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Shashi Tharoor moves Delhi HC seeking protection of personality rights

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Trump meets Brazil's President Lula at White House

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SCAN FOR E-PAPER



OM NAMO VENKATESAYA

06-05-2026
Total pilgrims: 71,029
Tonnage: 31384
Hundi kankalki: 3.07 CR
Waiting Compartments: 11

Approx. Darsan Time for Sarvadarshanam (with out SSD Tokens)-6hrs

GOLD & SILVER FUTURES EXTEND GAINS IN TRADE

GOLD FUTURES (JUNE 5)

OPENED AT ₹1,52,419
UP NEARLY 1.8%
LATEST HIGH ₹1,52,450
DOWN NEARLY 1.8%
OPENED AT ₹1,52,000
PER 10 GRAMS

SILVER FUTURES (JULY 3)

OPENED AT ₹2,49,316
LATEST HIGH ₹2,51,699
UP NEARLY 3%
PER 10 GRAMS

Both gold and silver futures witnessed strong gains in early trade, supported by market expectations and global cues.

Indian military warns Pakistan on Op Sindoor anniversary

JAIPUR (TSIT): No terror sanctuary across the Line of Control is safe, and India will target every terrorist infrastructure at a time and manner of its choosing, the Indian military said on Thursday, sending a clear warning to Pakistan on the first anniversary of Operation Sindoor. Detailing what is now considered India's most significant combat mission in five decades, the then heads of military operations for the three services elaborated on the strategic successes of the massive tri-services campaign during a media briefing here. They asserted that the window for military action against cross-border terrorism remains firmly open. "No sanctuary across the Line of Control is safe. We will hit everything. We will go after everything and that has been made clear in the new normal that the prime minister said last year.

Telangana DGP urges police to gear up for drug-free state

Hyderabad (TSIT):

Telangana's new Director General of Police C. V. Anand on Thursday urged the entire police force to collaborate to eradicate drugs with the same spirit with which it made the state Maoist-free. He also called upon people to become partners in the process of curbing drugs for the future of their children.

The Director General of Police reviewed the performance of EAGLE Force, a special division established to curb the menace of drugs. Anand said that after taking charge as the Director General of Police, despite having many police wings to review, he chose to first review the Elite Action Group for the Drug Law Enforcement Force. He drew a parallel to how the Special Intelligence Bureau and Greyhounds worked as specialised agencies to make the state Maoist-free, stating that the entire police force must collaborate in the same spirit to eradicate drugs.

Just as the Special Intelligence Bureau and Greyhounds assisted in anti-Naxal operations, EAGLE



Force will provide intelligence and investigative support to all districts. The Director General of Police emphasised that a drug-free state can only be built if district Superintendents of Police and Commissioners of Police work in tandem with EAGLE Force. State-level investigations will be expanded to the districts.

Anand noted that the supply and consumption of narcotics are continuing unabated, not only in Telangana but across various parts of the world. He directed officials to move forward with a focus on using advanced technology, tracing financial roots (money trails), and crushing foreign syndicates.

Officials briefed the Director General of Police on the coordination between four Narcotic Police Stations in Hyderabad, Cyberabad, Rachakonda, and Warangal Commissionerates, along with seven regional cells and 20 enforcement wings. It was reported that drug case registrations have increased from 1,464 cases in 2023 to 2,734 cases in 2025. The number of arrests has also gone up from 3,157 in 2023 to 5,703 arrests in 2025. While the national average is 1.3 arrests per case, Telangana maintains an average of 3.1 arrests per case, indicating that the force is capturing not just suppliers but also the masterminds behind the scenes.

11 Indian ships exit Strait of Hormuz, 13 still await clearance

New Delhi (TSIT)

India on Thursday said that 11 Indian ships have successfully exited the Strait of Hormuz, while 13 vessels remain in the Persian Gulf as New Delhi continues talks with Tehran to facilitate their safe passage amid heightened regional tensions. "We have seen forward movement and, as a result of diplomatic engagement and conversations with the Iranian side, 11 Indian ships have so far exited the Strait of Hormuz. Thirteen ships continue to remain in the Persian Gulf, and we are in touch with the Iranian authorities to ensure that the remaining vessels are also able to cross the Strait of Hormuz and reach India, which is their destination," Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said during a media briefing.

Responding to questions regarding Iranian vessels and maritime access, Jaiswal said ships from other countries do not require permission to operate in international waters.

"If ships of other countries want to ply in international waters, no permission is required... But to your specific question about whether they want to come into Indian waters, this is something that the Ministry of Shipping or the relevant technical authorities would be able to answer," he said.



Operation Sindoor was a clear message to world: CM Naidu

Amaravati (TSIT):

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu said on Thursday that Operation Sindoor was a clear message to the world that our nation will not tolerate attacks on its soil, and no harm to our citizens will go unanswered.

On the first anniversary of Operation Sindoor, the Chief Minister posted on 'X' that the operation also reflected India's defence capabilities and its strength to take on every challenge in defence of the nation.

"On the first anniversary of Operation Sindoor today, I pay my humble tributes to those who lost their lives in the Pahalgam terrorist attack, and laud the Indian Armed Forces for delivering a befitting response. Jai Hind," posted Chandrababu Naidu.

Governor S. Abdul Nazeer extended his heartfelt salutations to the indomitable courage, valour, and unwavering commitment of our brave security forces in protecting the nation. "Operation Sindoor stands as a symbol of national pride, justice, and unshakable resolve. This glorious saga of victory serves as a strong warning to the forces that dare to challenge the



unity, integrity, and sovereignty of India. We remain forever grateful to our brave soldiers for their sacrifice, dedication, and tireless service to the nation," said the Governor.

State Minister for Education and Information Technology, Nara Lokesh, posted on 'X' that one year ago, Operation Sindoor demonstrated India's unwavering resolve to protect its sovereignty and the safety of its people.

"A heartfelt salute to our brave Armed Forces for their courage, precision and selfless service to the nation. Their valour and sacrifice continue to make every Indian proud. My sincere gratitude to Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji for his calm and decisive leadership during a defining moment for the nation. India stands united.

TN govt formation battle may reach court as Governor says Vijay's TVK lacks majority



New Delhi (TSIT)

A cliffhanger is emerging in Tamil Nadu, with no party yet invited to form the government despite three days having passed since Joseph Vijay's TVK emerged as the single largest party with 108 seats in the 234-member Assembly.

Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar met Vijay on Thursday and

explained that his party had not presented the numbers required to prove a majority and take the oath as chief minister. Vijay had staked his claim to form the government during a meeting with the governor on Wednesday, but the governor remained unconvinced about his numbers. Vijay needs the support of 118 MLAs and, so far, has received public

backing only from Congress, which has five MLAs. The Left parties, VCK and IUML, which have two MLAs each, have not yet formally extended support to Vijay and remain engaged in talks. TVK, meanwhile, may move court on the grounds that the Sarkaria Commission had, in 1988, laid down guidelines for governors to act in cases of a hung Assembly. Under those guidelines, the governor may first invite the largest pre-poll coalition, followed by the single largest party, to form the government and prove its majority on the floor of the House.

TVK is the single largest party in this case and could therefore stake a claim to form the government, since no pre-poll coalition has the required numbers.

Police form teams to trace Suvendu aide's killers

KOLKATA (TSIT):

The police have been examining CCTV footage and have formed multiple special investigating teams to trace those involved in the killing of BJP leader Suvendu Adhikari's close aide Chandranath Rath, a senior officer said on



Thursday. The police are also probing whether contract killers were engaged to murder Rath, who was shot dead in his car by bike-borne gunmen in the middle of a road at Madhyamgram in North 24 Parganas district on Wednesday night. A forensic team visited the

spot on Thursday morning and collected samples, while officers of the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) also joined the probe, he said. "Going by the circumstantial evidence, it seems that the murder was pre-planned.

Investigators are examining CCTV footage from the crime spot and nearby areas, while multiple police teams have been formed to trace the assailants," the officer said.

"We are also examining videos taken using mobile phones by witnesses who also helped in taking Rath, his driver and the other person inside the SUV to the nearby hospital," he stated. Since the crime took place some time after rain on Wednesday night, not many people were present on the roads leading to Rath's residential complex. "We have spoken to those people who were seen in the CCTV footage," he said.

Mamata Banerjee hasn't lost Bengal polls: Akhilesh Yadav



Kolkata (TSIT):

Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav on Thursday met Trinamool Congress supremo Mamata Banerjee at her residence in Kalyan and extended his moral support to her following her party's electoral setback in the West Bengal Assembly elections. During the meeting, Yadav told her, "Didi, you have not lost", and alleged electoral fraud by the Bharatiya Janata

Party and the Election Commission of India in West Bengal.

The meeting was also attended by Trinamool Congress Member of Parliament Abhishek Banerjee, who welcomed Yadav to Mamata Banerjee's house. Speaking to media persons after the meeting, Yadav said that Opposition leaders must collectively stand against alleged electoral fraud. "I have just met Didi (Mamata Banerjee).

Development Commissioner for Handlooms Govt. of India, New Delhi

SILK MARK

Handloom Rising

Government of Telangana
Department of Handlooms & Textiles

State Level Handloom Exhibition 2026
May 8th, 2026
8th to 17th May, 2026
Time : 10 am - 10 pm

Inauguration :
Sri Tummala Nageshwara Rao Garu
Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Marketing, Co-operation and Handlooms & Textiles

ENTRY FREE

Venue: Sathya Sai Nigamagamam, Srinagar Colony, Hyderabad.
Time: 05:00 P.M.

Exhibition cum Sale of Pure Handloom Products

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA REVENUE (LA) DEPARTMENT OR Collector/Additional Collector/RDO Suryapet

FORM - VII (See-Sub-Rule (1) of Rule-25 and Section-19 (1) of the Act -30/2013) DECLARATION

Collector File No. G/497/2026, Date: 05-05-2026 RDO File No. C/207/2026, Date: 02-05-2026 Gazette No. 25/2026, Date: 05-05-2026

Whereas it appears to the Government of Telangana/District Collector, Suryapet, that a total of Ac. 11.03 1/2 guntas land is required in Tirumalagiri Village of Tirumalagiri Mandal as per requisition given by the Executive Engineer Irrigation Division No - 5 Janagaon for public purpose namely for Excavation of 7R Distributory of Chennur Main Canal of Chennur Tank of JCRDLIS-Phase-III-Package-VI in Tirumalagiri Village of Tirumalagiri Mandal, Suryapet District.

Therefore declaration is made that a piece of land measuring, more or less Ac. 11.03 1/2 Guntas of patta land of standard measurement under acquisition for the above said project in the Tirumalagiri Village of Tirumalagiri Mandal Suryapet District whose detailed description is as following:

Village: Tirumalagiri, Mandal: Tirumalagiri, District: Suryapet 7R Distributory of Chennur Main Canal of Chennur Tank of JCRDLIS-Phase-III-Package-VI

SCHEDULE

Table with columns: SI No., Sy No., Type of Land, Area under Acquisition, Name of the Paddar and Enjoyer, Boundaries (N, S, E, W), and Remarks. It lists various land parcels and their details.

This declaration is made after hearing of objections of persons interested and due enquiry as provided U/s 15 of the Act. No. 30/2013. Due to Land Acquisition no one is affected, hence resettlement is not proposed. Mines of coal, iron, stone, slate or other minerals lying under the said land or any particular portion of the said land, except such parts of the mines and minerals which may be required to be dug or removed or used during the construction phase of the project for the purpose of which the land is being acquired, are not needed. A plan of the land may be inspected in the office of the Land Acquisition Officer & Revenue Divisional Officer, Suryapet or at Collectorate Suryapet on any working day.

CAN FIN HOMES LTD Branch Office: Plot No 28, 1st floor, Bramarambika colony, Ramachandrapuram, Hyderabad - 502032

DEMAND NOTICE

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

Table with columns: S. No., Name of the Borrowers/ Guarantors with address, Amount claimed as per demand notice, Description of the secured Assets, and Date of NPA Demand Notice Dt.

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

Date: 07-05-2026, Place: Ramachandrapuram Sd/- Authorised Officer, Can Fin Homes Ltd

www.thesouthindiatimes.com

Telangana Govt Committed to Housing for Every Poor Family Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy

Hyderabad, May 7 (TSIT): Revenue, Housing, Information and Public Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy said the Telangana Government is committed to providing a permanent house to every poor family and ensuring clear land ownership rights through comprehensive revenue reforms. Addressing



a review meeting on Housing and Revenue issues concerning the erstwhile Nalgonda and Mahabubnagar districts at the Housing Corporation Headquarters on Thursday, Minister said the government under the leadership of Chief Minister A.Revanth Reddy is working towards bringing a dig-

nified and secure future to poor families across the State. He stated that under the prestigious Indiramma Housing Scheme, eligible poor families are being provided Rs.5 lakh financial assistance for construction of houses on their own lands. Nearly four lakh houses have already been sanctioned.

FARMERS' WELFARE TOP PRIORITY OF GOVERNMENT: MLA VEERLAPALLI SHANKAR



RANGAREDDY : Shadnagar MLA Veerlapalli Shankar said the Telangana government is giving top priority to farmers' welfare and agricultural development. He attended an awareness seminar on agriculture and solar power held at Veljerla Rythu

Vedika under the Praja Palana Pragathi Programme initiated on the directions of Chief Minister Anumula Revanth Reddy.

Speaking on the occasion, the MLA explained various welfare schemes being implemented for farmers and emphasized the need to encourage solar energy usage in agriculture. Electricity DE Shyam Sundar Reddy, Agriculture ADA Ramadevi, Agriculture Officer Nishanth Kumar, local sarpanches, Congress leaders, officials, farmers, and villagers participated in the programme.

TGICC CHAIRPERSON NIRMALA JAGGAREDDY RECALLS HER JOURNEY AS A NURSE

Hyderabad TSIT: International Nurses Day Week celebrations were held grandly at the Sangareddy Collectorate Auditorium under the aegis of the Government Nursing College. On the occasion TGICC Chairperson Nirmala Jaggareddy paid floral tributes to the portrait of Florence Nightingale and interacted with nursing students and faculty members.



Addressing the gathering, Nirmala Jaggareddy shared her inspiring journey from being a nurse to entering public life and politics. She said that before entering politics, she had worked as a nurse and dedicated eight years of service to patients suffering from leprosy.

rosy wards for nearly eight years and provided care and support to patients with dedication and compassion.

She further stated that with the encouragement and support of her husband, senior leader Jaggareddy, she later resigned from her job and entered politics to serve people on a larger platform.

Coming from a remote village, she said she pursued B.Sc Nursing out of passion and commitment towards the healthcare profession. She explained that while serving in a government job as a nurse, she worked in lep-

Motivating the nursing students, Nirmala Jaggareddy said the nursing profession is one of the noblest services to humanity and called upon students to work with commitment, empathy, and responsibility towards patients and society.

Warm Welcome to Agriculture Minister Tummala by MLA Naini

Hanamkonda TSIT: Telangana Agriculture Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao, who visited Hanamkonda to attend the third day of the Mega Rythu Mela being organised at the Arts College grounds, was warmly welcomed by Warangal West MLA Nayini Rajender Reddy.



MLA received the Minister at the R&B Guest House in Hanamkonda and presented him with a bouquet as a mark of respect. The visit assumes significance as the Mega Rythu Mela continues to witness enthusiastic participation from farmers, agricultural scientists, and

officials from across the region. The event is aimed at creating awareness among farmers on advanced agricultural practices, new technologies, crop management techniques, and various welfare schemes being implemented by the State Government for the farming community.

HDB Financial Services Ltd. DEMAND NOTICE

Notice U/s 13(2) read with Section 13(13) of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002

Table with columns: Sr.No., Name of Borrower/Co-Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor, Loan Account No's, Date of NPA & Demand Notice Date, and Amount Due in Rs./as on.

SCHEDULE OF THE SECURITIES:- All that piece and parcel of Property bearing House No.9-4-29/74, Admeasuring 100 Sq. Yards or 83.61 Sq. Meters, Situated at Hakeempet, Tolichowki, Hyderabad, T.S., bounded on: (PTIN:1070913924). North: Neighbour's House, South: Road, East: Neighbour's House, West: Neighbour's House.

Protium PROTIUM FINANCE LIMITED

Registered & Corporate Office Address: 7th Floor, Block B2, Phase - II, Nirlo Knowledge Park, Pahadi Village, Old, Western Express Highway, Coim Industrial Estate, Goregaon (E), Mumbai - 400033, Maharashtra.

With reference to the Possession Notice published on 28th April 2026 in respect of Loan Account Nos. GS005EDS1936540 and GS005EDS2429723 of ST MARYS EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY, published in The South India Times (English) and Sakshyam (Telugu) Hyderabad Edition, it is hereby informed to the Borrowers and Public at large that due to inadvertent typographical error, the Symbolic Possession Date mentioned as 26th April 2026 shall be read as 25th April 2026. Further, one Co-Borrower name was inadvertently omitted in the said publication. The following Co-Borrower shall also form part of the said Possession Notice: KATHIJOJ SODANI S/O KATHIJOJ BIRAPATHI. All other terms and conditions mentioned in the original Possession Notice shall remain unchanged.

PUBLIC NOTICE

General Public is hereby informed that my client Sri V. Vasu, S/o. V. Venkata Rao, R/o. Vengal Rao Nagar, Hyderabad, has lost the Original Registered Document No. 3394/2012, dated: 04-06-2012 of Sub-Registrar Office, Kukatpally, pertaining to property bearing H.No. 4 MIG-1, 15-24-4/A, 1st Floor, Road No. 1, KPBB Colony, Kukatpally, M M District, The said document was misplaced on 13-04-2026 near Rythu Bazar (JNTU-Forum Mall Road) and is not traceable despite best efforts. Any person who finds or is in possession of the said document is requested to return and hand it over the same to the undersigned for which they will be suitably rewarded. M. Rem Reddy, Advocate Flat No. 205, 2nd Floor, Mehtab Arcade, Tarnaka, Secunderabad-500017. Mobile: 9440732135

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL HYDERABAD (DRT-2)

1st Floor, TRIVENI COMPLEX : ABIDS : AT HYDERABAD-500001 Case No. O.A. 223/2026

Summons under sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Act, read with sub-rule (2A) of the Debt Recovery Tribunal (procedure) Rule, 1993. BANK OF INDIA, SAROOR NAGAR BRANCH VS MR. DEKOND SHYAM KUMAR To, Sd/Deonda Shyam Kumar, S/o. Ramchander, Aged 41 years, Occ: Employee, Sex: Male, R/o. H.No. 14-138/1A, Raja Srinivasa Nagar, Mirzalguda, Malkajgiri, Hyderabad-500047.

HDB Financial Services Ltd. DEMAND NOTICE

Notice U/s 13(2) read with Section 13(13) of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002

Table with columns: Sr.No., Name of Borrower/Co-Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor, Loan Account No's, Date of NPA & Demand Notice Date, and Amount Due in Rs./as on.

SCHEDULE OF THE SECURITIES:- All that piece and parcel of Property bearing House No.9-4-29/74, Admeasuring 100 Sq. Yards or 83.61 Sq. Meters, Situated at Hakeempet, Tolichowki, Hyderabad, T.S., bounded on: (PTIN:1070913924). North: Neighbour's House, South: Road, East: Neighbour's House, West: Neighbour's House.

HDB Financial Services Ltd. DEMAND NOTICE

Notice U/s 13(2) read with Section 13(13) of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002

Table with columns: Sr.No., Name of Borrower/Co-Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor, Loan Account No's, Date of NPA & Demand Notice Date, and Amount Due in Rs./as on.

SCHEDULE OF THE SECURITIES:- All that The R.C.C. House Bearing H.No.16-10-72, in the Land Admeasuring 176.52 Sq Yards Or 147.75 Sq. Meters, situated at L.B.Nagar Internal Road Locality, Jangam Village Shiv, Ramagundam Municipal Corporation, Ramagundam Mandal, Peddapally District And Under The Jurisdiction Of Sub. District Registration Ramagundam, District Registration Karimnagar. North: 9'00" Wide Way, South: H.No.16-10-59 of B.Rajalingam, East: H.No.16-10-73 of Mogili, West: H.No.16-10-71 of B.Satyanarayana.

Canara Bank BHONGIR BRANCH, Opp Municipal Office, Station Road, Bhongir, Telangana - 508116.

SALE NOTICE

Date & Time of Auction : 06.06.2026, 11:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. (with unlimited extension of 5 minutes duration each till the conclusion of the sale) Last Date of Deposit of EMD is 05.06.2026, 5:00 PM,

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged / charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Bhongir Branch will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on 06.06.2026, for recovery of ₹37,513,22/- (Rupees Thirty Seven Thousand Five Hundred Thirteen and Twenty Two paise Only) (Contractual dues as on 04.05.2026) due to the Bhongir Branch of Canara Bank

Name of Address of the Borrower's : M/s Mallikarjuna Swamy Coconut & Oil Mill, Prop : Sri. Siripanga Mallesham, S/o. Siripanga Maisaiah (Unit Address) House No : 2-1-37/1/A, Kummari wada, Bhongir Yadadri Bhuvangiri, Telangana - 508116. Sri. Siripanga Mallesham, S/o Siripanga Maisaiah Prop : M/s Mallikarjuna Swamy Coconut & Oil Mill (Address 1) : House No 2-5-136/3, Sita Nagar, Bhongir Yadadri Bhuvangiri, Telangana - 508116. (Address 2) : House No 2-1-38, Khila Nagar, Bhongir Yadadri Bhuvangiri, Telangana - 508116. Guarantor : Sri. Bojja Swamy S/o Bojja Ramulu (Address - 1) House No 2-5-147/3, Sita Nagar, Bhongir Yadadri Bhuvangiri, Telangana - 508116 (Address 2) House No 2-1-137, Khila Nagar, Bhongir Yadadri Bhuvangiri, Telangana - 508116 Description of (Vehicle/P&M/Stock) and Items : Groundnut Decorticator Machine integrated with Rotary separator and Grading System : Fed Hopper, Shelling Drum with Internal Beaters/Rollers, Sieve or perforated Screen, blower or Air separation adjustment, Rotary Grading unit, Discharge Outlets, Belt & Pulley Drive System, Electric Motor (3 or 4 HP), consisting of a vertical bucket elevator, cylindrical rotary separator or grader mounted, feed hopper and discharge arrangement, an electric control panel, associated motor, drives, support structure used for handling, grading, and processing granular material and etc

Reserve price : Rs. 5,10,000/- Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) : Rs 51,000/-

No Known Encumbrances to the Knowledge of the Bank. Auction will be held through online Portal: https://baanknet.com/ EMD amount of 10% of the Reserve Price is to be deposited in E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (BAANKNET) portal directly or by generating the challan therein to deposit the EMD through NEFT/RTGS in the account details as mentioned in the said challan. For Bidding Process manual Bidder Registration and Payment of EMD Kindly Visit the Online Portal Website: https://baanknet.com/ Contact : 8291220202, Email: support.BAANKNET@psballiance.com.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website (www.canarabank.com) or may contact Chief Manager, Canara Bank, Bhongir Branch Ph. No.7362932160 during office hours on any working day.

DATE : 04.05.2026, PLACE : BHONGIR Sd/- AUTHORISED OFFICER

CAN FIN HOMES LTD H.No 58, MIG 1 Floor, Phase 2, Site 1, Pothreddypally, Bypass Road, Sangareddy 502295 Telephone:7625079234 CIN:L85110KA1987PLC008699

POSSESSION NOTICE (for immovable property) [(Rule 8(1))]

The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of Can Fin Homes Ltd. under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of the powers under the said Act and Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a demand notice on the below mentioned dates calling upon the following borrower(s)/co-borrowers/guarantors to repay the amount mentioned in the notice with further interest at contractual rates till date of realization within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below, against each borrower, in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on dates mentioned hereinafter.

Table with columns: SI. No., Name of borrowers and guarantors, Description of the property, Date of Demand Notice, Outstanding Amount, and Date of Possession.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets. The borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of CFHL, for the amount mentioned against each property along with further interest thereon till the date of realisation.

Date: 07-05-2026 Place: Sangareddy Sd/- Authorised Officer Can Fin Homes Ltd.

Hyderabad to Emerge as Global City in 10 Years Minister Sridhar Babu

Hyderabad TSIT: Telangana Information Technology and Industries Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu on Thursday asserted that the State government is pursuing a visionary and well-planned strategy to transform Hyderabad into a world-class global city over the next decade through large-scale international investments, futuristic infrastructure, and innovation-driven development.



Addressing the prestigious NASSCOM GCC Summit 2026 in Mumbai on the theme "Beyond Policy: Designed to Win the Global GCC Race," the Minister said the Telangana government had adopted the ambitious "Telangana Rising Vision 2047" framework with the aim of increasing the State's contribution to India's GDP to 10 percent by 2047. Sridhar Babu stated that many global cities were facing the consequences of unplanned urbanisation

the Regional Ring Road (RRR), Musi River rejuvenation, Young India Skills University, and the AIKAM Innovation Hub were being implemented to position Hyderabad among the world's leading economic and innovation hubs.

The Minister noted that Hyderabad has rapidly emerged as one of India's most preferred destinations for Global Capability Centres (GCCs) across sectors including technology, banking, life sciences, semi-conductors, defence, FMCG, hospitality, and space technology.

He revealed that more than 70 GCCs were established in Hyderabad during the previous year — the highest in the country — and said the government is now targeting the launch of 100 additional GCCs this year, which could potentially create employment opportunities for nearly one lakh people.

Dasari Harichandana Stresses Importance of Mock Drills for Disaster Preparedness



Hyderabad TSIT: State Revenue and Disaster Management Secretary Dasari Harichandana emphasised that mock drills are essential for strengthening disaster preparedness and improving coordination among departments during emergencies such as floods, industrial accidents, and forest fires.

Addressing officials during a video conference held at the Integrated Command and Control Centre to review preparations for the Tabletop Exercise scheduled on

May 15 and the State-level mock drills to be conducted across various districts on May 18. Harichandana stated that the mock drills conducted in 2025 proved highly effective in ensuring quicker response and better coordination among departments during disaster situations. She said such exercises help identify field-level gaps and enhance planning and preparedness systematically.

Director General of Telangana Fire Services Vikram Singh Mann informed that nearly 60 departments and Central agencies would participate in the upcoming mock exercises on floods, industrial accidents, and forest fires. He noted that Telangana, with the support of the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), successfully conducted mock drills on floods and industrial accidents for the first time in December 2025, significantly strengthening inter-departmental preparedness and emergency response systems.

He said flood-related mock drills for 2026 would be conducted in 13 districts, industrial accident drills in five districts, and forest fire mock drills in four districts. Necessary arrangements are being made by all concerned departments for the successful conduct of the exercises.

Officials asked to be prepared for disasters in Wanaparthy

Wanaparthy (TSIT): Central Disaster Management Lead Consultant Sudhir Bahal directed district administrations to remain fully prepared to effectively tackle natural and industrial disasters in the future. Under the aegis of the Central and State Disaster Management Departments, a video conference was conducted on Thursday with Collectors and district officials from across Telangana to explain standard operating procedures for disaster response through a PowerPoint presentation.

Bank of Baroda MARREDPALLY BRANCH POSSESSION NOTICE (UNDER SECTION 13(4) OF SARFAESI ACT) (Under Rule 8(1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002)

TWO ARRESTED FOR SELLING FAKE COTTON SEEDS IN MANCHERIAL DISTRICT



Bellampalli, May 7 (TSIT): Police arrested two persons for allegedly selling fake cotton seeds to farmers in Mancherial district and seized 55 kilograms of illegal seeds worth around 1.32 lakh. Another accused, believed to be the main supplier, is currently absconding. Acting on the directions of Ambar Kishore Jha and Mancherial DCP A. Bhaskar, a police team led by Bellampalli ACP Kiran Kumar and Bellampalli Rural Circle Inspector Ch. Hanok conducted raids under Tallagurijala police station limits on May 6. According to police, Kondapalli Rajesham of Perkapalli village and Atpuram Suresh of Nennel village were allegedly stocking and selling unapproved cotton seeds to farmers. Along with Bellampalli Mandal Agricultural Officer S. Prem Kumar, officials conducted searches at the residences of the accused. During the raids, police seized 29.5 kg of fake cotton seeds from Rajesham's house in Perkapalli village and another 25.5 kg from Suresh's residence in Nennel village. Officials said the accused had allegedly procured the seeds at low prices from a supplier identified as Kotaru Srinivasa Rao from Andhra region and sold them to farmers in Bellampalli and surrounding areas at higher prices.

Women Safety Wing Conducts Massive Statewide Awareness Campaign Across Telangana

Hyderabad TSIT: As part of the State Government's "Praja Palana Pragati Pranaiika (99 Days Campaign)," the Women Safety Wing of Telangana Police has launched an extensive statewide awareness campaign aimed at strengthening women and child safety mechanisms across Telangana.

According to the official press note, the campaign conducted from April 27 to May 2 witnessed an overwhelming response across districts. During the first six days alone, officials conducted 1,704 awareness sessions, reaching nearly 1,55,638 beneficiaries,



including students, employees, women, and community members.

A major highlight of the campaign has been the introduction of Bal Panchayats (Children's Parliaments) at the grassroots level to encourage community participation

and child protection awareness. The Bal Panchayat programmes were launched in villages across Warangal, Medchal, and Vikarabad districts.

Officials said the initiative is designed to empower children by encourag-

ing them to openly discuss issues affecting their communities and participate in creating safer, child-friendly environments. The programme also aims to build leadership qualities, communication skills, teamwork, and decision-making abilities among children.

The campaign focused on spreading awareness regarding child rights, education, nutrition, safety, legal protection, and early reporting mechanisms. Teachers, village advisors, police personnel,

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Andhra CM, Governor pay tributes to Alluri Sitarama Raju on death anniversary

Amaravati, May 7 : Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, Governor S. Abdul Nazeer and leaders of various political parties on Thursday paid rich tributes to legendary freedom fighter Alluri Sitarama Raju on his death anniversary. Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu described Sitarama Raju as a revolutionary warrior who ignited the spirit of valour in the hearts of the Manyam people for the protection of tribal rights.

The Chief Minister said Alluri was a valiant Telugu hero who made the British tremble in fear. "Let us remember the history of that patriotism and offer our homage," Chandrababu Naidu said in a post on X.

Governor Abdul Nazeer paid rich tributes to 'Manyam Veerudu' Sri Alluri Sitarama Raju on his death anniversary. The Governor said Sitarama Raju was a leg-



endary freedom fighter who fearlessly fought against British rule.

Former Vice-President M. Venkaiah Naidu also paid tributes to Alluri. He said Alluri was a great hero of the Telugu region who marched on the path of struggle in the history of India's freedom movement. "I pay my humble tributes to the memory of that noble soul. I earnestly hope that the youth will take as their ideal the patriotism, valour, and courage of Alluri, who stood firm against the bullets of the British and laid down his life," Venkaiah Naidu said.

Former Chief Minister

Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy also took to X to pay tributes to Alluri. The YSR Congress Party leader said the revolutionary hero sacrificed his life for the rights and self-respect of tribals while confronting British rulers.

Jagan Mohan Reddy recalled that in remembrance of the struggle waged by Alluri for the attainment of self-rule, the previous YSRCP government had named the Manyam district after him. Minister for Education and Information Technology Nara Lokesh stated that Alluri Sitarama Raju steered India's freedom movement towards a revolutionary path.

"His life, sacrifices, and the struggle he waged for freedom stand eternally etched in the annals of our nation's history. On the occasion of Alluri Sitarama Raju's martyrdom day, I pay my profound respects to the memory of that great soul," he said.

Fake certificate racket probe widens in Jogulamba Gadwal district

Jogulamba Gadwal, May 6 (TSIT): A major investigation into an alleged fake certificate and counterfeit stamp racket linked to Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Printer Press in Ieeja town of Jogulamba Gadwal district has reportedly



expanded to several villages across Ieeja and Gattu mandals.

According to official sources, the matter came to light after a complaint was submitted during the district Collector's Prajavani grievance

programme. Acting on directions from the Tahsildar, Revenue Inspector officials, along with GPO staff and police personnel, conducted inspections at the printing press premises in Ieeja town.

During the raid, offi-

cing press. Police have reportedly been conducting an intensive investigation for the past four days.

Sources said the inquiry has now widened beyond Ieeja town, with authorities examining the alleged involvement of several middlemen and facilitators from different villages in Ieeja and Gattu mandals. Officials indicated that more names could surface as the investigation progresses.

Authorities suspect that certain agents maintained links with the printing press operator and may have played a role in facilitating illegal documentation activities.

Police and revenue officials stated that a detailed investigation is underway and assured that strict legal action would be taken against all those found involved, irrespective of their background or influence.

Telangana aspirations remain unfulfilled, says Prof. Kodandaram



Sangareddy, May 6 (TSIT): M. Kodandaram, President of Telangana Jana Samithi, said the aspirations of the Telangana movement remain unfulfilled and stressed that the party will continue its fight for a corruption-free and democratic Telangana.

Addressing the fourth plenary meeting of the party in Sangareddy on Thursday, Kodandaram said 'Telangana Jana Samithi played a significant role in the Telangana statehood movement and has consistently fought for the self-respect and rights of Telangana people. He alleged that after the formation of the state, the previous Bharat Rashtra Samithi government failed to fulfil the aspirations of the movement and weakened democratic institutions by promoting family-based

rule. He said that instead of ensuring social, political, and economic equality, importance was given to contracts, commissions, and money-driven politics.

Kodandaram emphasised the need for transparent governance with public participation and said elections must uphold constitutional values. He stated that Telangana Jana Samithi, founded on April 29, 2018, is committed to building an alternative economic model that benefits the poor and marginalised sections.

He said the party has raised several public issues over the years, including land acquisition, unemployment, BC reservations, tribal land rights, farmers' welfare, healthcare, education, fee reimbursement, and protection of Singareni Collieries.

SVIMS being developed into top hospital in Andhra Pradesh: B.R. Naidu



Tirupati: B. R. Naidu on Thursday said Sri Venkateswara Institute of Medical Sciences is being developed into one of the best hospitals in Andhra Pradesh to provide advanced and affordable healthcare services to people of the Rayalaseema region.

As part of the Andhra Pradesh government's Arogya Andhra Pradesh initiative under the guidance of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, advanced medical equipment worth nearly Rs.55 crore was inaugurated at SVIMS Hospital in Tirupati. The newly installed facilities

include a PET-CT Scan, Gamma Camera, and High Energy Advanced Linear Accelerator.

Speaking to the media after inaugurating the facilities, B.R. Naidu said the hospital is committed to delivering quality medical treatment at affordable costs. He also highlighted the Sri Balaji Arogya Varaprasadani scheme, launched to support cancer treatment and improve healthcare accessibility. According to officials, the PET-CT Scan, costing around Rs.18 crore, will help in early detection of cancer, neurological disorders, and heart diseases. The Gamma

Camera, installed at a cost of Rs.5 crore, will assist in diagnosing organ and tissue-related conditions, while the High Energy Advanced Linear Accelerator, worth Rs.29 crore, will provide precise radiation treatment for various cancers while minimising damage to healthy tissues.

SVIMS Director and Vice-Chancellor R. V. Kumar said the institution, established by former Chief Minister N. T. Rama Rao, has witnessed significant growth over the past three decades with support from Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams. He noted that medical infrastructure worth Rs.450 crore has already been developed, while new buildings costing Rs.600 crore are currently under construction. Dr. Kumar added that plans are underway to introduce robotic surgery, simulators, and virtual dissection facilities for medical students. He also revealed that medical equipment worth Rs.105 crore has been procured through donor contributions. Several TTD Board members, elected representatives,

Andhra University Withdraws 2023 Faculty Recruitment Notifications

The South India Times, Visakhapatnam : Andhra University has officially withdrawn its 2023 faculty recruitment notifications following a resolution passed by the Executive Council and the orders issued by the Government through G.O. Ms. No.54. The University stated that the earlier permission granted for filling 523 vacant faculty positions has now been revoked. As a result, the faculty recruitment notifications issued on October 30, 2023, and published on November 1, 2023, stand cancelled, the University clarified in a public notice. Candidates who had applied for the recruitment process have been advised to visit the University's official website for details regarding the refund of application fees. The Registrar further stated that fresh recruitment notifications and related details would be announced separately at a later date.

VMRDA Speeds Up Major Road Projects Amid Bitumen Shortage

• 700 Metric Tonnes of Bitumen Imported from Chennai; Boyapalem-Kapuluppada Road to be Completed in 24 Hours

Visakhapatnam (TSIT) Amid a severe shortage of bitumen caused by the prevailing international warlike situation involving Iran, Israel, and the United States, the Visakhapatnam Metropolitan Region Development Authority (VMRDA) has taken special measures to ensure that major infrastructure road projects are completed without delay. VMRDA Metropolitan Commissioner Shri N. Tej Bharat, IAS, stated that around 700 metric tonnes of bitumen had been imported from Chennai to accelerate the pending road works. He said the shortage of bitumen had significantly affected road construction activities across the Visakhapatnam region.

To address the crisis, VMRDA Chairman Shri M.V. Pranav Gopal and Metropolitan Commissioner Shri N. Tej



Bharat held continuous discussions with petroleum company officials and arranged the supply through Indian Oil Corporation, Chennai. The remaining BT works of the Nerdlavalasa-Kothavalasa road project, which is already 80 percent complete, and the Boyapalem-Kapuluppada major layout road, which has reached 72 percent completion, were formally

launched on Thursday by the Commissioner. Speaking on the occasion, he said a total of 945 metric tonnes of bitumen was required for the completion of both roads, of which nearly 700 metric tonnes had already been procured from Chennai. To speed up the works that had stalled due to the shortage, VMRDA has deployed two pavers, four road rollers, and nearly 20

tippers, working continuously round the clock. Inspired by the rapid execution model adopted in the Amaravati National Highway works, the Boyapalem-Kapuluppada road will be completed within 24 hours, by the morning of May 8, he said. He further stated that plans had been prepared to complete the Tallavalasa-Kothavalasa road works in a single day on May 11.

SBI Employees Prepare for Two-Day Nationwide Strike

Protest Programmes Intensified Seeking Resolution of Pending Demands



The South India Times, Visakhapatnam: Employees of the State Bank of India, under the banner of the All India State Bank of India Staff Federation, are set to launch nationwide protests demanding the resolution of their long-pending issues. Federation Executive Member A. Sushma announced this during a media conference held at Visakh Tarak Bhavan in Siripuram on Thursday evening.

She stated that an all-India bank strike will be observed for two days on May 25 and 26, and that a detailed schedule of protest programmes has already been released. The federation has raised sev-

eral key demands, including recruitment of messengers, filling up armed guard vacancies, implementation of the old pension scheme, and providing inter-circle transfer facilities to employees recruited after 2019.

The union is also seeking solutions to the issues faced by temporary employees, improved facilities for women staff, enhancement of tenant subsidy, and better humanitarian coordination within the bank administration. Other demands include implementation of the Career Progression Scheme, revisions in special increment benefits as per the 10th Bipartite Settlement, pay-

ment of pending conveyance charges from 2024, and reforms in the bank's medical reimbursement scheme. The federation also demanded justice for pensioners, resolution of issues in the HRMS system, and reduction of cross-selling pressure on employees.

Federation District Vice-President Satish said that various forms of agitation have been underway since May 2 as part of the movement to achieve their demands. These include submission of strike notices, wearing badges, lunch-hour protests, social media campaigns, dharnas, silent protests, and submission of memorandums to Members of Parliament and the Union Finance Minister.

He further stated that a candlelight rally will be organized on May 24, followed by the nationwide strike on May 25 and 26. Union leaders warned that if the pending issues are not resolved immediately by the government and bank management, the agitation would be intensified further.

150 KW Solar Rooftop Plant Inaugurated at DCIL Office

Significant Savings in Power Costs Along with Environmental Protection

The South India Times, Visakhapatnam: A 150-kilowatt capacity Solar Rooftop Plant was inaugurated on Thursday at the headquarters of Dredging Corporation of India Limited (DCIL). The plant was officially inaugurated by



DCIL Managing Director & CEO Captain S. Divakar. Officials stated that the project, implemented under the Central Government's 'PM Surya Ghar Yojana', marks a significant step towards environmentally friendly initiatives by the organization. The solar plant is expected to generate around 750 units of clean electricity per day, approximately 22,500 units per month, and nearly 2.7 lakh units annually. DCIL stated that the project would help save around Rs. 2.5 lakh per month and near-

ly Rs. 30 lakh annually in electricity expenses. The project is expected to play a crucial role in reducing dependence on conventional power consumption. Officials further stated that the project would help reduce carbon dioxide emissions by

around 220 to 240 tonnes annually. This is said to be equivalent to planting more than 10,000 trees or removing nearly 50 passenger vehicles from the roads. The project is said to be among the first initiatives undertaken in line with the guidelines of the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways. NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam Limited acted as the implementation partner, while Lature Lightings Limited completed the project in record time. It may be recalled that Union Minister for Ports,

ADRM Waltair Attends Closing Ceremony of Blind Women's Cricket Tournament

The South India Times, Visakhapatnam: The closing ceremony of the "Beyond Sight Women's Cricket Tournament for the Blind" was held grandly at the Waltair Railway Cricket Ground. Kundu Rama Rao, ADRM (Operations), Waltair Division, attended the event as the Chief Guest. Kethan Patil, Assistant Sports Officer of Waltair Division, was also present on the occasion and appreciated the participating players for their remarkable sporting spirit, determination, and talent.

The tournament featured a three-match T20 series between the women's blind cricket teams of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. Andhra Pradesh displayed a domi-



nant performance by winning the first two matches and securing the series with an unassailable 2-0 lead. The event was organized by the Cricket Association for the Blind Andhra Pradesh with the support of Netra Vidyalyaya and Waltair Division of East Coast Railway. Conducted under the motto "Inclusive Sports -

Empowering Women through Sports," the tournament witnessed enthusiastic participation from sports lovers, railway officials, organizers, and supporters, who gathered in large numbers to encourage the players. The event stood as a symbol of sportsmanship and women's empowerment through inclusive sports.

Forest officials caught in ACB trap

Bhadradi Kothagudem (TSIT): A corruption case surfaced in the Forest Department after Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) officials caught Bhadrachalam Forest Division Officer (FDO) Sujatha and Charla in-charge DRO Krishnaiah allegedly accepting a bribe on Thursday. The raid was carried out under the supervision of ACB DSP Y. Ramesh. According to officials, a road construction work at Poosuguppa area in



Charla mandal had allegedly resulted in damage to a few trees. The forest officials reportedly approached the contractor and demanded money to avoid registering a case over the incident. It is alleged that FDO Sujatha demanded Rs.10 lakh from the contractor. As part of the deal, the officials were allegedly accepting the first installment of Rs.3.5 lakh at the Bhadrachalam office when the ACB team conducted the raid and caught both officials ed-handed.

Shashi Tharoor moves Delhi HC seeking protection of personality rights

New Delhi, May 7: Congress MP Shashi Tharoor has approached the Delhi High Court seeking protection of his personality and publicity rights against the alleged misuse of his name, likeness and identity across digital platforms, including through AI-generated and morphed content.

As per the cause list published on the official website of the Delhi High Court, the matter is scheduled to be heard on Friday by a single-judge Bench of Justice Mini Pushkarna.

Tharoor has reportedly sought relief against several defendants, including unidentified persons impleaded as John Doe parties, alleging unauthorised use and commercial exploitation of his persona.

The plea is also stated to seek the removal of deepfake and AI-morphed content allegedly circulating online using his identity without consent.

The development comes amid a



growing number of personality rights disputes before the Delhi High Court involving allegations of AI-generated impersonation, deepfakes, fake endorsements and unauthorised commercial exploitation of celebrity identities.

Earlier in the day, the Delhi High Court said that it would pass an interim order protecting the

personality and publicity rights of entrepreneur and Shark Tank India judge Aman Gupta in a suit alleging widespread unauthorised commercial exploitation of his identity across digital platforms.

A single-judge Bench of Justice Tushar Rao Gedela indicated that it would pass an interim order after hearing submissions made

on behalf of Gupta, co-founder of electronics brand boAt Lifestyle. The suit alleged circulation of fake endorsements, AI-generated impersonations, unauthorised merchandise, fraudulent event-bookings services and objectionable online content linked to Gupta's identity.

The Shashi Tharoor case adds to a growing list of high-profile personalities invoking their personality and publicity rights before the Delhi High Court.

In recent months, former cricketer and current head coach Gautam Gambhir, former cricket captain Sunil Gavaskar, spiritual leader Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, actors Arjun Kapoor, Allu Arjun, Nagarjuna, Kajol, Aishwarya Rai Bachchan, and Abhishek Bachchan, singer Jubin Nautiyal, filmmaker Karan Johar, and podcaster Raj Shamani have secured court protection against the unauthorised use of their identity, likeness, or AI-generated imitations.

Andhra local body polls soon: Chandrababu Naidu

Amaravati, May 7: Local body elections in Andhra Pradesh would be conducted soon, announced Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Thursday.

Addressing the conference of the district Collectors at the State Secretariat here, he said the local body polls would be held soon.

He reviewed the performance of various departments and the implementation of programmes at the field level. Discussions were held on education, healthcare, and the grounding of investments, among other subjects.

He directed the district Collectors to encourage the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises sector, as the increasing number of industries create significant opportunities for ancillary industries.

He emphasised that Micro, Small and Medium



Enterprises should play a vital role in the industrial ecosystem evolving around major investments coming into the state.

The Chief Minister said that any issues faced by companies coming forward to invest in the state, particularly related to land allocation, should be resolved immediately.

He stressed that products from various districts should evolve into pan-India and global brands, similar to the successful branding of Araku Coffee.

The Chief Minister noted that the arrival of

the Google Cloud Artificial Intelligence Hub in Andhra Pradesh had attracted the Carrier Air Conditioning company to the state.

He said the company would supply bulk chillers required for data centres and quantum computing facilities. He stated that a Quantum Reference facility has already been established in Amaravati and that once the Quantum Computing Centre becomes operational, an ecosystem for manufacturing the required equipment would also emerge.

STALIN MEETS NEWLY ELECTED DMK LEGISLATORS AS TAMIL NADU FACES POLITICAL UNCERTAINTY

Chennai, May 7: DMK president M.K. Stalin on Thursday chaired a crucial meeting of the party's newly elected MLAs at Anna Arivalayam in Chennai as the party prepared to assume the role of the Opposition amid continuing uncertainty over government formation in Tamil Nadu. The meeting was attended by all victorious DMK legislators and focused on the evolving political situation in the state, the party's legislative strategy, and the future course of action following the Assembly election verdict.

The post-election political landscape in Tamil Nadu has witnessed dramatic realignments. In the recently concluded Assembly elections, the DMK-led alliance secured 73 seats.

However, the Congress, which had won five seats as part of the alliance, later shifted its support to the Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) led by actor-politician C. Joseph Vijay.

The TVK emerged as the single largest formation with 108 seats in the 234-member Assembly.

Amid the rapidly changing political scenario, the TVK has also been attempting to rally support from smaller parties. Sources said the party has initiated discussions with the Communist Party of India (CPI), the Communist Party of India-Marxist (CPI-M), and the Indian Union Muslim League



(IUML), each of which has four MLAs in the new Assembly. Their support is being considered significant in the ongoing political calculations as parties continue exploring possible alignments. Despite these efforts, the DMK alliance, which now effectively commands the support of 68 MLAs following the Congress exit, appears set to occupy the Opposition benches in the Assembly.

The election results also dealt a personal setback to Stalin, who lost the Kolathur Assembly constituency to TVK candidate V.S. Babu by a margin of nearly 10,000 votes. The defeat marked one of the biggest political setbacks for

the DMK leadership in recent years.

However, Udhayanidhi Stalin retained the Chepauk-Triplicane constituency, strengthening his position within the party. Political observers believe he is now likely to be elected leader of the DMK Legislature Party, a move that could pave the way for him to become the Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly. Meanwhile, Stalin is learnt to have assured party legislators that the DMK would not interfere in the ongoing efforts by the TVK to secure the support of 113 MLAs required to form the next government in Tamil Nadu.

TWO BAGS CONTAINING CASH THROWN FROM NINTH FLOOR OF MOHALI FLAT IN ED RAID

Chandigarh, May 7: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Thursday carried out raids at a flat near Kharar in Punjab's Mohali district where two bags allegedly containing cash were reportedly thrown from a ninth floor of the house during the operation, officials said. The ED officials added that the raid was carried out in the flat of an IT professional, Nitin Gohal, in Western Towers and during the search operation two bags allegedly containing cash bundles were thrown within the building premises. He is considered close to an aide of Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann. Morning walkers reportedly found currency notes scattered around the complex and notified the authorities. ED officials later confiscated the bags and continued with the search operation. They said 12 locations in Mohali and Chandigarh were raided, including premises of builders and housing projects as well as that of Gohal.

Telangana: BJP men attack BRS MLA's office, damage car in Karimnagar

Hyderabad, May 7: Tension prevailed at BRS MLA Gangula Kamalakar's office at Karimnagar in Telangana on Thursday as BJP workers allegedly tried to attack BRS MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy over his remarks against Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, Bandi Sanjay Kumar.

reached Kamalakar's office and tried to attack Kaushik Reddy. They attacked the MLA's car with sticks and damaged the windowpanes. They also ransacked the office furniture.

A group of BRS workers also reached there and damaged Bandi Sanjay's car parked in the same

area. Meanwhile, BRS working president KTR has strongly condemned "the reprehensible attack by Union Minister Bandi Sanjay's followers on the camp office of Karimnagar BRS MLA Gangula Kamalakar, along with MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy."



Supporters of Bandi Sanjay damaged the car of Kaushik Reddy and ransacked the furniture at the office of Karimnagar MLA Gangula Kamalakar.

Workers of Bharat Rashtira Samithi (BRS) confronted the rival group. Police intervened to disperse both groups and detained some BRS workers. The trouble began when Kaushik Reddy, while addressing a press conference at Kamalakar's office, alleged that Bandi Sanjay takes drugs mix with tobacco. He also remarked that because of this bad habit, Sanjay has lost his hair.

Kaushik Reddy also stated that BRS working president K. T. Rama Rao (KTR) is ready to undergo a drug test and challenged Bandi Sanjay to come forward to undergo the test.

Angered over his remarks, BJP workers

are taking place on the camp offices of people's representatives elected by the people, does the state have peace and security? Or does it not? It is extremely unfortunate that such situations are persisting even in the constituency represented by the Union Minister of State for Home Affairs. We demand that the state government take strict action immediately against those involved in the attacks and ensure that Telangana DGP protects peace and security in the state," he said.

his own followers is nothing short of mocking democracy," added KTR.

BRS leader and former minister T. Harish Rao also condemned the attack by BJP ranks on the camp office of Karimnagar BRS MLA and on MLA Kaushik Reddy.

"When brazen attacks are taking place on the camp offices of people's representatives elected by the people, does the state have peace and security? Or does it not? It is extremely unfortunate that such situations are persisting even in the constituency represented by the Union Minister of State for Home Affairs. We demand that the state government take strict action immediately against those involved in the attacks and ensure that Telangana DGP protects peace and security in the state," he said.

ADLURI LAXMAN KUMAR CRACKS DOWN ON LONG-TERM DEPUTATIONS IN GURUKULS

Hyderabad TSIT: In a decisive move to strengthen classroom teaching in Gurukul institutions, Welfare Minister Adhuri Laxman Kumar directed the cancellation of long-standing deputations of teaching staff working at the Head Office and administrative wings of the Telangana Social Welfare Residential Educational Institutions Society (TGSWREIS).

Acting on the Minister's directions, TGSWREIS Secretary (FAC) Sharada issued orders on Thursday repatriating nearly 16 teaching personnel from various cadres back to their parent institutions.



The decision was taken following growing concerns over shortage of teachers in Gurukul schools, which reportedly affected classroom instruction and academic activities. At the same time, several teachers had been continuing on OD deputation at the Head Office for extended periods, drawing criticism from teachers' unions and employee associations.

Sources said Minister Adhuri Laxman Kumar conducted a comprehensive review after receiving multiple representations from stakeholders and instructed officials to ensure that teaching staff return to classrooms where their services are most needed. The government believes that with examinations and competitive academic schedules approaching, the availability of qualified teachers in educational institutions is crucial for improving academic performance and maintaining quality standards in Gurukul schools. The move is being seen as part of the State government's broader effort to improve educational standards, ensure accountability and provide uninterrupted teaching for students studying in residential welfare institutions. Teachers' unions and employee associations welcomed the decision, stating that the cancellation of prolonged deputations would help address staff shortages and strengthen the academic environment in Gurukul institutions. Education stakeholders and parents also appreciated the initiative, observing that the government had prioritised the future and academic welfare of students through timely intervention.

NEWLY APPOINTED FEDERATION REPRESENTATIVES MEET GOVERNMENT ADVISOR HARKARA VENUGOPAL RAO



Hyderabad TSIT: The newly appointed Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons of various caste federations called on Harkara Venugopal Rao at the Secretariat on Thursday and expressed their gratitude to the Telangana Government for entrusting them with key responsibilities.

During the courtesy meeting, the representatives thanked the Government for placing confidence in them and providing an opportunity to serve their respective communities. They assured that they would work with dedication and commitment towards the welfare, empowerment, and socio-economic development of all sections under their federations.

Speaking on the occasion, Harkara

Venugopal Rao congratulated the newly appointed Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons and advised them to work sincerely for the upliftment of weaker sections and the effective implementation of government welfare schemes at the grassroots level. He emphasized that the caste federations should act as strong bridges between the Government and the people by addressing community issues, promoting awareness on welfare initiatives, and ensuring that the benefits of various development programmes reach the deserving sections of society.

The representatives reiterated their commitment to strengthening public outreach and contributing towards the inclusive development vision of the Telangana Government.

VADDERA CORPORATION CHAIRMAN RENUKA MEETS HARKARA VENUGOPAL RAO

Hyderabad TSIT: Renuka, Chairperson of the Vaddera Corporation, paid a courtesy visit to Harkara Venugopal Rao at the Secretariat on Thursday. During the meeting, Renuka expressed gratitude to the Telangana Government for entrusting her with the responsibility of leading the Vaddera Corporation. She assured that she would work with dedication for the welfare, empowerment, and socio-economic development of the Vaddera community across the State.

Harkara Venugopal Rao congratulated Renuka on her appointment and advised her to work with sincerity and commitment towards



strengthening welfare initiatives and ensuring that government schemes effectively reach the deserving beneficiaries. The meeting also focused on community development, welfare measures,

and the importance of creating better opportunities for socially and economically weaker sections through coordinated efforts between the Government and the corporation.

EDITORIAL

One Year Of Op Sindoor: Why 'Round 2' Will Be A Different Beast Entirely

A unique military operation in global military history marks its first anniversary. 'Operation Sindoor' followed fundamental military doctrines astutely, in keeping objectives steady, clear and based on the reality of a nuclear environment. While these principles still apply, warfare and international relations have changed beyond recognition in the last year. Another Operation Sindoor, though highly likely, would have to be framed and executed in quite a different milieu, since both sides have built upon their experiences to hone their own capabilities and doctrines. The key for the next round may be flexibility, and learning some very hard lessons on what the world is like now. The Uniqueness of Sindoor

Sindoor will remain unique in the annals of warfare for three reasons. First, it was just 88-hours long and ended at a time of our choosing. Consider Ukraine, Iran and other wars. Second, it hit pause at each stage, allowing Pakistan to step back if it chose to, thus knitting diplomacy firmly into operations. Third, the political leadership held tightly on to the reins, allowing the operation to expand judiciously and calling a stop when it was judged that enough punishment had been delivered. Clarity of purpose was, therefore, across the board, which was to show Pakistan that India would no longer be blackmailed by nuclear threats into 'restraint', even while exercising operational restraint throughout the operation, so as to remain under the nuclear threshold. That last point was vital. The lessons of the Balakot strike, for instance, which led to the capture of Wg Cdr Abhinandan Varthaman, were learned well. There was to be no crossing of the border. Complete air superiority meant that neither would Pakistan break this rule. It stopped in time, too. That's interesting and needs further study. Understanding the enemy is the foremost requirement in war planning.

The Wide Reach Of Pak Terrorism

In terms of the future, one constant is that Pakistan's terrorist sponsorship continues, as apparent in at least five major modules interdicted in India in April alone. A key one among them had Bangladesh roots, while another was smuggling weapons from India. All our borders are again of concern, with Nepal now openly anti-India, and Bangladesh's new Prime Minister, Tarique Rehman, facing strong internal headwinds from multiple sources. Then there are other multiple groups that seem to be acting independently. Recent arrests of another duo of doctors planning a ricin attack, apparently on the basis of Islamic State handlers, is an indication, as are reports of the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan's (TTP) penetration into Bangladesh.

The next major terror attack could thus come from almost anywhere, with a twin threat of causing not just carnage but also damage to bilateral relations. That means a far more intensive intelligence collaboration or aggressive penetration with neighbours. This is a deliberately engineered cocktail, intended to make it difficult for India to provide 'proof' of a terrorist attack, a narrative that was successful post-Pahalgam, even within some sections in India. More diffusion is, therefore, a certainty.

The Arms Come Flowing In

A somewhat new aspect is that the Pakistan army is now fully in power. No doubts about that as the Field Marshal holds talks and flies internationally in his expensive, private jet. Decision-making will now be far more discreet, with only a loud-voiced and unreliable Defence Minister's constant threats serving as a measure. Data show that arms imports by Pakistan grew by 66%, with China supplying 80% of weapons, up from 73% in 2016-20. Add to that the induction of new stealth fighter J-35 jets, whose delivery is expected to be fast-tracked to mid-year. This will be a concern for the Indian Air Force. Then there is the marked increase in space assets, with three launches so far, and a hyperspectral satellite last year, all from China. This is a constellation that would deliver on Muni's threat to attack even the furthest point in India, both in the South and the Northeast. This is China making sure that not only is India forced to increase its defence budget, but also that Delhi is 'kept in place' in the subcontinent. Remember that prior to the Pahalgam attack as well, Chinese satellite imagery was possibly given to Pakistan, while during the conflict, a continuous stream of imagery helped. This pattern still holds. Then there is the fact that two months after the end of Operation Sindoor, the Pakistanis announced the formation of the Strategic Rocket Force, which will have conventional rockets from the Nuclear Command. Point to note for the future: in today's wars, missile use is the norm rather than the exception - count some 650 missiles by Iran and probably double that by the US, and an estimated 9,600 missiles of various types by Russia (not including attack drones), along with Ukraine's veritable storm of drones and some 500-plus Western-supplied missiles. As both wars progress, it's the drones that are causing the most damage. Future emphasis is thus not just on ballistic missile defence but, most vitally, on short-range, slow-flying drones. The point is that with today's 'no-rules' order in force, forget a 'condemnation' for any country that fires missiles. That's history.

And, Trump

The most critical is the stance of not just the United States, but also much of Europe, now praising the Pakistani army for its 'mediation' efforts. After Operation Sindoor, while US Vice-President JD Vance very sensibly said that the US would be engaged diplomatically but not intervene between two nuclear powers, President Trump took complete credit for ending the war. True, there were certainly phones buzzing, once Pakistan - as usual - announced that it was convening its Nuclear Command Authority (in the event, however, the meeting was never held, and Pakistan reached out for a ceasefire). What the extent of US pressure was is unclear, much like whether the Pakistani armed forces themselves stepped back after they found their sky virtually unprotected. The point is that a US role this time might be very different. That could include, for instance, a quiet go-ahead until Indian cities are hit,

WHY DISTANCE FROM IN-LAWS AND HOLD ON HUSBAND

(STOP POLITICIZING MARRIAGE, IT'S TIME FOR PARTNERSHIP)



PRIYANKA SAURABH

Marriage isn't a power struggle, but rather a relationship of trust, respect, and responsibility between two individuals. However, in our society, marriage is often transformed from a partnership into a game of control, where one party seeks to impose its traditions and the other adopts a rigid stance to protect its independence. This conflict eventually turns into conflict, distance, and distrust, leading people to blame the relationship as a whole. The real problem lies not in the relationship itself, but in the way we understand it. It's easy to dismiss the marital tensions we see today as merely a matter of women's perception, but that would be an incomplete analysis. Indian families have long placed the man in the role of decision-maker and the woman in the subservient role. Within this framework, the daughter-in-law was expected to accept, remain silent, conform, and unquestioningly follow family traditions. On the other hand, a new generation of women, with education, jobs, self-reliance, and self-respect, are challenging this role. They no longer want to be just "daughters-in-law"; they want to be respected as individuals. This is where the generational divide becomes clearly visible. In the past, marriage meant moving into the



husband's home and adapting to the same system, whether it was fair or not. Today's woman believes that even after marriage, she should retain her own individuality, her own family, her own thoughts, and her own boundaries. This demand is not wrong in itself. Every person has the right to live with dignity and self-respect. The problem begins when this right is mistaken for stubbornness or rebellion. On the other hand, many men also remain stuck in old patterns. They want their wives to completely integrate into their family, obey their parents' every word, follow every household tradition, and remain unquestioning under any circumstances. They forget that marriage is a union of two individuals, not a power of one over the other. When a man believes that his wife simply has to adjust, and only he has the power to change her, it creates an imbalance

in the relationship. This imbalance gradually turns into suspicion, bitterness, and distance. The relationship with in-laws remains sweet as long as there is respect. Respect doesn't just mean formal respect, but emotional acceptance. Expecting a daughter-in-law to abandon her parents, her values, her thoughts, and her priorities is actually a form of emotional pressure. It's one thing to acquire a new home after marriage, but it's quite another to sever old ties. A woman can be a daughter, a wife, and a daughter-in-law all at the same time. The problem arises when she is asked to remain only a daughter-in-law, and her other identities are neglected. Similarly, it's true that in some cases, wives turn the relationship into a struggle for control rather than a partnership. They try to control their husbands not through love, understanding, and communication, but through pres-

sure, complaints, and accusations. Such behavior also weakens the relationship. If one party in a marriage tries to dominate everything, the other either breaks down or becomes rigid in resistance. Therefore, it wouldn't be correct to say that the fault lies solely with men or solely with women. The problem lies with the mindset that turns marriage into a struggle for power balance rather than cooperation. In fact, many layers of marriage interact in Indian society. Love, tradition, caste, family, property, prestige, and social pressure all influence marriage. Expecting one person to accept everything without protest is unrealistic. Society is changing, education has increased, economic independence has grown, and access to information has also expanded. People no longer accept past decisions without question. This is why the need for communication within mar-

riage is greater than ever. Unfortunately, communication is often replaced by accusations, complaints, and emotional distance. In many homes, problems arise less from the husband and wife than from the family's intrusive role. In-laws, siblings, relatives, and society all join forces to voice their opinions about the couple's personal lives. Advice, comparisons, and interference on every small matter erode the relationship. When the husband doesn't stand by his wife, the wife feels she has no support left after marriage. And when the husband feels that because his wife has come to his home, he must completely submit to her, he loses sensitivity. This creates a distance between the two parties. The relationship becomes less loving and more strategic. It's also important to understand that freedom and independence are not the same thing. A woman speaking up for her dignity, making her own decisions, and protecting her self-respect isn't independence. However, if she sees conflict as the only solution to everything, there can be no peace in the relationship. Similarly, a man's responsibility to his family is essential, but unilaterally ruling over his wife in the name of responsibility is unfair. The relationship between husband and wife should be balanced by dignity, compassion, and respect. Until this balance is achieved, tensions will persist in the marriage. Society must accept that today's woman is no longer the silent and tolerant woman she once was. This change isn't bad. It's a sign of social progress. A woman who is educated, earns, and understands her rights won't compromise on everything. She also realizes that marriage doesn't mean surrender, but a shared life.

From Confrontation to Consultation



AMARAVAJI NAGARAJU

The role played by RTC workers in the Telangana movement remains deeply etched in public memory. They were not mere participants but frontline contributors who sacrificed livelihoods, halted services, and risked personal security to support the cause of statehood. In the aftermath of Telangana's formation, there was a widespread expectation that their contributions would be honoured through job security, institutional strengthening, and welfare measures. However, those expectations remained largely unfulfilled during the previous regime. The discontent among RTC workers reached a peak during the 52-day strike in 2019. Far from being a routine labour protest, it was a movement rooted in dignity, livelihood security, and long-pending demands. The response of the then government was marked by rigidity. Declaring the strike illegal, refusing dialogue, and invoking the "self-dismissal" of nearly 48,000 employees created an atmosphere of fear and uncertainty. Reports of worker deaths, including alleged suicides, underscored the human cost of the crisis. Yet, a conciliatory approach was conspicuously absent.

The episode revealed a deeper structural issue: the failure to engage with labour concerns through democratic dialogue. Decisions such as delaying pay revisions, withholding retirement benefits, discontinuing union

recognition, and shelving the promise of RTC's merger into the government further eroded trust. For a workforce that had stood firmly behind the Telangana movement, this phase was widely perceived as a betrayal. In contrast, the current Congress government has adopted a markedly different approach. Under the leadership of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, there has been a visible shift from confrontation to consultation. The government's handling of recent labour concerns reflects a willingness to engage, listen, and resolve through dialogue - a fundamental principle of democratic governance.

Transport Minister Ponnampalagan Prabhakar's proactive intervention played a key role in resolving the latest strike within days. By facilitating discussions between management and worker unions, the government created space for negotiation and mutual understanding. The acknowledgment that long-pending issues cannot be resolved overnight, but require sustained engagement, reflects administrative maturity.

Concrete measures have further reinforced worker confidence. The government has agreed to an 11% fitment, initiated discussions on the long-pending merger issue through a committee, and restored the recognition of unions that were previously dissolved. Additionally, the clearance of pending dues, including Rs.280 crore in wage revision bonds and other allowances, signals a commitment to financial accountability. Equally significant has been the government's humane approach from engaging directly with workers to offering assurances on wages during strike periods and withdrawing cases filed earlier. Such gestures, though administrative in nature, carry symbolic weight in rebuilding trust.

At The Edge Of The Map, A Bet On Power: Why India Is Building In Great Nicobar

On a map of global trade, the southern tip of India's Andaman and Nicobar archipelago looks like a remote outpost, forested, fragile, and far from the mainland. But to planners in New Delhi, Great Nicobar Island is something else entirely: a hinge point between the Indian Ocean and the Indo-Pacific, a vantage over the world's busiest sea lanes, and potentially, a lever of both economic and strategic power. India's proposed Great Nicobar project, a deep-sea transshipment port, international airport, power plant and township, has triggered sharp debate. Critics warn of ecological damage, seismic risks and questionable commercial viability. Proponents argue it is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to reposition India in global trade and maritime strategy. The truth lies in understanding what the project is and what it is not. A Location That Rewrites The Map The case for Great Nicobar begins not with engineering, but geography. Just north of the Indonesian archipelago, the island sits near the Six Degree Channel, a key maritime passage feeding into the Malacca Strait. This narrow corridor connects the Indian Ocean to the South China Sea and, by extension, to East Asia's manufacturing heartlands. The numbers underscore its importance: Roughly 40% of global trade passes through Malacca. Around \$5 trillion in goods flows annually. Nearly 80% of China's oil imports transit this route. For decades, India has observed this traffic from a distance. The Andaman and Nicobar Islands host the Andaman and Nicobar Command, the country's only integrated military command, but logistical limitations have constrained sustained operations. The Great Nicobar project aims to change that.



It would turn a remote island into a permanent, serviced node, a place where ships dock, aircraft refuel, and surveillance extends continuously over one of the world's most sensitive maritime chokepoints. "Presence," in maritime strategy, is not symbolic. It is sustained, supplied and visible. Much of the public debate has framed Great Nicobar as a commercial port competing with mainland facilities like Vizhinjam International Seaport. But that comparison misses the project's primary logic. Vizhinjam, located on India's southwest coast, is designed for efficiency, proximity to shipping lanes, strong hinterland connectivity, and rapid cargo movement inland. It is a commercial asset. Great Nicobar is something different: a forward operating platform. From this vantage, India can: Monitor shipping traffic entering and exiting Malacca. Track naval movements in the eastern Indian Ocean. Respond rapidly to crises, from piracy to military escalation. Sustain long-duration maritime patrols it cannot, as some rhetoric suggests, "block" the strait, as international law, like UNCLOS (The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea), protects transit passage. But modern power rarely relies on outright con-

trol. It rests on awareness, deterrence and readiness. The island's existing airstrip at INS Baaz already supports surveillance flights. Expanded infrastructure would extend that capability into a permanent operational presence. In strategic terms, the difference is stark: Without development - intermittent reach. With development - continuous influence. The China Factor No discussion of Great Nicobar can ignore China. Over the past two decades, Beijing has built a network of ports and facilities across the Indian Ocean, Gwadar in Pakistan, Hambantota in Sri Lanka, Kyaukpadaung in Myanmar and a military base in Djibouti. Analysts often describe this as a "string of pearls," designed to secure China's maritime lifelines. India's response has been more restrained, focusing on partnerships and selective infrastructure. Great Nicobar represents a shift: a move to anchor its own presence near a critical chokepoint. China itself has long worried about the "Malacca dilemma"; its dependence on a narrow passage vulnerable to disruption. While India cannot legally interdict this route, its ability to observe and operate near it introduces a layer of strategic uncertainty for any adversary. In peacetime, that

translates into influence. In crisis, into leverage. The Commercial Promise and Limits If the strategic case is compelling, the economic one is more complex. Today, India depends heavily on foreign ports for transshipment, the process of transferring cargo between large and smaller vessels. Government data indicates that about 75% of India's transshipment cargo is handled abroad, primarily in Colombo, Singapore and Port Klang. Direct losses are estimated at \$200-220 million annually, with larger indirect costs in logistics inefficiency. Great Nicobar aims to internalise a portion of this traffic. The planners envision: Phase 1 capacity: 4 million TEUs by around 2028. Ultimate capacity: 16 million TEUs. For context, India's major ports together handle roughly 13-14 million TEUs today. The project's location offers advantages: Natural deep draft (around 20 meters), accommodating large container ships. Proximity to Bay of Bengal markets. Minimal deviation for ships entering or exiting Malacca. Beyond container handling, revenue streams could include bunkering (fuel supply), ship repair, warehousing, and aviation services. Yet success is far from guaranteed. Global transshipment is a competitive.

Governor wrong to deny TVK chance to form govt: Shivakumar

Bengaluru: Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D. K. Shivakumar on Thursday criticised the Tamil Nadu Governor for allegedly denying Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam an opportunity to form the government and prove its majority on the floor of the House.



Speaking to reporters at Vidhana Soudha, Shivakumar said the Governor does not have the authority to prevent a party from staking claim to form the government if it has the required num-

bers or support. He pointed out that in previous instances, including dur-

ing the tenure of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee and for-

mer Karnataka Chief Minister B. S. Yediyurappa, leaders were given an opportunity to prove their majority on the Assembly floor.

He said democracy requires that elected representatives be allowed to test their majority in the House and added that public sentiment in the state should be respected. "A government can win or lose majority by even one vote. If the majority is not proven, then other options can be explored," he stated. On the proposed

Bengaluru North Municipal Office, Shivakumar said several locations are under consideration and a final decision will be taken after inspecting the sites. He clarified that the idea of constructing the office at GKVK is not currently under consideration.

Responding to a question on his meeting with ministers Satish Jarkiholi and Lakshmi Hebbalkar, he said discussions were held regarding irrigation projects in Belagavi district.

Hon'ble Governor of Karnataka Participates in Census Activity

Bengaluru : As part of the first phase of the National Census-2027, the House Listing and Housing Census operations commenced from April 16, 2026, within the jurisdiction of the Greater Bengaluru Authority. Accordingly, today, a team led by Bengaluru Central City Corporation Commissioner Dr. K. Harish Kumar visited the official residence of the Hon'ble Governor of Karnataka, Thawar Chand



Gehlot, and conducted the census process.

On this occasion, the Hon'ble Governor provided the necessary information to the enumerators and cooperated with the census activity.

The Hon'ble Governor called upon all citizens to actively participate in the Census-2027 exercise and provide accurate information to the enumerators for the successful completion of the census process.

The Hon'ble Governor also instructed that the Census-2027 of India be completed accurately and within the stipulated timeline. Joint Commissioner Hemant Sharan and enumerators were present on the occasion.

Strict Orders Issued for Urgent Desilting as a Monsoon Precautionary Measure: Commissioner K N Ramesh

Bengaluru : South Zone Commissioner K.N. Ramesh personally inspected the desilting works being carried out in the Rajakaluve areas near Sindhoora Kalyana Mantapa on Outer Ring Road at Sarakki, J.P. Nagar, with the objective of preventing disasters that may occur within the Corporation limits during the monsoon season.



During the inspection, the Commissioner instructed the engineers that the silt accumulated in drains and storm water drains must be removed and shifted immediately without delay. He also directed that the slabs placed over roadside drains be removed

and that the garbage and weeds accumulated inside be completely cleaned.

Removal of Plastic Obstructions at Bridge JunctionsThe Commissioner instructed officials to ensure that plastic waste at Rajakaluve bridge junctions does not obstruct the flow of

water. He informed the engineers that continuous removal of plastic waste in such sensitive areas must be carried out to ensure smooth water flow. Disaster Management Team Operation Led by Additional

Commissioner in Bommanahalli Meanwhile, under the leadership of Additional Commissioner (Development) Dr. Naveen Kumar Raju, the Disaster Management team conducted extensive inspections across various areas in Bommanahalli Zone.

Namma Bengaluru drives together, Spinny's Breakfast Drive



Bengaluru : After successful editions in Chandigarh and Coimbatore, Spinny's Breakfast Drive arrived in Bengaluru, bringing together a community of car owners for a relaxed morning of driving, conversation, and time spent together.

The drive began at Esteem Mall in the early hours of the day as Spinny customers, ranging from first-time buyers to long-time owners, came together with their families and set out towards Spinny Park, Yelahanka. With the city just beginning to wake up, the convoy moved through a calmer, more easygoing Bengaluru. The convoy moved through Bengaluru, which felt familiar in its calmness.

Empty roads, soft light, and an unmistakable ease set the tone for the morning, one of those classic Namma Bengaluru starts, with quiet streets, the smell of fresh kaapi in the air, and breakfast that somehow tastes better after a drive.

More than a fixed route, the experience came together

through small, meaningful moments. Cars moved together, and so did people. Small conversations at signals, quick waves between vehicles, and an easy sense of being part of the same morning gave the drive a natural rhythm. Somewhere along the way, it stopped feeling like a route and became shared time on the road. Families travelled together, conversations carried on between cars, and children played freely once everyone reached the destination. For many, it was less about the drive itself and more about the chance to spend uninterrupted time with loved ones.

"It was a very good experience to come out with family like this," shared one participant. Another customer added, "I didn't expect Spinny to do something like this," capturing the sense of surprise and delight among attendees.

At Spinny Park, the convoy came together over breakfast, where the pace remained easy and unforced.

Conversations flowed, families settled in, and children quickly made the space their own. What stood out was how naturally people lingered, as if no one was in a hurry to leave, with shared laughter and unplanned moments bringing the community closer. The Bengaluru edition carried its own character, simple, warm, and grounded in togetherness.

The experience has been captured in a slice-of-life film featuring customer stories, convoy visuals, and candid breakfast interactions that reflect the morning's warmth and simplicity.

As India's trusted car home, Spinny continues to build relationships that go beyond transactions. The Breakfast Drive series is part of this effort, creating spaces for customers to engage with their cars, their families, and each other in a more meaningful way, while reinforcing safe and responsible driving practices in an informal, community-led format.

KSDL's Initiative to Prevent Sandalwood Theft: Invites Innovative Technology from Public

Bengaluru: In a bid to promote sandalwood cultivation, the key raw material used in Karnataka's iconic Mysuru Sandal Soap, Karnataka Soaps and Detergents Limited (KSDL) has planned a major initiative. Large and Medium Industries Minister M. B. Patil announced on Thursday.

As part of the initiative, farmers, scientists, and organisations possessing information on advanced equipment or innovative technologies to prevent sandalwood theft have been invited to approach KSDL and share the details. They will be given an opportunity to demonstrate such technologies before the organisation. If the proposed solutions are found suitable and effective, steps will be taken for consideration and implementation, he said.

Patil stated that the cost involved in deploying technologies aimed at preventing sandalwood theft would be borne by KSDL.

Further, with a view to

encouraging sandalwood cultivation, four farmers who have supplied the highest quantity of sandalwood to KSDL will be honoured with awards on the occasion of the birth anniversary of Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar on June 4, he said.

On the same occasion, police personnel and forest officials who have made notable progress in apprehending sandalwood thieves and registering cases, along with members of the public who have provided credible information leading to such action, will also be recognised and rewarded, the Minister added. Patil observed that farmers cultivating sandalwood trees on their lands have been facing increasing threats due to theft in recent years. Illegal felling and theft of sandalwood trees have continued for decades. Although stringent laws are in place to curb such activities, the number of cases resulting in convictions remains very low, he noted.



Karnataka to host major job fair for persons with disabilities in Bengaluru



Bengaluru: Karnataka Minister for Skill Development and Medical Education Sharana Prakash R. Patil on Thursday announced that a large-scale job fair exclusively for persons with disabilities (PwDs) will be organised in August 2026 at Kanteerava Stadium.

The announcement was made during the launch of the Adidvara app, an inclusive employment and skilling platform developed in association with AssisTech Foundation, at Vikasa Soudha in Bengaluru.

Describing the initiative as a major step towards inclusive employment, the

Minister said persons with disabilities are equally talented and deserving of opportunities in the workforce. He urged corporate organisations to ensure equal treatment and inclusive hiring practices. The Adidvara platform has been designed to connect PwDs with employment opportunities, internships, and skilling programmes. It also enables employers to post inclusive job roles and access a diverse talent pool through an AI-powered job-candidate matching system. During the event, the Minister unveiled the official logo for the upcoming job fair, which is expected to bring together more than 3,000 job seekers with disabilities from all 21 notified disability categories. The event will feature recruitment drives, career guidance sessions, awareness programmes, and technology showcases.

Employers from sectors including IT, retail, manufacturing, BFSI, hospitality, and services are expected to participate in the inclusive employment festival.

Vayah Vikas completes 5 years, announces vaccination for senior citizens



Bengaluru: Vayah Vikas, a leading platform for senior engagement and empowerment, on Thursday announced the launching of its flagship initiative focused on preventive healthcare for senior citizens. The programme aims to enable up to 1 lakh adult immunizations along with awareness campaigns at accessible price points, in partnership with Tata Img and Association of Healthcare Providers.

Vayah Vikas, which reached 1,85,000 individual members and 6,00,000 association members across the country, announced the launching of Karnataka Chapter. "I want to congratulate Vidya Vikas, the organization which helps the senior citizens for launching a very ambitious programme of vaccination for senior citizens. It is very important for every

senior citizen to understand that vaccination is not just for children. It is as important with senior citizens as it is with the children because there are a lot of infections, mainly the viral infections like flu and pneumonia and singles which unfortunately affect senior citizens because as we grow old, our immunity goes down and we are very vulnerable for all these infections. And one vaccination can protect you of most of these problems. So, our message is if you are a senior citizen, get vaccinated, and if you are not a senior citizen, educate senior citizens about the power of vaccination", said Dr Devi Prasad Shetty, Board Member of Vayah Vikas.

The Karnataka Chapter guided by the philosophy "By the seniors, for the seniors," the chapter will be led by a

working committee comprising retired IAS officers, leaders of pensioners' and bank associations, corporate professionals, doctors, and other eminent citizens.

Speaking on the occasion, Kris Gopalakrishnan, chairperson of Vayah Vikas has said there are 300 million senior citizens in the country. "I want all the senior citizens to join hands if their voice is heard by the government. Vayah Vikas has a presence in Karnataka and New Delhi. We are aiming to have our presence in all states. Vayah Vikas is shaping a future where ageing is defined by purpose, participation, and possibility", Kris Gopalakrishna said.

Jamuna Ravi, Chief Executive Officer, Vayah Vikas has said senior citizens, who become members of Vayah Vikas, get guidance and counseling through online. "We are offering counseling and guidance to senior citizens on many issues including cyber frauds", said Jamuna Ravi. Pavithra Reddy, Chief Operating Officer, has said all those who are above 60 years are eligible to become members of Vyah Vikas.

Vayah Vikas launches vaccination drive for senior citizens in Karnataka

Bengaluru: Vayah Vikas marked its fifth anniversary by launching a major preventive healthcare initiative aimed at senior citizens, with a target of facilitating one lakh adult immunisations across the country.

The organisation also formally launched its Karnataka Chapter during the event, expanding its

such as flu, pneumonia, and shingles. He urged elderly citizens to get vaccinated and encouraged society to spread awareness on preventive healthcare.

Kris Gopalakrishnan, Chairperson of Vayah Vikas, said India has nearly 300 million senior citizens and emphasised the need to create stronger sup-



port systems for the ageing population. He said the organisation plans to expand its presence across all states in the country. Chief Executive Officer Jamuna Ravi said the organisation provides online counselling and guidance services for senior citizens, including support related to cyber fraud and digital safety.

Chief Operating Officer Pavithra Reddy said all citizens above 60 years are eligible to become members and benefit from various welfare initiatives.

Mamata disrespected Constitution, should approach court: R. Ashok

Bengaluru: Leader of Opposition R. Ashoka on Wednesday criticised Mamata Banerjee, alleging that she had shown disrespect to the Constitution and should seek legal remedies instead of creating political unrest.

Speaking to reporters, Ashok said any issues related to governance or elections should be addressed through courts and constitutional mechanisms. Referring to the case involving D. N. Jeevaraj, he said legal procedures must be followed

rather than resorting to confrontation or violence.

Ashok also accused the Trinamool Congress leadership of attempting to create instability and alleged that Mamata Banerjee was trying to politicise the situation instead of respecting democratic norms.

On Prime Minister Narendra Modi's upcoming visit to Bengaluru, Ashok said elaborate preparations are underway to accord him a grand welcome following the recent election results in five states. He said the Prime Minister would address a

large public gathering in the city, and BJP workers from Bengaluru Urban and nearby regions are expected to participate in large numbers.

He added that a meeting had already been held to coordinate arrangements for the event and ensure smooth conduct of the programme. Ashok further remarked that by-election results should not be viewed as a direct indicator of future Assembly election outcomes, recalling that the BJP had won several bypolls earlier but did not subsequently form the state government.

ICMAI hosts national seminar on management accounting in Bengaluru

Bengaluru: Institute of Cost Accountants of India celebrated International Management Accounting Day by organising a high-level national seminar titled "Management Accounting: Driving Strategy, Performance and Sustainable Value" in Bengaluru. The seminar focused on the evolving role of management accounting in today's dynamic business environment and featured expert panel discussions on the services sector, manufacturing, and management consulting. Industry professionals and practitioners shared insights and experi-



ences on emerging challenges and opportunities across sectors. The event was inaugurated by ICMAI President TCA Srinivasa Prasad, Vice President Neeraj D Joshi, Management Accounting Committee Chairman Suresh R Gunjalli, and Bengaluru Chapter

Chairman Raghavendra B K. During the event, ICMAI announced the prestigious Management Accounting Award, which was presented to Delhi International Airport Limited for excellence in adopting management accounting principles and practices.

CONGRESS CALLS FOR ALL SECULAR PARTIES TO UNITE, BACKS VIJAY IN FORMING THE GOVERNMENT

CHENNAI: Defending the Congress party's decision to support Tamizhaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) in the post-election political scenario, Tamil Nadu Congress Floor Leader S Rajesh Kumar MLA elect said the move was aimed at safeguarding the secular character of Tamil Nadu and preventing communal forces from gaining ground in the state.

He, in a detailed statement justified the Congress party's support to Tamizhaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) following the Assembly election results, asserting that the decision was taken in the larger interest of secularism and social justice.



Rejecting criticism from estranged ally DMK, Rajesh Kumar said allegations that the Congress had extended support for "power and positions" or had "betrayed the people of Tamil Nadu" were completely baseless. He stated that even before the Assembly election announcement, several political invitations and alliance proposals had reached the Congress

party. However, the party remained committed to travelling with secular and democratic forces against communal politics under the INDIA alliance framework. Rajesh Kumar noted that Congress cadres had worked extensively in the previous Assembly election to ensure the victory of the secular progressive alliance and reiterated that the party continues to stand firmly against

communal forces.

Referring to the election verdict, he said democracy often produces unexpected outcomes and that the Congress respects the mandate and prevailing mood of the people of Tamil Nadu. He added that the decision to support TVK was made keeping in mind the future welfare and stability of the state.

The Congress leader further pointed out that TVK has projected itself as a secular political movement and highlighted TVK president Vijay's repeated references to former Chief Minister K. Kamaraj as his ideological inspiration. According to Rajesh Kumar, Vijay's commitment to social justice and his declaration

to follow the path shown by Kamaraj had strengthened Congress' belief that supporting TVK would reinforce secular values in Tamil Nadu.

He also reiterated that the Congress would never compromise in its opposition to RSS and communal forces and stressed that such forces should never be allowed to gain a foothold in Tamil Nadu. Calling for all secular parties to unite, Rajesh Kumar said the Congress party's primary objective was to ensure a strong secular government in the state and isolate communal elements politically. He maintained that the Congress would continue its political journey in support of social justice, secularism, and the sentiments of the people of Tamil Nadu.

Vijay's 2015 film IT case : Plea filed in Madras HC seeking filing of FIR, and probe under PMLA against him

Chennai, May 7 (UNI) As confusion continued over his coronation as the next Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, a writ petition was filed in the Madras High Court seeking to register a First Information Report (FIR) and order a probe against Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) Founder and actor-politician Vijay for alleged money laundering charges over the 2015 Income-Tax (IT) dispute case over the film "Puli".

The plea sought filing of FIR against him on the basis of the IT proceedings initiated after the release of the film for alleged suppression of income, receipt of unaccounted cash remuneration and concealing financial transactions.

The petition, filed by one M Rajkumar, a resident of Kodungaiyur in Chennai city—also seeking a direction to the IT department to place all the materials before the Enforcement Directorate (ED) to ascertain whether any offence was also committed under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA)—was numbered by the High Court Registry and it was expected to be listed soon under the caption "For Maintainability".

Though the petition was filed on March 18 this year, it was not numbered following which the First Bench comprising Chief Justice S A Dharmadhikari and Justice G Arul Murugan had on April 8 directed the Registry to nuber it, subject to maintainability. The issue pertained to the seizure of some incriminating documents during searches conducted by the IT



department on Vijay's premises on September 30, 2025. As per the seized documents, Vijay had received Rs 4.93 crore in cash, besides Rs 16 crore remuneration through cheques from IP T Selvakumar Shibu of SKT studios, the producers of the film. Though the producers deposited the TDS for the cheque amount, it did not do so in respect of the cash component. Later Vijay admitted to receiving Rs five crore in cash and agreed to pay the requisite tax on it and categorically told the IT officials that he had not received any other unaccounted money for the past six years.

In a bid to settle the issue amicably, Vijay agreed to disclose the additional Rs 15 crore, including the cash transaction of Rs five crore, for the financial year 2015-16 and pay the necessary tax and subsequently in July 2016 in the IT returns for the assessment year 2016-17 he disclosed disclosing Rs 35.42 crore, including the Rs 15 crore, as his total income. While filing the returns, he had also claimed depreciation of assets to the tune of Rs 17.84 lakh and

sought Rs 64.71 lakhs exemption for his fans' club expenses.

However, the IT department rejected his claims and passed an assessment order on December 30, 2017 determining the taxable income to be Rs 38.25 crore, while stating Vijay would not have disclosed the additional income but for the seizure of documents during the search operations. Following this, the IT department imposed a penalty under two sections of the IT Act. Though he chose to go on statutory appeal against the assessment order and the penalty, the actor filed a writ plea against one penalty only and it was dismissed by a Single Judge of Mr Justice Senthilkumar Ramamoorthy on February, 6 2026, following which a writ appeal was filed which was not yet listed for hearing before a Division Bench. In this backdrop the present plea was filed by Rajkumar seeking a direction to the IT department to initiate prosecution proceedings against the actor, besides a direction to the law enforcement agencies to register a FIR against him.

Thanjavur court convicts Andhra man in bonded labour case involving boys aged 10 and 13

CHENNAI: The Judicial Magistrate court in Thanjavur has convicted an Andhra Pradesh man in a bonded labour case involving two boys aged 10 and 13 who were brought to Tamil Nadu and made to herd ducks in agricultural fields near Thanjavur. On May 6, the court convicted Lakshmanasamy under Section 374 IPC and Sections 16, 17 and 18 of the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976. He was sentenced to one year simple imprisonment for each offence along with a fine of Rs.10,000.

The case surfaced on June 24, 2024 after a Child Helpline staff member alerted officials about two children allegedly being used for labour at Marungulam village in Thanjavur district. The boys, identified as Shivaji, 10, and Durgarao, 13, were both from Andhra Pradesh. Court records show Shivaji stated



that his parents had received Rs.30,000 before sending him with the accused. In Durgarao's case, the prosecution said Lakshmanasamy had initially given money to the boy's paternal uncle for duck rearing work.

After the uncle allegedly fled, the accused approached the child's father and asked him to send the boy instead after paying Rs.10,000. The accused brought the children to Thanjavur for duck herding work in agricultural fields operating under land-sharing arrangements. During the inquiry, officials also found that Durgarao had never attended school because of his family circumstances. "The parents don't even know where the child is

or what is happening," the Assistant Public Prosecutor told DT Next. The boys worked from around 5 am to 6 pm rearing ducks and were paid only nominal amounts occasionally. The court also noted that their movement was restricted and that they rarely spoke to their parents over the phone.

The FIR was registered at Vallam police station on June 29, 2024. The children were secured and initially placed in a home in Tamil Nadu before later being shifted to a home in Andhra Pradesh.

The court noted that the accused had absconded during the course of proceedings. According to the prosecution, he was later traced and secured with the help of the Anti-Child Trafficking Unit after a non-bailable warrant remained pending for months. Trial in the case commenced on April 15, 2026 and concluded within a month.

CBI files 5th chargesheet in homebuyers fraud case against builder company, directors

Chennai/New Delhi, May 7 (UNI) In another significant development in the ongoing investigation into large scale cheating of

homebuyers, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Thursday filed a chargesheet against M/s CHD Developers Ltd. and its Directors in connection with alleged fraudulent activities relating to a housing project situated at Gurugram, Haryana.

Investigation conducted by CBI has revealed that the accused builder company and its Directors, in furtherance of a criminal conspiracy, allegedly induced innocent homebuyers/investors through false assurances, misleading representations and deceptive promises, thereby dishonestly obtaining financial gains while causing wrongful loss to the victims, according to CBI.

The charge sheet has been

filed before the competent Court under relevant provisions of the Indian Penal Code pertaining to criminal conspiracy, cheating and criminal breach of trust.

The CBI is presently investigating 50 cases registered pursuant to the directions of the Supreme Court against various builder companies and unknown officials of financial institutions across the country in matters concerning alleged cheating and diversion of funds involving homebuyers.

Earlier, the CBI had filed four chargesheets in similar cases against M/s Rudra Buildwell Constructions Pvt. Ltd. and its Directors, M/s Dream Procon Pvt. Ltd. and its Directors, M/s Jaypee Infratech Ltd. and its Directors and M/s AVJ Developers (India) Pvt. Ltd. and its Directors, along with officers of certain banks and financial institutions.

Rising pollution, delayed diagnosis fuel growing asthma burden in India



New Delhi, May 7: India is witnessing a growing burden of asthma cases, particularly in urban areas, with experts warning that poor awareness, delayed diagnosis and worsening air pollution are leaving many patients undertreated.

A nationwide study published in 2015 found that a majority of Indians diagnosed with asthma did not have their symptoms adequately controlled and experienced poor quality of life. Medical experts believe the actual number of asthma sufferers could be significantly higher, as many cases remain undiagnosed or are

labelled under terms such as "allergic bronchitis", "seasonal bronchitis" or "chronic cough".

HEALTH PROFESSIONALS HAVE EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER DETERIORATING AIR QUALITY IN INDIAN CITIES, WHICH IS EXPECTED TO AGGRAVATE RESPIRATORY ILLNESSES. ACCORDING TO POLLUTION DATA, CITIES LIKE MUMBAI RECORDED ONLY A HANDFUL OF DAYS WITH "GOOD" AIR QUALITY DURING RECENT WINTER SEASONS.

Doctors point out that asthma symptoms often fluctuate, especially in the early stages, leading many patients to underestimate the seriousness of the condition.

The stigma associated with using inhalers has also contributed to underdiagnosis and lack of proper treat-

ment. Contrary to common perception, asthma does not always present as severe breathlessness. Experts say persistent coughing after viral infections, diffi-

culty climbing stairs, discomfort in closed spaces, wheezing at night and coughing triggered by strong smells such as perfumes or incense fumes can all indicate asthma.

Health professionals have expressed concern over deteriorating air quality in Indian cities, which is expected to aggravate respiratory illnesses. According to pollution data, cities like Mumbai recorded only a handful of days with "good" air quality during recent winter seasons. Pulmonologists warn that increasing pollution levels, sudden temperature fluctuations and extreme weather conditions are making asthma harder to control and could lead to a rise in cases in the coming years.

Medical experts emphasise that asthma diagnosis requires spirometry testing and cannot be confirmed solely through X-rays, CT scans or blood tests, which may often appear normal. They also stressed that inhaled corticosteroids, commonly used to treat asthma, are safe and effective in controlling symptoms and reducing hospitalisations and deaths linked to the disease. On the occasion of World Asthma Day, doctors urged people not to ignore recurring cough, wheezing or breathlessness and called for greater awareness and early diagnosis to prevent long-term complications.

Irregular bedtimes during midlife may increase heart disease risk: Study

Helsinki, May 7: Frequently going to bed at different times during midlife could significantly increase the risk of serious heart problems later in life, according to a new study conducted by researchers at the University of Oulu in Finland.

The study found that people with highly irregular bedtimes, particularly those spending less than eight hours in bed, faced nearly double the risk of major cardiovascular events compared to individuals with more stable sleep schedules.

Researchers noted that irregular wake-up times, however, did not show a strong link with heart-related complications.

The cardiovascular events examined in the study included serious medical conditions such as myocardial infarction and cerebral infarction that require



"Previous research has linked irregular sleep patterns to heart health risks, but this is the first time we've looked separately at variability in bedtime, wake-up time and the midpoint of the sleep period — and their independent associations with major cardiac events," said postdoctoral researcher Laura Nauha from the University of Oulu. The researchers monitored sleep patterns using activity trackers that recorded the amount of time participants spent in bed and their sleep timing habits.

specialised treatment and hospital care. "Previous research has linked irregular sleep patterns to heart health risks, but this is the first time we've looked separately at variability in bedtime, wake-up time and the midpoint of the sleep period — and their independent associations with major

cardiac events," said postdoctoral researcher Laura Nauha from the University of Oulu. The researchers monitored sleep patterns using activity trackers that recorded the amount of time participants spent in bed and their sleep timing habits. According to the findings, maintaining a con-

sistent bedtime appeared to play a particularly important role in long-term heart health. "Our findings suggest that the regularity of bedtime, in particular, may be important for heart health. It reflects the rhythms of everyday life — and how much they fluctuate," Nauha explained. The long-term study tracked 3,231 people born in Northern Finland in 1966. Participants' sleep habits were recorded over a one-week period when they were 46 years old, and their health outcomes were then monitored for more than a decade using healthcare registry data. Researchers said the findings highlight how daily routines and lifestyle habits can significantly influence cardiovascular health over time. "Maintaining a regular sleep schedule is one factor that most of us can influence," Nauha added.

Ai+ Smartphone disrupts the Flip Smartphone Market: Launches India's First Flip Smartphone Under Rs. 30,000

New Delhi, May 7, 2026: Ai+ Smartphone today redefined the flip smartphone category in India with the launch of the Ai+ NovaFlip 5G, the first flip smartphone in the country priced under 30,000. In a segment long dominated by ultra-premium devices, Ai+ Smartphone has made the iconic flip form factor truly accessible, without compromising on performance, design, or everyday usability. Launching at a breakthrough price of 29,999. The NovaFlip 5G brings together a bold, pocketable design, a powerful camera system, and next-generation performance marking a pivotal moment in the democratization of foldable technology. This milestone launch follows the overwhelming response to the Nova 2 Series, with both Nova 2 and Nova 2 Ultra selling out rapidly, reinforcing growing consumer trust in the Ai+ ecosystem.



price India has been waiting for," said Madhav Sheth, CEO, Ai+ Smartphone and Founder, NxtQuantum Shift Technologies. Ai+ NovaFlip 5G - A New Benchmark for Photography The NovaFlip 5G introduces a 50MP rear camera, setting a new benchmark for flip smartphones in its segment. Built for a generation that lives on the front camera, it also features a 32MP selfie shooter with autofocus, delivering sharp, natural, and detailed images across lighting conditions. Whether open for immersive shooting or folded for quick selfies, the NovaFlip ensures versatility without compromise.

Dimensity 7300X

At its core, the device is powered by the MediaTek Dimensity 7300X, delivering seamless performance across gaming, multitasking, and daily use. Paired with 8GB RAM and 256GB storage, and running on Android 15 with NxtQuantum OS, the experience remains fluid, clean, and optimized. Dual AMOLED Displays, One Seamless Experience The NovaFlip 5G features a 6.78-inch FHD+ AMOLED inner display for immersive viewing, complemented by a 3.0-inch AMOLED cover screen for quick interactions on the go. From notifications to controls, users stay connected

without always needing to unfold - making the device as functional as it is visually striking.

Designed to Stand Out

Compact when folded and expansive when opened, the NovaFlip 5G blends portability with presence. Weighing just 193g, it comes packed with features including:

- Side-mounted fingerprint sensor
- Dual SIM with 5G+5G support
- NFC
- Wi-Fi 6 (tri-band)
- Flip-aware UI powered by a hall sensor
- Measuring just 87.3x76x15.6mm when folded and opening to 169.4x76x7.5mm,

All-Day Power, Fast When You Need It The NovaFlip 5G is backed by a 4325mAh battery delivering up to 310 hours of 5G standby and 19.5 hours of VoNR talk time. With 33W fast charging support via USB Type-C (PD3.0 and PPS), topping up is quick and effortless ensuring the NovaFlip 5G is always ready when you are

Availability

The Ai+ NovaFlip 5G will be available at a special launch price of 29,999, with sales going live on May 8, 2026 at 12 PM, exclusively on Flipkart. Also available from the Ai+ Smartphone portfolio: Ai+ Pulse 2 — 7,999 Ai+ Nova 2 5G — 9,999 Ai+ Nova 2 Ultra 5G — 14,999 Ai+ PulseTab - 9,999 All prices are exclusive to the Flipkart Big Saving Days Sale starting from May 8 exclusively on Flipkart. In the Box The Ai+ NovaFlip 5G comes complete and ready to use, right out of the box. Each box includes the NovaFlip 5G smartphone, a 33W fast charger, a USB Type-C cable, a protective case, along with a protective case installation guide, a SIM ejector tool, a warranty card, and a user manual/QSG.

Investor Meet to be Held in Hyderabad on May 8th under the Aegis of 'Global Rajasthan Agritech Meet (GRAM) - 2026'

Hyderabad, May 7, 2026. In a significant step towards positioning Rajasthan as a leading hub for agricultural innovation, Agritech investment and technology-driven agricultural development, the Department of Agriculture, Rajasthan in collaboration with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) and the Rajasthan Foundation will organize a pivotal Investor Meet in Hyderabad on May 8th. Held under the umbrella of the 'Global Rajasthan Agritech Meet (GRAM) - 2026,' this event will take place at The Park Hyatt hotel in Hyderabad, bringing together key industry representatives, investors, and experts from the fields of agriculture, Agritech, IT, seed technology, protected cultivation and agricultural research. During the roadshow, a special panel discussion will be held on the theme: "Scope of IT Interventions and Technological Innovations in Agriculture." Representatives from renowned institutions and companies—such as ITC, Coromandel, Nuziveedu Seeds, Kheyti, ICRIASAT and the Indian Institute of Oilseeds Research (IIOR)

will participate in the panel discussion. The deliberations will focus on Agritech expansion in Rajasthan, technological innovations, inter-state cooperation and new avenues for agricultural investment. Rajasthan Chief Minister Shri Bhajanlal Sharma will grace the event as the Chief Guest. He will be accompanied by Rajasthan's Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture and Horticulture Dr. Kirodi Lal, Hon'ble Minister for Animal Husbandry and Dairy Shri Joram, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for the Department of Cooperatives Shri Gautam Kumar and the Principal Secretary of the Departments of Agriculture and Horticulture, Smt. Manju Rajpal, among other administrative officials. During the event, the Chief Minister will also hold a special interactive session with investors, industrialists and members of the Rajasthan Foundation to discuss opportunities regarding agriculture-based investments, Agritech startups, food processing, supply chains, and technological partner-

ships in Rajasthan. In addition to this, Chief Minister Sharma will hold one-on-one meetings with pharmaceutical companies, alongside agritech firms. Through 'GRAM-2026,' the State Government aims to position Rajasthan as a premier global hub for investment in the fields of agricultural innovation, smart farming, water management, agri-infrastructure, and technology-driven agricultural solutions. The Hyderabad Investor Meet is regarded as a significant initiative in this direction. Notably, extensive preparations are currently underway for the main conference of the 'Global Rajasthan Agritech Meet (GRAM)-2026,' scheduled to be held in Jaipur from May 23 to 25, 2026. Prior to the Hyderabad Investor Meet, similar investor meets have already been organized in Delhi, Bengaluru, and Ahmedabad. A significant highlight is that the State secured investments exceeding 150 crore during the Ahmedabad Investor Meet. A substantial turnout of investors, industry representatives, and policymakers both domestic and international is anticipated at 'GRAM 2026'.

DS GROUP EXPANDS ITS CATCH SPRINKLER PORTFOLIO

New Delhi, 07th May, 2026: Catch Salt and Spices, a popular brand of Dharampal Satyapal Group (DS Group), a leading FMCG conglomerate and multi business corporation, has announced the expansion of its Sprinkler portfolio with the launch of new-age seasonings and regionally inspired flavours. Marking a key step in evolving a legacy range that has long been synonymous with salt and pepper in Indian households, the expanded Catch Sprinkler range includes contemporary variants such as pizza pasta seasoning, chilli flakes, oregano, magic masala and mixed herbs along with regional offerings like Jeeravan (Poha Masala) and Podi Masala. With this move, the company is extending the sprinkler format into a wider seasoning platform designed for today's increasingly experimental and convenience-seeking consumer pan India. The expanded Catch Sprinkler range is now available across general trade, modern retail and leading e-commerce and



quick commerce platforms. The Sprinklers are available in unique HIPS containers that keep the salt/seasoning moisture-free, and the easy dispensing technique ensures a free flow of the seasoning on to the dishes. The bottles are easy to store and easy to use as table top dispensers. Catch is ambitiously strategizing to dominate the Indian Kitchen space with differentiated products that bring purity, taste and convenience as key drivers. The brand is making substantial investments in brand building (marketing), technology, innovation and R&D which will help the brand evolve to the needs of the consumer. Speaking on

the expansion, Mr Sandeep Ghosh, Business Head, Catch Salt & Spices, DS Group said, "At DS Group, we continuously track the evolving consumer behaviour to deliver products that combine convenience, quality and flavour innovation across major cities extending up to tier 3 markets. The expansion of the Catch Sprinkler range is a step towards building a more contemporary and versatile seasoning portfolio that blends national trends with strong regional relevance. As demand grows, DS Group is focused on scaling accessible formats that enhance everyday cooking experiences, strengthening Catch

Salt & Spices' market leadership across India and reinforcing DS Group's focus on premium, value-added offerings." India's food consumption landscape is witnessing a clear shift toward hygienic, packaged solutions and convenient formats. At the same time, consumers across metros as well as Tier 2 and Tier 3 markets are increasingly experimenting with global cuisines while also embracing the regional flavours. The premiumisation trend in the category has further strengthened the growing demand for high-quality, easy-to-use food enhancers, positioning the Catch Sprinkler range as a relevant and scalable solution in the evolving market. The Catch brand was introduced by DS Group in 1987 with the launch of a revolutionary table-top salt sprinkler and the brand has since grown to encapsulate the very essence of cooking which ranges from straight spices to myriad blends and pastes and wholes; across nine categories with more than 140 variants and 330 SKUs.

Alcoholic beverage industry seeks price hike amid rising costs from West Asia crisis

New Delhi: Alcoholic beverage makers have sought a reasonable price hike from state governments to deal with pressures arising out of rising can and bottle costs due to supply chain disruptions triggered by the West Asia crisis. Confederation of Indian Alcoholic Beverage Companies (CIABC) and the Brewers Association of India (BAI) have urged states to allow revisions of IMFL (Indian Made Foreign Liquor), wine and beer products and provide interim relief measures to help manufacturers cope with rising production costs. BAI has asked state governments to allow suppliers a price increase of 15-20 per cent to partially offset the impact of rising input costs. In letters sent to state governments, BAI Director General Vinod Giri said the conflict has triggered a sharp increase in input costs across categories. "Glass bottle prices have risen by around 20 per cent, paper cartons have increased by almost 100 per cent, and materials such as LDPE, BOPP and adhesives have



become costlier by 20-25 per cent," Giri said. Severe shortage of commercial LNG supply has put glass bottle manufacturers under significant strain, and they too face partial or full shutdowns. "Supply of glass and cans may be severely strained in the coming months and even years," BAI said. Moreover, the beer industry, which is also facing issues with the supply of cans, sees it prolonging due to rising aluminium costs. "Aluminium supplies from the Middle East have been badly hit, and suppliers have warned that prolonged dis-

ruption risks not only put but also a shutdown of manufacturing plants," said Giri. Freight and logistics costs have also increased by around 10 per cent, while the depreciation of the rupee against the US dollar has further pushed up import costs, he added. As an interim relief measure, BAI has also sought a reduction in manufacturing levies by around Rs 3-5 per bulk litre to create a cushion against rising costs. BAI represents leading players from the brewing industry - United Breweries, ABInBev and Carlsberg - which

together account for around 85 per cent of the beer sold in the country. CIABC, which represents IMFL (India Made Foreign Liquor) and domestic wine makers, has asked various state governments to revise the ex-distillery/winery price (EDP/EWP) in its representations. CIABC Director General Anant S Iyer said the volatile geopolitical situation in the Middle East, which accounts for nearly 20 per cent of global crude oil supplies and is a key supply chain hub for India, has intensified inflationary pressures across the industry.

Lenskart Block Deal Launched: Eyewear Retailer To Offload 4% Stake For Rs 3,299 Crore, Say Sources

Lenskart Solutions shares will be in focus as block deal worth Rs 3,299 crore is likely to take place on Friday, sources told NDTV Profit. This confirms NDTV Profit's earlier news break of a block deal for the eyewear firm. People in the know added that the indicative price is set at Rs 470 per share, indicating a discount of 3.6% to the current market price. Kotak Securities and Spark Institutional bankers are the brokerages responsible for the deal. There are multiple sellers looking to sell in the block deal, however sources had earlier revealed that Svf Ii Lightbulb (Cayman) and Platinum Jasmine two foreign companies holding stake in the company may sell stake in the company via block deals. As of March 2026, Svf Ii Lightbulb (Cayman) holds 13.13% stake and Platinum Jasmine A 2018 Trust holds 12.08% stake. The eyewear firm Lenskart in quarter



ended December quarter with a multifold jump in profit at Rs 132.7 crore, driven by growth in margin, new customer addition and positive returns from international business. The company had posted a profit after tax of Rs 1.8 crore in the same period a year ago. The revenue from operations of Lenskart increased 38% to Rs 2,308 crore during the reported quarter from Rs 1,669 crore in the December 2024 quarter. Lenskart CEO Peyush Bansal in a letter said

Lenskart's international segment is outpacing India's historical profitability curve, with superior profitability with half the footprint. He said India delivered a record 28% same-store sales growth with 36% same pincode sales growth during the reported quarter which was an 800 basis points premium. Lenskart shares closed 3.08% lower at Rs 487.75 per share after it fell as much as 4.42% to Rs 481 apiece. This compares to a 0.02% decline in the NSE Nifty 50 Index.

Dabur Q4 Results: Profit Rises 15%; Highest-Ever Dividend Declared — Check Record Date

Debur India's net profit surges 15% at Rs 369 crore in the fourth quarter of the previous fiscal. This is in comparison to profit of Rs 320 crore in the same quarter of fiscal 2025, according to its stock exchange notification on Thursday. Consolidated revenue of the FMCG major surges 7.3% year-on-year for the three months ended March, reaching Rs 3,038 crore in comparison to Rs 2,830 crore. Operating income, or earnings before interest and taxes rose 8.2% to Rs 462 crore from Rs 427 crore. Margins expanded marginally to 15.2% from 15.1% in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2025.

Dabur Q4 Result Highlight (Cons, YoY)
Net Profit rises 15.1% at Rs 369 crore versus Rs 320 crore. Revenue rises 7.3% at Rs 3,038 crore versus Rs 2,830 crore. Ebitda rises 8.2% at Rs 462 crore versus Rs 427 crore. Margin at 15.2% versus 15.1%. To pay final dividend of Rs 5.5 per share. Dabur's India FMCG business posted a growth of 9.5% during the quarter. Operating profit for India



FMCG business rose 12.5%, reflecting strong execution in the domestic FMCG business and healthy underlying volume of growth of 6%. In the quarter under review, hair care portfolio rose by about 27% during the quarter led by the hair oil business. Home care business saw over 24% growth, while the digestive business saw a 15% jump. Dabur's skin and salon business rose by 12%. Dabur's Toothpaste business reported 7% growth during the

fourth quarter, while the Badshah portfolio posted 12% growth during the quarter under review. In the fourth quarter, rural markets continued to outpace urban consumption with rural demand growing ahead of urban India by 350 basis points. Dabur's international business saw a 2.5% growth, despite the headwinds in Middle East, according to a press release. Its UK business reported a 10% growth, while sub-Saharan African section grew 20%,

and the Namaste US saw growth of 6.2%. The Bangladesh business also reported a 22% constant-currency growth. During the concall on Thursday, Dabur said there will be second round of price hikes in first quarter of fiscal 2027.

Dabur Dividend
Dabur on Thursday has announced dividend of Rs 5.5 per equity share for the fiscal 2026 as its profit surges. This is the highest-ever dividend announced by the company. The company announced distribution of nearly Rs 975 crore to shareholders. The record date for ascertaining entitlement of final dividend for fiscal 2026 has not been set as July 17. According to the exchange filing the final dividend is subject to approval of the Members of the company at the ensuing annual general meeting. The company on Nov 7 had given a dividend of Rs 2.75 per share, this means in total in fiscal 2026, Dabur gave dividend of Rs 8.25. In 2024 the company gave a dividend of Rs 8 per share and in 2023 it gave a dividend of Rs 5.5 per share.

Trump meets Brazil's President Lula at White House

Lula's motorcade has arrived at the White House, our correspondent who is there for the meeting tells us. The meeting between Trump and Lula will begin shortly. The US-Brazil relationship broke down significantly last year after Trump imposed a 50% tariff on most of Brazil's goods last year. This affected several key products, including coffee and beef, that Americans like to buy. Trump framed the tariffs as retaliation for the prosecution of his ally, right-wing former Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro. He had been accused - and later convicted - of attempting to stage a coup after losing the 2022 presidential election to current President Lula. The aim was to exert pressure on Brazilian authorities to back down on criminal proceedings against Bolsonaro. But in November, as prices rose at home, Trump reversed the tariffs. His broader tariffs were also overturned by the US Supreme Court in February. And in Brazil, Bolsonaro's legal troubles continue: he was sentenced to 27 years in prison and is

currently under house arrest due to ill health. President Trump and Brazilian President Lula are set to meet and speak soon. Last September, Lula told the BBC in an exclusive interview that he has "no relationship" with Donald Trump. It was just the latest in a war of words between the two leaders since Trump put a high tariff - 50% - on goods from Brazil in 2025. "The American people will pay for the mistakes President Trump is incurring in his relationship with Brazil," Lula said at the time. He also accused Trump of foreign interference and behaving like an "emperor". Trump has previously said that Lula can "call him anytime." But Lula insisted that members of the Trump Administration "do not want to talk". Part of the reason for Trump's high tariffs on Brazil was the trial and conviction of Lula's predecessor, the right-wing Jair Bolsonaro, who had a close relationship with Trump. He was found guilty of attempting a coup d'etat after he lost the 2022 election to Lula. "His



relationship is with Bolsonaro, not Brazil," Lula said of Trump. But after a brief meeting at the United Nations General Assembly in New York in September, relations seemed to thaw. They spoke on the phone the next month, a conversation both leaders described as positive and friendly. Trump said on his Truth Social platform that the call "was mostly focused on the economy, and trade, between our two countries". "We will be having further discussions, and will get

together in the not too distant future, both in Brazil and the United States." Today is that day - and it remains to be seen if the relations thaw further or not. President Trump is expected to greet Brazilian President Lula outside the White House in about half an hour, around 11:00e (15:00b). The two will then head inside for a bilateral meeting in the Oval Office, and we anticipate getting to hear each of the leaders speak and answer questions from

press. Before Lula departs, the two leaders will then have lunch together, outside of reporters' view, scheduled to start at 11:45e. This will be Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva's first time visiting Trump at the White House after a tense year. The two leaders briefly met during the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Summit in October. They also spoke on the phone earlier that month, a call described by both sides as friendly and positive as Brazil sought to reduce the 50% US tariff on some of its goods. Those tariffs played a large part in creating the tension that had overshadowed their relationship. Trump raised them last in response to the trial of Lula's predecessor, Jair Bolsonaro, who was found guilty of plotting a military coup. Lula had accused Trump of foreign interference and behaving like an "emperor". But Lula described the October phone meeting as an opportunity to restore friendly relations between "the two largest Western democracies" and

China announces suspended death sentences for former defence ministers



Two former Chinese defence ministers have been handed suspended death sentences on corruption charges, according to state media. A military court on Thursday sentenced Wei Fenghe and Li Shangfu to death with a two-year reprieve. This means their death sentences will be commuted to life imprisonment after two years, without the possibility of sentence reduction or parole, Xinhua reports. Both men were found guilty of bribery, and all of their personal assets were confiscated. The announcement follows the recent

ousting of several top military figures in the country amid a sweeping anti corruption crackdown. Wei served as defence minister from 2018 to 2023 and was replaced by Li in March 2023. Li's tenure as defence minister was much shorter. He was dismissed in October 2023, two months after he suddenly disappeared from public life, sparking speculation of his removal. Reuters news agency quoted past reports in Xinhua which said that Li had been suspected of receiving "huge sums of money" in bribes as well as bribing others.

Iran considering US proposal as Trump says war will be 'over quickly'



US President Donald Trump has predicted that the war in Iran will be "over quickly" and says that most people "understand" his goal of ending Tehran's nuclear ambitions. His comments come after Iran said a US proposal to end the war is "still being considered". US news outlet Axios reported that the White House believes it could be closing in on a 14-point memorandum of understanding with Iran, which could set a framework for more detailed nuclear negotiations. A senior member of Iran's parliament has dismissed it as a "wish list", while a foreign ministry spokesman said Tehran would share its views of a US proposal with Pakistani mediators. Pakistan's foreign minister said his country was "endeavouring to convert this ceasefire into a permanent end to this war". In its report, Axios describes the memorandum as a one-page, 14-point memo which could set a framework for more detailed nuclear negotiations. Among the provisions it lists are a suspension on Iranian nuclear enrichment, the lifting of

sanctions, and restoring free transit through the Strait of Hormuz. It cites two US officials and two other sources - all unnamed - whom it describes as briefed on the issues. These sources are reported as saying that many of the terms laid out in the memo would be contingent on a final agreement being reached. The Reuters news agency reported that two sources briefed on the mediation between the US and Iran had confirmed the information initially reported by Axios, but the proposal has not been publicly outlined. Speaking during a virtual campaign event on Wednesday evening, Trump told Republicans in the State of Georgia that he was optimistic that the war would end soon. He added that most people understood he was right to deny Iran the opportunity to have a nuclear weapon. Earlier in the day, the president said the US has had "very good talks with Iran in the last 24 hours" and that was deal is possible, emphasising that any hardship caused to Americans - because of high fuel prices - would be short term.

South Africa condemns 'fake videos' of alleged xenophobic attacks



South Africa's government has condemned the circulation of what it called "fake videos and images" that have been described by some as recordings of attacks on foreign nationals in the country. The call comes as diplomatic tension has increased between South Africa and other African nations following accusations that xenophobic violence is on the rise once again in the country. Ghana's government has written to the African Union

(AU) asking the continental body to discuss the issue, which it says is a "serious risk to the safety and wellbeing" of Africans in South Africa. Nigeria has also raised the issue and has offered to repatriate its nationals amid fears of attacks. Kenya, Malawi, Lesotho and Zimbabwe have also warned its citizens in South Africa to be aware of possible attacks. South Africa responded to Ghana's message saying that it "had nothing to hide".

RACE TO TRACE PASSENGERS WHO LEFT HANTAVIRUS CRUISE SHIP AT ISLAND

Health authorities are racing to trace dozens of people who disembarked from a hantavirus-hit cruise ship on the island of St Helena in the South Atlantic. The operator of the Dutch vessel said 29 passengers, of at least 12 different nationalities, left the MV Hondius on 24 April. The Dutch government gave a different figure of 40. A 69-year-old Dutch woman who later died in South Africa was among those. Two other people died on the ship, which set sail from southern Argentina a month ago. Their deaths are now under investigation. On Thursday, the World Health Organization (WHO) said five of eight suspected cases of hantavirus were now confirmed. But while it was serious, the WHO said it "assesses the public health risk as



low". The Dutch government said a Swiss national who has since been diagnosed with hantavirus was also one of those who left the cruise at the British Overseas Territory. Another three people - British, Dutch and German nationals - were evacuated from the vessel on Wednesday. The British man has been named as 56-year-old Martin Anstee and is in a stable condition.

with a population of about 4,400 and one hospital. Oceanwide Expeditions said in an update on Thursday that 30 people, including the body of one of the guests who died, had disembarked on 24 April. This included seven British people and six Americans, as well as guests from countries including Canada, Germany, Singapore, Turkey and Switzerland. It added that the first confirmed case of hantavirus was not reported until 4 May and that all guests who disembarked the ship have been contacted by it. Oceanwide Expeditions also said it remained in "close and continual discussion with relevant authorities regarding our exact point of arrival, quarantine and screening procedures for all guests".

Three women linked to Islamic State arrested in Australia on return from Syria

Three women with links to the jihadist Islamic State (IS) group have been arrested on returning home to Australia following years in detention in Syria. All are Australian citizens. Police said they arrested two of them - Kawsar Abbas, 53, and Zeinab Ahmed, 31 - on arrival in Melbourne. Janai Safar, 32, was arrested after landing in Sydney. A fourth woman in the party, which includes nine children, was not arrested. The group are the subject of heated political debate in Australia, with the government saying it would give them no help to return. The children - thought to be aged from about six to their mid-teens - are to get psycho-



logical support and be assessed for possible radicalisation. Australia is one of a number of countries grappling with how to deal with the return of citizens - and their children - from Syria after the so-called Islamic State caliphate was destroyed in 2019. Tens of

thousands of foreigners, most of them under 18, have been held in life-threatening conditions in IS camps across Syria, human rights groups say. The group that arrived in Melbourne had been held in al-Roj camp since 2019. It included grandmother Kawsar Abbas and

US judge releases Jeffrey Epstein's purported suicide note



A US judge has ordered the release of a document purported to be a suicide note written by convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein a month before his death. A copy of the handwritten note unsealed on Wednesday shows a handwritten sentence saying, "They investigated me for month - FOUND NOTHING!!!", and mentioned years-old charges. "It is a treat to be able to choose one's time to say goodbye", the note says. "Watcha want me to do - Bust out cryin!!!" it continues. "NO FUN - NOT WORTH IT." The note amounts to only seven lines of text, leaving uncertainty over its purported meaning. The US Department of Justice (DOJ) did not immediately respond to the BBC's request for comment. A DOJ spokesperson previously told NBC News in a statement that the department had not seen the note. They highlighted the DOJ's "exhaustive effort" in collecting and publicly releasing millions of other Epstein-related files in recent months. The note was accompanied by a May 2021 letter submitted to the court by John A Wieder, a former lawyer for Tartaglione.

him, which he denied. He first mentioned the note's existence last year on a podcast. A scan of the note in the court document unsealed on Wednesday shows a handwritten sentence saying, "They investigated me for month - FOUND NOTHING!!!", and mentioned years-old charges. "It is a treat to be able to choose one's time to say goodbye", the note says. "Watcha want me to do - Bust out cryin!!!" it continues. "NO FUN - NOT WORTH IT." The note amounts to only seven lines of text, leaving uncertainty over its purported meaning. The US Department of Justice (DOJ) did not immediately respond to the BBC's request for comment. A DOJ spokesperson previously told NBC News in a statement that the department had not seen the note. They highlighted the DOJ's "exhaustive effort" in collecting and publicly releasing millions of other Epstein-related files in recent months. The note was accompanied by a May 2021 letter submitted to the court by John A Wieder, a former lawyer for Tartaglione.

Fears of renewed Gaza war as Hamas disarmament talks stall

Ceasefire talks between Israel and Hamas have stalled, and Gaza risks sliding back into war. This week an Israeli air strike killed the son of Hamas's leader and chief negotiator Khalil al-Hayya, and Palestinian sources confirmed to the BBC that the two sides had reached a deadlock in negotiations. Israeli media reports suggest Israel is preparing to resume fighting in the Gaza Strip because of the impasse and Hamas's refusal to give up its weapons. "We understood, everyone understood that Hamas would not disarm, and they have followed through on their intentions," Michael Eisenberg, an adviser to the Israeli prime minister, told the



BBC, describing Hamas as "an unrepentant terrorist group". "Nobody in Israel wants to go back to war," he said, but added "all options are on the table right now." Citing unnamed security sources, Israel's Channel 12 News has reported that Washington may give Israel the "green light" to resume "operations". One of the

main options it says Israel is considering is to expand the so-called "Yellow Line" marking some 60% of Gaza that has remained under full Israeli military control during the ceasefire. Locals say this is already happening. Israel insists that Hamas's approach to disarmament is in breach of the ceasefire deal which came

into effect on 10 October. However, Hamas insists that Israel is violating the agreement by failing to meet its humanitarian commitments and continuing deadly attacks. On Wednesday, a Hamas statement called on "the US administration and the guarantor states of the Sharm el-Sheikh [ceasefire] agreement" to "move immediately" to stop Israel's "aggression against the innocent people in Gaza". This came after Israeli air strikes across the Palestinian territory killed at least six people - including a Hamas commander and Azzam al-Hayya, a son of Hamas's top negotiator, Khalil al-Hayya, who has been leading the indirect talks with Israel.

Superdry co-founder James Holder jailed for rape

Superdry co-founder James Holder has been jailed for eight years for raping a woman in a "despicable piece of sexual violence". The 54-year-old, of Cheltenham, attacked the woman in her flat after a night out in 2022. His victim told Bristol Crown Court he had taken her "choice, dignity and body". Holder, who appeared via video link from prison, showed no emotion as he was sentenced by Recorder David Chidgey, who said the attack was "about your sense of entitlement and your sense of doing what you wanted and your causal disregard for the victim's absolute right to say what she wanted to do with her own body". Holder was



found guilty by a jury of seven men and five women at Gloucester Crown Court, sitting in Cirencester, on Friday. The fashion tycoon, who set up Superdry with Julian Dunkerton in 2003, was on an "impromptu night out" on 6 May 2022 which ended at the woman's flat, the court was told during his trial.



IPL 2026: LSG VS RCB MATCH STOPPED DUE TO RAIN



KL Rahul Sent 'Death Warrant' Message After Flop Show Against CSK: 'Delhi Capitals Were Done'

Former Indian cricket team batter Sanjay Manjrekar delivered a brutal verdict on KL Rahul's batting approach as Delhi Capitals slumped to a heavy loss against Chennai Super Kings. Rahul managed to score just 12 off 12 deliveries before he was dismissed by Akeal Hosein. Rahul tried to play an inside-out shot off the spinner but completely mis-cued it as Rituraj Gaikwad completed an easy catch. Manjrekar said that Rahul getting dismissed so cheaply is almost like a 'death warrant' for his side and added that in a time where openers score at very high strike rates, Rahul cannot play a knock like 12 off 12 balls. "It's almost like odd and even games, where sometimes he goes after the bowling straightaway, which is the KL Rahul you want. But then he feels like he has earned the right and becomes responsible for the rest of the batters to



come, and then plays an innings like that. Once you get out after getting to 12 off 12, you've signed the death warrant for your team. After those insipid first six overs, DC were done for the game," Manjrekar said on Instagram. "KL Rahul, after playing a brilliant innings in the previous match, got 12 off 12 balls in the first six overs. That's two overs at a strike rate of 100. When you have open-

ers going at 200, you can't have an opener scoring 12 off 12 in the hope that he'll explode later," he added. Rahul has been enjoying a good run of form in the ongoing IPL 2026 and he is third in the Orange Cap race. The veteran batter has slammed 445 runs in 10 matches at an average of 49.44 and a strike rate of 180.89. He has already scored one century and three half-centuries.

T20 MUMBAI LEAGUE TO BE HELD AT WANKHEDE STADIUM FROM JUNE 1-13

The Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA) today announced that Season 4 of the T20 Mumbai League and the inaugural edition of the T20 Mumbai Women's League will be held from June 1 to 13 at the iconic Wankhede Stadium, setting the stage for a landmark cricket carnival in the city. The men's and women's competitions will be conducted simultaneously, marking a significant step in the MCA's vision to create a high-visibility platform for cricketing talent across categories. The men's competition will bring together some of the world's biggest cricketing names alongside the city's most promising emerging players, including Suryakumar Yadav,



Shreyas Iyer, Ajinkya Rahane, Yashasvi Jaiswal, Shivam Dube, Sarfaraz Khan, Shardul Thakur, Tushar Deshpande, Ayush Mhatre, Angkrish Raghuvanshi, Musheer Khan, Suryansh Shedge and Abhigyan Kundu, among others. The inaugural women's league will also feature some of the leading

JioHotstar, significantly expanding the league's reach and giving fans across the country an opportunity to witness high-voltage cricketing action. MCA President Ajinkya Naik said: "The T20 Mumbai League has consistently played an important role in strengthening Mumbai's cricketing ecosystem and providing opportunities for emerging players to perform alongside some of the biggest names in the game. Conducting both the men's and women's tournaments at the Wankhede Stadium reflects the MCA's commitment to creating a larger and more inclusive platform for talent development and taking Mumbai cricket to a wider audience."

Suryakumar Yadav, Wife Devisha Shetty Welcome Baby Girl 'With Giggles, Bows And Dreams'. MI React

Mumbai Indians star batter Suryakumar Yadav and wife Devisha Shetty welcomed a baby girl on Thursday. "With giggles, bows, and dreams to unfurl - we welcome our baby girl," the Indian cricket team T20 captain wrote on Instagram. Suryakumar on Wednesday was not among the first batch of MI players who went to Raipur for the IPL 2026 team's next match against Royal Challengers Bengaluru on Sunday. Yadav even captained MI in their last match against Lucknow Super Giants. MI and his teammate Deepak Chahar congratulated Yadav on the occasion. Yadav has often credited his wife as having a great influence on his career. In fact, it was her matter-of-fact query



that drove him to slog hard for a national call-up. Suryakumar led India to a successful T20 World Cup title defence in 2026. "We got married in 2016 when I was still playing for KKR. Everything was going very smoothly. I was playing well, enjoying, and she looked at my journey and my routines till 2018 when I joined Mumbai Indians. I

think we started doing things a little differently," Suryakumar recalled during a podcast interview with 'PTI Videos'. "She told me that all those who played with you in age group cricket, a lot of them are now playing for India - what do you have in mind I said: 'Mujhe bhi India khelna hai (I want to play for India too)'. 'Kaise khele' (how do you plan to do it), she asked. 'It was a nice little conversation with her, not an argument but a discussion. But yes, it was a discussion about how you can take one extra step forward in your endeavour. If I want to play for India, how do I do it?' The 35-year-old revealed his career-changing tete-a-tete with his wife.

Bhuvneshwar Kumar Scripts IPL History, Becomes First Pacer To Achieve This Mammoth Feat

Royal Challengers Bengaluru pacer Bhuvneshwar Kumar scripted history with his appearance in an IPL 2026 match against Lucknow Super Giants at the Ekana Cricket Stadium on Thursday. He became the first-ever fast bowler in the tournament's history to play 200 matches. Bhuvneshwar was named in RCB's playing XI as captain Rajat Patidar won the toss and opted to bowl first. It is worth noting that Bhuvneshwar is the only pacer in IPL history to claim 200 or more wickets. Speaking about the milestone, Bhuvneshwar said, "It is indeed special-any milestone is, really-and playing 200 matches is, in itself, a massive achievement. So, naturally, I am feeling very happy. Furthermore, I think



the best part is that I am achieving this with a team that won the trophy last year and is playing exceptionally well this season; that makes it even better. "It is very difficult to pick just one (special moment), but if I absolutely had to name something special, I would choose my debut wicket. My journey began so many years ago, and that very first wicket is always something special. "Things are going well right now. It has certainly been demanding, especially considering the way the format itself has evolved... Given the way batsmen are changing and the aggressive approach they are adopting during the Powerplay, it is always a demanding challenge to constantly improve one's game.

Yuzvendra Chahal Caught Vaping In Flight After Riyan Parag, New Controversy Hits IPL 2026

Punjab Kings spinner Yuzvendra Chahal found himself in the headlines for all the wrong reasons after he was allegedly caught vaping on a flight. Social media users shared screenshots and clips from Arshdeep Singh's vlog to claim that Chahal was using a vape while travelling with the Punjab Kings squad from Ahmedabad to Hyderabad. The social media users further claimed that the original version of the vlog was later edited and shortened in order to crop out the portions featuring the veteran spinner. The clips went viral on social media and sparked a massive conversation among users. There has been no statement from the player or franchise, and NDTV cannot independently verify the authenticity



of the video or the claims. Look at Yuzvendra Chahal, man. He was risking everyone's safety by vaping an e-cigarette inside the flight while Shashank Singh and other Punjab Kings players were around him. The ongoing IPL 2026 has already witnessed a major vaping controversy after Riyan Parag was found using a vape inside the Rajasthan Royals

dressing room during the match against Punjab Kings. He was fined 25 per cent of his match fees. Meanwhile, former India off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin termed Riyan Parag's vaping incident during an IPL match as something that could have been avoided, urging young players to be mindful of their actions in public spaces.

How Kane goal could earn Germany extra Champions League spot



It seemed as if Harry Kane's stoppage-time goal for Bayern Munich on Wednesday was nothing more than a consolation - but it could mean so much more to the Bundesliga. The England captain netted in the 94th minute to earn a 1-1 semi-final second-leg draw against Paris St-Germain, but it was the Ligue 1 side who went through to the Champions League final 6-5 on aggregate. The draw could prove to be absolutely crucial in the battle to gain one of the two European Performance Spots (EPS) - the extra places in the Champions League based on each country's overall performance in Europe. The Premier League is way out in front and claimed one of the two places a month ago. But the battle for second has gone right down to the wire between the

Bundesliga and La Liga. Kane's goal earned Germany 0.142 points towards its coefficient score. That might not seem like much, but in such a close battle it could prove to be the difference. La Liga (21.781) sits in second going into the second legs of the Europa League and Conference League semi-finals on Thursday. The Bundesliga (21.357) is just 0.424 points behind. In real terms, that is a win and a draw. Going into Thursday's games, each league has one team left - Freiburg for Germany and Rayo Vallecano for Spain. Freiburg must overcome a 2-1 deficit at home to Braga, while Rayo Vallecano take a 1-0 lead to Strasbourg. This is how Kane's goal could help to decide it. If Freiburg beat Braga and go through to the final, they will add 0.428 to Germany's score.

THE AI FITNESS INSTRUCTORS SELLING UNREAL GAINS

If you use social media you've probably seen them - polished fitness videos promising dramatic body transformations in weeks. They show chiselled physiques, striking before-and-after images and claims that you can look years younger by following a simple routine. The results often look too good to be true. In many cases, they are. A BBC investigation has uncovered misleading fitness adverts featuring AI-generated characters that breach UK advertising rules. Many adverts also failed to make clear that the people featured were not real. And why were they doing it To sell a subscrip-



tion to a fitness app. So how easy is it to tell whether the person giving fitness advice exists And does it matter 'Hard to tell who to believe' AI content has flooded social media feeds in the past couple of years, and videos promoting exercise and online fitness programmes are becoming increasingly common. Many of the adverts flagged to the Advertising Standards Authority (ASA) by the BBC featured AI-generated characters claiming to have followed workout programmes themselves.

They also show transformations experts say are scientifically implausible in such short timeframes. The videos promise users they can change their bodies in weeks, "look 20 years younger", or "lose 40lb in one month". Once users engage with exercise or fitness content, algorithms quickly flood their feeds with similar material. Prof Andy Miah, an AI expert from the University of Salford, says the trend is "huge" and those scrolling are drawn in because they are looking for advice. "People are looking for solutions to their health, their fitness, their looks," he says.

Villa's Staniforth 'at ease' with decision to retire



Aston Villa midfielder Lucy Staniforth says she did not hesitate when making the decision to retire from football at the end of the season. The 33-year-old began her career at Sunderland in 2008 and has gone on to represent seven clubs - the most of any player in the Women's Super League. Staniforth also earned 17 England caps and was twice a losing FA Cup finalist, with Sunderland in 2009 and Bristol Academy in 2013. But having been plagued by injuries, she is ready for life after football.

“Agadha” Is Set to Be a Visual Wonder; The Film Has Many More Surprises Beyond the Teaser – M.S. Raju



Under the banner of Sri Aadi Varaha Productions, Kasi Visalakshi Balusu is producing the film “Agadha” on a grand scale in Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, Malayalam, and Hindi languages simultaneously. The film is written and directed by M.S. Raju. The movie stars Kamakshi Bhaskarla, Shrawan Reddy, Ulka Gupta, Jovika Vijay Kumar, Sijju, Roshan, Shreya Rani Reddy, and others in key roles. The teaser of the movie was released on Thursday. Speaking at the teaser launch event...

the blessings of the Goddess I believe in, I think this film will become a huge success. The teaser itself shows the kind of work done by the technicians and artists. This movie will be a visual wonder. There are many elements in the film that were not shown in the teaser. Hats off to Kamakshi for her dedication and sincerity as Mahadevi. Polimera' fame Anil garu supported this project a lot. Without Shrawan, this movie would not exist. This film will take Shrawan to another level. Ulka is a wonderful actress. Jovika, granddaughter of Manjula garu and daughter of Vanitha garu, is making her Telugu debut with this film. She will carry forward Manjula garu's legacy. Editor Junaid, cameraman Nani, Chaitanya, Rajeev, Vicky, Rajesh — everyone worked wholeheartedly for this film. I wish 'Agadha' becomes a big hit," he said. Producer Kasi Visalakshi Balusu said, “Thanks to

everyone who came to the teaser launch of 'Agadha.' I entered film production because of my elder brother M.S. Raju garu. I thank Raju garu and Subbaraju garu for supporting me in this journey. I believe everyone liked our teaser. I hope audiences watch and make our movie a hit,” she said. Kamakshi Bhaskarla said, “Thanks to M.S. Raju garu for giving me an opportunity in a wonderful film like 'Agadha.' Raju garu told me that the 'Polimera' poster looked good. I was very happy when he called me for this project. Thanks to Raju garu for believing that I could perform the role of Mahadevi. You will continue to hear more about this film in the coming days. Only a few films stay with us forever, and 'Agadha' will be one such film. The character Mahadevi will always remain within me. I believe the audience will also experience the same feeling,” she said.

We offered a Rs. 1 Lakh reward because we believe in the film's suspense

Vision: Passionate about making cinema with a fresh perspective.
Genre: “M4M” is a unique suspense thriller.

Acclaim: Already bagged 15 International Awards (IMDb recognized) before release.

Release Date: Worldwide theatrical release on May 8.

Pan-India Presence: Releasing in 5 languages: Telugu, Hindi, Tamil, Kannada, and Malayalam.

Mohan Vadlapatla, known for producing tasteful Telugu films like Mallepuvvu, Mental Krishna, and Kalavaramaaye Madilo, is making his directorial debut with the suspense thriller M4M (Motive For Murder). Starring American actress Jo Sharma in the lead, the film is set to hit screens worldwide on May 8. Distributed by PVR Inox Pictures in South India, JVEL in North India, and Tekflix overseas, the director sat down with the media to share insights about the project.

Interview Excerpts

Q: What is the story behind the title

“M4M” Mohan Vadlapatla: The concept of serial killers is quite popular in the US. When we brainstormed the central question—“What is the motive behind this murder”—the phrase Motive For Murder stuck. We shortened it to M4M for a crisp and catchy title.

Q: Were there challenges in working with a new cast

Mohan Vadlapatla: I treated every scene like a mini-movie, giving it immense care. The screenplay was meticulously crafted. Although we had a lot of footage, we edited it sharply into a 90-minute Hollywood-style thriller. We didn't even feel the need for an interval, but we included one because Indian audiences are accustomed to it. One specific climax scene, where a character is tied up like a mummy, took half a day to shoot and was quite challenging.

Q: The film is ready for release. Can you share details about the production journey

Mohan Vadlapatla: Honestly, the

release was slightly delayed because we opted for some reshoots. We also wanted a high-energy promo song choreographed by Bhanu Master. We actually shot two versions and scrapped them before finalizing the third version with him. We shot for three and a half days continuously at Sarathi Studios. Initially, we approached OTT platforms, but they suggested a post-theatrical release strategy. That is how the final shape of the film emerged.

Q: What was the main reason for the reshoots

Mohan Vadlapatla: I wasn't fully satisfied with the first version of the “Who is the Killer” song. I wanted a top-tier choreographer, so we brought Bhanu Master on board. We also had singer Noel perform a rap portion, which turned out brilliantly.

Q: Did reshoots escalate the budget

Mohan Vadlapatla: Definitely. We worked through night shifts and used 10 different sets over three and a half days.



BORN FOR THE SCREEN BHAGYASHRI BORSE AND THE MAKING OF A PAN-INDIA STAR



There are two kinds of stars in Indian cinema. The first kind arrives with a bang, a debut that shatters records, a face that is everywhere overnight, a name that trends before the first review is even published. The industry celebrates them loudly, and then watches, often anxiously, to see if the substance matches

the noise. The second kind builds quietly. Film by film, language by language, director by director. They do not announce themselves. They let the work do it. And by the time the wider world fully recognises them, the foundation they have laid is so solid that nothing can shake it. Bhagyashri Borse, who turns 26 today, belongs entirely to the second kind.

And on her birthday, the announcement of Seyon, the highly anticipated Tamil thriller starring Sivakartheeyan, directed by Sivakumar Murugesan, and produced by the legendary Kamal Haasan under Raaj Kamal Films International, makes one thing impossible to ignore any longer. This is not a rising star.

Hilarious Family Entertainer Purushaha Releasing Worldwide On My 22nd With High Expectations



Presented by Saraswati Battula and produced by Battula Koteswara Rao under the Kalyan Productions banner, Purushaha is shaping up to be a hilarious family entertainer with strong commercial appeal. The film introduces Pavan Kalyan Battula as the lead hero, while director Veeru Vulavala helms the project with a perfect blend of humor, emotions, and engaging storytelling aimed at audiences of all age groups. The ensemble cast includes Saptagiri, Vennela Kishore, Kasireddy Rajkumar, Rayancha Kokkura, Vishika, Hasini Sudheer, and Ananth Sriram in pivotal roles. After initially announcing the film for a summer release, the makers have now officially locked May 22nd as the worldwide theatrical release date. The timing works perfectly for the film, as it arrives during the extended summer holiday season, giving it ample opportunity to attract family audiences. Adding to the advantage, the release window cur-

rently remains free from major big-ticket competition, which is expected to work in the film's favor. With the release date now confirmed, the team is gearing up to intensify promotions in the coming days. Purushaha has already succeeded in creating solid buzz with its innovative promotional strategy. The quirky character introduction posters, entertaining teaser, and amusing glimpses have struck a chord with viewers and sparked curiosity around the film. The songs too have been receiving encouraging responses across digital platforms, steadily increasing the film's reach and anticipation ahead of release. On the technical front, the film boasts music composed by Shrawan Bharadwaj, cinematography by Satish Muthyala, and editing by Koti, with the team collectively striving to present a colorful and engaging commercial entertainer on the big screen. Expectations are already high and the trailer to be released soon will take them to next level.

“Society will improve if journalists remain honest” — with this strong message, I made Operation "Aruna Reddy" Movie — director, producer and actor Posani Krishna Murali



Operation Aruna Reddy" Film has nothing to do with politics

- People from all political parties can watch this film; there are no vulgar dialogues or obscene scenes

- It has the best screenplay of my career; it will become one of the best screenplay films in India

- I always supported the politician I felt was better at that time; I never expected anything from anyone

- With everyone's support, I want to continue making good films

Popular writer and actor Posani Krishna Murali is producing, directing, and playing the lead role in the film Operation Aruna Reddy. Interestingly, Posani himself is handling the story, screenplay, dialogues, lyrics, and editing as well. Hindola Chakravarthi, Kajal Sharma, Ayesha Khan, and BJP leader Raghunandan Rao are playing key roles in the film. At the press meet held today in Hyderabad, Posani Krishna Murali

shared details about Operation Aruna Reddy. During the event— Actor, director and producer Posani Krishna Murali said - “This is the story of honest journalists. The core point of this film is that if journalists remain honest, society will improve. Hindola Chakravarthi is playing the journalist character named Aruna Reddy. Hers is the lead role. Her character warns people about who entered politics for public service and who entered for business. We have shown in an interesting way how people became alert because of the warnings given by that journalist, and what kind of decisions they took while choosing political leaders. Many people don't want those who speak the truth openly to exist in society. When such a good journalist faces a situation where she ends up on the streets because of the politics played by some people, a good Chief Minister comes forward to help her. He supports her because he believes girls like her should remain in journalism.