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CHENNAI | BENGALURU | HYDERABAD | VIJAYAWADA | KOCHI

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NATIONAL | NEWS

PM Modi hails Onamas a festival of Joy, Unity and Prosperity

WORLD | NEWS

LIBYAN WHO WAS CLEARED AFTER LOCKERBIE BOMBING TRIAL DIES AGED 70

CINEMA | NEWS

MALAVIKA MOHANAN GOES DESI THIS ONAM

SCAN FOR E-PAPER

OM NAMO VENKATESAYA

25- 08 - 2026

Total pilgrims : 73,285
Tonsures : 32,334
Hundi kanukalu : 4.39 CR
Laddu sale... 3.88 Lac
Annaprasadam.. 2.22Lac
Aswini hospital... 3,384
Present Situation on 26-08-2026:
Waiting Compartments...Out side

Approx. Darsan Time for Sarvadarshanam (with out SSD Tokens)..18 H.

105 Indians among 384 travellers missing after flash floods in Nepal

Kathmandu (TSIT) At least 105 Indian nationals and 37 non-resident Indians (NRIs) are among 384 tourists and travellers preliminarily reported missing after a massive flash flood swept through Nepal's Rasuwa district near the Tibet border on Wednesday, according to the Nepal Tourism Board (NTB). The sudden flooding struck the Bhote Koshi river in the Rasuwagadhi-Timure area at around 8:30 am. local time, causing widespread destruction in Rasuwa and neighbouring parts of Nuwakot and Dhading districts. At least eight people have been confirmed dead.

The powerful surge washed away vehicles, goods, bridges and other infrastructure, while several hydropower projects were also damaged. Settlements in the affected areas suffered extensive destruction, with rescue and relief operations underway.

According to a preliminary list compiled by the Nepal Tourism Board, 384 travellers have been reported missing, including 291 foreign nationals and 93 Nepali nationals. Of the foreign nationals identified so far, 105 are from India. The list also includes travellers from Australia, the Netherlands, the United States, Malaysia, the United Kingdom and South Africa. The nationalities of several others have yet to be confirmed.

The NTB said the figures are preliminary and are being verified in coordination with travel agencies, guides, local authorities and security agencies. Officials have urged families and travellers not to draw conclusions until the verification process is complete.

The 105 Indian nationals identified so far include 59 travelling through Samrat Tours and 46 through Leaf Holiday. The 37 NRIs have been listed separately under Himalayan Glacier. The preliminary agency-wise records show 92 travellers associated with Trekkers Society, 71 with Samrat Tours & Travels, 55 with Leaf Holiday, 52 with

> "Additional air effort by C-17 and C-130 aircraft will transport further relief supplies, with helicopters earmarked for rescue and evacuation operations.

Himalayan Glacier and 31 with Kailash Journey, among others.

Fishtail Tours & Travels reported 20 foreign travellers, including three US nationals and 17 Malaysians. Himalayan Glacier reported 37 foreign travellers, while Alpine Eco Trek reported 16, including 12 from the UK and four from South Africa. The Tourism Board, Tourist Police and other tourism stakeholders are continuing efforts to establish the whereabouts and safety of people who were in or travelling through the affected region when the flood struck.

Officials cautioned that the number of missing Indian nationals could change as travel agencies and authorities cross-check their records.

Meanwhile, the Indian mission in Nepal has also shared emergency contact numbers for Indian nationals affected by the disaster. For assistance and information related to Indian nationals affected by the flash floods, people can contact: 977 985 131 6807, 977 970 910 7500 Rescue teams and security personnel have been mobilised as authorities assess the extent of the destruction and continue searching for those missing. The flood has also severely disrupted transportation through the border region, which is used by tourists and travellers heading towards Tibet, including those travelling onward to Mount Kailash and Lake Mansarovar. With communications and key routes disrupted in several areas, authorities are racing to reach isolated communities and determine the full scale of the disaster.

6 killed as Hyderabad-Vijayawada bus rams truck in Telangana

Suryapet (TSIT): Six people were killed and several others sustained serious injuries after a private travel bus collided with a moving truck in Telangana's Suryapet district early Wednesday morning.

The accident occurred around 5:20 am near Durgapuram stage when the bus, travelling from Hyderabad to Vijayawada, rammed into the truck. A total of 43 passengers were travelling on the bus at the time. The injured were shifted to nearby hospitals for treatment, while the bodies of the deceased were moved to the mortuary for post-mortem examinations. Police have launched an investigation to determine the circumstances that led to the accident.

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy expressed shock and grief over the incident and conveyed his condolences to the families of those who lost their lives. The Chief Minister directed the Chief Secretary to take all necessary measures to ensure that the injured receive the best possible medical treatment and that all assistance is extended to the families of the deceased.

Short Takes

NEET aspirant found dead in Kota flat

Kota, Aug 26: A 20-year-old student preparing for the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) was found dead at a rented flat in Rajasthan's Kota district, police said. The deceased, identified as Khushbu Patel, was found unresponsive at the flat in the Kunhadi area, where she had been living with her younger sister while preparing for competitive examinations. According to Kota police, Khushbu was a native of Chhatarpur in Madhya Pradesh and had moved to Kota in 2023 along with her younger sister, Khushi, to pursue their studies.

Drugs worth Rs 2.33 crore seized from train in Guwahati, 2 held

Guwahati: The Railway Protection Force (RPF) and Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) have seized 1.168 kg of suspected heroin worth around Rs 2.33 crore from a passenger train at Guwahati railway station. The joint operation was conducted by the RPF Crime Prevention and Detection Squad at Guwahati station and the NCB, Guwahati, on Tuesday. During checking of coach A-2 of the DN Kamrup Express, two passengers travelling on berths 17 and 18 were intercepted. A search of their baggage led to the recovery of four packets containing suspected heroin, also known as brown sugar. The accused have been identified as Azabur Rahman, 22, and Sahajahan Ali, 18.

15 newborns killed in massive fire

Islamabad : In a major tragedy, at least 15 newborn babies died after a massive fire broke out in the gynaecology ward of the Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS) in Islamabad, local media reported on Wednesday, quoting officials familiar with the tragic incident. According to officials of the Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences, the nursery had 16 newborns in the unit at the time the fire broke out. Of the 16 infants, only one could be rescued from the affected area in time, while the remaining babies died in the blaze.

Congress targets Modi govt over rising prices

> Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said that the BJP wants to dodge accountability for its misdeeds through distracting stunts and nonsensical talk but the Congress and the public would continue to raise questions over inflation

NEW DELHI (TSIT): The Congress on Wednesday attacked the Modi government over rising prices of essential commodities, saying the "achche din" promised by the BJP have instead left the common person's budget repeatedly battered by food inflation. Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said that the BJP wants to dodge accountability for its misdeeds through distracting stunts and nonsensical talk but the Congress and the public would continue to raise questions over inflation.

"Take a look at the state of the common man's kitchen during festivals -- onion prices have risen by up to 59 per cent in a year, Rs 50-60 per kg in many cities; sugar Rs 60-70 per kg, up to Rs 72 per kg in some places; mustard oil over Rs 200 per litre; food inflation 5.52 per cent; wholesale inflation 9.78 per cent," he said.

"It's been 12 years of BJP government, and the reality of 'achche din' is that sometimes lentils, sometimes vegetables, sometimes oil, sometimes sugar keep wrecking the common person's budget," Kharge said.

The Congress on Monday had attacked the Centre over "skyrocketing" inflation and asked the Modi government, which claims to have ushered in "achche din", to explain how the poor and middle class make ends meet.The opposition party has accused the Modi government of failing to control rising prices of essential commodities and said the public will "remember this and will not forgive."

CM Revanth Pays Tributes to Kasu Seshamma

Hyderabad, TSIT: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy attended the tenth-day memorial ceremony of Kasu Seshamma, mother of former minister Kasu Krishna Reddy, at JRC Convention in Jubilee Hills on Wednesday.

Chief Minister offered floral tributes to the portrait of Seshamma and conveyed his condolences to the bereaved family

members.MP Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy, MLAs Jaiveer Reddy, Rajesh Reddy and Nagaraju, former MP Anjan Kumar Yadav, TPCC Vice-President Kotimreddy Vinay Reddy and several other leaders also paid tributes to Seshamma.

Cauvery water management body upholds order for K'taka to release 9,000 cusecs to Tamil Nadu

NEW DELHI (TSIT): The Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) on Tuesday upheld the Cauvery Water Regulation Committee's (CWRC) recommendation directing Karnataka to ensure a flow of 9,000 cusecs of water to Tamil Nadu for 15 days.

The decision was taken at the 56th meeting of the CWMA held in Delhi under the chairmanship of SK Haldar. Officials from Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Puducherry, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala participated in the meeting. Prashant M Wadnere, Secretary, Water Resources Department, Tamil Nadu, along with Thiru Subramanian, Chairman of the Cauvery Technical Cell, attended the

meeting. The meeting was held following the Supreme Court's direction to the Tamil Nadu government on Monday to raise before the CWMA its grievance over the release of its proportionate share of Cauvery water by Karnataka.

"According to the CWRC, 11.6 TMC of water has to be released over 15 days. We requested them to reduce it to 6,000 cusecs."Tamil Nadu argued for increasing the release to 28 TMC. After all discussions in the meeting, the CWMA reiterated the recommendation of the CWRC," Karnataka officer Gaurav Gupta said.

At its 141st meeting on Monday, the CWRC had directed Karnataka to release water from its reservoirs and ensure a flow of 9,000 cusecs at the Biligundulu border point. The flow has to be maintained continuously for 15 days, during which Tamil Nadu is expected to receive approximately 11.66 TMC of water.The release is expected to benefit Kuruvai cultivation and meet Tamil Nadu's drinking water requirements. Earlier, the CWRC had directed Karnataka to release 12,000 cusecs of water daily to Tamil Nadu for 15 days from August 12.

Indian exporters fear US sanctions on Iran could weaken trade

New Delhi (TSIT) US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent on Monday, August 24, warned countries and businesses that they could face US sanctions if they continue maintaining economic ties with Tehran. Terming it "Operation Economic Outcast," the US unveiled a fresh wave of sanctions on Iran, stating the goal is to cut every single economic lifeline supporting the Iranian government until it stands alone. Bessent claimed that US President Donald Trump was calling up leaders around the world, requesting them to stop their trade deals with Iran. The proposed sanctions have sparked concern among Indian exporters, who anticipate a greater impact on their shipping operations.

SIR: K'taka CM urges CEC to extend time for claims as 1.08 cr people placed in ASDDO list

■ He said the period to file claims and objections should be long enough and stressed that no eligible citizen should be left out

BENGALURU (TSIT): Karnataka Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on Tuesday appealed to CEC Gyanesh Kumar to extend the period for claims and objections following 1.08 crore people were placed in the Absent, Shifted, Dead, Duplicate and Others (ASDDO) category during the ongoing SIR of electoral rolls.

In a letter to Chief Election Commissioner Kumar, the chief minister said that of the 5.54 crore electors in Karnataka, almost one in five has been placed in the ASDDO category.

Following publication of the draft roll on August 24, verification notices are expected to be issued to roughly 43.8 lakh electors for "logical discrepancies" or absence of a link to the 2002 roll, Shivakumar said.

> "A significant number of those categorised as absent may be genuine electors who could not submit their enumeration forms because they were away from home for work, health or other legitimate reasons when the BLO (Booth Level Officer) visited,"

He added that in Bengaluru alone, 46.88 lakh electors have been placed under the ASDDO category. This translates into about 1.5 Crore voters in Karnataka facing deletion unless they submit their claims for continuation or fresh inclusion. "A significant number of those categorised as absent may be genuine electors who could not submit their enumeration forms because they were away from home for work, health or other legitimate reasons when the BLO (Booth Level Officer) visited," he pointed out.

Similarly, electors who moved to a different polling station were not given an opportunity to submit the enumeration form at their new residence during house-to-house visit by BLOs, while their names have been deleted from the roll in their previous address, he explained. In this connection, Shivakumar asked the CEC to extend the period for claims and objections.

6-year-old boy's remarks draw attention in Bihar protest

PATNA (TSIT): Aditya, a six-year-old slum-dwelling boy, has become the centre of attention for his bold and sharp comments during a students' protest here. Dressed in a T-shirt and denim trousers and sporting a traditional 'tilak' on his forehead, Aditya participated in the protest over demands related to Bihar Public Service Commission (BPSC) examinations on Tuesday.

Later, he was handed over to his parents by the police, who asked them to be "more careful with him". "Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary should resign and action should be taken against those who

ordered the lathi-charge," the precocious boy said, happily obliging journalists with a juicy "bite".Social media was abuzz with rumours that Aditya, a resident of Punaichak locality in Patna, had been "arrested" for taking part in the protests. However, police dismissed the claim, stating that the boy was handed over to his mother, who works as a house help, after being kept at a police station "for his own safety".

CM Naidu Aims to Build Amaravati as a World-Class Capital

Visakhapatnam (TSIT) Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu's vision is to develop Amaravati into a world-class capital city, said State Civil Supplies Minister Nandendla Manohar. Speaking to the media after a high-level meeting with representatives of international architecture firm Norman Foster + Partners at the State Secretariat on Wednesday, the Minister said detailed discussions were held on the design and construction of the proposed Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly building. The building is being planned with a special tower on top, offering a panoramic view of Amaravati, while its design will take into account future changes arising from delimitation. It is proposed to accommodate 265 Assembly seats and 110 Legislative Council seats. A special Experience Centre will also be established to educate visitors about the State's democratic system and legislative procedures.

Manohar said the Assembly complex would incorporate modern facilities, advanced technology, efficient functioning and sustainable infrastructure. A Central Hall is being planned to enable members of both Houses to sit together during the Governor's address. The Chief Minister has also suggested underground parking facilities, with the upper portion developed as a green, garden-like area. Dedicated facilities will be provided for Ministers, Whips, Committee Chairpersons, MLAs and MLCs. The government is working with Norman Foster + Partners to integrate technology, functionality, public accessibility, future requirements and greenery to create an Assembly complex that reflects global standards and strengthens Amaravati's identity as a modern capital city.

AP Steps Up Preparedness to Mitigate El Nino Impact During Kharif 2026

Visakhapatnam (TSIT) The Andhra Pradesh Agriculture and Cooperation Department has launched a comprehensive, farmer-centric strategy to mitigate the El Nino on Kharif 2026, with the government focusing on water-based crop planning, climate-resilient agriculture, protection of allied sectors and wider crop insurance coverage. Agriculture and allied activities remain the backbone of the State's rural economy, with nearly 62 per cent of the population dependent on them. The State recorded an estimated 237 lakh metric tonnes of foodgrain production in 2025-26. The department has been monitoring the El Nino situation in coordination with IMD and CRIDA since February and has dynamically risk-graded all 8,489 Rythu Seva Kendras. At present, 1,357 RSKs have been classified as high-risk and 2,077 as medium-risk. The 'Rythu Anna Meekosam – El Nino Impact Mitigation Action Plan – Kharif 2026' was launched statewide on August 7 and is being implemented through all 8,489 RSKs covering 18,513 villages, with the objective of reaching every farmer and agricultural plot.The government is adopting a four-pronged approach based on water availability, promotion of low-water and drought-resilient crops, protection of horticulture, livestock, fisheries and sericulture, and strengthening crop insurance as a financial safety net. In water-secure areas, advanced reservoir releases and coordination between agriculture and irrigation departments are being used to optimise available water, while areas facing water constraints are being encouraged to shift towards less water-intensive crops.

Andhra Pradesh Information Commissioner Decides to Issue Orders in Telugu

- MOVE AIMED AT MAKING DECISIONS EASILY UNDERSTANDABLE TO THE COMMON PUBLIC

Visakhapatnam (TSIT) Marking Telugu Language Day, Andhra Pradesh State Information Commissioner Gajula Adenna has decided to issue orders within his jurisdiction in Telugu, with the objective of making decisions relating to public cases easily understandable to ordinary citizens. Telugu Language Day is observed on August 29 every year to commemorate the birth anniversary of Telugu scholar and poet Gidugu Venkata Ramamurthy. (Wikipedia) The decision assumes significance as legal proceedings and official orders have traditionally relied heavily on English, making it difficult for many ordinary citizens to independently understand decisions concerning their cases. Issuing orders in the people's mother tongue would enable citizens to know for themselves what happened in their cases, what decisions were taken and what directions were issued by the authorities, thereby reducing their dependence on explanations from others. The move is also expected to enhance transparency and give citizens greater clarity about their rights, responsibilities and case status. Recent orders issued by Commissioner Gajula Adenna, including Appeal No. 2263/SIC-GA/APIC/2025 and Appeal No. 7366/TSIC/2018/TC6626/2021, were cited as examples of the initiative. In the first case, the appeal was closed after the appellant informed the Commission of his decision to withdraw it, while in the second case, directions were issued to the PIO regarding the information sought and the appeal was subsequently closed after examining documents submitted regarding the supply of information.

Sanjeevani' Health Project to Be Rolled Out Across Andhra Pradesh from January 1

Visakhapatnam (TSIT) Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has directed officials to implement the 'Sanjeevani Project' across Andhra Pradesh from January 1, with the objective of providing more efficient and accessible healthcare services to people. Reviewing the Medical and Health Department and Sanjeevani projects at his camp office on Wednesday, the Chief Minister said the successful results achieved in Kuppam constituency and Chittoor district should form the basis for a comprehensive statewide action plan. He stressed that the project, supported by digital health records and artificial intelligence, should be implemented successfully so that Andhra Pradesh becomes a model for other States in healthcare delivery. Officials informed the Chief Minister that a 90-day action plan has been prepared for the statewide expansion of Sanjeevani, covering baseline studies, digital infrastructure, training, certification and integration with national and State portals. Medical staff will be trained across all 28 districts.

Spiritual Pithapuram Set for Major Development Push

Visakhapatnam (TSIT) Pithapuram is set to witness a major development of its spiritual and cultural infrastructure with Rs.30.66 crore sanctioned through the special initiative of Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan. Of the total allocation, Rs.17.06 crore has been earmarked for the restoration and development of 24 temples, Rs.2 crore for the construction of a TTD Kalyana Mandapam in U. Kothapalli mandal and Rs.11.60 crore for the construction of 48 Bhajana Mandapams. The works are aimed at preserving the historic and spiritual heritage of the constituency while providing improved facilities to the lakhs of devotees who visit its temples every year. Development works include construction, renovation and repair of temple structures and pilgrim amenities. The Prakara Mandapam at the Sitarama Swamy temple in Gollaprolu is nearing completion, while Dhwaja Sthambams have been installed at the Jagannatha and Satyanarayana Swamy temples in Kothapalli. Works are also progressing at the Venu Gopala Swamy temple, Kunti Madhava Swamy temple and Surya Narayana Swamy temple. Development works worth Rs.5 crore at the Kukkuteswara Swamy temple and Rs.2 crore at Sri Pada Srivallabha Devasthanam are also set to commence.

The development programme is being implemented keeping in view the large number of devotees visiting Pithapuram's spiritual centres, with annual footfall estimated at around 13.76 lakh to 18.07 lakh and daily crowds rising to 20,000–50,000 during festivals and special occasions.

The TTD Kalyana Mandapam at U. Kothapalli will be developed with modern facilities for marriages, religious functions and social events.

In addition, 48 Bhajana Mandapams are being taken up in the first phase as part of the wider initiative to strengthen spiritual and cultural activities in rural areas. These centres will serve as venues for bhajans, spiritual gatherings and local cultural programmes. The overall Rs.30.66-crore programme is expected to strengthen Pithapuram's spiritual identity, preserve its centuries-old heritage and provide better infrastructure and facilities for devotees and local communities.

T.G. Bharath meets HCCB leadership ahead of CII Summit 2026

Andhra Pradesh, August 26, 2026: Andhra Pradesh Minister for Industries & Commerce and Food Processing Shri T.G. Bharath met the senior leadership of Hindustan Coca-Cola Beverages (HCCB) as part of the State government's investor outreach programme ahead of the CII Partnership Summit 2026.

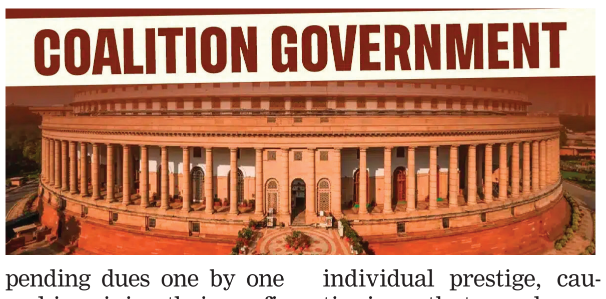
The Minister was accompanied by Andhra Pradesh Economic Development Board (APEDB) CEO Mr. Shan Mohan Sagili and senior government officials. HCCB was represented by Chief Financial Officer Mr. Harsh Bhutani.

During the meeting, discussions focused on HCCB's manufacturing presence in Andhra Pradesh, its contribution to the food processing and beverage sectors, sustainability initiatives, and community development programmes.

The interaction was part of a series of investor meetings organised by the Andhra Pradesh government in association with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) ahead of the CII Partnership Summit, scheduled to be held in Visakhapatnam on November 12 and 13, 2026. The summit aims to attract investments in key sectors under the State's Swarna Andhra @2047 vision.

Shri T.G. Bharath said Andhra Pradesh is committed to creating a business-friendly environment with policy support, faster approvals and long-term partnerships with investors. He highlighted HCCB's role in employment generation, strengthening food processing value chains and supporting local communities.

Government Employees Express Positive Sentiment Towards Coalition Government



Amaravati: A section of government employees in Andhra Pradesh is reportedly expressing a positive view towards the coalition government, stating that the government has been gradually addressing pending financial benefits and dues of employees. Employees who were reportedly dissatisfied with the manner in which the previous YSRCP government handled employee-related issues are said to have played an important role in supporting the formation of the present coalition government.

However, employees have also expressed disappointment over the fact that several financial benefits due to them have not yet been fully released. Despite this, some employees feel that the coalition government is addressing pending dues one by one and is gaining their confidence.

According to some employees, resolving the financial commitments left pending by the previous government, along with benefits that have accrued under the present government, requires patience, prudence and constructive engagement rather than emotional or hasty decisions.

They believe that employee organisations should avoid taking decisions in haste or acting for individual prestige, cautioning that such an approach could ultimately affect the interests of employees themselves.

Employees point out that nearly Rs 21,000 crore in pending dues and financial benefits have reportedly been secured during the first two years of the coalition government. At the same time, they say that efforts should continue to secure another Rs 25,000 crore in pending benefits, besides taking steps towards the appointment and implementation of the Pay Revision Commission.

Some employees have also expressed the view that merely issuing statements to the media may not help achieve their demands. They alleged that some employee union leaders who remained silent during the previous government are now adopting an aggressive approach, including threats and pressure tactics, towards the present government.

Such an approach, they said, would not be beneficial either to employees or to the government. Instead, employee organisations should adopt a constructive approach and engage with the government through dialogue.

Some employees further recalled that employee union leaders had faced restrictions in expressing their views during the previous government. They said that the freedom of expression available now should be exercised responsibly and should not be misused.

Overall, sections of government employees believe that pending financial benefits can be secured through sustained negotiations and a balanced approach. They hope that the coalition government will continue its efforts to clear the remaining dues and address long-pending employee demands. The views expressed in this report are attributed to sections of government employees and do not necessarily represent the position of all employee organisations or government employees.

Growing Discontent Among Kapu Community in Prakasam District Over Political Representation

Ongole: Political discussions are gaining momentum among members of the Kapu community in the erstwhile Prakasam district over what they describe as inadequate political representation and recognition under the present coalition government. Kapu leaders and members of the community claim that the community played a significant role in the formation of the coalition government during the last elections. However, they allege that after the government came to power, Kapu leaders and activists have not received the political importance and opportunities they had expected.

According to discussions within the community, a senior coalition legislator in the erstwhile Prakasam district is allegedly not giving adequate importance to Kapu leaders. There are also allegations that efforts were made to prevent Kapu leaders from securing nominated posts in the district. These claims, however, remain political allegations and require responses from the concerned leaders.

The issue has reportedly triggered growing dissatisfaction among sections of the Kapu community, with some members questioning whether the coalition leadership is providing adequate representation to the community despite its electoral importance.

Another major issue being discussed is the Ongole Mayor's post. Members of the community point out that Kapus have historically played an important role in Ongole's civic and political affairs. With the proposed direct election of the Mayor, there is growing speculation over whether the coalition will consider a Kapu candidate for the post.

The Kapu community is also reportedly debating whether its political representation has declined compared with the previous YSRCP government. Some members claim that the community received comparatively greater political opportunities during the previous regime, while others are demanding that the present coalition leadership address their concerns.

There are several Kapu organisations in the Prakasam region, but criticism is also emerging within the community that these organisations have failed to effectively take up issues concerning political representation and the welfare of Kapus.

With local body elections approaching, the growing discussions within the community have assumed political significance. Kapu voters are considered an important electoral factor in several constituencies, and political parties are closely watching the mood within the community.

Community representatives are reportedly seeking greater political representation, nominated positions and opportunities for leadership roles. They also want senior coalition leaders to intervene and address the concerns before the issue develops into a larger political challenge.

Whether the coalition leadership will respond to these concerns and provide greater representation to the Kapu community, particularly in the forthcoming local body elections, remains to be seen. The views and allegations expressed in the report are attributed to sections of the Kapu community and have not been independently verified. A response from the concerned coalition legislator and other leaders would be necessary for a complete account.

Jana Sena to hold Atmiya meeting in Mangalagiri on 28th Aug

Mangalagiri (TSIT): The Jana Sena Party will organise an Atmiya (interaction) meeting at Mangalagiri on the 28th of this month at 4 PM to discuss preparations for the upcoming local body elections.

State ministers, party MPs, MLCs, MLAs, corporation chairpersons holding positions on behalf of the party, and Jana Sena candidates who contested the 2019 General Elections will participate in the meeting. Candidates who contested as corporators, councillors, ZPTCs and MPTCs on behalf of the party during the 2021 local body elections have also been invited.

The party stated that hundreds of Jana Sena candidates had contested local body elections during the previous government despite facing several challenges and political pressures. Their participation in the meeting is aimed at strengthening the party's grassroots network and reviewing election preparedness.

The meeting will focus on implementing the guidelines issued by Jana Sena Party President and Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Sri Pawan Kalyan for the forthcoming local body elections.

Jana Sena Political Affairs Committee Chairman and Andhra Pradesh Civil Supplies Minister Sri Nadendla Manohar will explain the suggestions and directions given by Pawan Kalyan to party leaders and representatives.

A meeting of the 14-member committee formed to prepare procedures and guidelines for the local body elections will also be held on the same day.

AI Vision company to commercialise Tamil Nadu's AI assets

CHENNAI: The Tamil Nadu government has proposed setting up Tamil Nadu AI Vision (TNAIV) as a government company to commercially operate parts of the State's emerging AI infrastructure and participate in AI-related projects. TNAIV will be able to provide computing services for a fee, take up AI-related projects through concessions or leases, and acquire stakes in project companies.

In effect, the company is being positioned as the vehicle through which the State can commercially operate AI infrastructure and invest in projects, hold equity stake rather than limiting its role to policy and programme implementation according to the Information Technology and Digital Services Department Policy Note 2026-27.

The land for such projects will remain with State land-holding agencies and can be made available to TNAIV on long-term lease. Concessions will be assessed under the State's public-private partnership framework and awarded through open competition. TNAIV will operate as a taxable company and will not receive CSR funds.

The proposed company will operate alongside a revamped Tamil Nadu AI Mission (TNAIM). The government plans to renew and incorporate TNAIM as a Section 8 not-for-profit company under the Companies Act.

It will handle the public-purpose side of the AI programme, including AI governance, the Tamil Large Language Model and Tamil-first datasets, Centres of Excellence, skilling and research partnerships.TNAIM functions through the Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency (TNeGA) and iTNT Foundation. It is envisaged as a project-management and execution agency, with responsibilities including innovation hubs, laboratories, test beds, high-performance computing infrastructure and communication networks, including a proposed quantum communication corridor.

It will also support startups and MSMEs and build partnerships with academia, industry, technology companies and international organisations. Its mandate has been expanded beyond AI to cover quantum technologies, AVGC-XR, deep tech and other emerging technologies, with ELCOT and ICT Academy supporting it in areas such as infrastructure, technology solutions and skilling.

TTV Dhinakaran says poaching of MLAs unchecked, goes to Governor again

CHENNAI: AMMK chief TTV Dhinakaran on Tuesday urged Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar to take appropriate action regarding allegations of horse-trading against the ruling TVK. Speaking to reporters after meeting Arlekar at Lok Bhavan here, the AMMK general secretary claimed that MLAs switched their loyalty to the TVK, enticed by power and money, which was against the people's mandate.

Also, he sought the disqualification of the Mannargudi MLA, S Kamaraj, whom he had expelled from the Amma Makkal Munnetra Kazhagam for expressing support to the Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay-led Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam.

He had already submitted a petition to Assembly Speaker JCD Prabhakar seeking appropriate action against Kamaraj under the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution, but no action was taken so far. "I have urged the Governor to initiate an inquiry as to why the police had not registered an FIR on horse-trading and political defections," Dhinakaran said.

He said he submitted a formal memorandum to the Governor requesting an inquiry into all the incidents, specifically the events that have occurred since May 8, when Kamaraj was reportedly made to support the TVK. Expressing frustration that officials have not taken necessary steps to stop the "politics of horse-trading", Dhinakaran said.

CPI URGES KARNATAKA TO IMPLEMENT CAUVERY WATER-SHARING ORDERS

CHENNAI: CPI state secretary M Veerapandian on Wednesday urged the Karnataka government to immediately implement the orders of the Supreme Court and the Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) on release of Cauvery water to Tamil Nadu. said the 56th meeting of the CWMA was held in Delhi on Tuesday under the chairmanship of its chairman S K Haider, with senior officials from the Water Resources Departments of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka participating. After hearing the arguments of both sides, the authority ordered Karnataka to release water to Tamil Nadu at 9,000 cusecs a day for 15 days, he said. Veerapandian said the CWMA had earlier directed Karnataka to release 3,500 cusecs for 15 days till August 11 and subsequently 12,000 cusecs a day for 15 days from August 12.

Clix Capital Services Pvt. Ltd. (Clix)
Registered Office: W2/14, 1st Floor, West Patel Nagar, Delhi, 110008

POSSESSION NOTICE (Appendix IV) Rule 8(1)

Whereas the Authorized officer of CLIX CAPITAL SERVICES PVT. LTD. (Clix), a Non- Banking Financial Company duly incorporated and registered under the Companies Act, 1956, having its Registered Office at: W2/14, 1st Floor, West Patel Nagar, Delhi, 110008, under the provisions of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 OF 2002) (hereinafter referred to as "Act") and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13(2) of the Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule, 2002 issued a Demand Notice to the following borrowers and co-borrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower/Guarantor having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken **Symbolic possession** of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on **25.08.2026**.
The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of "CLIX" and interest other charges thereon. The attention of the Borrower is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured asset.

Name & Address Of Borrower/Co-Borrower : 1. K LOKANAYAKI W/O CS KANNAN, 2. C S KANNAN S/O SUBBARAYA REDDY, 3. S K UDHAYAKUMAR S/O C S KANNAN, ALL AT - 534, THIRUVALLUR MAIN ROAD, PONDAVAKKAN, TIRUVALUR, TAMIL NADU 602026, **ALSO AT-** DOOR NO. 534 THIRUVALLUR MAIN ROAD, PNTHAVAKKAM UTHUKOTTAI TIRUVALLAR 602026, **4.LOGANAYAKI MODERN GROUNDNUT MILL THROUGH ITS PROPRIETOR K LOKANAYAKI,** 535/68/6 THIRUVALLUR MAIN ROAD, PONDAVAKKAN, TIRUVALUR, TAMIL NADU 602026

Demand Notice Dated : 26.05.2026, **Date of Symbolic Possession :** 25.08.2026
Amount of Demand Notice : Rs. 4,24,04,327.36/- as on 22.05.2026

Details Of Property : Property - I (Doc.No.1184/2005) - All that Piece and parcel of Land and Building, Comprised in S.No.423/2A3, Measuring with to an extent of 4360 Sq.ft., (2180 Sq.ft., + 2180 Sq.ft.,), Situated at, Ponthavakkam Village, Uthukottai Taluk, Thiruvallur District and bounded on the Item No.1 - 2180 Sq.ft., North by : Land belongs to Mr.Ramu, South by : 20 Feet Common Passage, East by : Vacant Land, West by : Uthukottai - Thiruvallur Road, Measuring - East to West on the Northern Side : 40 Feet, East to West on the Southern Side : 40 Feet, North to South on the Eastern Side : 54.5 Feet, North to South on the Western Side : 54.5 Feet, Item No. II - 2180 Sq.ft., North by : Land belongs to Mr.Ramu, South by : 20 Feet Common Passage, East by : Land in S.No.423/2A3, West by : Land belongs to Mrs. Lokanayaki, Measuring East to West on the Northern Side : 40 Feet, East to West on the Southern Side : 40 Feet, North to South on the Eastern Side : 54.5 Feet, North to South on the Western Side : 54.5 Feet
Property - II (Doc.No.1185/2005)- All that Piece and parcel of Land and Building, Comprised in S.No.423/2A3, Measuring with to an extent of 4360 Sq.ft., Situated at Ponthavakkam Village, Uthukottai Taluk, Thiruvallur District and bounded on the North by : Land belongs to Mr. Ramu, South by : 20 Feet Common Passage, East by : Land belongs to Mrs.Lokanayaki, West by : Land belongs to Mrs.Lokanayaki, Measuring East to West on the Northern Side : 40 Feet, East to West on the Southern Side : 40 Feet, North to South on the Eastern Side : 109 Feet, North to South on the Western Side : 109 Feet
Property – III (Doc.No.1126/2000) - All that Piece and parcel of Land and Building, Comprised in S.No.423/2A3, Measuring with to an extent of 6540 Sq.ft., Situated at Ponthavakkam Village, Uthukottai Taluk, Thiruvallur District and bounded on the North by : 20 Feet Common Passage, South by : Land belongs to Mr. Mani, East by : Vacant Land belongs to Mr.Palani and others, West by : Uthukottai - Thiruvallur Road East, Measuring East to West on the Northern Side : 40 Feet, East to West on the Southern Side : 40 Feet, North to South on the Eastern Side : 163.5 Feet, North to South on the Western Side : 163.5 Feet
Property - IV (Doc.No.18/2001) - All that Piece and parcel of Land and Building, Comprised in S.No.423/2A3, Measuring with to an extent of 6540 Sq.ft., Situated at Ponthavakkam Village, Uthukottai Taluk, Thiruvallur District and bounded on the North by : Land belongs to Mr.Palani, South by : 21 Feet Common Passage, East by : Vacant Land belongs to Mr.Mani and others, West by : Uthukottai - Thiruvallur Road, Measuring - East to West on the Northern Side : 40 Feet, East to West on the Southern Side : 40 Feet, North to South on the Eastern Side : 163.5 Feet, North to South on the Western Side : 163.5 Feet, Situated within the Sub-Registration District of Uthukkotai and in the Registration District of Thiruvallur

Date : 25.08.2026, Place : Thiruvallur **Authorised Officer, Clix Capital Services Pvt. Ltd.**

'Super El Nino' brewing in Pacific, Tamil Nadu could face flood risk: Weather blogger

CHENNAI: Tamil Nadu could face severe weather disruptions during the northeast monsoon, with private weather blogger Hemachander warning that a developing Super El Nino may intensify rainfall and increase the risk of flooding in the State.A powerful Super El Nino is developing in the Pacific and could reach an intensity comparable to or even greater than the El Nino events of 1997 and 2015 by the end of this month. Extreme weather warning

In a social media post, Hemachander said the sea surface temperature anomaly has risen to 29.6°C, around 2.75°C above the average. He claimed that a Super El Nino has developed unusually early this year and warned that its effects could become more pronounced in the coming months.

He also pointed to a series of strong westerly wind bursts over the central Pacific, which could trigger Kelvin waves and push additional heat towards the surface, further strengthening the El Nino conditions. Hemachander said the phenomenon could intensify further by November and urged people not to ignore the possible impact of El Nino, stressing the need for advance preparedness.

For Chennai and its suburbs, the warning assumes significance as October, November and December are typically the peak northeast monsoon months, when several parts of the city remain vulnerable to flooding.The possibility of intense rainfall and flooding due to the evolving El Nino conditions has raised concerns among residents. The State government is expected to take precautionary measures well in advance to minimise the impact of any extreme weather during the upcoming monsoon.

to the US-based National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), there are three ocean states or phases of the El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) cycle namely the El Niño (warm phase), La Niña (cold phase) and neutral. These phases that occur in the Pacific Ocean represent shifts in sea surface temperatures and trade winds, which have the capacity to affect global weather, ecosystems and ocean temperatures.

Climatic experts describe El Niño as a natural climate event that originates in the Pacific when surface water temperatures become significantly warmer than normal. This affects wind patterns and atmospheric circulation across the globe, which also includes India where it significantly suppresses rainfall levels during the southwest monsoon season. It may be noted that the Spanish term 'El Niño' which translates to 'the boy' originated among the South American fishermen community years ago when they first noticed the warm currents appearing around December. However, as days went by, the term has been widely used across the globe to describe the powerful weather phenomenon.According to a recent Government Order issued by the Revenue and Disaster Management Department, acommittee has been constituted under the Disaster Management Act, 2005, to advise the Tamil Nadu Disaster Risk Reduction Agency (TNDRRA) on scientific and precautionary measures.The move follows a proposal from the Commissioner of Revenue Administration and the State Relief Commissioner, who warned of a high probability that a severe El Niño event will develop in 2026, which could affect monsoon rainfall and increase the risk of droughts and floods. The committee will be chaired by the Commissioner of Revenue Administration and State Relief Commissioner. Its members include S Kanmani, head, Centre for Climate Change and Disaster Management, Anna University; Professor Balaji Narasimhan of IIT Madras; Arivudai Nambi Appadurai, Director, Climate Resilience Practice, WRI India; Ramesh Ramachandran, advisor to the Tamil Nadu Green Climate Company; R Venkatesan, expert member of the State Environmental Appraisal Committee; JK Patterson Edward, director, Suganthi Devadason Marine Research Institute; and P Pradeep John, popularly known as Tamil Nadu Weatherman and senior manager at Tamil Nadu Urban Infrastructure Financial Services Limited (TNUIFSL).

PROTIUM FINANCE LIMITED
Protium
(Formerly known as Growth Source Financial Technologies Ltd.)
Registered & Corporate Office Address: 7th Floor, Block B2, Phase – I Nirlon Knowledge Park, Pahadi Village, Off. Western Express Highway, Cama Industrial Estate, Goregaon(E), Mumbai- 400063, Maharashtra.

PUBLIC NOTICE (Under Rule 3 (1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002)
SUBSTITUTED SERVICE OF NOTICE U/s.13 (2) of SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the Borrowers as mentioned below that since they have defaulted in repayment of the Credit facility availed by them from **Protium Finance Limited** (Formerly known as Growth Source Financial Technologies Ltd. and before that known as Growth Source Financial Technologies Pvt. Ltd.), their loan credit facility has been classified as Non-Performing Assets in the books of NBFC as per RBI guidelines thereto. Thereafter, NBFC has issued demand notices to below mentioned respective borrower under section 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI Act) on the last known addresses of the said borrowers thereby calling upon and demanding from them to pay the amounts mentioned in the respective Demand Notice/s within 60 days from the date of the respective Notice/s, as per details given below, together with further interest at the contractual rate on the below mentioned amount and incidental expenses, cost, charges etc. as stated in the said demand notices. However, the service is also being done by us by way of this publication as per Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (SARFAESI Rules)

Sr. No.	Loan Account No./Name and Address of Borrower and Co-Borrower/s	Date of 13(2) Notice	Date of NPA
1.	**Loan Account No.: GS027LAP2398281 — (Borrower) Sree Thirumala Silk through its Proprietor Naresh Venkatesan S/o Venkatesan,** No. 1A Thirukachakarapuram Street, Thirukalimedu Main Road, Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 631501. **(Co-Borrowers) 1. Naresh Venkatesan** S/o Venkatesan, No. 20D/51 Kamarajnagar, Kanchipuram, Kanchipuram, Tamil Nadu – 631502. **2. V Jayalakshmi W/o Venkatesan,** No. 20D/51 Kamarajnagar, Kanchipuram, Kanchipuram, Tamil Nadu – 631502.	17.08.2026	03.08.2026
		Total Outstanding Dues (INR) as on Below Date	
		INR 50,48,753.91/- (Fifty Lakh Forty Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Three Rupees and Ninety One Paise Only) as on 17th Aug 2026, together with future interest thereon.	

Description of the Said Property: All the piece and parcel of property bearing house in Thiruvallur District, South Chennai Registration District, Poonamallee Sub-Registration District, Poonamallee Taluk, Poonamallee Village, under Old S.No.588/1 as per Patta No.5992 in New S.No.588/18 and house site plots and the layout as "Vijayalakshmi Nagar" (CMDA Approved No. PPD/LO No.29/91, Letter No.L1/3675/91) and in which one part of house site property bearing Door No.6, Plot No.25 measuring East to West – on the Northern side 45.9 feet; on the Southern side 39 feet; North to South – on the Eastern side 68 feet; on the Western side 66.6 feet i.e., 2849 sq. ft., and 553 sq. feet undivided share, 2nd Floor, and in which constructed a RCC roof house building with all accessories etc. Boundaries: East by – Plot No.24; West by – Plot No.26; North by – Vacant Land; South by – 30 Feet Road, together with all other rights, buildings, improvements, and easements appurtenant thereto.

Sr. No.	Loan Account No./Name and Address of Borrower and Co-Borrower/s	Date of 13(2) Notice	Date of NPA
2.	**Loan Account No.: GS028EEL2173017 — (Borrower) Selvam Marble and Granite through its Proprietor Selvam A S/o Aruldass,** 5, Banglamedu Bus Stop, Gudiyattam Road, Pernambut, Vellore, Tamil Nadu – 635810. **(Co-Borrowers) 1. Selvam A S/o Aruldass,** Erikuthi, Gudiyattam, Pernambut, Tamil Nadu – 635810. **2. Sugima S W/o Selvam A,** Erikuthi, Gudiyattam, Pernambut, Tamil Nadu – 635810.	17.08.2026	31.07.2026
		Total Outstanding Dues (INR) as on Below Date	
		INR 25,93,340.82/- (Twenty Five Lakh Ninety Three Thousand Three Hundred Forty Rupees and Eighty Two Paise Only) as on 17th Aug 2026, together with future interest thereon.	

Description of the Said Property: All that piece and parcel of the land and building situated at Erikuthi Village, Pernambut Tk, Vellore Dt., measuring 122 Sq. Mtr or 1312% Sq. Ft. of land comprised in Old Survey No.158/2B and as per Sub-Division New Survey No.158/68 within the Sub-Registration District of Pernambut and Registration District of Vellore, within the boundaries as per VAO Certificate hereunder. Boundaries: East by – Street; West by – Vacant Plot of Immanuvel; North by – House of Sevathan; South by – House of Dass. Measuring on the Northern side 59 Ft, on the Southern side 59 Ft, on the Eastern side 21% Ft, on the Western side 23 Ft. Admeasuring 122 Sq. Mtr or 13124 Sq. Ft. of Land and Building.

We hereby call upon the borrower stated herein to pay us within 60 days from the date of this notice, the outstanding amount of more particularly stated in respective Demand Notices issued, together with further interest thereon plus cost, charges, expenses, etc. thereto failing which we shall be at liberty to Sale proceed against the above Secured Asset(s)/Immovable Property (ies) under Section 13(4) of the said Act and the applicable Rules not limited to taking possession and selling the secured asset entirely at the risk of the said borrower(s)/co borrower (s)/Legal Heir(s)/Legal Representative(s)at your own cost and consequences.
Please note that as per section 13(13) of the SARAFESI Act, all of you are prohibited from transferring by way of sale, lease or otherwise, the aforesaid secured assets without prior written consent of the Bank. Any contravention of the said section by you shall invoke the penal provisions as laid down under section 29 of the SARFAESI Act and / or any other legal provision in this regard. Please note that as per sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, if the dues of Protium Finance Limited (Formerly known as Growth Source Financial Technologies Ltd together with all costs, charges and expenses incurred by Protium Finance Limited (Formerly known as Growth Source Financial Technologies Ltd are tendered to Protium Finance Limited (Formerly known as Growth Source Financial Technologies Ltd at any time before the date fixed for sale or transfer, the secured asset shall not be sold or transferred by Protium Finance Limited (Formerly known as Growth Source Financial Technologies Ltd, and no further step shall be taken by Protium Finance Limited (Formerly known as Growth Source Financial Technologies Ltd for transfer or sale of that secured asset.

Date: 27.08.2026,
Place : Tamil Nadu
Sd/-, For Protium Finance Limited, Authorised Officer

Young Explorers in Nature, Coastal Discovery, and Cultural Immersion

In the hustle and bustle of daily life, it is easy to get caught up in routines and lose out on spending some quality time with your little ones. One of the most enriching ways to foster a strong parent-child relationship is by embarking on a journey of shared experiences together. With holidays around the corner, it is the perfect opportunity to plan an exciting holiday with your kids. South Africa is one of the popular destinations to explore with your children. The picturesque landscapes, rich cultural tapestry and thrilling adventures of this country are sure to spark the imaginations of young explorers.This diverse Rainbow Nation is a treasure trove when it comes to exciting wildlife encounters, immersive cultural experiences, and an abundance of kid-friendly attractions that promise both entertainment and education. Moreover, exploring new places, experiencing different cultures, and trying new activities together can be incredibly enriching. Whether it's hiking through scenic trails, tasting local cuisine, or marvelling at historical landmarks, every adventure becomes a shared experience that strengthens your bond. Here are five must-visit destinations that will surely be enchanting and educative for the entire family. Prepare for an unforgettable safari adventure at Kruger National Park, South Africa's premier wildlife sanctuary, where the iconic Big Five – lions, elephants, leopards, rhinos, and buffaloes – roam freely in their natural habitat. The best time to visit is during the dry season (May to September). Listen to the distant roar of lions and the gentle rustle of the grass as you spot herds of elephants and graceful giraffes, creating cherished memories that will last a lifetime.

FEDBANK

FEDBANK FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED
Registered Office: Unit No. 1101, 11th Floor, Cignus, Plot No. 71 A, Powai, Paspoli, Mumbai – 400087

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION CUM SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

15 days' Notice of Sale of Immovable Secured Asset Assets is hereby given by Fedbank Financial Services Limited (Secured Creditor) under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with Rule 8(6) & 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002. The undersigned as Authorized Officer of Secured Creditor has taken over the possession of the Secured Asset(s) under SARFAESI Act 2002.
Notice is hereby given to the Public in general and in particular to the Borrowers/Co – Borrowers/Guarantors that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, Fedbank Financial Services Limited, the possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Fedbank Financial Services Limited, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "wherever there is" on **16/09/2026 from 10 am to 10.30 am,** for recovery of **Rs. 27,39,868/- (Rupees Twenty-Seven Lakhs Thirty Nine Thousand Eight Hundred and Sixty Eight Only) in Loan Account No. FEDPRRSTL0502897 as on 18/11/2024** with interest and expenses thereon from 19/11/2024 due to Fedbank Financial Services Limited, Secured Creditor, **Mr Arunkumar (Borrower); Mrs Kalyani (Co – Borrower); Mr V Aruldas (Co – Borrower).**

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Item No 1: All Piece And Parcel Of Mortgaged Property Bearing Land and Building, comprised in S No 67/5A2, measuring with an extent of 3277 Sq Ft situated at Babuji Nagar 7th Cross street Thiruninravur Village, Avadi Taluk Thiruvallur District. Bounded by: North by – Sakthivel Nagar Road & Land Belongs to Mr Rajendra Mrs Mageshwari, South by – Land belongs to Mrs Kalyani and Vacant Land, East by – Land belongs to Mrs Sheela Rathinakumar, West by – Land & House belongs to Mrs Kamala. Measuring - East to West on the Northern Side: 115 Feet, East to West on the Southern Side: 115 Feet, North to South on the Eastern Side: 30 Feet, North to South on the Western Side: 27 Feet
Item No 2: All Piece And Parcel Of Mortgaged Property Bearing Land and Building,bearing Plot No 2, comprised in S No 67/5 & 67/60, measuring with an extent of 325 Sq Ft out of 2620 Sq Ft situated at Balaji Nagar Thiruninravur Village, Avadi Taluk Thiruvallur District
Bounded by: North by – S No 67/1A & 1B, South by – Street, East by – Plot No 2 East portion belongs to Mrs Rajeshwari, West by – Plot No 1
Measuring : East to West on the Northern Side: 5 Feet, East to West on the Southern Side: 5 Feet, North to South on the Eastern Side: 65 Feet North to South on the Western Side: 65 Feet. Situated within the Sub Registration District of Avadi and in the Registration District of South Chennai

RESERVE PRICE (IN RS.)	Rs. 45,00,000/- (Rupees Forty Five Lac Only)
EARNEST MONEY DEPOSIT (IN RS.) THROUGH DD/PO/RTGS IN FAVOR OF 'FEDBANK FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED'	Rs. 4,50,000/- (Rupees Four Lac Fifty Thousand Only)
BID INCREMENTAL AMOUNT	Rs. 50,000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand Only)
LAST DATE, TIME AND VENUE FOR SUBMISSION OF BIDS WITH SEALED OFFER/ TENDER WITH EMD	Till 15th September, 2026 latest by 05:00 P.M. at – Fedbank Financial Services Limited, 23, Omsakthi Nagr, Chettiyar Agram 1 St Corss Street, Porur, Chennai-600116 Near Tolplaza
INSPECTION OF PROPERTIES	9th September,2026 Before 5 PM
LAST DATE FOR PAYMENT OF 25% OF ACCEPTED HIGHEST BID FOR CONFIRMED SUCCESSFUL BIDDER (INCLUSIVE OF EMD)	The payment should be made latest by next working day from the date of bid confirmation
LAST DATE FOR PAYMENT OF BALANCE 75% OF HIGHEST BID	Within 15 days from the date of bid Confirmation

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in Fedbank Financial Services Limited (FEDFINA) Secured Creditor's website i.e. www.fedfina.com & Link **https://www.fedfina.com/public-notice-for-auction-cum-sale/** under Auction For any enquiry, information, support, procedure and training kindly coordinate with Authorised Officer of Fedbank Financial Services Limited is / are **Santosh S – 8667349662, Email Id: santhosh.s1@fedfina.com , Prabudeva G – 7397355237, Email Id:- prabudeva.g@fedfina.com, Sowrirajan R – 9344498087, Email Id - sowrirajan.r@fedfina.com.**
Your attention is also invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of SARFAESI Act, 2002 in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Date: 27/08/2026
Place: CHENNAI
Sd/- Authorised Officer
Fedbank Financial Services Limited

INCLISIRAN FOR CHOLESTEROL: DOCS CALL IT EXPENSIVE, STRESS FOR CHEAPER OPTIONS

Even as India is set to soon launch promising new medicine called the DCGI and US FDA-approved Inclisiran to lower cholesterol and keep it low with just two doses a year, doctors while hailing the advance contend that the drug is expensive and stressed on much cheaper versions available that should be put to better use. Inclisiran is the first and only small interfering RNA (siRNA) therapy to lower low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (also known as bad cholesterol or LDL-C) with two doses a year, after an initial dose and one at three months.Inclisiran by Swiss multinational pharmaceutical Novartis, expected to be around Rs 1.2 lakhs, has been approved by the Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) under the brand name of Sybrava, following the successful completion of trials. The UK has also approved Inclisiran.

"There is a case for use of these injectables in India if their price comes down. As of right now even the use of appropriate doses of statins is not so common in India. These are cheap medicines which are available in generic form in India and they are still not used so at the moment.

M/S MINTIFI FINSERVE PRIVATE LIMITED
Reg. Office : Times Square, Unit No. 3b, 2nd Floor, Opp. Mittal Industries Estate, Andheri-kurla Road, Marol Naka, Andheri East, mumbai-400059.

Demand Notice Under Section 13 (2) of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

Undersigned being the Authorized officer of M/s Mintifi Finserve Private Limited, hereby gives the following notice to the Borrower(s) / Co-Borrower(s) who have failed to discharge their liability i.e. defaulted in the repayment of principal as well as the interest and other charges accrued there-on for Loan(s) against Property Mortgaged to them by M/s Mintifi Finserve Private Limited and as a consequence the loan(s) have become Non Performing Assets. Accordingly, notices were issued to them under Section 13 (2) of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and rules there-to, on their last known address, however the same have been returned un-covered/undelivered, as such the Borrower {s)/Co-Borrower(s) are hereby intimated / informed by way of this publication notice to clear their outstanding dues under the loan facility availed by them from time to time.

Loan Account No./Name of the Borrower(s)/Co-Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s) & Addresses	Demand Notice Date and Amount
LOAN ACCOUNT NO. VT0005607 **1.Sethuraman Maligai Store,** No.159B,Kooteripattu,Sarkar Kinaru Street, Viluppuram, Tamil Nadu , 604302 **2.Valli Sethuraman,** No.159 B,Sarkkar Kinaru Street, Kutteripattu, Viluppuram, Tamil Nadu , 604302 **3.Sethuraman Viswanathan,** No.159 B,Sarkkar Kinaru Street, Kutteripattu, Villupuram, Tamil Nadu, 604302.	**12/08/2026 & ₹ 21,79,066.66/-** (Rupees Twenty One Lakh Seventy Nine Thousand Sixty Six And Paisa Sixty Six Only) **as on 10/08/2026**
DETAILS OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY MORTGAGED TO THE M/S MINTIFI FINSERVE PRIVATE LIMITED - All that piece & parcel of immovable property including constructed structures on a Residential Property bearing Thindivanam Registration District, Mailam Sub- Registration District, Mailam Panchayat Union and Kutteripattu Panchayat Limits, Kutteripattu Village, in S.F.No.21/5-Subdivision S.No.21/5B in Old S.F.No.23/5 Acre 0.51 Cents of land in one portion Ad measuring extent of 1089Sq.ft or 101.170 Sq.mtr of land with using the Usual rights to roads and common path Ways etc. Boundaries As per Documents : East- Manjula Property, West - Street , North - Velu Balance Property South- Sethuraman Property vacant Land. Boundaries As per Site : East - Building, West - Road, North - Building, South -Vacant Land.	
LOAN ACCOUNT NO. VT0007985 **1. Avk Industries,** 29 4 Th Cross Street Vilankuruchi Road,Thannerpandhal Peelamedu Coimbatore-641004. **2. Venkatachalam Palanisamy,** 14, Vengidusamy Nagar , Vk Road , Coimbatore- -641004 **3. Venkatachalam Palanisamy,** 50 Thiyagi Kumaran Street Thanneer Pantal Peelamedu, Coimbatore- -641004 **4. Kanchana Venkatachalam,** 14, Vengidusamy Nagar , Vk Road, Coimbatore- -641004 **5. Kanchana Venkatachalam,** 50 Thiyagi Kumaran Street Thanneer Pantal Peelamedu, Coimbatore- -641004.	**12/08/2026 & ₹.13,55,670.25/-** (Rupees Thirteen Lakh Fifty Five Thousand Six Hundred Seventy and Paisa Twenty Five Only) **as on 10/08/2026**
DETAILS OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY MORTGAGED TO THE M/S MINTIFI FINSERVE PRIVATE LIMITED "All that piece & parcel of immovable property including constructed structures on a Residential property bearing Natham Survey No. Old Natham S.No-161/1 Part, New Natham S.No-533/5, As per Revenue Record Natham S.No-533/5, Total Extent 1416 Sq.Ft, Door No. 34 (As per property tax), Thenkarai Village, Perur Taluk, Previous Coimbatore Regd.District Now Presently Coimbatore North Regd. District, Thondamuthur SRO" Boundaries As per Document : East- Velusamy Property, West- Survey No:533/4 Property (under construction building), North - East West Road , South - Survey No. 533/6 Property (Vacant Land) . Boundaries As per Site : East- Velusamy property (Residential Building), West - Survey No:533/4 Property, North - East West Road, South - Survey No. 533/6 Property.	

This step is being taken for substituted service of notice. The above Borrowers and/or Co-Borrowers Guarantors) are advised to make the payments of outstanding along with future interest within 60 days from the date of publication of this notice failing which (without prejudice to any other right remedy available with M/s Mintifi Finserve Private Limited) further steps for taking possession of the Secured Assets/mortgaged property will be initiated as per the provisions of Sec. 13(4) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security InterestAct, 2002. The parties named above are also advised not to alienate, create third party interest in the above mentioned properties. On which M/s Mintifi Finserve Private Limited has the charge.

Date : 27.08.2026, Place : Tamil Nadu **Authorised Officer, M/S MINTIFI FINSERVE PRIVATE LIMITED**

EDITORIAL

ARE POLITICAL OVERTURES ENOUGH TO WIN GEN Z VOTERS?

For years, Indian politicians have spoken about the youth far more often than they had spoken to them. Suddenly, however, the political establishment appears to have discovered a new urgency - Generation Z. The student-led CJP protests have acted as a wake-up call, forcing both the ruling party BJP and the opposition Congress to recognise that young Indians are no longer merely an electoral statistic. By 2029, Gen Z, comprising those aged 18 to 32, is projected to number nearly 380 million. They are an increasingly assertive political constituency capable of setting the agenda themselves.

Rahul Gandhi's 'Chhatron Ki Goonj' in Pune and the BJP's intensified Gen Z outreach, are evidence of this course correction. The BJP has even constituted a dedicated Gen Z outreach team, while the RSS has separately intensified engagement with teenagers.

However, the bigger question is: will these overtures actually win the confidence and eventually the votes of Gen Z? The answer is unlikely to be yes merely because politicians have started holding youth meetings.

RACE FOR OUTREACH

Rahul Gandhi's youth outreach in form of campus connect and other initiatives such as Instagram 'Ask Me Anything' are significant because they are an attempt to create a direct conversation with students rather than relying exclusively on the traditional political rally. Congress said more than 30,000 students had registered for the Pune event. Of course, the BJP, questioned its funding and selection of participants, illustrating how quickly even youth outreach itself becomes part of the political contest.

Meanwhile, the BJP's response is equally revealing. After Prime Minister Modi, his ministers and party colleagues are posting unedited, natural-looking video reels in casual clothes. Government departments are ramping up presence on youth-centric platforms like Snapchat and Instagram to shift from one-way lectures to direct dialogue. Initiatives like 'one day one campus' requiring ministers to visit educational institutions regularly to hear student grievances firsthand and report back to the Prime Minister's Office have started. Yet there is a danger for both parties- mistaking visibility for connection. Gen Z is not impressed simply by a leader sharing a stage with students, posing for photographs or speaking the language of social media. This generation has grown up in an environment of instant information, competing narratives and constant scrutiny.

REAL CONNECT MISSING

A politician speaking in the vocabulary of young people does not automatically make that politician relevant to them. For Gen Z, the real political questions are brutally practical. Will the education system be streamlined leading to meaningful employment? Why do professional degrees not necessarily translate into secure careers? Can competitive examinations be trusted? Why are opportunities so uneven? How affordable will higher education be? Can young people realistically buy homes or build independent lives? What happens to mental well-being in an intensely competitive society?

THE BITTERNESS OF INFLATION ON THE SWEETNESS OF SUGAR

- Dr. Priyanka Saurabh

The festive season in India is not only a special time of year, but also an important part of life. Sweets, traditional food, religious rituals, hospitality, and increased consumption are the hallmarks. This is why it's crucial to take a closer look at the recent increase in sugar prices. Retail sugar prices have risen from ?42-45 to ?62-65 in some cities, while wholesale and mill sugar prices remain high. It would be too simplistic to attribute this to a mere seasonal phenomenon. There's a larger policy issue here: Is India striking the right balance between sugar as a food grain, raw material, and part of its energy policy? The rise in costs is due to several factors. The first reason is seasonal demand—that is, the excess demand during summer. Sugar consumption increases significantly during festivals, putting significant pressure on supply. On the other hand, at the end of the sugar production season, sugar mills begin to deplete stocks, narrowing the supply-demand gap. Global sugar prices can also impact sugar prices and market sentiment. However, a crucial aspect of this entire story is the country's mandatory ethanol rule. Blending ethanol in petrol in India has been a gradual process, with three objectives: reducing dependence on imported crude oil, providing another market for farmers, and providing another source of income to sugar mills. Therefore, ethanol should not be considered the sole reason for the increase in sugar prices. However, it would be a mistake to ignore its impact on domestic sugar availability. If available sugar is used for ethanol production, sugar prices could be further pressured, impacting domestic sugar stocks. Now is the real test of the government's policy decisions. Food inflation will directly impact households, and energy security is a long-term goal. The call is not to discontinue the ethanol program, but to make it more flexible to adapt to market conditions. Once domestic sugar stocks stabilize, more scope can be allocated for ethanol production. However, given the limited food supply and the potential for price increases, there should be room for short-term adaptation measures to ensure domestic food availability. The government's announcement of imports of 1 million tonnes of sugar and other measures, such as stock limits, will provide temporary relief and stabilize the market ahead of the festive season. However, a question arises: should intervention be made only after prices have risen? One indicator of the effectiveness of policies related to agricultural products is the ability to anticipate shortages. If the government has reliable estimates of production, domestic consumption, and the potential shift to ethanol, potential stock shortages can be easily identified. Therefore, sugar imports should not be viewed merely as a reaction, but as a policy approach that is predictable and timely. Unnecessary imports can be detrimental to farmers and mills and should be avoided when there is a shortage of the product; however, not importing when needed can lead to higher prices for consumers. Transparency is also crucial. Commodity markets aren't limited to the commodities available on the market; they also depend on the image they project in the market. Without knowing the state of a country's reserves, traders and consumers can be influenced by speculation, rumors, and expectations. Therefore, the government should ensure more reliable and regular information is available regarding ethanol production, reserves, consumption, and diversion. More information will help detect hoarding and artificial shortages and provide policymakers with early warning about any real shortages. In some cases, stock limits may be necessary, but stock limits alone are not sufficient to ensure market transparency. Another aspect of rising sugar prices is the social impact. Food inflation often doesn't affect everyone equally. Even a few rupees per kilogram can be a significant burden on the budgets of low- and middle-income families, while higher-income families may be able to afford it. This is especially true during the festive season, when the pressure on food and sweets is clearly visible. Small sweet shops, bakeries, and local food businesses face another challenge. Unlike larger companies, they don't have the capacity to absorb the ever-rising cost of raw materials. They face a difficult dilemma: they must either cut their profits or increase the prices of sugar, milk, ghee, and dried fruits. Ultimately, the burden falls on the consumer. In policy discussions, the interests of consumers and farmers are presented as if they are essentially contradictory. This is not the only solution. Farmers want a fair income from sugarcane, mills need financial stability, the government is interested in increasing sugarcane production for ethanol, and consumers want a fair price for sugar. A sustainable policy cannot be one-sided and benefit one group while harming another. It's not unusual for sugar prices to rise during the festive season. High demand naturally puts pressure on the market. However, if prices don't ease by the end of the holidays, it's difficult to say that the entire increase is due to seasonal demand. The government will need to review the accuracy of production estimates, stock levels, the amount of sugar allocated for ethanol use, and whether imports were timely. The current rise in sugar prices is significant because it highlights the contradiction between several key policy objectives of India's economic policy. These goals, while commendable, include increasing farmers' incomes, improving energy security, and curbing consumer inflation. Increasing the amount of sugar in the market to maintain the sweetness of the festive season is not enough. India needs a system in which sudden increases in sugar prices are not seen as a symptom of policy delays or a failure to provide market information. The debate on sugar prices is not limited to how much consumers pay for a kilogram of sugar. It concerns India's food security, the interests of farmers, and the efficient management of the energy transition.

RAKSHABANDHAN IN CHANGING TIMES

– Dr. Satyavan Saurabh

The thread of Rakshabandhan is tied not just on the wrist, but on the heart. It is a promise—to be together, to protect, and to understand without saying a word. A sister's Rakhi holds an innocent prayer that cannot be expressed in words, and a brother's eyes hold the resolve that gives courage to face every challenge. No matter how much time changes, no matter how much distance grows, this thread brings back the warmth of relationships every time. Rakshabandhan is not just a celebration, but a feeling—one that gives us the opportunity to return to our relationships every year. India is a country full of diversity, where every festival not only symbolizes religious faith but also strengthens social and cultural ties. One such special festival is Raksha Bandhan, which symbolizes the sweetness, love, and protection of the brother-sister relationship. However, with changing times, society, technology, and thinking, the meaning of Raksha Bandhan is also changing. This change is not limited to rituals, but is also evident in the spirit, purpose, and social context of this festival. Raksha Bandhan is deeply rooted in Indian history, mythology, and social traditions. Whether it's the story of Draupadi and Lord Krishna or the popular historical tale of Queen Karnavati sending a Rakhi to Humayun, Rakhi has long been associated with feelings of affection, trust, and protection. Traditionally, a sister would tie a Rakhi on her brother's wrist, and the brother would vow to protect her. This relationship was deeply rooted in love, trust, and devotion. But today, Raksha Bandhan is no longer limited to blood relations. Many women tie rakhis to friends, colleagues, teachers, soldiers, and even nature itself. This shift indicates that "raksha" is no longer just an individual's responsibility, but a broader sense of social and emotional responsibility. The most significant change is that the relationship of protection is no longer one-sided. Today, sisters also say to their brothers, "I will protect you too." This statement paints a complete picture of changing social relationships. Both brothers and sisters can share each other's joys and sorrows, be supportive and protective. Technology has also transformed the way Rakshabandhan is celebrated. While sending a Rakhi once required a trip to the post office, today digital Rakhis, video calls, online gifting, and virtual celebrations have become new ways to strengthen relationships. Brothers and sisters living abroad or in faraway cities may be physically apart, but the tradition of tying Rakhi and exchanging greetings via video calls has provided a new way to bridge the distance. Some may associate digital media with a lack of emotion, but the reality is that technology has made it easier to maintain emotional connections across distances. It's the medium that has changed, not the emotion. The tradition of Rakshabandhan is also changing, even with regard to gifts. Previously, a brother giving sweets and gifts to his sister was considered an expression of love. Today, many sisters have different priorities. They say, "Brother, I don't want gifts; I want some time, leisure, and understanding." This shift reflects the changing aspirations of the modern woman. Today's sister is self-reliant. She seeks not just financial gifts, but emotional security, mental support, respect, communication, and equal partnership. Therefore, time and sensitivity are becoming more important in relationships than material things. Traditionally, Raksha Bandhan meant "brother will protect sister." Today, this concept is broadening. Girls are becoming self-reliant and are supporting their brothers financially, emotionally, educationally, and socially. Brothers are also supporting their sisters' dreams and decisions. Thus, Raksha Bandhan is no longer just a festival of protection, but also of mutual cooperation and partnership. A beautiful extension of this change is seen in responsibility towards nature and society.

In many places, the tradition of tying Rakhi to trees has developed. By tying Rakhi to trees, children and women convey the message that our responsibility is not limited to humans; nature also deserves our care and protection. Similarly, sending Rakhi to soldiers expresses respect and emotional connection to the soldiers who protect the country's borders.

INDIA'S ECONOMIC JOURNEY:

FROM LICENCE RAJ TO PRAGMATIC GOVERNANCE

There was a thing that only Boomers and Gen X can relate to. It went something like this: if you booked a scooter for your son or daughter at the time of their marriage, you would get the delivery by the time they had two or three children! In the 1980s, the waiting period for a Bajaj Chetak was more than 10 years. At one point, the government had capped Bajaj's annual production capacity at just 80,000 scooters. That was the era of scarcity. And it was true for so many goods and services like foodgrains, LPG cylinders, telephone connections, cars, music systems, gold and electrical appliances. One had to stand in queues for many of these things, and smuggling was rampant. The worst part was that much of this scarcity was man-made or, to be precise, government-made. From Production Caps To Production Incentives Recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi reminded an audience about what he called the era of Production Linked Punishment (PLP). He explained how the government once fixed production quotas for industries. Companies that produced beyond the permitted limit or the permit could face penalties. He contrasted this with the much-celebrated Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme of recent times and the new philosophy of encouraging manufacturing and investment by rewarding production. In this article, I will not dwell on the numbers or comparative studies between the Nehru era and the post-1991 liberalisation period or the Modi era. The numbers are in the public domain, and much has already been written about them. Instead, I want to deconstruct the Nehruvian model of Licence-Permit Raj, to understand the economic philosophy and ideology behind it and how it shaped India's economy at that time. The Nehruvian bet On The State Under Prime Minister Nehru, Parliament adopted the socialist pattern of society as the guiding objective of India's social and economic policy. The rest, as they say, followed from this philosophy and ideology. Read these words from the Draft Resolution on Industrial Policy, as revised by Nehru on 15 April 1956: "The adoption of the socialist pattern of society as the national objective, as well as the need for planned and rapid development, require that all industries of basic and strategic importance, or in the nature of public utility services, should be in the public sector. Other industries which are essential and require investment on a scale which only the state, in present circumstances, could provide, have also to be in the public sector. The State has therefore to assume direct responsibility for the future development of industries over a wider area." (Selected Works of Jawaharlal Nehru, Second Series, Vol. 32, pp. 72-79) The 1956 Industrial Policy Resolution was a fundamental mistake. It gave the State a dominant role in the industrial sphere. Several industries were reserved for the public sector, while private industry was required to operate within the framework of government plans and regulations. The resolution explicitly stated that private enterprises had to "fit into the framework" of the State's social and economic policy and remain subject to controls. State was not merely regulating markets, it was deciding who could enter them, what they could produce and how far they could expand. The consequences became most visible in the consumer economy and manufacturing. Protecting producers from competition also protected inefficiency. When companies cannot freely expand capacity in response to demand, shortages become inevitable. Instead of forcing firms to innovate, reduce costs and improve quality, government permissions became the gateway to growth. This resulted in a system of favouritism and patronage. Perils Of Distributive Justice In Poor Economy The deeper mistake was to confuse redistribution with social justice. Poverty cannot be abolished by dividing a small economic pie more equally. The first responsibility of economic policy must be to expand the pie, to increase productivity, create jobs, encourage investment and raise incomes. A poor country needs rapid capital formation and rising productivity before redistribution can have a transformative and sustainable impact. By placing limits on enterprise and treating profits and private capital with suspicion, the Nehruvian model constrained precisely those forces that could have created greater wealth to distribute. The other long-term consequence was the denial of scale and competition. This prevented firms from achieving economies of scale, adopting better technology and competing globally.

GOR HAILS C-130J ROLE AS JV EYES 80-AIRCRAFT IAF DEAL

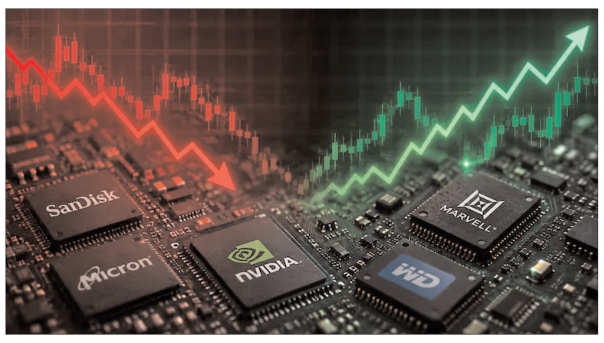
Hyderabad: New Delhi, Aug 24 (PTI) The production of key structural components for the C-130J military transport aircraft in India underscores growing US-India defence cooperation and strengthens the shared commitment to a free and secure Indo-Pacific, US Ambassador Sergio Gor said on Monday, August 24. Gor made the remarks during a visit to the Tata-Lockheed Martin Aerostructures facility in Hyderabad. The joint venture is eyeing a multi-billion dollar contract to supply 80 medium transport aircraft to the Indian Air Force. Lockheed Martin's C-130J, Embraer Defence and Security's C-390 Millennium and Airbus Defence and Space's A-400M aircraft have emerged as top contenders for the mega contract. The IAF is currently operating 12 C-130J aircraft. "Lockheed Martin's partnership with Tata is making India a critical link in the global C-130J production network, strengthening defense supply chains and advancing our strategic partnership," Gor said. Established in 2010, the joint venture focuses on complementing India's 'Make in India' objectives and has the distinction of being the single global source of C-130J empennage assemblies included on all new Super Hercules aircraft produced in the US. "The decades-long economic partnership between the United States and India continues to grow stronger through innovation, shared security interests, and economic cooperation," Gor said. 'Growing industrial, defence cooperation between US, India'

"The production in India of critical structures for the C-130J, a platform operated by both our nations, is a strong example of the growing industrial and defence cooperation between the United States and India. Partnerships like these support high-skilled jobs, strengthen resilient supply chains, and advance our shared vision for a free, open, and secure Indo-Pacific," he said. Gor's reference comes amid increasing global concerns over China's increasing military muscle-flexing in the region.

META AGREES TO $16.68 BILLION SETTLEMENT OVER CHILD SAFETY CLAIMS

Meta Platforms has agreed to pay up to $16.68 billion to settle claims brought by 29 U.S. states accusing the company of designing Instagram and Facebook to encourage compulsive use among children, misleading consumers about the platforms' safety and improperly collecting data from underage users, according to court filings. The settlement was reached as a federal trial was underway in California, bringing an end to one of the most closely watched legal challenges over the impact of social media on children and teenagers. Under the agreement, Meta has committed to introducing daily usage limits and blocking nighttime access for teenage users. The company will also strengthen age-verification measures aimed at preventing children from accessing its platforms or age-restricted content. The settlement further requires Meta to develop additional tools to help parents and guardians monitor and protect children online. The company, however, has denied the allegations and admitted no liability as part of the agreement. The court filing states that Meta "denies the allegations against it and that it has any liability to the Plaintiffs." The trial involved allegations by the attorneys general of California, Colorado, Kentucky and New Jersey that Meta violated state consumer-protection laws by intentionally designing its platforms in ways that fostered addictive use among young users. The states also accused Meta of violating the federal Children's Online Privacy Protection Act by collecting personal information from children without notifying or obtaining consent from their parents. They alleged that some of the information was subsequently used to develop machine-learning and generative artificial intelligence systems, Reuters reported. Meta has maintained that it has taken extensive measures to safeguard young users. The company has also argued that describing its platforms as addictive could not constitute consumer deception because social media addiction is not formally recognised as a psychiatric disorder. The settlement comes as Meta, Snap, Alphabet and TikTok owner ByteDance face a broader wave of lawsuits over allegations that their platforms have contributed to worsening mental-health problems among young people. Meta has suffered several recent legal setbacks. In March, a New Mexico jury ordered the company to pay $375 million after finding that it had misled consumers about platform safety. Earlier this month, another judge ordered Meta to pay $567 million after concluding that the company's conduct created a public nuisance and imposing youth-safety measures. In a separate Los Angeles case, Meta and Google were found liable for harm suffered by a plaintiff, who was awarded $6 million over claims involving depression and anxiety. The companies have said they plan to appeal those verdicts.

CHIP TRADE TURNS MIXED: SanDisk, Micron, Nvidia Fall Even As Marvel, Western Digital Rally Up To 3%



Chip stocks traded mixed on Wednesday as investors weighed broader technology-sector strength against company-specific catalysts, with Nvidia slipping ahead of its fiscal second-quarter earnings while Marvell Technology and Western Digital gained. Marvell Technology shares rose 0.30% to $241.09 after gaining 1.01% in the previous session, while Western Digital shares advanced 2.72% to $462.96. On the other hand, Intel fell 1.56% to $86.12 and SanDisk declined 0.64% to $1,471.27. The moves highlight the day-to-day volatility in the semiconductor space, which has witnessed a see-saw pattern in recent months as investors assess AI demand, memory pricing, chip valuations and the sustainability of the broader technology rally. The Nasdaq Composite was up 0.09%, while the S&P 500 gained 0.12%. The technology sector added 0.37%, with seven of the 11 major S&P 500 sectors trading higher. SanDisk In Focus SanDisk's decline appears to be linked more to broader market dynamics than to any company-specific headline. Investors are also watching whether the stock can resume its longer-term uptrend following its recent pullback. SanDisk's relative strength index (RSI) stands at 48.30. The neutral reading indicates that neither buyers nor sellers currently have a clear upper hand in determining the stock's near-term direction. The stock's recent movement comes after a period of significant gains, keeping investors focused on whether the current consolidation phase could provide a base for another leg higher. Western Digital Makes Case For Buy On Dips Western Digital has delivered exceptionally strong gains over the past several years.

SIX UNIQUE CAFÉS AND COFFEE SPOTS TO TRY IN DUBAI RIGHT NOW

India, 26th August 2026: Dubai's dynamic café culture continues to evolve, with a new wave of openings and experiences offering far more than just a great cup of coffee. From international specialty coffee names making their Dubai debut to homegrown concepts creating spaces for culture, community and creativity, these six spots are worth adding to your list. Cherry House, Al Safa 1: Newly opened in Al Safa 1, Cherry House introduces a new café concept from Emirati entrepreneur Mohamed Matar Al-Kus El-Falasi, founder of popular homegrown brands Saddle and Feels. The opening adds another exciting homegrown name to Dubai's thriving café landscape, reflecting the city's continued appetite for distinctive local concepts and innovative social spaces. ONA Coffee, Jumeirah: Australian specialty coffee brand ONA Coffee has opened its first international flagship in Jumeirah, marking an exciting addition to Dubai's specialty coffee scene. Known for its focus on quality, innovation and coffee craftsmanship, the opening reinforces Dubai's position as a leading global market for specialty coffee concepts and international culinary brands. Gooder, Dubai: More than a café, Gooder is a skater-owned, community-driven facility redefining what a social space can look like in the region. Built around a concrete indoor skatepark, the concept brings together Habibi Skate Shop, Ollie's Pizzeria and DRVN café under one roof, creating a dynamic ecosystem where skate culture, food, retail and community come together. The Barrel, Vida Creek Beach: Located at Vida Creek Beach, The Barrel introduces a new neighbourhood dining and social concept centred around craft beverages, comfort food and live entertainment. Designed as a relaxed gathering spot, it adds another dimension to Dubai's diverse social scene, offering visitors and residents a vibrant new place to connect and unwind. Julith Coffee, Al Quoz: Adding a literary twist to Dubai's café culture, Julith Coffee in Al Quoz has launched Bookends, a pop-up micro library described as Dubai's smallest. Set within the cosy café, the initiative invites visitors to browse, borrow and exchange books, creating a space where coffee, conversation and community connection come together. SEVA Dubai: One of Dubai's hidden gems, SEVA offers a holistic escape from the pace of the city. Set within a tranquil, zen-like garden with cobbled pathways, rustic log tables and colourful décor, the dedicated wellbeing centre is also home to a plant-based café designed for slowing down, catching up on a book or connecting with friends over freshly brewed coffee. Health and wellbeing are at the heart of the experience, with food free from gluten, sugar, dairy and artificial ingredients without compromising on flavour. The menu also takes an eco-conscious approach, featuring plant-based dishes and offering guests the opportunity to disconnect and reconnect in a WiFi-free environment. From discovering a global specialty coffee name and supporting homegrown concepts to spending an afternoon browsing books or switching off in a peaceful wellness retreat, these six spots highlight the diversity and creativity shaping Dubai's café culture. Whether you are a dedicated coffee enthusiast, a food lover or simply looking for a new space to unwind, connect and explore, Dubai's café scene continues to offer a fresh reason to discover the city.

ICICI PRUDENTIAL AMC BLOCK DEAL: PROMOTER EYES TRIMMING 2% STAKE FOR UP TO RS 3,122 CRORE

Prudential Corporation Holdings is set to sell a 2% stake in ICICI Prudential Asset Management Company (AMC) through a block trade, with the transaction estimated to be worth around Rs 2,964 crore to Rs 3,122 crore, sources told NDTV Profit. Around 98.85 lakh shares are expected to change hands in the block deal, with the offer price set in the range of Rs 2,998 to Rs 3,158 per share. The offer price represents a discount of around 2% to 7% to ICICI Prudential AMC's August 26 closing price. The proposed transaction is entirely a secondary sale, meaning no fresh shares will be issued by ICICI Prudential AMC as part of the deal. Prudential Corporation Holdings, a promoter of ICICI Prudential AMC, held a 34.59% stake in the company as of the quarter ended June. The sale of a 2% stake would therefore reduce Prudential Corporation Holdings' shareholding in the asset management company, while the proceeds from the transaction will accrue to the selling shareholder rather than the company. ICICI Prudential AMC Q1 Results ICICI Prudential Asset Management Co. reported a strong set of earnings for the first quarter, with net profit rising 25.5% year-on-year to Rs 965 crore from Rs 769 crore. The asset manager's total income increased 20.2% to Rs 1,745 crore, compared with Rs 1,452 crore in the corresponding period last year, reflecting healthy growth in its business. Revenue from operations increased 17.6% year-on-year to Rs 1,564 crore, up from Rs 1,331 crore in the year-ago quarter.

TELANGANA WOOS JAPANESE FIRMS, VENKATASWAMY EXTENDS INVITE

Telangana Minister for Labour, Employment, Training and Factories, Mines, and Geology, Dr G. Vivek Venkatswamy, has invited Japanese companies to invest in the state. He was speaking as the chief guest at the 'Leveraging Indian Talent' India-Japan Workforce Roundtable in Osaka, Japan, on Tuesday, August 25. The event aimed at bridging the gap between Japan's workforce needs and India's skilled labour.

The minister held extensive discussions with Japanese business leaders, industry representatives, and officials from government and educational institutions regarding investments, skilled human resources, employment opportunities, and talent mobility in Telangana. He noted the state's strong talent base in sectors such as IT, engineering, pharmaceuticals, and biotechnology, even as he urged Japanese companies to expand their operations in Telangana and to establish new industries and projects. The minister said that Japanese companies were showing interest in establishing a new industrial park spanning approximately 600 acres in Telangana. The state government also aims to collaborate with Japanese companies to create employment opportunities for Telangana's youth in Japan

■ SKILLED TRAINING, LANGUAGE AND ORIENTATION

He emphasised that proficiency in the local language is crucial for seeking employment abroad. Therefore, through TOSS (Telangana Overseas Manpower Company – TOMCOM), the government is providing not only skill training but also language instruction and orientation on job-specific skills and work culture. The Telangana government has already established a partnership with Germany in the field of skilled human resources, he said. He noted that the German representatives praised the skill development initiatives being undertaken by the state.Similarly, the Telangana government aims to forge partnerships with Japanese organisations in recruitment, training, and employment of skilled human resources, he said. He remarked that workforce mobility is becoming a key element in India-Japan relations. Minister Vivek Venkataswamy observed that this roundtable meeting would help further advance the India-Japan partnership across areas such as investments in Telangana, the creation of international employment opportunities, and skill development.

The event was organised by Rohit Rao, founder and CEO of Career Consultz, and among the dignitaries attending it were Sandeep Kumar Sultania, Principal Secretary, Finance Department, Telangana, along with Japanese businesspeople, representatives from corporate entities, universities, and India-Japan organisations.

FLIPKART MINUTES OVERTAKES SWIGGY INSTAMART IN DARK-STORE COUNT

New Delhi: Flipkart Minutes has overtaken Swiggy Instamart in dark-store count across India's top 10 quick-commerce cities, with 627 stores compared with Swiggy's 615, as competition intensifies in the country's fastest-growing delivery market, according to a CLSA report. The gap is narrow but significant, pointing to the rapid expansion of Flipkart's quick-commerce business even as established players continue to deepen their networks. The 10 cities together account for 3,536 dark stores, according to CLSA's Quick Commerce Map, with Blinkit leading at 969 stores, followed by Zepto at 828, Flipkart Minutes at 627, Swiggy Instamart at 615 and BigBasket at 497. Blinkit has the largest store footprint in six of the 10 cities – Bengaluru, Delhi, Pune, Gurgaon, Lucknow and Ahmedabad. Zepto leads in Hyderabad, Mumbai and Chennai, while Flipkart Minutes has the highest store count in Kolkata. "Quick commerce players are deepening their presence in existing markets while selectively expanding into new geographies. Eternal's Blinkit continues to lead this expansion. In newly entered markets, players appear to be adopting a measured rollout approach, with relatively smaller dark store footprints as they test local demand and unit economics before scaling. "At the same time, emerging players are increasingly targeting geographies that remain under-penetrated by incumbents, seeking to establish an early foothold and secure first-mover advantages," CLSA report said. "Within the top 10 cities, Flipkart Minutes has already surpassed Swiggy Instamart in both dark store count and pin-code coverage." Bengaluru is the largest quick-commerce market in the sample, with 735 stores across the tracked platforms. Blinkit has 180 stores there, narrowly ahead of Zepto at 177, while Swiggy Instamart has 143 and Flipkart Minutes 119. Delhi follows with 531 stores, where Blinkit has a more substantial lead at 188, compared with 112 for Zepto, 102 for Flipkart Minutes and 69 for Swiggy. Flipkart Minutes' lead over Swiggy becomes particularly notable in markets such as Kolkata, where it operates 72 stores compared with 35 for Swiggy. In Delhi, it has 102 stores against Swiggy's 69, while in Mumbai the two have 67 and 62, respectively, according to the CLSA report. Swiggy, however, is still expanding its network. According to the broader analysis, it added the highest number of dark stores among the top three players across the 10 cities over the past month, suggesting that the company is pursuing a densification strategy in established markets. The competitive picture is more fragmented beyond the largest cities. Blinkit's 969 stores across the top 10 give it a clear network lead, while Zepto's 828-store footprint puts it firmly in second place. But Flipkart Minutes' ability to move ahead of Swiggy at the aggregate level suggests that the contest for the next tier of scale is becoming increasingly close. The data also highlights the importance of store density rather than city presence alone. A larger network allows quick-commerce platforms to position inventory closer to consumers, potentially supporting faster deliveries, broader assortment and better utilisation of logistics infrastructure.

LIBYAN WHO WAS CLEARED AFTER LOCKERBIE BOMBING TRIAL DIES AGED 70

A Libyan who was cleared after standing trial over the Lockerbie bombing has died aged 70. Al Amin Khalifah Fhimah was accused of murdering 270 people in the attack on Pan Am Flight 103 in December 1988. He was found not guilty but a second Libyan, Abdulbasset Al Megrahi, was convicted of playing a key role in the bombing of the American airliner. A Facebook post by Libyan Airlines announced Fhimah's death and expressed the company's condolences to his family. Fhimah worked for the carrier in Malta before the bombing of Pan Am 103. His funeral is set to take place on Wednesday in Tripoli, the capital of Libya. The charges against Fhimah and Megrahi were first announced by Scotland and the United States in 1991. Years of sanctions imposed on Libya by the United Nations led to the two men being handed over to stand trial at a Scottish court sitting in the Netherlands. In 2001, three judges convicted Megrahi of mass murder and jailed him for life, but found Fhimah not guilty. Megrahi died from cancer in 2012, after being freed on compassionate grounds by the Scottish government. Fhimah always denied any involvement and was welcomed home to Libya by the country's late dictator Colonel Muammar Gaddafi. In 2022, the FBI revealed that he had been implicated in the case again, through an alleged confession made by another Libyan who is facing trial in the United States. Abu Agila Mohammad Masud Kheir Al-Marimi is said to have told a Libyan police officer that he took part in a plot to bomb the plane along with Fhimah and Megrahi, when all three were members of the Libyan intelligence service. Al-Marimi has denied making the bomb that brought down the jumbo jet and claims the confession is false and was made under duress. The contents of Al-Marimi's alleged confession and other new evidence which has emerged from Libya has led to speculation that Fhimah could have faced a second trial over the attack on the airliner.

Flash flood on Nepal-Tibet border kills at least 95, with hundreds of foreign tourists missing

FAR-RIGHT ISRAELI LAWMAKER DAMAGES PALESTINIAN MEMORIAL WITH SLEDGEHAMMER

A far-right member of the Israeli parliament has badly damaged a Palestinian memorial with a sledgehammer in the occupied West Bank while under military escort. The incident has drawn strong criticism from Palestinians and across the political spectrum in Israel. Video footage showed Zvi Sukkot, a member of the far-right Religious Zionism party, and several others striking the stone memorial in the Palestinian village of Madama. In the video, Sukkot - who has a history of provocative anti-Palestinian acts - says: "This is something we cannot leave standing here, because any place that glorifies terrorism, we must remove it." Rami Nasar, the head of the village council in Madama, said that the monument was erected in 2008 to remember Palestinians killed in the battle of Karameh - a day-long military confrontation between Israeli forces and those of both the PLO and Jordan in 1968. It also memorialises Palestinians killed in the first and second intifada. Nasar said it was intended to honour those who had been killed in conflict with Israel, whatever their political affiliation. The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) said its soldiers had been present during the incident. The Israeli military said it had approved a tour of monuments in the area for Sukkot and was providing security. But the IDF said he and the others involved had acted deceptively and without authorisation. It said soldiers eventually stopped Sukkot and escorted his group out of Madama after reporting the incident to their commanders. In a number of previous incidents involving settler violence, soldiers have been filmed standing by without intervening. The incident has further raised the temperature in the West Bank, where increasing attacks by settlers on Palestinians in recent months have drawn international condemnation. Madama itself has been the target of several attacks by settlers. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office has issued a statement criticising Sukkot's actions. It read: "Taking the law into one's own hands, especially when it involves public figures, is a reprehensible practice that prevents the IDF from focusing on its missions of combating terrorism and incitement to violence."

Heart, hope and a steely determination: Dolly Parton's musical legacy

In 1980, Dolly Parton was filming her first Hollywood movie, 9 To 5, and between scenes she had an idea for the tune that would become the movie's theme song. But her guitar was banned from the set - so she made the beat by strumming her acrylic nails together. The sound, she realised, was just like the typewriter used by her character, a married secretary who is constantly belittled and sexually harassed by her boss. Excited, she ran over and sang the song to her co-stars Lily Tomlin and Jane Fonda, who was also the film's producer. "Lily and I looked at each other and we had goosebumps," Fonda said. "And we knew, this is not just a movie song, this is an anthem." Released in November 1980, 9 To 5 became Parton's only US number one as a solo artist, and earned her an Oscar nomination for best song. She loved to tell the fingernail story, but 9 To 5 has another legacy - for its powerful statements about working life and women's place in the corporate world. You can probably sing the hook off the top of your head. "Working 9 To 5 / What a way to make a living!" It's jaunty and catchy. The sentiment is universal. Work sucks. But dig deeper and Dolly's expressing real fury. "It's a rich man's game, no matter what they call it / And you spend your life putting money in his wallet," she sings. "They just use your mind and they never give you credit." The lyrics tapped into real frustrations and gave working women a voice. But there's a reason why you might not have noticed the anger that fuels Dolly's song. She simply doesn't sing it that way - even though she had every right to, having navigated the sexism of the music industry from the age of 13. Her early breakthrough came in 1967 when she was hired as the "girl singer" on The Porter Wagoner Show, a TV showcase for country singer Porter Wagoner that reached millions of viewers each week. Together, they released 21 hit duets including Just Someone I Used to Know, If Teardrops Were Pennies and Please Don't Stop Loving Me. But as Parton's star rose, she began to outshine her co-star. Eventually, she realised she needed to strike out as a solo artist – writing I Will Always Love You as a letter of apology to her former mentor. He responded by suing her for breach of contract in 1979, demanding $3m (£2,2m). Wanting to avoid a lengthy court battle, Parton settled for about $1m. "I made up my mind that if he could live with it, I could live without it," she wrote in her autobiography. "I suppose Porter has done all right with it. I am neither his conscience nor his accountant." It was typical of the star's ability to radiate cheery goodwill that she never held a grudge against Wagoner, always crediting him with giving her a crucial career break, even after their relationship fell apart.

CANADA ANNOUNCES 'DOLLAR-FOR-DOLLAR' RETALIATORY TARIFFS ON US AS HIGH AS 50%

Canada has announced counter-tariffs as high as 50% on a range of US goods in retaliation to the latest wave of levies on Canadian imports imposed by President Donald Trump last weekend. The Canadian tariffs will apply to nearly C$28bn ($20bn; £15bn) worth of American products, ranging from steel to furniture, fresh tuna and cotton T-shirts, officials announced on Tuesday. The list of targeted products is designed to match Canadian goods hit by the US. The Canadian levies are set to come into effect on 8 September. It is the latest escalation after US-Canada trade talks collapsed late last week, with each side accusing the other of making last-minute demands that were unreasonable. Finance Minister François-Philippe Champagne said that Canada's retaliation is in response to 50% tariffs imposed by the Trump administration on a range of Canadian goods after trade talks fell apart on Friday. "Those tariffs will have real consequences for Canadian workers, businesses and communities across our nation," he said. "Canada must respond." Champagne characterised Canada's retaliation as "proportionate" and "strategic". He added that Canada will also offer businesses and workers impacted by US tariffs an additional C$7.5bn for support programmes designed to minimise job losses and keep companies afloat. Placing taxes on trade between what are historically two of the world's closest trading partners will undoubtedly lead to pain on both sides of the border. Supply chains which have been developed over decades are set to see increased trading costs due the latest tariff announcements made from both the US and Canada, ultimately hitting businesses of all sizes and consumers through potentially higher prices. Polls suggest the majority of Canadians support their government in holding firm against the US. But some questions remain on exactly why trade talks fell apart, with the Conservative opposition asking that the full text of the draft deal with the US be released. Businesses have also expressed concerns about the impact of a prolonged trade war with Canada's largest trading partner. The White House released a statement after Canada announced its counter-tariffs, saying that the US was prepared to offer Canada "the most preferential market access of any country on Earth" in recent trade talks. "Instead of partnership, Canada chose unreasonable demands, walk-backs, and flat-out rejection," it said. In a series of Tuesday posts on Truth Social, Trump also accused Canada of "ripping off" the US for decades and of charging American farmers steep tariffs. "I deal with many countries, and Canada is easily the most difficult and unreasonable," Trump wrote. "They feel entitled, but they are not a State, and will be entitled no longer!" He suggested that he will change the name of Lake Ontario, one of the Great Lakes on the US-Canada border, to Lake America, writing: "We don't expect to doing much business with Ontario any longer."

Radiation link in flight attendant's breast cancer, French court finds

A French court has for the first time recognised cosmic radiation as a factor in the breast cancer of a long-serving flight attendant. Sophie Lainault, a 59 year-old former stewardess on Air France, sought to have her cancer recognised as an occupational disease, brought on by conditions at work.

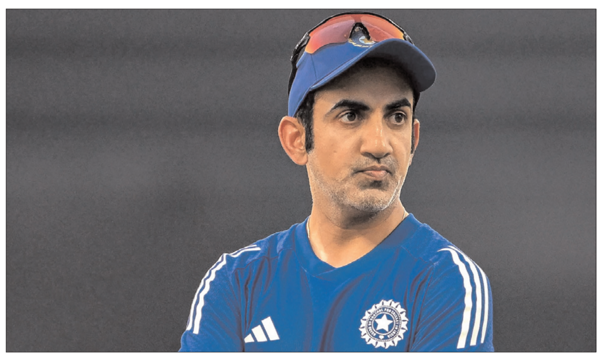
This has now been confirmed in a landmark court ruling in the southwestern town of Bayonne, which said that cosmic radiation was one of three carcinogenic hazards arising from her profession. The other two were passive smoking and prolonged night work. Smoking was authorised on Air France flights until 2000. The decision means that Lainault, who is in remission from her cancer, can take early retirement with any further treatment fully reimbursed by the French health system. And by establishing breast cancer as an officially-recognised risk for flight crews, the court has also cleared the way for many other similar claims, lawyers say. "My dearest wish is that the decision encourages other women who up until now have not had the courage to take this step," Lainault said. As stewardess and later purser on Air France airliners, Lainault clocked up 12,600 flight hours between 1989 and 2019. More than half of these were at night. Many long-distance high-altitude flights from Paris would have taken her near the North Pole, where exposure to radiation from space – strictly speaking particles from the sun and other stars – is the most intense.

Door was locked at Pakistan hospital where fire killed 14 babies, witnesses say

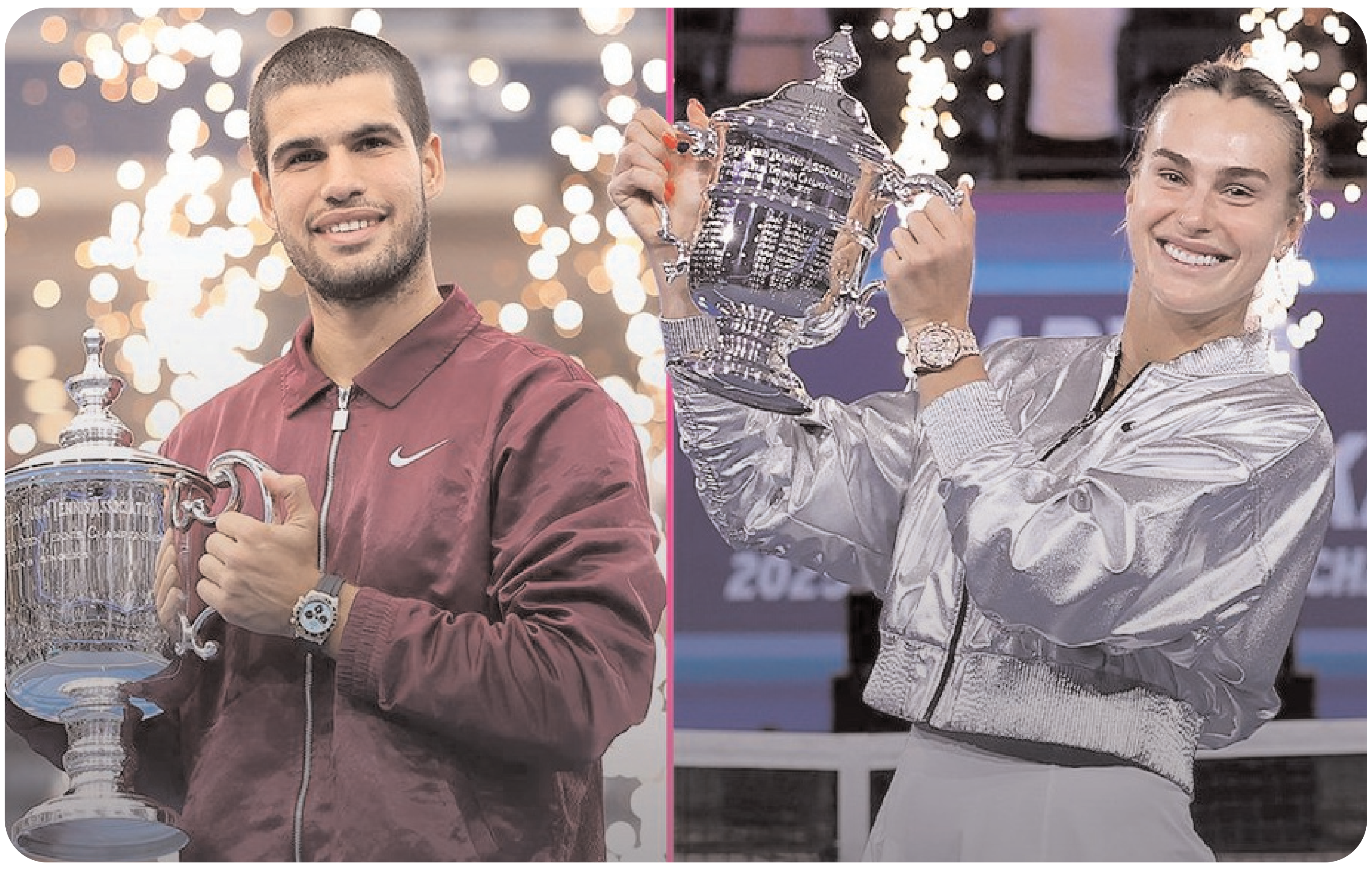
CHINA ADVISES ITS CITIZENS TO LEAVE TAIWAN ALLY ESWATINI OVER 'SECURITY RISKS'

China's foreign ministry has told its citizens to leave the southern African kingdom of Eswatini over "security risks". The ministry cited "rampant cyber fraud and criminal activities associated with gambling" as among its security concerns, but did not give details. It suggested its citizens relocate as soon as possible to "relatively safer" countries such as neighbouring South Africa. Eswatini is one of 12 countries, and the only one in Africa, that has diplomatic relations with Taiwan, which China claims as part of its territory. On Tuesday, the privately owned Times of Eswatini news site reported that 40 Chinese nationals have been in detention since last month after being arrested while trying to leave the country. They were first arrested - along with dozens of other foreign nationals - in March during raids on alleged illegal online gambling centres in the main city, Mbabane, and surrounding areas, the news site reported. The group's lawyers had written to the attorney general and home affairs ministry, stating that they had pleaded guilty to immigration-related offences and had paid fines imposed by the courts, the news site reported. The 40 were then released on the orders of the High Court, and their re-arrest was unlawful, the lawyers were quoted as saying. The Eswatini government has not yet commented. In its advisory to its citizens, China says those who insist on travelling to or staying in the country will face "extremely high security risks, and the timeliness of assistance may be affected". It is unclear how many Chinese citizens work or live in Eswatini. China has for years pressured countries to end diplomatic relations with Taiwan. In April, Taiwan accused Beijing of trying to derail its President Lai Ching-te's travel to Eswatini by pressuring nearby countries to revoke overflight permits. The trip, originally planned for 22-26 April to mark the 40th anniversary of Eswatini's King Mswati III's accession, was cancelled following the development. Lai eventually travelled to Eswatini in May, without saying how he reached the country. None of the governments had announced the trip beforehand.

Not Virat Kohli Or Rohit Sharma, Gautam Gambhir's Treatment Of These 2 Stars Questioned: "Could've Been Better"



Gautam Gambhir has endured extreme highs and lows during his tenure as India's head coach. On one hand, he has guided the team to two ICC titles, winning the Champions Trophy 2025 and the T20 World Cup 2026. On the other hand, he has suffered ignominious Test series defeats at home to New Zealand and South Africa. Former India cricketer Wasim Jaffer pointed out that the biggest stains on Gambhir's coaching career are the Test series defeats and the way some players were treated. Jaffer said that when it comes to white-ball cricket, the way stalwarts like Suryakumar Yadav and Mohammed Shami were axed could have been handled better. "Some individuals could have gotten better treatment, like Surya (Suryakumar Yadav), who was axed after winning the (T20) World Cup. There are other players as well, like Shami. Some things could have been better. But otherwise, I don't think in white-ball cricket any blame can be put on him," Jaffer said, speaking on his YouTube channel, as quoted by Times Now. He then spoke further on the devastating nature of the series defeats to New Zealand and South Africa at home. "The mark of those two whitewash series will always be on him, without a doubt. Not just on his CV, but also on the captain and other players. Coming to India and beating them was a final frontier that not many teams had achieved. It was very bad for us to suddenly lose like that. He will definitely feel that had we won those series, we would be at the top of the WTC table. There is a lot of scope for improvement in Test cricket for him. Not just for him, but for the players also," Jaffer explained. India's 0-3 Test series defeat to New Zealand in October and November 2024 ended a run of 12 years without a home series loss for the team. On the other hand, the 0-2 Test series defeat to South Africa hampered India's progress in their goal of reaching the World Test Championship (WTC) 2025-27 final.



More Than Rs 50 Crore: US Open Singles Champions To Earn Record Prize Money In 2026

2ND TEST: Six-Down Sri Lanka Lead By 16 Runs At Stumps After Following On Against India

Pasindu Sooriyabandara top-scored with a 92 as Sri Lanka reached 229 for six at stumps in their second innings after being forced to follow on by India on the fourth day of the second Test in Colombo on Wednesday. India bowled out Sri Lanka for 290 in their first innings, shortly after Sonal Dinusha reached his century to gain a huge lead of 213 runs. India amassed 503 for nine declared in their first essay. Prasidh Krishna (3/52) and Manav Suthar (3/85) picked up three wickets apiece for India in the Sri Lankan first innings, with Saransh Jain (2/69) bagging his first wickets in Test cricket this morning. By stumps, which was called early owing to heavy rain, Sri Lanka managed to erase the deficit of over 200 runs, but India remained firmly in control of the match and will fancy their chance of sweeping the series 2-0 on Thursday after their convincing victory in the opener at Galle. Kamindu Mendis chipped in with 55 in the home team's second innings, as Sri Lanka went ahead by 16 runs with Sonal Dinusha (7) and Keshara Nuwantha (3) at the crease. India opener Yashasvi Jaiswal and Sri Lanka pacer Asitha Fernando came under severe criticism after the two were involved in an ugly on-field brawl on Day 1 of the second Test in Colombo. Fernando had given Jaiswal a send-off, after which the latter turned back and confronted the pacer. The two proceeded to exchange words and clashed heads, before being separated by other players.

Former India cricketer Cheteshwar Pujara made it clear that an argument leading to body contact is unacceptable. "It's not an ideal visual. As a player, you need to control your emotions," Pujara said on Sony Sports network, as quoted by the Indian Express. "Sometimes you do get angry. I can understand that till the time he was disappointed, or he was when he was having a chat, at that time. I think that's acceptable till then." "The moment it got to a point where both of them were going against each other, there was a body contact, which is not acceptable on the field," Pujara stated. Former India wicket-keeper and reputed commentator Saba Karim also said that Jaiswal and Fernando had not been adequate ambassadors of the game.

India Women's Cricket Team Star Breaks Silence On Trolling Over Dance Reels: "Jealous"

Indian women's cricket team star Shreyanka Patil opened up about the trolling she faced over posting videos on her social media handles. The all-rounder, who plays for Royal Challengers Bengaluru in the Women's Premier League (WPL), shared a video of herself dancing to the song 'Babli Badmaash Hai' from the Bollywood film Shootout At Wadala. The video led to a lot of trolling on social media but the cricketer made it clear that she is not bothered by the chatter. At India Today's Karnataka Roundtable, Shreyanka said that she did not consider the attention negative and added that both appreciation and criticism mean that she remains a topic of discussion among the people. "I mean, honestly, it gives me a lot of attention. People are actually seeing me and saying, 'Oh, she's doing so well.' Whether you troll me, criticise me or appreciate me, I think it's all for my good. I don't see trolls as trolls because I love what I'm doing. I love being on Instagram, I love dancing, and I love wearing the dresses I want to wear," Shreyanka said. Shreyanka went on to say that she is extremely comfortable with her choices and is not impacted by the criticism. She made it clear that she will continue to express herself and added that she prefers to concentrate on things that make her happy. "I'm not shy about saying that because I'm comfortable with who I am. I'm comfortable dancing to any song and doing what makes me happy. I love doing what I love, and trolls are just going to remain trolls.

Afghanistan Premier League T20 Reveals First Three Teams And New 'Koh-E-Zafar' Trophy

The Afghanistan Cricket Board (ACB), along with team owners and league partners, hosted a launch ceremony in Dubai to announce the debut of the Afghanistan Premier League T20 (APL T20). During the event, officials revealed the league's first three teams, their official identities, and the main championship trophy. The three founding franchises taking part in the inaugural season are Axcel United Kabul, Balkh Zwanan, and Kandahar Warriors.
Each team aims to represent the passion of local cricket fans across different regions of Afghanistan. Team owners shared their vision for the league, focusing on building professional organizations.

Suryakumar Yadav Making A Comeback? His Meeting With Sri Lanka Great Gives Big Hint

Former Indian cricket team T20I captain Suryakumar Yadav had a hilarious conversation with Sri Lanka legend Sanath Jayasuriya during an event in Colombo. In a video on social media, Suryakumar was seen greeting Jayasuriya during the event as both of them had a brief conversation. The India batter joked that Jayasuriya looked fit and even jokingly asked whether he was looking to make an international comeback. "Getting fitter, trying to make a comeback? Looks like 100%," he said. The Sri Lanka legend smiled at the comment and the video has won the hearts of several users on social media. Earlier, a a source in the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) told ANI that Suryakumar Yadav can still make a comeback to the Indian side given he scores runs in domestic cricket consistently. Suryakumar Yadav and Sanath Jayasuriya during an event in Colombo. Sanath to Surya There is always an element of humour when suryakumar Yadav is around. Suryakumar, who led India to the 2026 T20 World Cup title, has been stripped of the T20I captaincy and dropped from the squad following a lean patch with the bat ahead of India's tour of Ireland and England. The BCCI named Shreyas Iyer as the new T20I captain. However, India's fortunes have dipped under Iyer's leadership. The Men in Blue were whitewashed 2-0 by Ireland before suffering a 4-0 series defeat to England in the five-match T20I series, with the opening game ending in a no-result due to rain. As per a BCCI source, the apex cricket body has not ruled out a comeback for Suryakumar, and he remains in contention for selection if he consistently performs in domestic cricket, despite not being in the current plans.

Italy Latest Nation To Pull Support For Gianni Infantino's Reelection As FIFA President

The Italian soccer federation became the latest in a growing list of nations to withdraw its support for embattled FIFA President Gianni Infantino. The FIGC issued a statement on Wednesday saying it would no longer back Infantino's bid for reelection in March because of "the recent initiatives promoted by the FIFA president concerning governance and the development of international competitions." Infantino has come under increasing pressure to step down over his now-aborted plan to sell stakes in soccer's biggest tournament, the World Cup, to private equity investors. Three of the sport's continental confederations accused him of "deception" and European soccer body UEFA threatened a boycott of FIFA competitions."We will continue to work alongside UEFA and the other European federations to promote a vision of soccer based on merit, solidarity, sustainability, and the centrality of fans," FIGC President Giovanni Malago said. "We identify with a model of dialogue, listening, and shared responsibility that has, until now, allowed soccer to grow, innovate and at the same time defend its founding principles." The soccer federations in England, Wales and Ireland withdrew their support for Infantino's reelection earlier this month, while Norway has called on him to step down as well as issuing a statement with five other Nordic countries - Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Iceland and the Faeroe Islands - to say they had "lost confidence" in his leadership. Infantino has been FIFA president since 2016 and, until the backlash over his proposals, seemed sure to be reelected unopposed next year in Morocco. FIFA has set a Nov. 18 deadline for challengers to nominate. Some of FIFA's 211 member federations are supporting Infantino, including 2030 World Cup co-host Morocco as well as Qatar, where he lived before the emirate hosted the 2022 World Cup, and Lebanon.

Manchester City Sign Lille's Ayyoub Bouaddi For 100 Million Euros

Manchester City moved for Bouaddi after selling Spain's World Cup winning captain Rodri to Barcelona and Tijjani Reijnders to Al-Qadsiah, with Nico Gonzalez also poised to leave the Etihad. Manchester City have signed teenage Morocco midfielder Ayyoub Bouaddi from Lille in a five-year deal the French club said Wednesday was worth 100 million euros (86 million pounds, $117 million). City moved for Bouaddi after selling Spain's World Cup winning captain Rodri to Barcelona and Tijjani Reijnders to Al-Qadsiah, with Nico Gonzalez also poised to leave the Etihad. The 18-year-old rising star was one of the stand-out players at the recent World Cup, helping Morocco reach the quarter-finals before they were beaten by France. Bouaddi will join England's Elliot Anderson in City's revamped midfield. "This is a very special day for me and my family," Bouaddi said in a statement on the City website. "Manchester City are, for me, the best Club in the world. "It's a dream to be here and be able to call myself a City player. I have spent most of my life working hard to become the best player I can be and reach the top of the game. "I've watched City for many years, and I love their style of play. "City always try and play quality football. And they have shown they are winners -- this Club feels like it's built to win." Enzo Maresca made central midfield a key area for new signings after replacing Pep Guardiola as City manager at the end of last season. City are also believed to retain an interest in Chelsea midfielder Enzo Fernandez, but the Blues set a recent deadline for bids for the £120 million-rated Argentine that passed without a deal being done. City were thrashed 3-0 by Arsenal in the Community Shield, but they started their Premier League campaign with a 2-1 win at home to Bournemouth on Sunday. Manchester City moved for Bouaddi after selling Spain's World Cup winning captain Rodri to Barcelona and Tijjani Reijnders to Al-Qadsiah, with Nico Gonzalez also poised to leave the Etihad.

ROMANCHAKAM SET FOR SEPTEMBER 3 WORLDWIDE RELEASE

The movie is set for a worldwide grand theatrical release on September 3 "Romanchakam," presented by blockbuster director Sandeep Reddy Vanga and produced under the Bhadrakali Pictures banner, stars Sumanth Prabhas and Ananthika Sanilkumar in the lead roles. The film is produced by Pranay Reddy Vanga and directed by debutant Venugopal Reddy.

Promising to entertain audiences with an interesting youthful blend of love, comedy, and suspense, "Romanchakam" is gearing up for a worldwide grand theatrical release on September 3. Asian Cinemas, through Sunil Narang, is releasing the film across Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and Karnataka. The trailer launch event of "Romanchakam" was held grandly in Hyderabad today.

MALAVIKA MOHANAN GOES DESI THIS ONAM

Malayali beauty Malavika Mohanan, who is usually seen acing chic western outfits, surprised fans by nailing a traditional look for Onam celebrations. The actress, known for her effortless style across Malayalam, Tamil, and Hindi cinema, proved she is equally at home in ethnic wear.

Malavika was seen dressed in an elegant ivory saree with gold polka accents, paired with a striking red and gold striped blouse. Keeping with tradition, she accessorized with statement jewelry, a classic bindi, and soft waves, as she took part in Onam rituals with fresh flowers and pookalam. Her radiant smile and graceful poses added to the festive charm, making the pictures an instant hit among her fans.

On the work front, Malavika has an exciting lineup ahead. She will be seen in Sardaar 2, which is currently in the filming stage, alongside the highly anticipated Pocket Novel. Malayalam was spoken at home, Malayali food was part of everyday life and she regularly visited her hometown.

Avengers, Assemble One More Time!

Calling all MCU fans to reunite as _Avengers Endgame: Encore_ hits cinemas on 25th Sept in Marvel Studios presents Infinity Vision across 4 languages - English, Hindi, Tamil and Telugu Marvel Studios is bringing the epic conclusion to the Infinity Saga back to the big screen with _Avengers Endgame: Encore_, releasing in theatres across India in English, Hindi, Tamil and Telugu from 25th September 2026. The film will be available in IMAX® and Marvel Studios Presents INFINITY VISION – a new certification for Premium Large Format (PLF) theatres that guarantees audiences an exceptional cinematic presentation, with larger screens, brighter images and outstanding sound. The special Encore presentation of the record-breaking blockbuster will give fans the opportunity to relive one of the most monumental cinematic experiences of all time, while also offering an exclusive look at the highly anticipated _Avengers: Doomsday_, arriving in theatres on 18th December 2026. Audiences watching _Avengers Endgame: Encore_ on IMAX® and Marvel Studios presents INFINITY VISION-certified screens will also be treated to an additional sneak peek of the upcoming Marvel Studios epic. In _Avengers Endgame: Encore_, after devastating events wiped out half the world's population, the remaining heroes struggle to move forward. Ultimately, they must come together to restore order and harmony in the universe and bring their loved ones back in a dramatic showdown against Thanos. The film is produced by Kevin Feige and directed by Anthony and Joe Russo. Louis D'Esposito, Victoria Alonso, Michael Grillo, Trinh Tran, Jon Favreau, James Gunn, and Stan Lee serve as executive producers.

MIRNAA SLAYS IN GOLD SAREE

Tollywood Monopoly Row Escalates:

'O ANDALA RAKSHASI' DIRECTOR SENDS FINAL LEGAL NOTICES

Actor-director Sheraz Mehdi, known for O Andala Rakshasi, has intensified his legal battle against what he describes as nepotism, monopoly and the systematic sidelining of small films in the Telugu film industry.

Mehdi said he has issued final legal notices to several prominent figures associated with the Telugu film industry, including producer Dil Raju, producer Suresh Babu, Film Chamber vice-presidents Naga Vamsi and Bharat Bhushan, secretary Ashok Kumar, and treasurer Prasanna Kumar.

He also said final legal notices have been sent to PVR INOX representatives Ajay Bijli and manager Mahesh, as well as Asian Cinemas managing director Sunil Naraj and manager Prashanth.

Mehdi further said he has brought the matter to the attention of Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, submitting details of his complaint and the legal notices to the Chief Minister's office. He said he would pursue further legal action if there is no response.

'Small Films Are Not Being Allowed to Survive' Speaking about the difficulties faced by small films, Mehdi alleged that the existing system gives disproportionate importance to a handful of movies while leaving the majority without adequate theatrical opportunities. "If 100 films are released, only two or three are selected and projected as hit films, big-budget films or successful films. What happens to the remaining 97 films? Who will care about them?" he questioned. According to Mehdi, theatrical screens, publicity and business opportunities increasingly revolve around a limited number of films, leaving smaller productions with little opportunity to reach audiences.

He said the problem is not limited to his own film and that many small filmmakers, directors and actors are facing similar difficulties.

Soori, Suhas's Mandaadi Teaser Is Packed With Action and Coastal Grit

Mandaadi is gearing up for a grand theatrical release on September 10, bringing together Suhas and Soori in the lead roles. Presented by Elred Kumar and directed by Mathimaran Pugazhendhi, the film is produced under the RS Infotainment banner. Mahima Nambiar plays the female lead, while veteran actor Sathyaraj, Ravindra Vijay, Mithun, Bala Saravanan and others appear in important roles.

The film has already created interest with the content unveiled so far, with its rugged setting, action-packed moments and striking visuals drawing attention. The makers have now come up with the film's teaser. The teaser offers a striking glimpse into a raw and intense world set against the sea. From the opening moments, the teaser creates a powerful atmosphere built around coastal life, courage, tradition, and boat racing. Strong dialogue about protecting one's land and heritage adds emotional weight and introduces the struggles of a community whose lives are closely connected to the ocean.

The visuals are one of the biggest highlights of the teaser. The cinematography by SR Kathir beautifully captures the vast and unpredictable sea. The rustic production design adds authenticity to the coastal setting, while the action scenes bring plenty of intensity, featuring fierce confrontations, powerful sea storms, and explosive moments. Soori stands out with his rugged and intense screen presence, while Suhas also impresses big time in a negative shaded character. Sathyaraj makes his presence felt in a crucial role. GV Prakash Kumar's background score builds the tension and emotion effectively, blending well with the sound of the roaring waves and high-energy action.

KING NAGARJUNA'S LANDMARK 100TH FILM #KING100 SET TO UNVEIL TITLE GLIMPSE ON HIS BIRTHDAY

King Nagarjuna is currently starring in his landmark 100th film, #King100. Backed by Annapurna Studios, this prestigious project is directed by Ra Karthik, who is making his Telugu directorial debut. Mounted as a memorable milestone in Nagarjuna's career, the film is currently progressing at a brisk pace with the shoot underway.

As Nagarjuna celebrates his birthday on August 29, the makers are gearing up to offer a special treat by unveiling title glimpse. Fans and movie buffs are eager to discover what the makers have planned for this landmark film.

Actress Tabu plays a pivotal role in the movie. Her reunion with Nagarjuna, after their memorable collaborations in classics such as Ninne Pelladatha and Aavida Maa Aavide, has generated tremendous buzz.

The film is being made on a grand scale, with an accomplished technical team handling various crafts. Rockstar Devi Sri Prasad is composing the music. The makers are expected to announce more details about the cast and crew along with the title glimpse.

With only three more days to go, the countdown to Nagarjuna's birthday has begun, and the excitement surrounding his landmark 100th film is growing by the day. The title glimpse is set to make the birthday celebrations even more special for King Nagarjuna's fans.

Sri Pattabhiramachandra Swamy Temple Consecration Celebrations – Dil Raju to Attend as Chief Guest

The grand consecration celebrations of Sri Pattabhiramachandra Swamy Temple, constructed at J.S.R. Nagar in Porumamilla Mandal of YSR Kadapa District, will be held for three days on August 26, 27 and 28. Renowned Telugu film producer Dil Raju will attend the celebrations as the Chief Guest. The temple was built through the initiative of young actor Vamsi Krishna, with the support and contributions of the villagers, donors, relatives and well-wishers. With a vision to create something meaningful and permanent for his native village, Vamsi Krishna took the initiative for this sacred project.

Along with providing the land required for the temple, he also contributed financially and actively participated in the construction along with his family members. What began as an initiative by Vamsi Krishna soon became a collective effort of the entire village. Donors, relatives and well-wishers extended their support, while the temple committee coordinated the efforts and successfully completed the construction with everyone's cooperation.

The three-day consecration celebrations from August 26 to 28 will feature special poojas, homams, spiritual activities and cultural programmes. Free Annadanam (food service) will also be arranged for all devotees.

Along with renowned producer Dil Raju, local MLA Dr. Dasari Sudha, MLC Govinda Reddy, TDP In-charge Suryanarayana Reddy, YSRCP Additional In-charge Viswanatha Reddy, producers Sriramulu Jadapolu and Haimavathi Jadapolu, along with other public representatives, film personalities, village elders, donors, relatives and well-wishers, are expected to participate in the celebrations.

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