds in a coordinated manner. He directed them to identify water resources in every village and prepare a special action plan for their protection. The Collector informed that **4,143 works** have been identified under the Jaladhar-Jalaharati programme in the district so far. Permissions have been accorded for **3,376 works**, out of which **1,536 works** have been taken up. He added that **27 works** have been completed till now and asked officials to complete the sanctioned works at the earliest. "By protecting every drop of water, we can ensure water security for future generations," the Collector emphasized. He called for creating awareness among the public on preventing wastage of water and harvesting rainwater. As part of the Jaladhar-Jalaharati programme, he instructed officials to expedite desilting of tanks, cleaning of canals, construction of rainwater harvesting structures, recharge pits, and water conservation measures in farmlands. He stressed the need to make Water User Associations active at the village level and ensure people's participation for the successful implementation of the programmes. The Collector stated that water resource conservation goals can be achieved only through coordination among all departments. He warned officials not to show any laxity in implementing the Jaladhar-Jalaharati works and asked them to conduct regular field-level monitoring.

New Coastal Security Police Building Inaugurated in Visakhapatnam

DGP HARISH KUMAR GUPTA ASSURES STRENGTHENING OF COASTAL SECURITY INFRASTRUCTURE

The South India Times, Visakhapatnam: A significant step towards strengthening the state's coastal security and surveillance system, the newly constructed Coastal Security Police Building in Visakhapatnam was officially inaugurated on Tuesday by Andhra Pradesh Director General of Police (DGP) Harish Kumar Gupta. Equipped with modern facilities, the new building has been designed to function as a key operational centre for coastal surveillance, intelligence gathering, emergency response operations, and maritime security activities across the state's extensive coastline. The inauguration programme was attended by Coastal Security Police Inspector General of Police (IGP) Gopinath Jatti along with several senior police officials of the Coastal Security Police Department. During



the visit, the DGP reviewed the functioning and preparedness of the Coastal Security Police wing. He examined various preventive measures being implemented at beaches, beach patrolling systems, life-saving operations, community outreach initiatives, and the functioning and impact of village vigilance committees. The DGP also reviewed the performance of the special intelligence unit under the Coastal

Security Police, the availability of equipment and vehicles, and the requirements for further infrastructure development. He assessed the training programmes conducted so far, the induction of three APSP platoons, awareness campaigns on environmental protection with special focus on Olive Ridley turtle conservation, anti-drug awareness programmes, night halt operations,

national flag hoisting activities on islands, and Naval NCC programmes. Appreciating the initiatives undertaken by the Coastal Security Police Department, Harish Kumar Gupta assured that the government would provide all necessary infrastructure, technological support, and other resources required to further strengthen coastal security across Andhra Pradesh.

Special Awareness Drive on Plastic Eradication Held at MVP Colony Rythu Bazaar

The South India Times, Visakhapatnam: As part of the "Swachh Andhra-Swarna Andhra" initiative, a special awareness programme on plastic eradication was conducted at the MVP Colony Rythu Bazaar in Visakhapatnam on Tuesday. GVMC Chief Medical and Health Officer Dr. Naresh Kumar participated in the programme and advised consumers visiting the Rythu Bazaar to avoid the use of plastic carry bags. Emphasising the importance of environmental protection, he urged the public to reduce plastic usage and adopt eco-friendly alternatives. During the programme, cloth bags were distributed to consumers to encourage the use of reusable materials. Dr. Naresh Kumar explained the harmful effects of plastic on the environment and



appealed to citizens to actively support the movement for a cleaner and greener city. AMHO Prasad Rao, Sanitation Supervisor Satyanarayana, Secretariat Sanitary Secretary Kanaka Mahalakshmi, GVMC staff members, Rythu Bazaar Estate Officer K. Varahalu, assistant G. Kanakaraju, along with farmers and consumers, participated in the programme and extended their support towards plastic eradication efforts.

Rs.20,000 aid for fishermen families during fishing ban

Tirupati, May 19: Andhra Pradesh Revenue Minister Anagani Satya Prasad said the State Government is providing Rs.20,000 financial assistance to each fishermen family under the Matsyakara Sevalo scheme during the 61-day fishing ban period.

Under the scheme for 2026-27, Rs.6.19 crore was released through DBT to 3,099 fishermen families in Tirupati district. Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu launched the programme from Nellore district. District Collector Dr. S. Venkateswar said the government is taking special measures for fishermen welfare and coastal protection. SP L. Subbarayudu said patrols along the Tamil Nadu border would be strengthened to prevent illegal fishing activities.

DCIL Creates History with Highest-Ever Turnover in FY 2025-26

The South India Times, Visakhapatnam: Dredging Corporation of India Limited (DCIL), India's premier dredging organization functioning under the consortium of Visakhapatnam Port Authority, Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority, Paradip Port Authority and Deendayal Port Authority, has scripted history by registering its highest-ever annual turnover of Rs. 1,214.09 crore during the financial year 2025-26. This marks the best performance in the company's five-decade-long journey. The company also posted a Profit After Tax (PAT) of Rs. 4.75 crore for FY 2025-26, reflecting improved operational efficiency, prudent financial management and the committed efforts of Team DCI.



Despite challenging global economic conditions, inflationary pressures and volatile geopolitical developments worldwide, DCIL demonstrated remarkable resilience throughout the year. The company successfully managed operational challenges including rising fuel prices, increased operational costs and intense pricing pressures while still achieving an impressive Operational Profit (EBIDA) of Rs. 253.46 crore. DCIL's strong performance underscores its adaptability, strategic planning and execution

value and sustained growth momentum. Speaking on the occasion, Madhaiyan Angamuthu and Capt S Divakar expressed satisfaction over the company's turnaround performance and conveyed confidence that DCIL would continue to overcome future challenges through collective efforts and emerge stronger in the coming years. The management reiterated its commitment to sustaining the growth trajectory and further strengthening DCIL's position as the nation's leading dredging company. The company has set an ambitious target of achieving a turnover of Rs. 1,500 crore during the financial year 2026-27. The remarkable achievement stands as a testimony to the dedication, professionalism and relentless efforts of Team DCI in steering the company towards sustained growth and operational excellence.

The Earnings Per Share (EPS) for FY 2025-26 improved significantly to Rs. 5.28 compared to negative Rs. 12.07 in the previous financial year, indicating enhanced shareholder

capabilities. The company efficiently completed ongoing dredging projects within stipulated timelines, ensuring client satisfaction across ports and maritime infrastructure projects.

Vani Prasad's New Role Signals Telangana's Focus on Youth Empowerment, Tourism and Cultural Identity

By M. Rajanikanth Hyderabad: Senior IAS officer A. Vani Prasad has emerged once again at the centre of Telangana's administrative landscape after being appointed Special Chief Secretary for the Youth Advancement, Tourism and Culture (YAT&C) Department in a significant bureaucratic reshuffle by the Telangana government. The appointment marks an important return to the Telangana cadre for the 1995-batch IAS officer after a prolonged cadre allocation dispute between Telangana and Andhra Pradesh following state bifurcation.



Her reallocation to Telangana came after the Telangana High Court set aside the Centre's earlier decision allotting her to the Andhra Pradesh cadre, observing that her educational and domicile background strongly aligned with Telangana. Before assuming the new role in Telangana, Vani Prasad had been serving in Andhra Pradesh as Principal Secretary of the Labour Department and later as Special Chief Secretary-level officer handling key administrative responsibilities. With her latest appointment, she

now heads one of Telangana's most visible public-facing portfolios involving tourism promotion, cultural affairs, youth engagement and institutional outreach at a time when the state is aggressively positioning Hyderabad and Telangana as global investment, cultural and tourism destinations.

Over the years, Vani Prasad has built a reputation as a governance-focused administrator associated with environment protection, institutional reforms, public administration and policy implementation. She earlier served in important assignments involving environment management, training and governance systems, including leadership responsibilities at the Environment Protection Training and Research Institute (EPTRI), where she worked extensively on sustainability, environmental governance and climate-related institutional capacity building.

Administrative observers note that her appointment to YAT&C assumes significance as Telangana seeks to expand tourism infrastructure, heritage promotion, cultural branding, sports and youth engagement, and global

outreach initiatives. The department also plays an increasingly strategic role in projecting Telangana's soft power identity through festivals, heritage circuits, cultural diplomacy and international events.

Known for her measured administrative style and institutional experience, Vani Prasad has served in multiple capacities across district administration, governance departments and policy-oriented roles during her career spanning nearly three decades. Her return to Telangana and elevation as Special Chief Secretary is also being viewed within bureaucratic circles as a notable administrative and personal milestone after years of legal and service-related uncertainty arising from cadre allocation issues post-bifurcation. Officials say the state government expects her experience and policy orientation to help strengthen Telangana's positioning in tourism, cultural administration and youth-focused development initiatives as part of the broader governance and branding strategy being pursued by the Revanth Reddy government.

Kharge attacks Centre over fresh fuel price hike



New Delhi, May 19: Mallikarjun Kharge on Tuesday criticised Prime Minister Narendra Modi over the latest increase in petrol and diesel prices, accusing the Centre of burdening citizens while allegedly protecting corporate interests.

The remarks came after fuel prices were increased by nearly 90 paise per litre on Tuesday, marking the second hike within a week after state-run oil companies resumed fuel price revisions following a gap of nearly four years. In a post on X, Kharge alleged that the government was shifting the burden of its failures onto the public despite repeatedly speaking about savings and economic management.

"Robbing the common people and

giving Adani a free pass from America — this is Modi's Compromised Model," the Congress leader said.

Kharge's comments referred to reports that the US Department of Justice had permanently dropped criminal charges against Gautam Adani and Sagar Adani in a securities and wire fraud case in New York.

The Congress chief also targeted the government over India's continued purchase of Russian oil.

He claimed that Modi had sought a one-month extension from the United States for permission to buy Russian crude oil and alleged that such actions hurt the pride of Indians.

Questioning the fuel price hike, Kharge asked why the common public was being burdened if the government had received permission to continue oil purchases.

"I repeat once again, there is a lack of foresight and leadership in the BJP," he said.

A temporary US sanctions waiver for the sale and delivery of Russian seaborne crude reportedly expired on May 16. However, a senior petroleum ministry official stated on Monday that India continued purchasing Russian oil based on commercial viability and energy security considerations irrespective of sanctions waivers.

Kharge further accused the Bharatiya Janata Party of prioritising politics over governance during the crisis.

"You don't become a 'vishwaguru' just by doing sponsored PR abroad. Modi ji, you have to ensure accountability to the people," he said.

The Congress president also took a swipe at the prime minister, saying the public was more concerned about government action on economic issues than personal anecdotes.

"If you respond by saying what you're actually doing about the crisis, only then will you be called the people's true 'Pradhan Sevak'; otherwise, you'll remain nothing more than a mere 'pracharak'," Kharge added.



PRIME MINISTER SHRI NARENDRA MODI IN A GROUP PHOTO DURING THE 3RD INDO-NORDIC SUMMIT IN OSLO, NORWAY ON MAY 19, 2026.

Former Uttarakhand CM Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri passes away in Dehradun



Dehradun, May 19 : Former Uttarakhand Chief Minister and senior BJP leader, Major General (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri passed away on Tuesday at Max Hospital in Dehradun after a prolonged illness.

A former Army officer who transitioned into politics, General Khanduri served two terms as the Chief Minister of Uttarakhand (first from 2007 to 2009 and second from 2011 to 2012), steering the state's administration. During his tenure, he took stringent measures against corruption and laid the foundation for a transparent and disciplined administration within the state.

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami expressed grief over the passing of General Khanduri and called his death an irreparable loss in the landscape of nation-

al politics.

In a statement, CM Dhami said, "I have received the tragic news of the passing of the Honourable Major General Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri (Retd.), former Chief Minister of Uttarakhand."

Recalling Gen Khanduri's tenure in the Indian Army, the Chief Minister said, "During his tenure in the Indian Army, Shri Khanduri set an unparalleled example of national service, discipline, and dedication. From his military career to his public life, his persona remained steadfastly devoted to the national interest and public service." In the realm of politics, CM Dhami said that Gen Khanduri established a "strong legacy defined by the development of Uttarakhand, good governance, transparency, and an honest work ethic."

Mamata Banerjee to meet party MLAs today to outline Oppn strategy

Kolkata, May 19 : Trinamool Congress supremo and former West Bengal Chief Minister, Mamata Banerjee, has on Tuesday convened a meeting with the 80 elected party legislators in the recently concluded Assembly polls to discuss and adopt a strategy as the principal opposition party in the state now.

Trinamool Congress general secretary and the party's Lok Sabha member, Abhishek Banerjee, is also supposed to be present at the meeting in the afternoon.

A party member in the current Assembly, on strict condition of anonymity, said one of the major issues on the agenda is how to tackle the situation when the political administration of the different civic bodies in the state, which are still Trinamool Congress-controlled, are facing bureaucratic insubordination in the changed political situation.

The meeting has been convened amid the development with Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) authorities, which still has the current and four-time Trinamool Congress and former member in the previous Mamata Banerjee-led cabinet, Firhad Hakim, as its Mayor, issuing



notices under Section 400(1) of the KMC Act 1980, which allows owners of allegedly illegal constructions an opportunity to appear before civic authorities and present their case.

Notices have been served to 17 properties owned by Abhishek Banerjee in areas within the KMC jurisdiction, and copies have been pasted on the walls of these properties.

Incidentally, the KMC authorities served these notices a couple of days after the current Chief Minister, Suwendu Adhikari, while addressing a gathering at Falat in South 24 Parganas district last week, hinted at enquiries about such properties linked to one corporate entity

reportedly owned by Abhishek Banerjee.

However, while hinting at this, the Chief Minister felt short of directly naming Banerjee and instead addressed him as "Mr Nephew".

In the meeting, Adhikari also said that he had brought a list of 24 properties owned by a company of "Mr Nephew" from the KMC. Even on Monday, the Chief Minister reminded that the new cabinet led by him is determined to take strong legal action against every person who was involved in corruption and looting public money during the previous Trinamool Congress regime. Incidentally, on

Monday, the Chief Minister announced the formation of two separate probe commissions, both headed by retired judges of the Calcutta High Court, to investigate cases of "institutional corruption" and "crime against women".

"Both the probe commissions will start functioning from June. Justice Biswajit Basu (retired) of the Calcutta High Court will head the committee probing cases of 'institutional corruption'. On the other hand, the committee probing cases of 'crime against women' will be headed by Justice S a m a p t i Chattopadhyay," the Chief Minister told media persons on Monday afternoon.

Adani case closure a booster for India-US economic ties: USISPF



Washington, May 19 : The resolution of the legal matter involving Adani Enterprises Ltd removes a major distraction from the growing India-US economic partnership, and could pave the way for fresh Indian investments in the United States, the US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF) said on Monday. "The US Department of Justice's resolution in the case involving Adani Enterprises brings closure to the ongoing legal matter, which has been a distraction to the otherwise strong US-India economic partnership," said Dr Mukesh Agni, President and CEO of USISPF.

His remarks came after the US Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control announced a \$275 million settlement with Adani Enterprises Limited over alleged violations related to Iran sanctions. Agni said the Adani Group's planned investments in the United States reflected a broader trend of growing Indian corporate interest in the American market.

"Adani Enterprise's commitment to invest \$10 billion builds on US Ambassador Sergio Gor's recent announcement that Indian companies plan to invest more than \$20.5 billion across various sectors in the United States," he said. The USISPF chief said Indian companies increasingly view the United States as a long-term strategic and economic partner. "At USISPF, we firmly believe these investments underpin Indian companies' desire to be strong partners in the United States," Agni said.

He added that Indian investments would contribute to economic growth and employment generation in both countries. "They will build on existing collaboration, further advance job creation, strengthen infrastructure, and boost long-term bilateral economic growth," he said. India and the United States have significantly expanded economic and strategic cooperation over the past decade, with trade, defence, energy and technology emerging as major pillars of the relationship.

SVIS hosts 'Lab of the Future' experiential learning programme

Tirupati, May 19: S r e e Vidyanikethan International School (SVIS) organised its flagship experiential learning programme, "Lab of the Future," providing students hands-on exposure to emerging technologies and innovation-driven learning.

The week-long on-campus initiative featured interactive workshops and demonstrations on Artificial Intelligence (AI), Robotics, Internet of Things (IoT), and Augmented and Virtual Reality (AR/VR). Students



participated in prototype building, live demonstrations and application-based learning activities to understand real-world technology use cases.

The programme also included rocket launches, drone assembly, aircraft exploration and science

experiments aimed at improving problem-solving abilities, analytical thinking and creativity among students.

Aligned with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, the initiative focused on multidisciplinary and experiential learning while introducing students to future technologies. Speaking on the occasion, SVIS Executive Director and Trustee Vinay Maheshwari said the programme was designed to help students experience technology beyond classrooms and inspire future-focused learning.

Goli Navya Reddy Appointed as President of 'SIMA' NRI Cell

Atlanta (USA): Goli Navya Reddy—a prominent NRI based in Atlanta and a native of Nalgonda district, Telangana—has been appointed as the President of the International NRI Cell of the South India Media Association (SIMA). During a grand special event held on Sunday in Atlanta, USA, SIMA Founder President Nakirekanti Swami officially presented her with the letter of appointment.

Speaking on the occasion, Founder President Nakirekanti Swami revealed that the NRI Cell was established with the primary objective of



expanding SIMA's activities across the globe. He expressed confidence that, under Navya Reddy's leadership, this division would be strengthened at an international level and that she would effectively discharge her responsibilities, leveraging her professional experience.

Goli Navya Reddy expressed her gratitude to the SIMA management for entrusting her with these pivotal responsibilities. She affirmed that she would work with great vigor to achieve the association's objectives by bringing together South Indian media representatives and the NRI community from around the world onto a common platform. Several prominent NRIs, dignitaries, and media representatives from across the USA participated in the event and extended their best wishes to Navya Reddy.

AP: 500 stolen/lost mobile phones recovered

Tirupati : The police have recovered over 500 lost/stolen mobile phones, worth more than Rs 1 crore and handed over some of them to the owners in Tirupati district of Andhra Pradesh. Addressing a press conference on Tuesday, Superintendent of police L Subba Rayudu said that the district police had so far recovered 4,785 lost/stolen mobile phones worth Rs 10.52 crore. He said the police during the 14th phase, recovered over 500 lost or stolen mobile phones, worth more than Rs 1 crore and handed over some of them to the victims at a mobile recovery mela held here on Tuesday.

The police received complaints on losing mobile phones through the CEIR portal, the SP stated.

The police during the last 13 phases of mobile phones recovery, had recovered 4,785 lost/stolen mobile phones worth Rs 10,52,70,000 and most of the recovered phones were handed over to the victims, the SP informed. The police teams recovered the mobile phones not only in AP but also in Telangana, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Kerala states. The victims do not need to go to the police station to lodge a complaint about the lost/stolen mobile phone and they can lodge a complaint using CEIR portal service, the SP said.

EDITORIAL

'As Long As Shesha Sustains The Earth': The Story Of The Chola Leiden Plates

In a major cultural restitution move, the Netherlands formally returned a set of 11th-century Chola-era copper plates to India on Saturday during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the European country. The handover marked the culmination of years of diplomatic efforts by New Delhi. The Aanamangalam - or Leiden - plates consist of 21 copper plates held together by a massive bronze ring bearing the seal of Rajendra Chola I. This charter and another one (Or. 1688) were taken from India by Mr Florentius Camper (1675-1748), Minister of Faith in Batavia from 1703-1712. Both charters (Or. 1687, Or. 1688) came into the possession of his great-granddaughter Johanna Camper (1797-1835), who was married to Professor Hendrik Arent Hamaker (1789-1835), and were donated in 1862 by the successors to Hamaker's estate. The plates were probably excavated or acquired by the Dutch East India Company (VOC) in Nagapattinam between 1687 and 1700, and taken away. The Colonial Collections Committee concluded that the removal amounted to 'involuntary loss of possession' and recommended their unconditional return to India. Leiden University accepted the recommendation. The Leiden Copper Plates feature royal charters from the Chola dynasty written in both Sanskrit and Tamil in the Grantha script. The Sanskrit inscription (5 plates) traces the mythical genealogy of the Chola dynasty, from Lord Vishnu, through the Sun, to legendary kings like Sibi and the Sun dynasty. The Tamil inscription (16 plates) lays out legal and administrative details. The massive bronze ring binding the plates features the Chola emblem of a tiger, the Pandya emblem of two fish, the Chera emblem of a bow, and an umbrella above them all, flanked by two lamps indicating auspiciousness and two chamas indicating royalty. A Sanskrit line in Grantha script states: "This is the order of Rajendra Chola Parakesari, whose command shines among the rows of jewels on the crowns of kings and princes". The Cholas were the rulers of the Bay of Bengal and South India, and actively supported maritime mercantile activities. In the large plates, it is mentioned that Rajendra Chola's father maintained friendly relations with the kings of the Sailendra dynasty, who ruled over Malaya and Java (Srivijaya). During the period of Rajaraja I (985-1014 CE) and Rajendra Chola (1014-1044 CE), Kadaram and Srivijaya were held by the Sailendras, who were in regular communication with China and India. At Srivijaya, there was a remarkable seat of Buddhist learning which I-Tsing, who travelled from Canton to Srivijaya, recommended to Chinese priests for training before proceeding to India for learning. Kedah, the ancient seat of Kadaram or Kataha, was an important naval base and commercial centre under the Sailendras, and from here they exercised control over their empire. The Sailendra kings mentioned in the larger Leiden plates are Sri Chulamanivarmadeva and his son Sri Maravijayottungavarmar. They were on friendly terms with Rajaraja Chola and obtained permission to build a vihara at Nagapattinam, a renowned Buddhist centre, from Rajaraja, who made land endowments to a palli (a place of education) in the 21st year of his reign (1006 CE). The Sanskrit portion of the larger Leiden plates mentions that King Rajaraja gave, in the 21st year of his reign, the entire village of Aanamangalam (about 13 kilometres from Nagapattinam) and its land to build a shrine of the Buddha in the Chulamanivarma vihara.

Xi Is Truly Done Falling For The Great American Bluff

Trump's visit to China has been less successful than what he might have hoped for. This is surprising, but not altogether so. Surprising because the visit was long in preparation, and there was ample time, therefore, for the two sides to agree in advance on some concrete outcomes to project success. This is normal in diplomacy. Trump has been giving a boost to his planned visit by talking about his admiration for Xi Jinping as a leader, his close personal relationship with him, and how the two could together help solve the problems of the globe. That Trump took along with him America's most powerful corporate heads suggested that he expected some important business-level understandings to emerge on issues of investment, trade and technology. There would normally be little sense in organising such a high-powered accompanying business delegation without expectation of some deliverables. China, too, could have been expected to use the opportunity of Trump's visit to reset ties that were sliding into a progressively confrontational phase.

As Was Expected

If the visit has produced much less than might have been expected, it is not surprising. The Chinese and others have long sized up Trump. As a person, he does not inspire trust and confidence. His transactional approach means that he pursues short-term goals. His erratic behaviour, inconsistency, ego-driven approach, use of brutal pressure tactics, and so on, make him an unreliable interlocutor. In his first term, Trump targeted China on the trade front, accusing it of unfair trade practices and subsidies, intellectual property theft, forced technology transfer, currency manipulation, and used tariffs as a weapon to reduce the massive bilateral trade deficit, and bring manufacturing jobs back home. China imposed retaliatory tariffs in return. In his second term, Trump imposed "emergency" tariffs and has targeted China's steel, aluminium, and other manufactures. He tied several of his trade and other restrictions to the flow of Fentanyl



precursors from China to the US. He has also targeted China's maritime and logistics dominance. China's access to US technology and natural resources was restricted, and its ties with academia and research were sought to be blocked because of a suspected PLA connection.

Tit For Tat Sanctions

In the lead-up to Trump's visit, the US and China have engaged in tit-for-tat sanctions triggered by US restrictions on companies facilitating Iranian oil shipments to Chinese "teapot" refineries, and China enforcing its anti-foreign sanctions laws to block US actions. The US has targeted Chinese firms and suppliers in the defence and aerospace sectors. In return, China has sanctioned US defence firms for arms supplies to Taiwan.

China also imposed in April and October 2025 sweeping export restrictions and strict licensing requirements on seven critical rare earth elements and related magnet products in response to US tariffs and technology curbs, impacting

the global defence and electronics supply chains, including American defence companies. This led later to a bilateral agreement between the US and China to suspend further expansions of these export controls. The atmosphere in US-China relations had steadily deteriorated before Trump's visit, with China, both in official statements and actions, responding strongly to US pressures, signalling China's growing confidence in its own capacity to stand up to America's bullying actions. Trump's hand was weakened before the visit by his failure to decisively win his war on Iran. Not only that, the US could not even protect its military bases or its allies in West Asia. This has raised a question about the future security architecture of the region and the US role in it. The inability of the US to force open the Strait of Hormuz with either diplomacy or military force would have weighed in the scales of diplomacy in Beijing.

China's Upper Hand

China kept the upper hand during Trump's visit by, amongst other things, Xi Jinping retaining his

poise and distance while Trump tried to ingratiate himself with flattery and body language. At the opening of the formal delegation-level talks, the lining up of the top-most American corporate leaders behind Trump suggested a homage being paid to Xi's China, reminiscent of the kowtowing to the Chinese emperor in the past, with a solicitation for market openings. After the discourse of decoupling, de-risking supply chains, onshoring, forcing US corporations to invest in America and creating jobs at home, Trump was messaging a willingness to explore possibilities of renewed economic interdependence with China.

Addressing Trump at the formal talks, Xi was sententious and demanding. He called on the US to be "partners, not rivals" with China. He asked if China and the US could overcome the so-called "Thucydides Trap" and create a new paradigm of "major-country" relations. Xi's reference to the "Thucydides Trap" was very pointed this time. He has referred to it on occasions in the past (2013, 2015, 2023), saying that the world was big

enough to fully accommodate China and the US's "respective development and common prosperity". In the past, Xi may have wanted to blunt growing concerns about China's rise to keep open the international economic and political space for it. This time, the motivation may have been different, as China feels that it has already become a formidable economic, technological and military power and can challenge the US.

A G-2 Paradigm

Xi may want recognition of this by the US in shaping its future policies towards China. The concept of a 'China-US Constructive Strategic Stable Relationship' that emerged during Trump's visit is another way of discarding the notion of a Thucydides Trap. China wants to steadily move towards its goal of becoming the pre-eminent power by 2049. It is facing many domestic challenges and would want to avoid a confrontation with the US, but it also feels sufficiently strong because of its control over critical raw materials and technologies, which it is weaponising, coupled with the relative decline in US power, to shape the terms of their bilateral engagement. Xi believes that China and the US are the principal powers today and therefore bear a shared responsibility for maintaining global peace and prosperity. This is a G-2 paradigm. The summit ended without a joint statement, which means that differences over many issues were too wide to attempt agreed formulations and no binding agreements were reached on trade matters. Both sides issued their own readouts of the discussions.

The US readout is unusually subdued, given the superlatives that Trump usually uses to announce his success in negotiations. The readout merely says that Trump "had a good meeting" with Xi. The two sides discussed ways to enhance bilateral economic cooperation, including expanding market access for American businesses to China and increasing Chinese investment in US industries, but without mentioning any specific agreements.

WHY IS INTEREST ON CAR CHEAP AND INTEREST ON EDUCATION HIGH?



Priyanka Saurabh

In a developing country like India, education has always been considered the most important tool for nation-building. We often say that youth are the future of the country, that education is the backbone of society, and that knowledge is the foundation of development. But when we examine the practical situation, the picture is different. Ironically, while buying a car in India is becoming easier, obtaining higher education is becoming increasingly difficult and expensive. Banks will readily offer you instant loans at attractive interest rates to purchase a new car, but when these same banks offer education loans to students, interest rates rise, regulations become stricter, and the future is considered risky. This situation is not just a technical problem of the banking system, but also raises serious questions about our social and economic priorities. Today, the cost of higher education in India is rapidly becoming unaffordable for ordinary families. Whether it's medicine, engineering, management, law, private university education, or even foreign education—fees in every field have reached lakhs. Middle-class families invest years of savings, selling jewelry, and

exhausting their provident funds, yet still find themselves needing education loans. The sad reality is that the education that is supposed to shape a young person's future is often burdened with the highest interest rates. Car loan interest rates are often lower than education loans, meaning purchasing a consumer item is cheaper than pursuing an education. This is not just an economic imbalance, but also a tragedy of social thinking. The banking system argues that a car loan is secured because the vehicle serves as collateral for the bank. If the borrower defaults on payments, the car can be seized. However, with an education loan, the bank holds no physical assets. It only has the student's abilities, their degree, and their future. Therefore, banks consider it a risky investment. This argument may seem correct from a banking perspective, but it is extremely narrow from a national perspective. The greatest investment for any nation is its young generation. When a student becomes a doctor, engineer, scientist, teacher, researcher, or administrator, the benefit is not just personal; it's the entire society benefits. In such a situation, it would not be farsighted to view education loans solely as a commercial product. Nowadays, education loans are becoming not just financial assistance but also a source of mental stress. Millions of students are preoccupied with EMIs and interest even before completing their studies. The fear of debt begins to haunt them even before they

find a job. Instead of choosing careers based on their interests and talents, many students pursue high-paying jobs simply to repay the loans. As a result, the number of talented young people in fields like research, teaching, literature, social service, and the arts is dwindling. Society is gradually becoming a proponent of salary-based success. This problem impacts the Indian middle class the most. Financially well-off families can easily afford expensive education. Some government schemes and scholarships are available for the poor. However, the biggest struggles are faced by those who, while not categorized as "poor," are still unable to afford fees of lakhs of rupees. For such families, education loans become a necessity. A father invests his entire life's savings in his son's or daughter's education, hoping that education will secure their future. But when the education itself incurs heavy interest, that dream gradually turns into a financial burden. Today, the privatization of education in India is rapidly increasing. Limited seats in government institutions force millions of students to turn to private colleges. The fees are so high that education is impossible for ordinary families without loans. Many students often leave their dream institutions simply because of the fees and interest. Talent loses out to financial capability. This situation is worrying for any democratic and progressive society. It's also worth considering that today, education is no longer merely a means of personal advancement,

but rather a necessity for economic and social survival. Without higher education, it's becoming increasingly difficult to obtain a good job. If education itself becomes expensive and burdensome with debt, social inequality will only increase. Financially strong families will advance, while talented students with limited resources will be left behind. This will not only be a loss to the individual, but the nation will also lose its potential talent. The Indian government needs to take serious, long-term steps in this direction. First, interest rates on education loans should be regulated. If the government can create special economic policies to promote the automobile industry, real estate, and other sectors, why not create a separate financial policy for a fundamental sector like education? Interest on education loans should be minimal, and interest moratoriums should be implemented widely until the completion of studies. Additionally, there should be flexibility in loan repayment until employment is secured. Under the current system, many students begin facing the pressure of EMIs as soon as they complete their degree, even though finding a job can take time. This mental stress impacts both the energy and confidence of young people. If the government and banks gave students a few years of practical time, they would be able to begin their careers with greater stability. Career-based support models should also be developed alongside education loans.

PM Modi's Austerity Appeal And The Bitter Economics Of 'Sacrifice'

The term 'austerity' has a brutal etymology. The Greek root, *austeros*, did not begin life as a word for budgets or state discipline; it described a harsh, drying, astringent sensation on the tongue, the bitterness left by unripe fruit or rough wine. In modern terms, the closest equivalent might be "yuck." That the word should travel through Latin and Old French to dominate the modern vocabulary of crisis governance illuminates how governments have worked to find a word that shields them and leaves the people with the bitter dose. The deepest roots of austerity are not fiscal but spiritual - it's a thought that ran parallel to penance in sermons by those quoting scriptures. Austerity draws strength from religious beliefs - how Islam honours Zuhd and encourages Wasaf, the Jews know of the era of the Tzema. Christian monasticism valorises renunciation, whereas in Hinduism, tapas burns impurity with the inner fire of self-discipline, of denial.

Not A Pretty Picture

Earlier this month, Prime Minister Narendra Modi stepped into this hazy world of faith and fiscal foment with his own version of passive austerity, asking folks not to buy gold, eschew foreign travel, and adopt work from home and virtual learning. The key driver, of course, is the state of the rupee, now careening past Rs 96 per dollar, pushing India from fourth-largest to sixth-largest and knocking at the next rung. All this as Brent yo-yos around \$110/barrel. As high-



er costs are estimated to add over \$90 billion, the economy finds itself over a barrel. The costs of war and an eroding currency are showing up. The April GST collections, for instance, hit a record Rs 2.43 lakh crore. But it was a record the government could not celebrate. The composition spelt out a troubling story. Domestic sales GST (that is, levies collected from local sales) grew only 4.3%, while import-related GST sales grew by 25.8%. The rupee is the cause and consequence of its state - every fall in its value triggers outflows, which worsen its slide. Data is mocking those who argue that a weaker rupee helps exports and draws investment.

The costs and the pain are not just in the spreadsheets. It is a double and triple whammy. The molecular contagion has left thousands of units without gas to fuel their production - from ceramic kilns of Morbi to textile hubs of Panipat-Sonipat, footwear

units are facing an existential challenge. India is a far bigger and far more complex economy than it was in the 1990s. It is far more integrated in the global economy of goods and services than ever before. It is estimated that nearly 30% of India's exports depend on imported intermediates. The top five exports - refined petroleum, electrical and electronic equipment, machinery, jewellery and pharmaceuticals - all require imported ingredients.

But It's Not Policy - Yet

A plea is not a policy. PM Modi's plea is more a sermon on austerity, and a sermon is not a policy - not yet. Now you could argue that the appeal for austerity stems from the fears that things may get worse in West Asia. You could also argue that the Prime Minister is pushing his Atmanirbhar Bharat campaign. It could be this or that or both and more. Fact is, PM Modi prides himself on his fluency with the masses

and is not merely asking them to consume less but also seeking their participation in the defence of the national currency, and this is a call to dollar austerity. The appeal encounters social and economic realities. Take the plea not to buy gold. The yellow metal is not what the chatterati class of analysts see it as. Gold is an investment, a hedge, a liquid pool of cash and an instrument of crisis management in an economy where access to credit still requires businesses to jump through hoops. It is not surprising, therefore, that gold mortgage companies have extended over Rs 15 lakh crore in loans. The gold economy supports thousands of artisans and small enterprises. It is estimated that there are between 8 and 10 million marriages in India. Families bequeath gold as an instrument of wealth transfer, as seed capital for a new home or business, as a tranche for future requirements and more.

Congress will return to power in 2028: D K Shivakumar



Tumkur: Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D. K. Shivakumar asserted that the Congress party would return to power in 2028, stating that the government's guarantee schemes had brought social change and become a model across the country.

Addressing the "Sarthaka Seva Samarpane" convention in Tumkur marking three years of the Congress government, Shivakumar claimed even BJP-ruled states were adopting the Congress guaran-

tee model. He said the schemes were introduced to support poor and middle-class families amid rising prices and economic challenges. The KPCC president also criticised H.D. Kumaraswamy and BJP leaders, accusing them of failing to address people's issues while in power. He highlighted the government's welfare initiatives, including the Shakti scheme and land guarantee programme, and said Tumkur would be developed as a "second Bengaluru."

Prayers to Lord Venkateshwara for resolution of the country's economic crisis and good rainfall in the state: DCM D K Shivakumar

Tirumala : After paying a visit to Tirupati, Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar said that he prayed to Lord Venkateshwara to help the country overcome the economic crisis and to bless the state with good rainfall.

"I have prayed to Lord Venkateshwara that the country should not suffer from an economic crisis, that everyone be blessed with strength and good health, and that the state receives good rainfall," he said while speaking to the media after the darshan. "I have prayed that the entire country be filled with peace and that it face its challenges effectively. I am very happy to have come here on this significant day. I am visiting after a long time — six to seven years. The Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) has brought about many changes and developments. It has maintained discipline and good cleanliness, and is running good administration. The government has done good work. I thank everyone," he said. "I am delighted to have had the darshan of Sri Venkateswara. The TTD Chairman is also doing excellent work along with his team. I met the Revenue Minister here as well, and he too is doing outstanding work."



Telangana Junior Basketball League Launched to Transform Basketball; Creates History with Rs.1.48 Crore Franchise Auctions

Bengaluru : The Telangana Basketball Association (TBA) has taken a landmark step toward transforming basketball in India with the successful launch of the Telangana Junior Basketball League (TJBL), a first-of-its-kind grassroots basketball initiative aimed at identifying, nurturing, and developing young talent across Telangana.



Inspired by the success of the Telangana Professional Basketball League (TPBL), the TJBL was launched to provide young basketball players with professional exposure, structured competition, and long-term development opportunities. The league has already created history in Indian basketball with an overwhelming response from across the state. More than 3,000 players registered for the league across four categories — Under-15 Boys, Under-15 Girls, Under-18 Boys, and Under-18 Girls — reflecting the rapidly growing basketball culture in Telangana. A significant number of registrations also came from rural districts and small

towns, highlighting the league's growing reach beyond urban centers and its role in creating opportunities for talented athletes from underserved regions. To identify the finest talent, the Telangana Basketball Association conducted week-long trials for all registered athletes. Following a rigorous selection process, the top 100 players from each category were shortlisted, taking the total number of selected players to 400 elite junior athletes. The selected players were officially announced and

felicitated at Shilpakala Vedika in the presence of players, parents, coaches, supporters, and members of the basketball community. The event marked a major milestone for grassroots basketball development in the state. The league's owners' auction, held at Rihira Retreat, witnessed extraordinary enthusiasm as 10 bidders participated in a highly competitive auction process. Six franchises — Hyderabad Hurricanes, Vikarabad Predators, Nalgonda Ninjas, Rangareddy Rulers, Warangal Wildfires, and Medak Monsters — were auctioned successfully.

The six franchises together were sold for a combined value of Rs.1.48 crore, making TJBL the first youth basketball league in India to conduct franchise auctions on such a large scale. The strong investor response and record-breaking franchise sales demonstrate the growing commercial and sporting potential of basketball in Telangana.

The upcoming player auction for TJBL is scheduled for May 22 and is expected to further strengthen the

league's professional structure, visibility, and player development ecosystem.

Leading this basketball revolution is Ambati Prudhvir Reddy, Indian National Basketball Team player and General Secretary of the Telangana Basketball Association. Prudhvir Reddy is the only player from Telangana to represent India in international basketball and has represented the country in six international tournaments. He has also played professional basketball in Spain, the USA, and Thailand and has captained the Telangana state basketball team since 2009. After being elected as the General Secretary of the Telangana Basketball Association in 2025, Prudhvir Reddy introduced several key initiatives aimed at transforming basketball across Telangana at both rural and urban levels. Under his leadership, the association conducted Coaches Clinics and Referee Clinics to develop qualified coaches and referees across the state and improve the overall standard of the sport.

HCG inaugurates cancer hospital in North Bengaluru, unveils Karnataka's first 'MR-Linac' technology



Bengaluru: Healthcare Global Enterprises Limited (HCG), India's largest hospital group dedicated to cancer treatment, has inaugurated its new comprehensive cancer hospital in Batarayanapura (Hebbal). With this, it has further strengthened the availability of advanced oncology (cancer treatment) services in North Bengaluru. Bringing state-of-the-art technology, expert medical team and compassionate care under one roof, this hospital will be a major milestone in providing world-class treatment to the people of Karnataka.

A significant milestone in the field of precision oncology, this new hospital with a capacity of up to 132 beds has introduced Karnataka's first 'Elekta Unity MR-Linac' technology. It is one of the most advanced precision radiation therapy systems in the world. This revolutionary technology combines high-quality MRI imaging with a linear accelerator, enabling highly accurate and instantly adaptable life-saving cancer treatment. Designed as a com-

prehensive center for the treatment of all types of cancer, the hospital will provide diagnosis, advanced treatment, palliative care and patient-centered care under one roof. This will bring world-class cancer care closer to the patients of North Bengaluru.

Speaking at the inauguration of the new facility, Sandalwood's renowned actor and director, 'Abhinaya Chakravarthy' Badshah Kiccha Sudeep said, "Cancer is a difficult journey that not only affects the patient but also the entire family. In this regard, timely diagnosis, widespread awareness and access to appropriate treatment at the right time can make a real difference in the life of the patient. HCG's new hospital in Hebbal (Batarayanapura) has taken a powerful step in this direction by bringing cutting-edge technology and expert medical care to the people. It is indeed a matter of pride and happiness that such world-class cancer treatment is now easily accessible to families across Bengaluru and Karnataka." Speaking on the inaugu-

ration of the hospital, Dr. B. S., Founder and Chairman, Healthcare Global Enterprises Limited, Ajay Kumar said: "Today's cancer treatment is data-driven and technologically advanced, with a focus on improving long-term treatment outcomes. Our goal is not just to prevent cancer recurrence; it is to successfully manage even the most advanced and metastatic (spread to other organs) cancers to a curable level through personalized and multidisciplinary care. We are very happy to launch our new center in Hebbal (Batarayanapura), North Bengaluru. "It will provide this facility with state-of-the-art infrastructure and Karnataka's first 'MR-Linac' technology to the people of this region. This is a major step in precision-based cancer treatment and reaffirms HCG's commitment to making advanced oncology care accessible to everyone. As the founder, I firmly believe in giving the right treatment to the patient the first time; because only then can we achieve the best results. "The inauguration of our Hebbal (Batarayanapura) centre is another historic milestone in HCG's quest for excellence in cancer care," he said proudly. The main attraction of this new hospital is the Elekta Unity MR-Linac. It is a revolutionary radiation oncology (radiation therapy) system being introduced for the first time in Karnataka. This cutting-edge technology combines the highest quality MRI imaging with a linear accelerator. This enables the cancer tumor to be clearly visualized in real time during treatment. As a result, it is possible to deliver highly precise radiation therapy, which will help doctors to destroy only the cancerous cells with utmost precision.

Puravankara Records highest-ever annual sales of Rs.7,407 Crore in FY26

Bengaluru: Puravankara Limited, one of India's most trusted and admired real estate developers, today announced its results for the quarter ended March 31, 2026, and the annual results for FY26.

In Q4FY26, the company reported an impressive PAT of Rs.111 crore, up 226% year-on-year. Sales stood at Rs.3,547 crore - the highest-ever in any quarter, up from Rs.1,225 crore in the corresponding quarter last year, reflecting a strong growth of 190%. Sales volume for the quarter was 3.01 msf, while customer collections stood at Rs.1,213 crore, up 36% from Rs.892 crore in Q4FY25. Total revenue for the quarter stood at Rs.1,541 crore, up 173% from Rs. 564 crore in Q4FY25. The company also recorded a 37% year-on-year increase in

average realisation to Rs.11,787 per sq. ft.

Commenting on the company's performance, Ashish Puravankara, Managing Director, Puravankara Limited, said, "Q4FY26 was a staggering quarter for Puravankara as we recorded our highest-ever sales; a 37% increase in average realisation and PAT of Rs.111 crore. The company also strengthened its expansion in Mumbai through redevelopment projects in Malabar Hill and Chembur. With a potential projected surplus of Rs.19,290 crore over the next 3-5 years and a 21.02 msf launch pipeline over 12-15 months, the foundation for sustained growth is in place. Sales guidance for FY 2026-27 is projected at Rs.11,200 crore across the Southern and Western

regions. Our focus now is on accelerating execution, improving collections, and converting today's sales into tomorrow's reported profitability."

For FY26, Puravankara reported the highest-ever annual sales of Rs.7,407 crore, a 55% increase year-on-year from Rs.4,783 crore. Sales volume for the year stood at 7.25 msf, compared to 5.67 msf in FY25. The company also recorded a 21% year-on-year increase in average realisation, which stood at Rs.10,213 per sq. ft. on saleable area. Collections for FY26 rose 15% to Rs.4,258 crore, compared to Rs.3,711 crore in FY25. Total revenue for FY26 stood at Rs.3,846 crore, up 84% from Rs.2,093 crore in the previous year. Profit after tax for the

year stood at Rs.58 crore, up by 131% year-on-year.

Strategic Expansion: During FY26, Puravankara strengthened its development pipeline through a series of strategic acquisitions and joint development agreements across Bengaluru and Mumbai, with a cumulative estimated gross development value (GDV) of approximately Rs.15,200 crore. The year also marked the company's decisive entry into premium Mumbai redevelopment, anchored by the Malabar Hill and Chembur transactions. Details below:

Chembur, Mumbai: Selected as the preferred developer for the redevelopment of eight residential societies spread across approxi-

Decision to continue the health camp, which was limited to ten days: AAP's S.R. Ramachandra (Puttanna)

Bengaluru: It has been decided to continue the health camp, which was limited to ten days, and the pulse therapy is so powerful that the elderly who came to the camp with sticks and were exhausted from pain can walk without any help, said S.R. Ramachandra (Puttanna), president of the Aam Aadmi Party for the Malleshwaram assem-



bly constituency.

Speaking after participating in the ten-day free health check-up camp organized by the Aam Aadmi Party at Vaiyalkavali in Kodandarampur in the Malleshwaram assembly constituency from May 4 to 14, he said that more than 2000 people have benefited, and the public has come in thousands

and taken advantage of it. On this occasion, the E-Khatha campaign, which will be beneficial for the public, was also launched by the party to obtain all the documents and create an E-Khatha.

He said that he wanted to hold free camps everywhere in the Malleshwaram constituency and that if the public arranges for a place, it should be continued continuously. Party leaders Geetha Puttanagowda, party workers and the public participated.

Division-Level Workshop on Special Intensive Revision of Electoral Rolls

Belagavi : Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Roshan instructed officials to carry out the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls strictly in accordance with rules and guidelines issued by the Election Commission of India.

He was speaking after inaugurating a division-level training workshop on the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls held at the Central Hall of Suvarna Vidhana Soudha in Belagavi.

The workshop was attended by all Additional Deputy Commissioners, Electoral Registration Officers, Assistant Electoral Registration Officers, Election Tahsilars and Technical Programmers of the Belagavi Division.

The Deputy Commissioner stated that mapping of multiple registrations has already been carried out in the Belagavi North and South Assembly constituencies. However, many citizens are yet to participate in the mapping process. He directed officials to immediately complete the remaining mapping work and ensure inclusion of eligible persons who may have been left out of the voters' list through proper field surveys.

"No eligible citizen should be



deprived of the right to vote. Voting is a democratic right of every citizen, and officials must work to ensure that this right reaches everyone," he said. He also instructed Electoral Registration Officers and Assistant Electoral Registration Officers to discharge their duties diligently and without fail.

On the occasion, Joint Chief Electoral Officer V. Raghavendra conducted training for the officials regarding the Special Intensive Revision process and instructed them to take necessary action as per the Election Commission's guidelines.

Addressing the gathering, Joint Chief Electoral Officer V. Raghavendra said that the revision of electoral rolls must be conducted in a transparent and error-free man-

ner in accordance with the directives of the Election Commission of India. He emphasized that all officials should work in coordination to successfully implement the revision process.

He further noted that there have been instances where officials were suspended for repeatedly violating election rules and stressed the need for all officials to perform election duties with utmost responsibility and vigilance.

He instructed officials to take appropriate action regarding inclusion of eligible voters and deletion of ineligible voters from the electoral rolls. He also directed them to verify and take necessary action concerning absentee and migrant voters.

During the workshop, officials were given detailed information on various aspects of electoral roll revision, including new voter registration, correction of names, change of address, deletion of names of deceased and duplicate voters, and the use of online services.

Officials attending the training also clarified their doubts and issues with Joint Chief Electoral Officer V. Raghavendra.

State Congress Government Deliberately Suppressed Farmer Suicide Cases: H.D.Kumaraswamy

Bengaluru : Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy has levelled serious allegations that the State Congress Government has deliberately suppressed the ongoing cases of farmer suicides in Karnataka.

Addressing the media at the party's state office, JP Bhavan, the Union Minister said, "Recently, I read a report in a newspaper titled 'Rise in Farmer Suicides.' I was deeply shocked after reading it. I had hoped that after such a report appeared on the front page of a newspaper twelve days ago, this government would wake up. But this government, which is busy holding conventions, has no concern for the welfare of farmers," he lashed out. Citing the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) report, the Union Minister stated that 2,423 farmers and agricultural labourers died by suicide in 2023 and 2,971 in 2024 in Karnataka. "In just two years, a total of 5,394 farmers have lost their lives.



Karnataka stands second in the country in farmer suicide cases. Is the State Government unaware of these figures? Or is it knowingly suppressing them?" he questioned.

The Minister further alleged that the government had deliberately concealed such a massive number of farmer suicides. "Have they organised a convention in Tumakuru to celebrate these suicides?" he criticised.

"If it rains for just ten minutes, waterlogging can be

seen everywhere in the city. Yet this government has spent crores of rupees extravagantly for this convention. The government itself has to bring people to attend. Officials have been given targets to mobilise crowds. Since people do not voluntarily attend Congress programmes, the government is misusing officials for political purposes," Kumaraswamy criticised.

"This government has built a tomb over the lives of farmers and is showcasing

its grandeur on top of it. The people will never forgive them. On one side, farmers are dying every day, while on the other, they are celebrating in the name of guarantees. If these guarantees were truly effective, why would farmers be committing suicide?" the Minister asked pointedly.

He also accused the government of excessively publicising several issues related to the Revenue Department in the name of the convention. "Even last year, they mainly discussed title deeds. Farmers who approach us, and people we meet across districts, repeatedly complain about problems in the Revenue Department. They are now claiming to provide a 'Land Guarantee' as the sixth guarantee scheme and gaining free publicity. But the continuing series of farmer suicides in the state repeatedly exposes the true capability of this government," he said angrily. Ready for Debate on Bidadi Township:

Tamil Nadu government warns ration staff against irregularities

The intensified scrutiny follows complaints from beneficiaries regarding weighing discrepancies and irregularities in ration distribution at some outlets.



CHENNAI: The Tamil Nadu Food and Civil Supplies Department has stepped up monitoring of Fair Price Shops across the State and instructed employees to remain alert and ensure complete transparency in the distribution of essential commodities, amid a series of surprise inspections by newly elected representatives and officials.

The intensified scrutiny follows complaints from beneficiaries regarding weighing discrepancies and irregularities in ration distribution at some outlets.

As part of the ongoing inspection drive, authorities are closely examining the functioning of electronic weighing machines installed at Fair Price Shops to ensure commodities are supplied in the exact quantity entitled to cardholders. Department officials said employees have been specifically directed to verify whether the digital display boards on weighing machines are functioning properly on both sides so that beneficiaries can clearly view the measurements during distribution. "The weighing process must remain fully

transparent to the public. Electronic scales should function accurately and the display must be visible to consumers at all times," a senior official in the department said.

Officials said inspection teams have been carrying out field visits across districts to check weighing accuracy, stock handling and overall compliance with Public Distribution System norms.

The department has also warned that stringent action would be initiated against employees if lapses or irregularities are detected during inspections. Sources said staff members have been instructed to discharge their duties with greater caution and vigilance as monitoring mechanisms are being tightened across Tamil Nadu. Officials said the inspection exercise would continue across Tamil Nadu in the coming days, with particular emphasis on transparency, weighing accuracy and consumer confidence in ration distribution.

Stalin reviews progress of DMK poll debacle assessment panel



CHENNAI: MK Stalin on Tuesday (May 19) reviewed the progress of the constituency-wise assessment committee constituted by the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) to analyse the party's defeat in the recent Assembly election.

The review meeting was attended by DMK deputy general secretary Kanimozhi and youth wing secretary Udhayanidhi Stalin.

Following the electoral setback, Stalin had constituted a 36-member committee to conduct field-level reviews across all

Assembly constituencies and identify the reasons behind the party's poor performance.

Sources said that during the ongoing review interactions, several second-rung leaders and party functionaries alleged that the PEN organisation, headed by Stalin's son-in-law Sabareesan Vedamurthy, was one of the major reasons for the party's poll debacle.

Responding to the criticism recently, Sabareesan had defended PEN and stated that "oversimplifying a large political outcome into

one narrative is not useful because it does not reflect reality." DMK leaders point fingers at Stalin's son-in-law Sabarisan, PEN for Assembly poll debacle

Against this backdrop, Stalin, Kanimozhi and Udhayanidhi held discussions on the feedback emerging from the review process and the organisational mood within the party. Meanwhile, Alim Ali Buhari, former general secretary of the State Youth Congress Committee, joined the DMK in the presence of Stalin.

Nilgiris restricts entry of horses amid glanders scare

COIMBATORE: Amid growing concerns over the spread of glanders disease among horses, the Nilgiris district administration has imposed restrictions on bringing horses into the hill district without prior approval.

Addressing the media on Tuesday, Nilgiris District Collector Lakshmi Bhavya Taneeru said that no horses would be allowed into the district without official permission and registration.

To strengthen surveillance, police and veterinary officials have been deployed at various entry points to monitor and

ensure compliance by preventing the transport of horses into the district from elsewhere.

Speaking to the media, she said a consultative meeting would be convened to determine the course of action regarding medical examinations for horses within the tourist town of Udhagamandalam.

The Collector said horses in the Nilgiris have already been micro-chipped jointly by the Animal Husbandry Department and municipal authorities, enabling officials to easily verify ownership details and maintain records.



Palaniswami chairs crucial AIADMK office-bearers meet, rebels raise pitch for general council meet

CHENNAI: Amidst heightened disagreement between the two factions, AIADMK general secretary Edappadi K Palaniswami, facing open revolt from former state ministers C Ve Shanmugam and SP Velumani, chaired a meeting of the party's district secretaries here on Tuesday, trying to retain his hold over the party.

TN Sports Minister Arjuna announces establishment of talent research wing

The breakaway group, however, raised the pitch for convening the party general council to introspect AIADMK's successive defeat in the elections since 2019. Shanmugam said the AIADMK's continuous defeat at the hustings corroded the party's vote bank.

"This is a big threat to the organisation. We have been saying that the reasons for the defeat should be reviewed and discussed. Our plea for convening the general council after the



defeat in the 2024 polls was rejected. We reiterated the request," Shanmugam told reporters along with Velumani and Dr C Vijayabaskar, reacting to the day's development at the party office. He claimed that Palaniswami not only declined to unite all the factions but also disregarded a request to forge a strong alliance. "Today we need an alliance with TVK, we said. And TVK initiated talks with the AIADMK, though he (Palaniswami) may deny it," he said. Had the AIADMK factions

merged to emerge as a strong force, the party would have won the election and Palaniswami would have become the Chief Minister. "Or a government would have been formed by his mere glance," Shanmugam said.

He further said, "We should discuss and take a good decision. We will accept whatever decision is made at the general council meeting. Let the general council decide. We are all cadres of AIADMK, followers of M G Ramachandran, and children of Amma (late Chief Minister J

Jayalalithaa). Our aim is that AIADMK should rule Tamil Nadu again by becoming strong organisation." Earlier in the day, Palaniswami held a closed-door meeting with the party office bearers and held elaborate discussions for nearly two hours.

According to former state minister B V Ramana, the meeting was attended by about 80 district secretaries. All the office bearers and cadres solidly stood with Palaniswami, and the party would work out a strategy to emerge victorious in the coming days, he said. "Over 80 district secretaries attended the meeting. A few could not attend as they were not able to arrive at the party headquarters on time," Ramana told reporters, emerging from the meeting. Another senior leader, V V Rajan Chellappa, said the AIADMK has resolved to strive unitedly under the leadership of Palaniswami with unwavering dedication.

PMK urges Tamil Nadu government to grant sanction to ED in Senthil Balaji case

CHENNAI: PMK president Anbumani Ramadoss on Tuesday urged the Tamil Nadu government to grant sanction to the Enforcement Directorate (ED) to prosecute former Minister V Senthil Balaji in the alleged cash-for-jobs scam linked to recruitment in State transport corporations.

In a statement, he said the ED had sought the State government's permission to proceed with the money laundering case against Senthil Balaji over the alleged illegal transfer of funds collected from job aspirants by promising employment in transport corporations. He termed the move as a welcome step aimed at ensuring probity in governance.

Anbumani Ramadoss said the Chennai Central Crime Branch had registered a case alleging that during his tenure as Transport Minister between 2011 and 2015, Senthil Balaji had collected crores of rupees from thousands of people by promising jobs such as drivers, conductors,



technical staff and engineers in State transport undertakings.

Based on the predicate offence, the ED had registered a money laundering case against Senthil Balaji and others, including his brother, alleging illegal transfer of proceeds generated through the recruitment scam. The case is pending before a special court in Chennai. He noted that Senthil Balaji had spent 410 days in prison after being arrested in connection with the case.

He alleged that trial proceedings in the money laundering case had not commenced as the previous DMK government had refused to grant sanction for prosecution,

though approval from the government was mandatory for prosecuting former Ministers.

Anbumani Ramadoss said the ED had initially approached former Governor R. N. Ravi on May 14 last year seeking sanction to prosecute Senthil Balaji. However, the request was rejected on the ground that the agency should directly approach the State government. Following this, the ED has now written to Chief Secretary M. Sai Kumar with supporting documents seeking approval, he added. Claiming that Senthil Balaji had admitted to collecting money from job aspirants and had informed the Madras High Court that he had returned money to several victims, the PMK leader said there was evidence of illegal transfer of the proceeds generated through the scam. He alleged that the former Minister should not be allowed to escape accountability under the protection extended by the previous DMK government.

Chewing food properly may improve focus, alertness and digestion, say experts

Bengaluru, May 19: Health experts say that properly chewing food may do more than aid digestion, as it could also help improve alertness, concentration and overall brain function.

In today's fast-paced lifestyle, many people eat meals hurriedly while using mobile phones, watching screens or working. However, neurologists and dieticians suggest that mindful chewing may positively influence both physical and mental wellbeing.

Dr Harish Hovale Bheemrao, Consultant Neurologist at Fortis Hospital, Yeshwanthpur, Bengaluru, explained that chewing activates several nerves and muscles connected to the brain. "When we chew food properly, the jaw muscles and nerves send signals to different areas of the brain. This process may help increase blood flow and improve alertness for a short period of time," he said.

According to experts, chewing acts as a mild sensory stimulus that may support attention, concentration and memory-related functions by improving oxygen-rich blood flow to the brain.

A study published in



the journal BioMed Research International has also linked chewing with improved alertness and sustained attention. Researchers noted that the rhythmic action of chewing may increase blood circulation to the head and stimulate important brain networks. Ms Karthigai Selvi, CF Dietician at Gleneagles BGS Hospitals, Kengeri, said proper chewing also improves digestion by breaking food into smaller particles and mixing it effectively with saliva and digestive enzymes.

"When food is chewed properly, the body absorbs nutrients more efficiently, which may indirectly support ener-

gy levels, concentration and overall brain performance," she explained.

Experts also highlighted the growing awareness around the gut-brain connection, where digestive health is believed to influence mood, focus and mental wellbeing. Doctors warned that fast eating habits, often caused by stress and screen distractions, may negatively affect digestion and reduce mindfulness during meals. "When you chew slowly, you become more aware of hunger and fullness signals. This supports both physical health and mental wellbeing," Ms Selvi said.

Dr Bheemrao added that distractions during

meals may increase stress and reduce mental relaxation over time.

Experts further noted that chewing may help reduce stress responses in some individuals, which could explain why people often chew gum while concentrating or during stressful situations. However, doctors clarified that chewing alone is not a treatment for cognitive disorders or brain-related illnesses. They recommended adopting mindful eating habits such as eating slowly, avoiding screens during meals, maintaining a balanced diet, staying hydrated, exercising regularly and getting adequate sleep to support long-term health.

Millet-based diet may improve vitamin B12, vitamin D levels: Delhi study

Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS), a condition affecting more than 170 million women worldwide, has officially been renamed Polyendocrine Metabolic Ovarian Syndrome (PMOS) following a 14-year global initiative led by Australia's Monash University.

The move is aimed at improving awareness, diagnosis, and treatment of the condition, which experts say has long been misunderstood due to its earlier name focusing narrowly on ovarian cysts. Researchers explained that the term "PCOS" often created the misconception that the disorder was only related to ovarian cysts, despite the condition involving a wide range of hormonal, metabolic, reproductive, skin, and mental health complications.

PMOS is characterised by hormonal imbalances that can affect weight, metabolism, mental wellbeing, skin health, and reproductive function.

Professor Helena Teede, Director of the Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation and endocrinologist at Monash Health in Melbourne, led the global



effort to rename the condition. "What we now know is that there is actually no increase in abnormal cysts on the ovary, and the diverse features of the condition were often unappreciated," Professor Teede said. She noted that the earlier terminology contributed to delayed diagnosis, poor awareness, and inadequate treatment for millions of women worldwide.

According to experts, the renaming process involved researchers, clinicians, and people living with the condition across

six continents, making it one of the largest international efforts undertaken to rename a medical disorder. Professor Terhi Piltonen of Oulu University in Finland, who co-led the initiative internationally, said the new name was carefully chosen to ensure scientific accuracy while also remaining culturally sensitive across different regions. "It was essential that the new name avoided terms that could increase stigma or negatively affect women in certain societies," she said. The transition from

PCOS to PMOS will take place over the next three years and will be accompanied by a major international awareness and education campaign targeting healthcare professionals, governments, researchers, and the public. The new terminology is expected to be fully adopted in the 2028 International Guideline update. Experts believe the name change will help improve understanding of the condition, encourage earlier diagnosis, and lead to better long-term treatment and patient care worldwide.

Rupee sinks to record closing low of 96.52 against US dollar

AGENCY
Mumbai: The rupee slipped to a record low of 96.60 against the US dollar before settling at 96.52 (provisional) on Tuesday, May 19, weighed down by soaring crude oil prices, persistent foreign capital outflows, and a resilient dollar buoyed by global risk-aversion. The rupee is Asia's worst-performing currency in 2026, having tumbled to a historic intraday low of 96.60 against the US dollar. The currency has depreciated 1.5 per cent this month and more than 7 per cent this year. Forex traders said the rupee remains vulnerable to rising crude oil prices and the closure of the Strait of Hormuz. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened at 96.38 against the US dollar, then lost further ground and touched a record low of 96.60, before settling at 96.52 (provisional), registering a fall of 32 paise over its previous close. On Monday, the Indian rupee settled at a record low of 96.20 against the US dollar. "We expect the rupee to trade with a negative bias amid a strong dollar and rising US treasury yields. Ongoing geopolitical tensions and FII outflows may also put pressure on the



rupee. "However, any intervention by the RBI and certain restrictions on the import of gold and silver may support the rupee at lower levels. USD-INR spot price is expected to trade in a range of 96 to 96.60," said Anuj Choudhary, Research Analyst, Commodities Research, Mirae Asset Sharekhan. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading at 99.24, higher by 0.05 per cent due to

simmering Iran tensions. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, was trading down 1.92 per cent at USD 109.95 per barrel in futures trade. Moreover, emerging market economies, including India, continue to feel the pressure of rising crude oil prices, as elevated rates accelerate the outflows of US dollars, along with the withdrawals of funds by foreign portfolio investors, traders said. Meanwhile, US President Donald Trump has said he halted fresh strikes

on Iran at the request of Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the UAE, asserting that serious discussions were underway with Tehran that could lead to an acceptable deal. Trump said he was asked by Saudi Arabia, Qatar, the UAE and some others if the US could put it off for 2 or 3 days, a short period of time, because they think that they are getting very close to making a deal. On the domestic equity market front, Sensex declined 114.19 points to settle at 75,200.85, while Nifty

dipped 31.95 points to 23,618. Foreign Institutional Investors remained net buyers for the third straight session, purchasing equities worth Rs 2,813.69 crore on Monday, according to exchange data. The rupee is Asia's worst-performing currency in 2026, having tumbled to a historic intraday low of 96.60 against the US dollar. India's edible oil imports rose 3 per cent to 166.51 lakh tonnes in the 2025-26 fiscal year, driven largely by a sharp jump in duty-free imports from Nepal, industry body Solvent Extractors' Association of India (SEA) said on Tuesday, May 19. Imports had stood at 161.82 lakh tonnes in the prior fiscal year. Nepal, which enjoys zero-duty access to Indian markets under the South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) agreement, exported 7.36 lakh tonnes of edible oils to India during the year, more than double the 3.45 lakh tonnes shipped in the previous fiscal, a rise of 113 per cent. Refined soybean oil made up the bulk of Nepal's exports to India, with smaller volumes of sunflower oil, RBD Palmolein and rapeseed oil also traded.

HISTORIC HEALTHCARE LEAP FOR BASTAR -

NMDC's 25 Crore Powers Jagdalpur Super Speciality Hospital



TSIT DESK
Hyderabad, 19 May 2026: In a landmark step towards transforming healthcare access across Bastar, a Super Speciality Hospital in Jagdalpur was virtually inaugurated by the Honourable Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah in the presence of Honourable Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh Shri Vishnu Deo Sai, on Monday. A key driver of industrial and social development in Chhattisgarh, NMDC emerged as an enabling force in the commissioning of the hospital. Investing 25 crore in the operationalisation, the company has committed sustained financial support of a similar scale over the next five years, helping the institution evolve into a self-sufficient

healthcare ecosystem. Developed by the Government of Chhattisgarh under the aegis of the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY), the hospital meets a critical regional healthcare need for the tribal communities of Bastar, who have historically had to travel long distances for specialised treatment. In response to the pressing need for accessible tertiary healthcare in the region, NMDC ensured the operational readiness of the facility by bringing on board a reputed private healthcare partner and extending financial support. The Government of Chhattisgarh has entrusted the private corporate hospital with managing operations and NMDC with fund-

ing the initial operational expenditure. Located in Dimrapal, Jagdalpur, the hospital is expected to reduce dependence on metropolitan centres for critical healthcare needs and ensure timely access to quality medical treatment for thousands of families across South Chhattisgarh. For decades, NMDC has invested in building social infrastructure in Bastar, particularly in healthcare and education. Honouring its commitment to the local tribals, the Super Speciality Hospital, supported by NMDC, stands as a defining moment in the region's development journey. A major advancement in healthcare accessibility for the people of Bastar, the hospital will provide free treatment to underserved communities.

STARBUCKS KOREA SACKS CEO OVER CONTROVERSIAL 'TANK DAY' PROMOTION

AGENCY
Washington: Starbucks Korea's chief executive has been sacked over a campaign perceived as referring to a bloody historical incident. Launched on Monday, the anniversary of the Gwangju Uprising crackdown, the "Tank Day" coffee tumbler promotion sparked calls to boycott Starbucks Korea and prompted a harsh rebuke from President Lee Jae Myung. Many felt the "tank" motif referenced vehicles deployed by the military government in May 1980 to crush pro-democracy protesters. Starbucks Korea rolled back the promotion hours after it launched. Shinsegae, the conglomerate that owns the majority stake in the coffee chain, apologised for "inappropriate marketing" and fired the chain's chief executive Sohn Jeong-hyun. The promotion, which used the English words "Tank Day", was for their Tank Series drink tumblers touted to have "spacious volume" for a large amount of coffee. According to local reports, Starbucks Korea initially clarified that the Tank



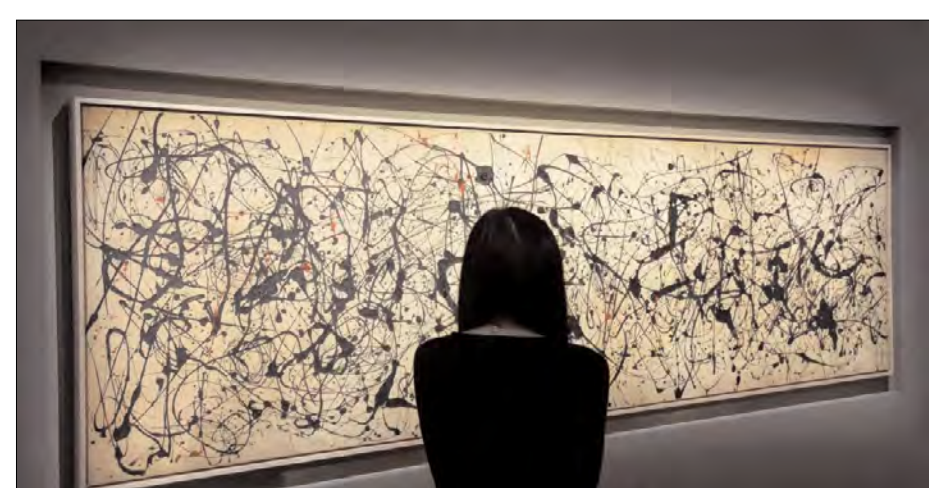
Series was one of several series of tumblers it was rolling out in a campaign running from 15 to 26 May. "We sincerely apologise for causing inconvenience and concern to our customers due to this," the company said. "We have immediately suspended the event and will review and improve our internal processes to prevent similar incidents from recurring in the future." Starbucks' headquarters in the US also issued an apology, acknowledging that "while unintentional, [the incident] should never have happened". "We recognise the deep pain and offense this has caused, particularly to those who honor the victims, their families, and all

who contributed to Korea's democratisation," it said. "I can't believe they thought they could pull off something like this and people would just let it slide... it's utterly absurd and infuriating," an X user wrote early on Tuesday. Several also put out calls on social media to boycott both Starbucks Korea and Shinsegae. South Korea's president was among those who criticised the campaign, saying it "insults the victims and the bloody struggle" of the residents of the southern city of Gwangju. "What on earth were they thinking, knowing how many lives were taken that day and how seriously that set back our country's justice and history?" I

am outraged by such a low-class merchant's inhumane behaviour, which denies our country's values of basic human rights and democracy," Lee wrote on an X post. Reports estimate that hundreds of demonstrators were killed in the southern city of Gwangju on 18 May 1980. Further investigations into the massacre later confirmed that troops deployed by the military regime of Chun Doo-hwan committed rape and sexual assault. Since then, 18 May has frequently been depicted in films and television shows as a day of national trauma for South Korea while also commemorated annually as a sacred day of democracy. The Gwangju Uprising set South Korea on its path toward democracy. It became a rallying cry for activists over the following seven years, culminating in a movement in June 1987 which toppled Chun's regime. Some in South Korea claim the Starbucks Korea campaign also references the 1987 movement. Promotional material for the tumbler used the phrase "tak on the table!"

JACKSON POLLOCK PAINTING SELLS FOR RECORD \$181M AT AUCTION

AGENCY
Europe: A Jackson Pollock artwork, described as one of history's "first truly abstract paintings", has sold at auction for \$181m (£135m) in New York. Number 7A, 1948, which went under the hammer at the renowned Christie's auction house on Monday, smashed the previous record for the most a work by the late American artist has taken at auction. The painting, which came from the private collection of media magnate SI Newhouse, is also now the fourth most expensive artwork ever sold at auction, according to ARTnews. Also in the collection was a bronze sculpture by Romanian artist Constantin Brancusi, which sold for \$107.6m - the second highest amount a sculpture has ever gone for at auction. Pollock, who died in 1956, was a major figure in the abstract expressionist art movement. His drip painting technique is one of the art world's most recognisable and often imitated.



The previous auction record for one of Pollock's artworks was \$61.2m for his Number 17, 1951 painting, which was sold in 2021. Other pieces have sold for higher prices in private sales. Christie's called Number 7A, 1948, which depicts black drips of paint with touches of red on a huge canvas spanning more than three metres, a key piece of art history. "It is with this work that Pollock finally frees himself from the shackles of conventional easel painting

and produces one of the first truly abstract paintings in the history of art," it wrote in its description of the piece online. Other artworks sold at the Christie's auction included pieces by Mark Rothko and Joan Miró, which also both broke previous records for works by the artists at auction. Monday's eye-watering auction follows a string of records set at Sotheby's in November last year. Austrian master Gustav Klimt's "Portrait of Elisabeth Lederer", which he painted between 1914

and 1916, sold for USD 236.4 million, becoming the second most expensive work ever sold at auction. "The Dream (The Bed)" (1940), a self-portrait by Mexican artist Frida Kahlo, sold for USD 54.7 million, setting a record for the price of a painting by a woman. The most expensive painting ever sold at auction remains the "Salvator Mundi" (Savior of the World), a Renaissance work attributed to Leonardo da Vinci, which was bought for USD 450 million in 2017.

Mulugu announces influencer reels competition with cash prizes

TSIT DESK
Mulugu, May 19: An Influencer Reels Competition will be organised to showcase the tourism potential of Mulugu district, said District Collector Borkhade Hemant Sahadeva Rao. In a statement, he said that a special meeting with influencers and media representatives would be held on Thursday (May 21) at the Collectorate Conference Hall. The competition is being organised as part of the 99-day Praja Palana programme during Tourism Week. Influencers, media representatives and social media handlers from across the State are eligible to participate. Participants are required to submit 4K video reels highlighting tourist attractions, culture and heritage of Mulugu district between May 21 and May 30. Entries can be submitted in person at the



District Public Relations Office using a pen drive, or sent via WhatsApp to DPRO Rafiq (99483 92976) or APRO Venu (9494970535). Attractive cash prizes will be awarded to the top three entries. The first prize carries Rs 21,000, the second Rs 15,000 and the third Rs10,000. The winners will be announced on June 2. The Collector said that

even entries that do not win prizes may be published on the district's official social media handles, with due credit to the creators, if found suitable. He noted that the initiative aims at promoting tourist destinations while offering visibility to content creators, and urged influencers in Mulugu and nearby areas to participate.

Petrol hits highest price since start of Iran war

AGENCY
Mumbai: The average price of unleaded petrol has risen to 158.52p a litre, its highest level since the start of the Iran war, according to the RAC. Petrol and diesel prices surged when the conflict began on 28 February, with the production and transportation of energy across the Middle East slowing or stopping entirely due to missile strikes and drone attacks. The price of petrol last peaked at 158.31p on 15 April, falling by more than a penny until the start of May when it began rising again, the RAC said. The motoring organisation also said unleaded was likely to increase to at least 160p a litre in the coming weeks unless there was a "dramatic and sustained drop" in the price of oil. Brent crude - the global benchmark for wholesale oil prices - is currently trading at about \$111 a barrel. Before the conflict, Brent was trading at about \$73 a barrel. That in turn has pushed up prices at the pump. The price of unleaded petrol was 132.83p a litre on average at the start of the conflict. The average price of diesel was 142.38p a litre. It is now 185.92p a litre. "The news that petrol has climbed to a new wartime high comes in a week when the chancellor is thought to be on the point of



scrapping plans to increase fuel duty by a penny in September," said Simon Williams, RAC head of policy. "This would have been the first step in reversing the 5p fuel duty cut that's been in place since the Ukraine war. If she decides to keep fuel duty at the current rate of 52.95p per litre, it will be a relief for drivers as our research shows they have been struggling with the higher cost of filling up." The Treasury has said it does not comment on tax speculation. Williams said that the outlook for diesel was "more positive" as the wholesale price has reduced significantly since it peaked in early April. But while the price of diesel at the pump had

fallen to its lowest since the start of last month, he added: "it should really be much lower than it is". "We urge retailers to reflect the savings they're benefiting from when buying new supply on the forecourt," he said. According to AAA, prices for gas or petrol went up by 27 cents over the past week amid the deepening impasse, with Iran blocking the strait and the US imposing a naval siege on Iranian ports. "The national average is \$1.12 higher than it was this time last year, as oil prices surge above \$100/barrel with no indication of when the Strait of Hormuz will reopen," AAA said in a brief report on

Thursday. "Gas prices are the highest they've been in four years, since late July 2022." California, home to nearly 40 million people, saw petrol prices hit more than \$6 per gallon on Thursday. The spike in energy prices has been fuelling inflation and economic uncertainty, adding to Trump's political woes. The US president's approval rating is hitting record lows amid growing discontent with the conflict with Iran, recent public opinion polls show. Since the start of the war, Trump and his allies have been trying to frame the hike in petrol prices as a temporary price worth paying to achieve the aims of the military campaign. The US president reiterated that argument on Thursday when asked about the latest price increase. "The gas will go down. As soon as the war is over, it'll drop like a rock." However, oil prices do not drop automatically after hostilities stop. Despite the ceasefire reached on April 8, the cost of gas in the US has continued to climb. Iran denies seeking a nuclear weapon. Although the US is one of the largest oil producers and is not heavily reliant on energy products from the Middle East, global prices affect what Americans pay at the pump.

TRUMP SAYS HE CALLED OFF NEW IRAN ATTACK AT REQUEST OF GULF STATES

AGENCY
Washington: US President Donald Trump has said he is holding off a military attack on Iran planned for Tuesday at the request of Gulf states as "serious negotiations are now taking place". In a post on Truth Social, he said he had been asked to do so by the leaders of Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. He said he had been informed a deal would be made that is "very acceptable" to the US, adding there would be "NO NUCLEAR WEAPONS FOR IRAN!" But he warned the US would be ready to "go forward with a full, large scale assault on Iran, on a moment's notice" if there was no acceptable deal. A senior Iranian military commander told the US not to make "strategic mistakes and miscalculations again". Trump's latest announcement on Iran comes amid a drop in his approval rating and as polls show the war is increasingly unpopular at home. Some 64% of voters

believe it was the wrong decision to go to war with Iran, according to a New York Times/Siena poll published on Monday. The survey also found that just 37% of voters approve of Trump's job performance as president. The polling underscores the challenge Republicans face in the midterm elections, in a moment of growing public frustration with the war and Trump's handling of the economy and immigration, among other issues. Israeli and US forces began massive air strikes on Iran on 28 February, while Tehran retaliated by firing drones and missiles at Israel and US targets in countries across the Gulf. A major factor at play here is the fear Gulf Arab states have over how Iran is likely to retaliate after any further attacks by the US. Iran is known to retain a significant number of drones and missiles with which it could resume its full-scale attacks on neighbouring



states, their airports, petrochemical facilities and even the crucial desalination plants that provide drinking water as summer temperatures in the Gulf build up. Talking to reporters later, Trump called it "a very positive development, but we'll see whether or not it amounts to anything". He said: "We've had periods of time where we had, we thought, pretty much getting

close to making a deal, and it didn't work out. But this is a little bit different." Trump said there seemed to be "a very good chance" of an agreement with Iran, adding: "If we can do that without bombing the hell out of them, I would be very happy." A ceasefire agreed in April meant to facilitate talks has largely been observed despite occasional exchanges of fire. Iran has also continued to control the Strait of Hormuz, effectively closing the vital waterway through which around 20% of the world's oil and liquefied natural gas travels. The move, which Iran has said is in retaliation for US and Israeli attacks, has sent oil prices soaring globally. The US, for its part, has been enforcing a blockade of Iranian ports to exert pressure on Tehran to agree to its terms. Late on Monday, Iran's Tasnim news agency published what it said were comments by Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei, warning that new fronts

would be opened where the enemy had little experience and would be highly vulnerable. Tasnim appeared to have reposted Khamenei's quotes from 12 March. Some Iranian news outlets have taken to republishing his previous written messages. Earlier on Monday, Iran said it had responded to the latest US proposal and that exchanges with Washington were continuing through Pakistani mediators. Iranian media earlier reported the US had failed to make any concrete concessions to Tehran. On Sunday, Trump had warned that "for Iran, Clock is Ticking, and they better get moving, FAST, or there won't be anything left of them". Several days ago, the US president had said the truce was on "massive life support" after rejecting Tehran's demands, labelling them "totally unacceptable". Esmail Baghaei, an Iranian foreign ministry spokesperson, insisted they were "responsible" and "generous".

Father-of-eight killed in San Diego mosque shooting hailed as a hero



AGENCY
San Diego: The bravery of a security guard who was shot dead along with two other worshippers at a San Diego mosque on Monday prevented the attack from being much worse, say police. The guard was Amin Abdullah, a father of eight, a spokesman for the Council on American-Islamic Relations-San Diego (CAIR-SD), Tazheen Nizam, told the BBC. "It's fair to say his actions were heroic," San Diego Police Chief Scott Wahl told a news conference. "Undoubtedly, he saved lives today." Abdullah and two others - whom CAIR-SD named as Mansour Kazih and Nader Awad - were killed

by two yet-to-be-identified teenage attackers who then took their own lives, say police. People who knew Abdullah told US media he looked after the community. Others have taken to social media to describe him as "the nicest man you'll ever meet". The mosque called him "a courageous man who put himself on the line of the safety of others, who even in his last moments did not stop protecting our community". Nizam, the CAIR spokeswoman, told the BBC: "Amin was loved by everybody, he stood there day after day, always smiling, welcoming everybody, welcoming the kids who came to the school."

Tasmanian government apologises over stolen body parts scandal



AGENCY
Tasmania: The Tasmanian government has apologised for a decades-old scandal in which body parts taken from autopsies were secretly kept - and in some cases put on display - without the consent of families. The wrongdoing was uncovered last year after an investigation found that between 1966 and 1991 pathologists may have "actively sourced" 177 human specimens collected during autopsies before handing them to a university museum. The samples were given to the museum without approval of family members or the coroners who were responsible for the bodies. On Tuesday, several family members were in parliament as the state's health minister apologised for the "enduring distress, anger, pain, grief and trauma". "Although these historical practices ended 35 years ago, the deep impact this has had on the families and loved ones of the deceased continues to this day," Bridget Archer told parliament. "It's important to remember that these were not just body parts or specimens or human remains. They were people." For

Cheryl Springfield, the apology was a welcome development but more was needed. "It's in the right direction, but it's not going to fix it all," she told local media before the apology. Her brother David Maher died in 1976, aged 14, in a car accident and when she found out that his body parts were part of the investigation, she was devastated. "It's been absolutely a nightmare from that moment we were told." That disbelief has also been felt by John Santi, who was 13 in 1976 when his older brother Tony died, aged 19, in a motorcycle accident. "We buried him 50 years ago, only to find out 50 years later that these people had stolen his brain," Santi told Australian Associated Press (AAP). Concerns about specimens displayed at the University of Tasmania RA Rodda Museum in Hobart were first raised in 2016 after three bone samples were suspected of having been obtained without the consent of family members. This led to the state coroner ordering an investigation into the museum's collection in April 2023, and after months of inquiries.

TWO DEAD IN SPAIN SHOOTING, WITH BABIES REPORTEDLY AMONG INJURED



AGENCY
Spain: A 25-year-old man has been arrested on suspicion of killing his parents and injuring four others in a mass shooting in southern Spain, police have said. Authorities said the shooting was reported at 23:00 local time (22:00 BST) on Monday in the small town of El Ejido, near Almeria. Four others, including two children, were seriously injured

and have been taken to hospital. One is believed to be the suspect's seven-month-old son, according to local media reports. The identities of the suspect and the victims have not been formally released by Spanish authorities. Local media say the other child injured is an 18-month-old baby, while a 60-year-old man is also believed to be among those injured in the attack.

Ebola outbreak may be spreading faster than first thought, WHO doctor warns

AGENCY
Washington: People living close to the epicentre of a deadly Ebola outbreak have told the BBC of their fear, as the World Health Organization (WHO) warned cases may be spreading faster than originally thought. One man in the Democratic Republic of Congo's north-eastern Ituri province, the epicentre of the outbreak, said infected people were dying "very fast", and added: "Ebola has tortured us." The virus has killed 131 people in the DR Congo, and officials say more than 513 cases are now suspected in the country. One person has died in neighbouring Uganda. The WHO's Dr Anne Anicia told the BBC that the more the UN agency investigates the outbreak, the clearer it



becomes cases have spread to other areas. Modelling by the London-based MRC Centre for Global Infectious Disease Analysis released on Monday suggested there had been "substantial" under-detection, and that it could not rule out there had already been more than 1,000 cases. The study suggested that the current outbreak is "larger than currently ascertained" and that

its "true magnitude remains uncertain". A man who spoke to BBC News and identified himself as Bigboy said people are "really scared" and doing what they can to protect themselves. He said locals are taking precautions such as washing hands with clean water, but added that he wished they could get access to other protective supplies such as face masks. Another Ituri local,

Alfred Giza, said people in the community are aware of the threat and waiting to receive face masks to protect themselves, but that he would not know what to do if a family member or friend contracted the disease. The Red Cross warned that Ebola can escalate quickly if cases are not identified early, communities lack information and health systems are overwhelmed, adding "we are seeing all those conditions" in the current outbreak. On Tuesday, DR Congo President Félix Tshisekedi called for "calm" and urged Congolese citizens to remain vigilant, after holding a crisis meeting on Monday evening. WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, who declared the outbreak an international emergency last week.

Victim or enabler? Epstein girlfriend who could face questions despite plea deal

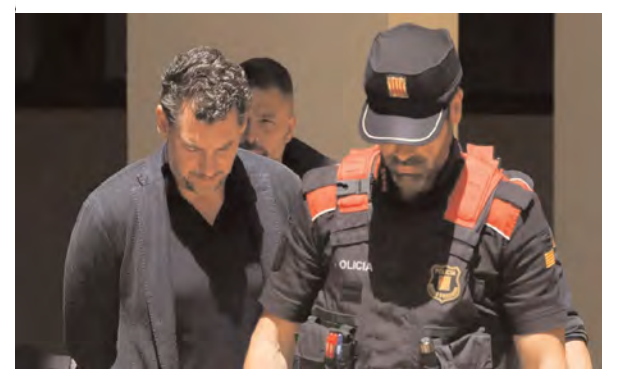
AGENCY
Washington: During Jeffrey Epstein's first spell in jail, a 13-month sentence for soliciting sex from an under-age girl, prison records show one woman visited him at least 67 times. That woman was Nadia Marcinko. Marcinko was Epstein's main girlfriend for seven years - his most significant partner after Ghislaine Maxwell - and in later years, an assistant pilot of his private plane. She is comparatively unknown to the public, but she may soon find herself in the spotlight. Marcinko is one of four women who were named as Epstein's "potential co-conspirators" in a 2008 plea deal that granted them immunity



from prosecution. Now, two of those women - Epstein assistants Sarah Kellen and Lesley Groff - are about to be questioned by US legislators. One congressman wants all four, including Adriana Ross, another Epstein assis-

tant, and Marcinko, to be investigated, despite the plea deal. Marcinko has never been accused of, or charged with, any crime. Her lawyers say she is one of Epstein's victims. But girls in Palm Beach, Florida, whose testimony about their abuse when they were under age led to Epstein's conviction in 2008, told police that Marcinko participated in that abuse. The BBC has spent months interviewing those who have met Marcinko, and scrutinising every email we could find between her and Epstein in the files, to try and build a detailed picture of her role in the disgraced financier's life. The emails reveal Epstein and Marcinko wanted to start a family together, we have discovered. The Agency has also found evidence suggesting that over many years, he asked her to recruit other women to help satisfy his sexual desires and she complied.

SON OF MANGO BOSS ARRESTED OVER FATHER'S FATAL FALL FROM CLIFF



AGENCY
Mexico: The son of Mango founder Isak Andic has been arrested in connection with his father's death. Jonathan Andic, 43, was detained by Catalan police on Tuesday as part of a renewed investigation into the death of the fashion tycoon, which was initially treated as an accident but was later reopened. Isak, 71, died in December 2024 after falling from a ravine while walking in the Montserrat mountains near Barcelona with his son. There have been conflicting media reports about whether they were alone or if other family members were present. Jonathan has previously denied responsibility for his father's death. A family spokesperson told Reuters that Jonathan was being questioned and that the family was confident of his innocence. He joined Mango in 2005 and later oversaw the company's Mango Man line. He became vice-chairman of the board after his father's death. Investigators in Catalonia initially closed the case in early 2025 after finding no evidence of

criminal wrongdoing but reopened it later that year, claiming there were inconsistencies in Jonathan's testimony, the La Vanguardia newspaper reported. Jonathan was taken from his home shortly after 11:00 local time (09:00 GMT) where he was questioned by police again. He was expected to be taken to a court to testify before a judge later on Tuesday, the paper added. Born in Turkey, Isak founded Mango with the help of his brother, Nahman, in Barcelona in 1984 and the chain now operates almost 3,000 outlets in 120 countries. At the time of his death, Forbes estimated the businessman's net worth to be \$4.5bn (£3.6bn). Mango CEO Toni Ruiz previously said Isak's death would "leave a huge void" and added: "All of us are, in some way, his legacy and the testimony of his achievements". "It is up to us, and this is the best tribute we can make to Isak and which we will fulfil, to ensure that Mango continues to be the project that Isak aspired to and of which he would feel proud."



California wildfires in Simi Valley and Santa Rosa Island seen from space

TWO BODIES OF MISSING ITALIANS RECOVERED FROM INSIDE MALDIVES CAVE



AGENCY
Italy: The bodies of two Italians who drowned in a scuba diving accident in the Maldives last week have been brought to the surface, local officials have told the BBC. "They were retrieved from the third chamber of the underwater cave by the specialist divers from Finland after a two-hour operation," Mohamed Hossain

Shareef, a Maldivian government spokesperson told the BBC. The two bodies were being brought to the capital Male for identification. They were among five people who died in the accident. Two bodies remain inside. The first body of an Italian diver, who was a member of the group, was recovered shortly after Thursday's accident near Vaavu atoll.

IPL 2026: LUCKNOW SUPER GIANTS SETS A TARGET OF 220/5 FOR RAJASTHAN ROYALS



Why Is Mohammed Shami Not Playing For LSG Against RR?

AGENCY
Mumbai: Mohammed Shami was not part of the Lucknow Super Giants playing XI for their IPL 2026 encounter against Rajasthan Royals on Tuesday. The fast bowler, who was not included in India's squad for the one-off Test and ODI series against Afghanistan, was present on the field but was not even part of the Impact Substitutions list. LSG captain Rishabh Pant was asked about Shami's absence but his answer left West Indies legend Ian Bishop puzzled at toss. Bishop tried asking Pant about Shami's absence but the LSG captain did not provide any clear reply. He just pointed out the changes in the playing XI and ultimately, Bishop decided to move on from the subject. Here's how the conversation between Rishabh Pant and Ian Bishop went - Pant: Shami is not playing, Mohsin is playing Bishop: What's the issue with Shami? Pant: Yeah Bishop: What's the issue with Shami? Pant: Mohsin Bishop: No, what's the issue with Shami? Bishop: Who is out?



Pant: Shami is out, Mohsin is playing Bishop: Ya, I'm asking... Pant: Aiden is out, Badoni is in Bishop: Okay, we can leave it there Rajasthan Royals' stand-in skipper Yashasvi Jaiswal won the toss and elected to bowl against Lucknow Super Giants. RR regular skipper Riyan Parag missed out due to hamstring injury that he sustained in their previous match, while Ravindra Jadeja is also out as he is recovering from "some niggles". RR made three changes with Sandeep Sharma, Sushant Mishra and Lhuan-dre Pretorius coming in the playing XI. LSG also made a couple of changes with Mohammed Shami making way for Mohsin Khan and Ayush Badoni replaced Aiden Markram. RR are placed fifth in the points table, while LSG are already out of the playoff race. Teams: Rajasthan Royals: Yashasvi Jaiswal(c), Lhuan-dre Pretorius, Dhruv Jurel(w), Donovan Ferreira, Shubham Dubey, Dasun Shanaka, Jofra Archer, Sushant Mishra, Sandeep Sharma, Brijesh Sharma, Yash Raj Punja. Lucknow Super Giants: Mitchell Marsh, Josh Inglis, Nicholas Pooran, Rishabh Pant(w/c), Ayush Badoni, Abdul Samad, Shahbaz Ahmed, Mohsin Khan, Mayank Yadav, Akash Maharaj Singh, Prince Yadav.

WHY DON'T DRIVERS ENTER OTHER SERIES LIKE VERSTAPPEN?

AGENCY
Canada: Formula 1 is back in North America this weekend for the Canadian Grand Prix, the fifth round of the 2026 season. Mercedes' George Russell, who won the race last year, will be aiming to narrow the 20-point gap to his team-mate Kimi Antonelli at the top of the drivers' championship. Before the race in Montreal, BBC F1 correspondent Andrew Benson answers your latest questions. Why don't other F1 drivers enter different forms of motor racing like Max Verstappen is currently doing with the endurance racing? - Paul Max Verstappen's outing at the Nurburgring 24 Hours last weekend generated a lot of



interest, but it is no accident that he is only the third grand prix driver in more than 20 years - and probably doing with the endurance racing? - Paul Max Verstappen's outing at the Nurburgring 24 Hours last weekend generated a lot of

his first career in F1, when he took part in the Indianapolis 500, Daytona 24 Hours and then joined Toyota for the World Endurance Championship while he was still under contract to McLaren. Nico Hulkenberg also raced at Le Mans when

he was at Force India in 2015. The main reason drivers do not generally do this is that their contracts forbid it. Why? Well, risk is the first obvious reason. Then there are potential contractual clashes, and the lack of time available to devote to doing something like this properly. In Verstappen's case, it is a question of the balance of power between driver and team. He has massive leverage with Red Bull that most other drivers do not have. He is a four-time world champion, and the team are desperate to keep him happy. On a general level, but also because right now they know he is not exactly enamoured with F1. Alonso's situation was not dissimilar.

Chiefs Heiress Gracie Hunt Shares Special Wedding Update After Lavish Dallas Celebration

AGENCY
Spain: Gracie Hunt is embracing wedding season with family and close friends by her side. The daughter of Kansas City Chiefs owner Clark Hunt recently shared moments from a lavish bridesmaids proposal and engagement celebration hosted by her mother, Tavia Hunt, in Dallas. The event came shortly after Gracie's engagement to Derek Green, son of former Chiefs quarterback Trent Green, and offered fans a closer look at a major wedding update. Gracie Hunt reveals 14 bridesmaids during lavish Dallas celebration hosted by Tavia Hunt As wedding preparations continue, Gracie revealed



an important detail about the people who will stand beside her on the big day. During the Dallas gathering, she shared that 14 bridesmaids will be part of her wedding, including her sister Ava Hunt, who will serve as maid of honor. Derek Green's sister, Janelle Green, a volleyball

Julie Green, attended the event as family and friends gathered for a champagne-filled evening organized by Tavia Hunt. Gracie later reflected on the moment with an emotional message on Instagram, sharing how much the women in her life mean to her. "Looking around this room [Friday], I couldn't help but thank God for the way He so intentionally placed each one of these amazing women (& @mr.austinyrde) into my life," she wrote. "Through every season, they've loved me, prayed for me, encouraged me, challenged me, and helped shape me into who I am today. I truly would not be the same without them."

player at the University of Toledo, is also included in the bridal party. The celebration also featured a sports connection through Kayla Sharples, a center back for the Kansas City Current, the NWSL team co-owned by Patrick Mahomes and Brittany Mahomes. Derek's mother,

Two-time winner
Alcaraz out of
Wimbledon with injury



Nashville's Super Bowl 2030 Bid Gains Steam As NFL Owners Consider Unprecedented Vote On Titans Stadium

AGENCY
Nashville: Nashville may just have scored its biggest win yet. The NFL plans to vote on the hosting rights of Super Bowl LXIV, which could see the prestigious championship game played for the very first time in Tennessee at the new Tennessee Titans stadium. The game would be hosted in February 2030, in the recently announced \$2.1 billion enclosed stadium now under construction in Nashville's east end. The vote to consider Nashville as the site of the championship event precedes the opening of the stadium, underscoring an increasing belief in Nashville's capabilities to play host to major events. But the bid is already meeting with political controversy, with proponents praising tourism earnings and opponents raising concerns about



taxpayer dollars going into billionaire-sponsored stadiums. NFL Owners Will Vote On Super Bowl LXIV At New Tennessee Titans Stadium Reports indicate that Nashville is the likely winner of hosting Super Bowl LXIV. The construction of the proposed stadium is seen by supporters as central to the development of Nashville into an ideal sports and entertainment destination in the

future. Supporters see a lot of benefits from the event. It is believed that tourism, hotel rooms, restaurant visits, and sales tax revenues during the

Super Bowl week could justify Tennessee's commitment to the project. NFL Super Bowl Host Debate Heats Up Amidst Critics Questioning Public Investment While the news is exciting, the project itself remains highly controversial. Lawmakers, who had earlier opposed public spending of almost \$500 million on the stadium, are now seeing how the Super Bowl can benefit Nashville and Davidson County. Nonetheless, there are continued criticisms regarding the use of public funds in the building of the stadium. The critics contend that taxpayer dollars could be used in other places rather than financing stadiums for rich organizations such as those owning teams.

"It's Actually Embarrassing": Draymond Green Slams NBA Over Shai Gilgeous-Alexander MVP Title Leak



AGENCY
Texas: The NBA's biggest individual award should have been a major television moment for fans waiting to see Shai Gilgeous-Alexander officially crowned MVP on NBA on Prime. Instead, much of the conversation shifted toward frustration over how the result leaked hours before the scheduled announcement. Veteran NBA reporter Shams Charania revealed the winner nearly half a day early, triggering backlash across social media and sparking criticism from players, including Draymond Green of the Golden State Warriors. While many fans already expected Gilgeous-Alexander to secure his second straight MVP award after another dominant season, critics argued that the leak removed suspense from one of the league's biggest postseason events. It also raised larger questions about the NBA's relationship with insiders, television partners and media control at a time when the league continues pushing for bigger broad-

cast audiences and stronger global engagement. Draymond Green calls NBA MVP leak "pathetic" Green did not hide his frustration when discussing the situation on his show. The Warriors forward argued that the NBA allowed one of its most important announcements to lose impact by letting the result become public before the official reveal. "I think the NBA has to do something about that. Like, ultimately, you're the NBA. You control the media. Like, yeah, Shams is an NBA reporter with ESPN, who is a partner of the NBA. To tweet at 6:00 in the morning when the NBA MVP is, it's actually embarrassing," the Golden State Warriors veteran said. For Green, the issue was not about one leaked award. He believes it reflects poorly on the league's organization and damages the value of moments the NBA spends heavily promoting. "It makes our league look like we have no organization. It makes our league look like it's child's play," he continued.

DID BROCK LESNAR CHANGE HIS NAME?

12-Time World Champion Seemingly Gets A New WWE Name After Surprising Comeback On RAW

AGENCY
Cranberra: For weeks, WWE fans believed Brock Lesnar was fully done with wrestling. After losing to Oba Femi at WrestleMania 42 and leaving his boots and gloves inside the ring, it looked like the end of an era for The Beast Incarnate. WWE even treated the moment like an official retirement, and many people thought Lesnar had wrestled his final match. But that feeling completely changed during the May 18 episode of WWE RAW. Out of nowhere, Brock Lesnar stormed back

into the picture and instantly went after Oba Femi. The return itself already had fans going crazy online, but another detail during a backstage segment later in the show confused the WWE Universe even more. Some viewers are now wondering if Brock Lesnar quietly got a brand-new last name in WWE. Brock Lesnar destroys Oba Femi after surprising WWE RAW comeback Oba Femi walked out on RAW expecting another big moment for himself. The former rookie, who previously defeated Brock Lesnar at

WrestleMania 42, appeared ready to continue building momentum inside the ring. Instead, things went completely sideways. Before Femi could really say much, Brock Lesnar returned and attacked him out of nowhere. The Beast looked brutal during the assault and hit Oba with four straight F5s. The attack left the former champion laid out as fans inside the arena erupted loudly for Lesnar's comeback. The segment instantly became one of the biggest talking points from RAW because many viewers genuinely

believed Lesnar had retired after WrestleMania. Why fans think WWE may have changed Brock Lesnar's name Later during the show, RAW General Manager Adam Pearce was shown backstage trying to understand what exactly was happening. Pearce mentioned that Brock Lesnar's retirement paperwork had already been processed.



Peddi Trailer Raises Hype Sky-High With Epic Rural Action Spectacle

Experience Larger-Than-Life Spectacle-Epic Trailer Of Mega Power Star Ram Charan, Buchi Babu Sana, Venkata Satish Kilaru, Vriddhi Cinemas, Mythri Movie Makers, Sukumar Writings' Peddi Unveiled Mega Power Star Ram Charan's highly anticipated Pan-India flick Peddi is already roaring ahead even before its release, with every promo becoming a nationwide talking point. Director Buchi Babu Sana brings a raw, rooted energy to this rural action-sports saga, while the striking first-look posters, impactful character glimpses, and stirring songs have only amplified the hype. Produced ambitiously by Venkata Satish Kilaru under Vriddhi Cinemas, in collaboration with Mythri Movie Makers and Sukumar Writings, the film's theatrical trailer was unveiled just a while ago at an event in Mumbai. Rather than opting for a typical hero introduction, Peddi trailer unfolds a sweeping rural tapestry dominated by sweat, struggle, and an undying love for sport. The protagonist, Peddi, is a multi-talented athlete who earns his livelihood through sheer physical might. Whether it's cricket, wrestling, or sprinting, his life is defined by the grit and passion he pours into every discipline. Adored by the children and respected by the villagers, his rapid rise draws envy, especially from a domineer-



ing landlord whose pride refuses to share the spotlight. Director Buchi Babu Sana shapes this larger-than-life universe with remarkable clarity. The trailer pulses like a heartbeat- gentle in its silences, thunderous in its bursts of action. Every frame is crafted with precision, immersing viewers in a world that feels authentic, expansive, and rich with atmosphere. Instead of relying on familiar sports-drama patterns, Peddi injects its sporting sequences with raw intensity and life-or-death stakes. Massive clashes on railway platforms, gravity-defying

stunts, and adrenaline-fueled fights hint at a world where sport and survival are inseparable. One stand-out stretch is the seamless fusion of cricket and wrestling, an audacious, high-impact sequence that instantly grabs attention. Ram Charan appears in a fiercely athletic avatar, showcasing exceptional physical conditioning that grounds the film's demanding sports segments. The trailer fluidly shifts between sporting worlds- from Charan swinging a rugged cricket bat under blazing floodlights to engaging in visceral mud-wrestling bouts. His transformation

into Peddi is both chiseled and emotionally layered. Janhvi Kapoor brings elegant warmth to her role, blending traditional charm with expressive nuance. The trailer further teases a powerful supporting cast- Shiva Rajkumar, Jagapathi Babu, Divyendu, and Boman Irani, each adding weight and intrigue to the drama. Technically, Peddi looks poised to redefine Indian cinematic spectacle. Production designer Avinash Kolla creates rustic landscapes filled with texture and authenticity. The visuals, captured by celebrated cinematographer R Rathnavelu, throb with

intensity- rich tones, sweeping frames, and dynamic movement in every shot. Elevating the narrative further is a stirring score by AR Rahman, amplifying both emotional depth and action-packed moments. The film's production values are of international standards. Every frame feels sculpted for the big screen, promising a truly immersive theatrical experience. This is a trailer cut like no other in recent times, and it sets the bar sky-high. The excitement is now through the roof as we count down the final couple of weeks before the film's release.

GRAND PRE-RELEASE EVENT AND SONG LAUNCH OF THE MOVIE "FIRST TIME"



The pre-release event and the launch of the song "Ee Pilla Nenu Anukoneledu" for the upcoming movie "First Time" were celebrated grandly. Written, directed, edited, and produced by Hemanth Ippalapalli, the film is made on a low budget but boasts high technical values. It is being promoted as one of India's most prestigious VFX-heavy films, uniquely created entirely with Human Intelligence (HI) rather than using AI for its high-end graphics. The movie is scheduled to hit theaters on the 22nd of this month. Thammareddy Bharadwaj, Ex MLC Duvvada Srinivas, Bigg Boss Fame Divvela Madhuri and Gorgeous Heroine Payal Rajput attended as Chief Guests for the event. Senior Producer Thammareddy Bharadwaj : "He praised director Hemanth for taking on multiple responsibilities (like director S.S. Rajamouli) and applauded the fresh concept brought by the young team.

He urged the audience to watch the film on the 22nd and make it a success". Music Director Sri Venkat : "Saying Hemanth the pillar of the movie, he thanked the director for his trust on his musical work. He expressed confidence that the audience would love the film and requested media support". Artist Gayatri Gupta : "She appreciated the efforts of the director and praised strong personalities like Duvvada Srinivas, Madhuri, and Payal. She requested the audience to support this new kind of cinema". Actress Anicka Vikraman : "She thanked Payal Rajput for her constant support from the very beginning and asked for the audience's blessings". Zee Chief Editor Bharat Kumar : "He noted that in an era of hero-centric films, 'First Time' is a true director's film. He highlighted the VFX as a major strength and stated that encouraging such films will lead to more good cinema". Director Producer Hemanth Ippalapalli : "He

credited Payal Rajput as the backbone who gave the team courage. He thanked everyone for their support and requested audiences to experience the film in theaters". Bigg Boss Fame Divvela Madhuri : "She mentioned that the film perfectly reflects a blend of Sanatana Dharma and modernity. She wished the entire team a great success". Former MLC Duvvada Srinivas, "He appreciated the director's massive effort in handling multiple crafts single-handedly. He noted that the film beautifully portrays Lord Brahma and the functioning of the universe, making it a must-watch in theaters". Actor Saurabh Dhinra : "He thanked Spandana for taking the film to the market and praised the director for sacrificing family time to work on the film. He expressed a heartfelt thanks to Payal Rajput for her constant encouragement, saying, "Till now I was proud of you; now I will make you proud of me".

Grand "RK Deeksha" Songs & Teaser Launch Event Held – Movie Releasing on June 12th

RK Deeksha," produced and directed by Dr. Prathani Ramakrishna Goud under the banners of RK Films and Sigdha Creations, is gearing up for a grand theatrical release on June 12th. Presented by D.S. Reddy, the film stars Dhee and Jodi fame Aksa Khan and Alekhya Reddy as the female leads, while Kiran plays the hero. Tulasi, Anusha, Keerthana, Pravalika, Rohit Sharma and others appear in key roles. On the occasion of director-producer Dr. Prathani Ramakrishna Goud's birthday, the film's songs and teaser launch event was organized grandly on Monday evening in Hyderabad. Speaking at the event, producer A. Gururaj said, "Birthday wishes to Dr. Prathani Ramakrishna Goud garu. The quality of 'RK Deeksha' is clearly visible through the songs and teaser. I wish the film great success." Political leader Gyadari Balamallu said, "Dr. Prathani Ramakrishna Goud garu, who hails from the Siddipet region, has been active in both politics and cinema for a long time. He has directed and produced many films and also proved himself as an actor. I hope 'RK Deeksha' becomes a big success for him." Canada-based Tarun Sahi said, "Along with entertainment, this film carries a strong message. My best wishes to the



entire team." Music director Raj Kiran said, "Thanks to Dr. Prathani Ramakrishna Goud garu for giving me the opportunity to compose music for this film. Hero Kiran and heroine Aksa Khan lived in their roles. We have delivered very good music for the movie." BC Association leader Anjali said, "Dr. Prathani Ramakrishna Goud has earlier made good films. 'Deeksha' too is going to inspire everyone. The songs and teaser are very impressive." Retired judge Madhusudan Reddy said, "Films should not only entertain but also

make audiences think and contribute positively to society. 'RK Deeksha' is such a meaningful attempt." Hero Kiran said, "Dr. Prathani Ramakrishna Goud garu is giving opportunities to many newcomers. This film conveys that with determination and dedication, one can achieve anything in life. Raj Kiran's music will be a special attraction for the movie." Heroine Aksa Khan said, "We believe everyone liked the song and teaser released today. This film is coming with strong content. I have also done a special song in the movie."

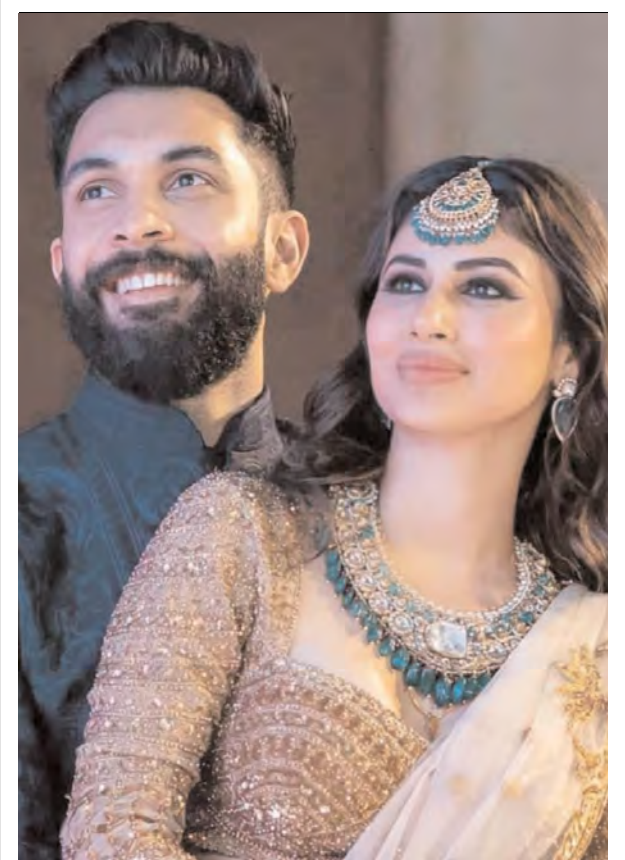
Manoj Manchu Says AIKYA Will Be Voice for the Voiceless



AIKYA DHAIRYA SENA SAMITHI Shall Become a Voice for the Voiceless" - 'RawKing' Manoj Manchu Opens Up on Social Responsibility, Freedom of Speech, Films, Politics and Purpose During Extensive Media Interaction 'RawKing' Manoj Manchu held a heartfelt and extensive press meet where he spoke about AIKYA DHAIRYA SENA SAMITHI, social responsibility, freedom of speech, films, politics, women

empowerment, upcoming projects and more. Starting the interaction, Manoj spoke about the organization and the thought behind its formation. "So we thought to go statewide and started with blood camps. On the first day, we launched it at Kukatpally in Hyderabad. Then we did it at Kurnool, and I thank everyone who came forward. It was also conducted in Kakinada. Then it was conducted at Tirupati, Vizag and some other places. This will not stop. It shall continue, and I really wish to continue it. It will be a platform for the people who want to give back and serve society. And it shall become a voice for the people who are voiceless in society. And the reason we named it AIKYA DHAIRYA SENA SAMITHI is because I strongly believe that if we keep getting divided, it is going to end badly.

NO THIRD-PARTY INVOLVEMENT IN MOUNI ROY'S DIVORCE



Actress Mouni Roy announced her separation from businessman Suraj Nambiar. The couple issued a joint statement saying that the decision is mutual and they are completely aligned on certain things. However, there have been reports about infidelity, alimony, and other things going around Suraj Nambiar. Deeply hurt by the same, Suraj broke his silence, confirming that there is no alimony involved. At the same time, several people online also linked Disha Patani to the entire issue, claiming that she has been the reason for the couple's separation. Disha is close to Mouni Roy and hence, these rumors surfaced. In the latest note from Suraj, the claims of third-party involvement have also been ruled out. "Recent

baseless reports surrounding our separation have been made in bad taste and are absolutely malicious. Let me set the record straight once and for all. There is no alimony. There are no disputes. There is no third party involved. Mouni and I chose to part ways together, with mutual respect and with full consideration for each other's well-being. That is the truth. Everything else being reported is fiction, and in some cases, a deliberate attempt to vilify two people who have done nothing but ask to be left alone," he wrote. Mouni Roy and Suraj Nambiar first met in 2018 during a New Year's celebration in Dubai. The couple tied the knot in January 2022. The couple released a joint statement about separation on May 14th.

Purushaha will appeal to everyone. Audiences will be thoroughly entertained: Hero Pavan Kalyan at the pre-release event

Battula Saraswathi is presenting, while Battula Koteswar Rao is producing the wholesome family entertainer Purushaha under the Kalyan Productions banner. The film marks the debut of Pavan Kalyan Battula as a lead actor, with direction by Veeru Vulavala. The cast includes Pavan Kalyan, Saptagiri, Kasireddy Rajkumar, Raayanacha Kokkura, Vishika, and Hasini Sudheer in key roles. The film is set for release on May 22. As part of the promotions, a grand pre-release event was held on Monday. While speaking at the event, Pavan Kalyan Battula said: "Thanks to producer Koteswar Rao garu and



Saraswathi garu for bringing Purushaha to this stage. Our director Veeru garu took great care of me throughout this journey and supported me immensely. Satish garu made all of us look fantastic

on screen. He helped me overcome my camera fear. Shraavan garu gave us wonderful songs. Ravi garu created excellent sets. Saptagiri anna and Kasireddy anna treated me

like their own younger brother. They helped me shed my shyness, fear, and hesitation. Working with Vennela Kishore garu, Rajeev Kanakala garu, and VTV Ganesh garu taught me

a lot. Raayanacha, Hasini, and Vishika supported me throughout. A big thanks to Teju garu for coming for us. My heartfelt thanks to everyone who worked on this film. And above all, thanks to my father, who shaped me into who I am today. I grew up watching his struggles. My sister too works very hard for me. Let's meet in theatres on May 22. Purushaha will definitely impress everyone. Since everyone stays indoors during this summer, this will be a perfect family film to enjoy together in theatres. I'm sure you will all be fully entertained." Saptagiri said: "When Veeru garu narrated the story, I tried giving some inputs, but he stuck to his own path and made the

film exactly as he envisioned. Koteswara Rao garu spoke so highly about our film industry and produced the movie wonderfully. Satish Muthyala garu gave us beautiful visuals. Shraavan's songs are winning everyone's hearts and the BGM is fantastic. Vishika, Hasini, and Raayanacha bring so much fun to the sets. I hope all our heroines get great opportunities. I enjoyed working with Kasireddy. I don't know what good deeds Pavan Kalyan did in his previous life, but he is blessed with a father like Koteswara Rao garu and a sister like Saraswathi garu. I request everyone to watch our film on May 22 and make it a success."