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KOCHI I VIJAYAWADA I CHENNAI I BENGALURU I HYDERABAD

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(Please scan this QR code to view the Red Herring Prospectus, and the Abridged Prospectus)

JIO PLATFORMS LIMITED

(TO BE LISTED ON THE MAIN BOARD OF BSE AND NSE)

Jio Platforms Limited was incorporated on November 15, 2019, at Ahmedabad, Gujarat, as a public company limited by shares under the Companies Act, 2013, pursuant to a certificate of incorporation issued by the Registrar of Companies, Central Registration Centre. For further details, see "History and Certain Corporate Matters" on page 249 of the red herring prospectus dated October 14, 2026 (**"RHP"**).

Corporate Identity Number: U72900GJ2019PLC110816
Registered Office: Office-101, Saffron, Nr. Centre Point, Panchwati 5 Rasta, Ambawadi, Ahmedabad 380 006, Gujarat, India
Corporate Office: TC-22, 5th Floor, A Wing, Reliance Corporate Park, Thane Belapur Road, Ghansoli, Navi Mumbai 400 701, Maharashtra, India
Contact Person(s): Ms. Savithri Parekh, Company Secretary and Mr. Venkataraman Ramachandran, Compliance Officer
E-mail: jpl.investorrelations@jio.com; **Tel:** +91 22 7967 0000; **Website:** www.jio.com

OUR PROMOTER: RELIANCE INDUSTRIES LIMITED

INITIAL PUBLIC OFFER OF UP TO 270,000,000 EQUITY SHARES OF FACE VALUE OF ₹10 EACH ("EQUITY SHARES") OF JIO PLATFORMS LIMITED ("THE COMPANY" OR "ISSUER") FOR CASH AT A PRICE OF ₹ [●] PER EQUITY SHARE (INCLUDING A SECURITIES PREMIUM OF ₹ [●] PER EQUITY SHARE) ("ISSUE PRICE") AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ [●] MILLION (THE "ISSUE"). THE ISSUE INCLUDES A RESERVATION OF UP TO [●] EQUITY SHARES OF FACE VALUE OF ₹ 10 EACH FOR CASH AT A PRICE OF ₹ [●] EACH, AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ 5,000 MILLION (CONSTITUTING UP TO [●]% OF THE ISSUE), FOR SUBSCRIPTION BY ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES ("EMPLOYEE RESERVATION PORTION") AND A RESERVATION OF UP TO [●] EQUITY SHARES OF FACE VALUE OF ₹ 10 EACH FOR CASH AT A PRICE OF ₹ [●] EACH, AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ 25,000 MILLION (CONSTITUTING UP TO [●]% OF THE ISSUE), FOR SUBSCRIPTION BY ELIGIBLE RIL SHAREHOLDERS ("RIL SHAREHOLDERS RESERVATION PORTION"). THE ISSUE LESS THE EMPLOYEE RESERVATION PORTION AND THE RIL SHAREHOLDERS RESERVATION PORTION IS HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE "NET ISSUE". THE ISSUE AND THE NET ISSUE SHALL CONSTITUTE [●]% AND [●]% OF THE POST-ISSUE PAID-UP EQUITY SHARE CAPITAL OF THE COMPANY, RESPECTIVELY. THE COMPANY, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE BRLMs, IS OFFERING A DISCOUNT OF ₹ 54 PER EQUITY SHARE OF FACE VALUE OF ₹ 10 EACH TO ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES BIDDING IN THE EMPLOYEE RESERVATION PORTION ("EMPLOYEE DISCOUNT")

PRICE BAND: ₹ 1,065 TO ₹ 1,119 PER EQUITY SHARE OF FACE VALUE OF ₹ 10 EACH.

THE FLOOR PRICE IS 106.50 TIMES THE FACE VALUE OF THE EQUITY SHARES AND THE CAP PRICE IS 111.90 TIMES THE FACE VALUE OF THE EQUITY SHARES.

BIDS CAN BE MADE FOR A MINIMUM OF 12 EQUITY SHARES OF FACE VALUE OF ₹ 10 EACH AND IN MULTIPLES OF 12 EQUITY SHARES OF FACE VALUE OF ₹ 10 EACH THEREAFTER

THE PRICE TO EARNING RATIO ("P/E") BASED ON DILUTED EARNINGS PER SHARE ("EPS") FOR FISCAL 2026 FOR THE COMPANY AT THE LOWER END OF THE PRICE BAND IS 31.71 TIMES, AND AT THE UPPER END OF THE PRICE BAND IS 33.31 TIMES, AS COMPARED TO THE AVERAGE INDUSTRY PEER GROUP P/E RATIO OF 22.35 TIMES FOR FISCAL 2026.

A DISCOUNT OF ₹ 54 PER EQUITY SHARE IS BEING OFFERED TO ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES BIDDING IN THE EMPLOYEE RESERVATION PORTION

BID/ISSUE PERIOD

BID/ISSUE CLOSES TODAY[(1)]

[(1)] UPI mandate end time and date shall be at 7:00 p.m. IST on the Bid/ Issue Closing Date.

Jio Platforms Limited, is a technology platform, built on proprietary digital technology and pan-India digital connectivity as its foundational layer, driving digital transformation in India. Our Material Subsidiary, Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited, served 533.3 million customers in India as of June 30, 2026.

THE ISSUE IS BEING MADE THROUGH THE BOOK BUILDING PROCESS IN ACCORDANCE WITH REGULATION 6(1) OF THE SEBI ICDR REGULATIONS.

THE EQUITY SHARES OF OUR COMPANY WILL BE LISTED ON THE MAIN BOARD OF THE STOCK EXCHANGES. NSE IS THE DESIGNATED STOCK EXCHANGE.

QIB PORTION: NOT MORE THAN 50% OF THE NET ISSUE | NON-INSTITUTIONAL PORTION: NOT LESS THAN 15% OF THE NET ISSUE | RETAIL PORTION: NOT LESS THAN 35% OF THE NET ISSUE

EMPLOYEE RESERVATION PORTION: UP TO [●] EQUITY SHARES OF FACE VALUE OF ₹ 10 EACH AT A PRICE OF ₹ [●] PER EQUITY SHARE AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ 5,000 MILLION
RIL SHAREHOLDERS RESERVATION PORTION: UP TO [●] EQUITY SHARES OF FACE VALUE OF ₹ 10 EACH AT A PRICE OF ₹ [●] PER EQUITY SHARE AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ 25,000 MILLION

The details of the Fresh Issue and the post Issue market capitalization of the Company, each at the Floor Price and the Cap Price, are given below:

ISSUE SIZE AND MARKET CAPITALIZATION

Particulars	At Floor Price of ₹ 1,065 per Equity Share		At Cap Price of ₹ 1,119 per Equity Share	
	Up to no. of Equity Shares of face value of ₹ 10 each	Up to Amount (In ₹ Million)	Up to no. of Equity Shares of face value of ₹ 10 each	Up to Amount (In ₹ Million)
Fresh Issue	270,000,000	287,282.94^	270,000,000	301,876.48^
Post Issue Market Capitalisation	**9,209,030,830**	**9,807,617.83**	**9,209,030,830**	**10,304,905.50**

^ Considers the impact of Employee Discount of ₹ 54 per Equity Share

IN MAKING AN INVESTMENT DECISION, POTENTIAL INVESTORS MUST RELY ONLY ON THE INFORMATION INCLUDED IN THE RED HERRING PROSPECTUS AND THE TERMS OF THE ISSUE, INCLUDING THE RISKS INVOLVED AND NOT RELY ON ANY OTHER EXTERNAL SOURCES OF INFORMATION ABOUT THE ISSUE AVAILABLE IN ANY MANNER. IN RELATION TO PRICE BAND, POTENTIAL INVESTORS SHOULD ONLY REFER TO THE PRE-ISSUE AND PRICE BAND ADVERTISEMENT DATED OCTOBER 14, 2026, AND SHOULD NOT RELY ON ANY MEDIA ARTICLES / REPORTS IN RELATION TO THE COMPANY AS THESE ARE NOT ENDORSED, PUBLISHED OR CONFIRMED EITHER BY THE COMPANY OR THE BOOK RUNNING LEAD MANAGERS TO THE ISSUE ("BRLMs").

In accordance with the recommendations of the Committee of Independent Directors of our Company, pursuant to their resolution dated October 14, 2026, the above Price Band is justified based on quantitative factors /KPIs disclosed in the 'Basis for Issue Price' section on page 126 of the RHP vis-à-vis the weighted average cost of acquisition ("WACA") of primary issuances / secondary transactions as disclosed in 'Basis for Issue Price' section on page 126 of the RHP and provided in the Pre-Issue and Price Band advertisement and other relevant factors.

RISK TO INVESTORS

For details refer to the section titled "Risk Factors" section on page 30 of the RHP.

1. **Risk relating to telecommunication license and spectrum:** The unified licence for providing telecom services held by Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited ("RJIL") across circles in India is due for renewal in October 2033. Further, the spectrum held by RJIL is valid for a period of 20 years with the majority of the spectrum expiring between 2041 and 2042. Any inability to maintain or renew such licences or to successfully bid for any spectrum required for our operations, could have a material adverse impact on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Continued on next page...

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2. **Dependence on Reliance Industries Limited, Reliance Retail Limited and other Reliance Group entities:** The Company and its subsidiaries have entered into various non-exclusive agreements with the Promoter, Reliance Retail Limited, a subsidiary of the Promoter and other Reliance Group entities for certain key aspects of the business. Disruption of these arrangements could significantly impact our business, financial condition and results of operations. The following table provides an overview of our significant transactions with the Promoter, Reliance Retail Limited and Sanmina-SCI India Private Limited, for the periods/Fiscals indicated.

Particulars	Parent[1]/ fellow subsidiary / joint venture of the Parent	Three months ended June 30,		Fiscal		
		2026	2025	2026	2025	2024
		(in ₹ million, unless otherwise indicated)				
Purchase of Property, Plant and Equipment and Other Intangible Assets	Parent[1] (A)	19,440	14,237	39,040	37,099	62,246
	As a percentage of Cash Capex (B = A/U)	46.46%	11.82%	11.42%	8.38%	11.63%
	Reliance Retail Limited (C)	750	2,352	5,867	14,720	9,458
	As a percentage of Cash Capex (D = C/ U)	1.79%	1.95%	1.72%	3.33%	1.77%
	Sanmina-SCI India Private Limited (E)	414	192	5,339	5,190	1,107
	As a percentage of Cash Capex (F = E/ U)	0.99%	0.16%	1.56%	1.17%	0.21%
Revenue from Operations	Parent[1] (G)	9,322	7,972	36,442	35,997	35,449
	As a percentage of Revenue from Operations (H = G/ V)	2.38%	2.28%	2.48%	2.81%	3.24%
	Reliance Retail Limited (I)	3,001	4,279	16,374	10,416	7,244
	As a percentage of Revenue from Operations (J = I/ V)	0.77%	1.22%	1.11%	0.81%	0.66%
Revenue Received in Advance[2]	Reliance Retail Limited	292,480	271,663	1,129,351	1,023,958	890,587
Professional Fees	Parent[1] (K)	5,797	7,520	26,254	29,614	23,364
	As a percentage of Total Expenses (L = K/ W)	1.95%	2.88%	2.40%	3.14%	2.87%
	Reliance Retail Limited (M)	1,082	3,232	7,671	6,730	4,601
	As a percentage of Total Expenses (N = M/ W)	0.36%	1.24%	0.70%	0.71%	0.57%
Network Operating Expenses	Parent[1] (O)	3,131	4,312	18,761	15,807	15,388
	As a percentage of Total Expenses (P = O/ W)	1.05%	1.65%	1.71%	1.68%	1.89%
Selling and Distribution Expenses	Parent[1] (Q)	-	-	-	6,299	9,449
	As a percentage of Total Expenses (R = Q/ W)	-	-	-	0.67%	1.16%
	Reliance Retail Limited (S)	10,527	11,858	43,551	35,158	30,008
	As a percentage of Total Expenses (T = S/ W)	3.54%	4.54%	3.98%	3.73%	3.69%
Cash Capex[3] (U)		41,838	120,481	341,843	442,680	535,096
Revenue from Operations (V)		391,729	350,323	1,468,853	1,282,184	1,095,581
Total Expenses (W)		297,708	261,350	1,094,060	942,057	813,674

Notes:

(1) *Parent, in this table, means the Promoter.*

(2) *Recharge vouchers sold to Reliance Retail Limited are accounted as 'Advance against services' which is disclosed as a related party transaction under the head 'Revenue received in advance'. When Reliance Retail Limited or its distributor/ sub-distributor further sells the vouchers to our customers by way of recharge to the digital connectivity services, RJIL recognises such transfer as 'Deferred revenue' and thereafter, based on the type of tariff plan, it is accounted as operating revenues in the profit & loss account. In light of the above, revenue received in advance has not been presented as a percentage of revenue from operations.*

(3) *Cash Capex refers to the cash outflow towards expenditure for property, plant and equipment, spectrum and other intangible assets less proceeds from disposal of property, plant and equipment and other intangible assets.*

3. **Dependency on Reliance Retail Limited for distribution of prepaid connectivity services:** RJIL has a master distribution agreement and a master collection agreement with RRL. RRL is the sole distributor of our pre-paid connectivity services. Our revenue from pre-paid connectivity services constituted 76.37%, 77.88%, 77.08%, 78.57% and 79.35% of our consolidated Revenue from Operations for the three months period ended June 30, 2026, June 30, 2025 and Fiscals 2026, 2025 and 2024, respectively. Any disruption in this relationship or distribution channel could adversely impact our business, financial condition and results of operations. The following table provides the details of the Revenue Received in Advance attributed to the above arrangement with RRL:

Particulars	Three months ended / As of June 30		Fiscal / As of March 31		
	2026	2025	2026	2025	2024
	(in ₹ million)				
Revenue Received in Advance	292,480	271,663	1,129,351	1,023,958	890,587

4. **Dependency on RJIL that contributes significantly to our Revenue from Operations, EBITDA and PAT and KPIs relating to digital connectivity services:** RJIL contributed significantly to our Revenue from Operations, EBITDA and PAT in periods / Fiscals as indicated below:

Fiscals / period	RJIL's revenue from operations (in ₹ million)	% of our consolidated Revenue from Operations	RJIL's EBITDA (in ₹ million)	% of our consolidated EBITDA	RJIL's profit after tax (in ₹ million)	% of our consolidated PAT
Three months ended June 30, 2026	342,121	87.34%	195,904	93.89%	71,669	92.31%
Three months ended June 30, 2025	308,821	88.15%	173,013	95.40%	67,110	94.39%
Fiscal 2026	1,288,714	87.74%	723,544	94.88%	281,732	93.76%
Fiscal 2025	1,141,413	89.02%	612,334	95.42%	247,948	94.97%
Fiscal 2024	1,001,194	91.38%	528,784	96.21%	204,656	95.53%

Note: The financial information of RJIL provided above is on a standalone basis.

Any material adverse impact on the business, financial conditions or results of operations of RJIL would have a corresponding material adverse impact on our consolidated business, financial condition and results of operations. Further, while we operate as a technology platform, our key operational indicators ("KPIs") are primarily pertaining to our digital connectivity services provided by RJIL and do not reflect the technology platform specific metrics. Our competitors may perform more favourably on certain operational or financial KPIs, which could affect our competitive position. For details of comparison of the KPIs of our Company with listed peers, see *"Basis for Issue Price - Comparison of KPIs with Listed Industry Peers"* on page 135 of the RHP.

5. **Network, Infrastructure and Service Disruption Risk:** The uninterrupted performance, reliability and availability of our network, passive infrastructure, technology, products and services are critical to our operations and our ability to consistently deliver our digital services. Any disruption to our network, passive infrastructure and technology could impair our ability to ensure consistent performance and deliver uninterrupted customer experience, which could have a material adverse impact on our business, financial condition and results of operations, and could lead to increased churn in our customer base.
6. **Risk related to Technology change:** The connectivity industry is subject to rapid and continuous technological change, and our connectivity infrastructure faces the risk of technological obsolescence. If we are unable to respond to changes in technologies, including for instance, more competitive satellite-based broadband services and the evolving demands of our customers, we may face technological obsolescence, which would have a material adverse impact on our business, financial condition and results of operations.
7. **Risk relating to negative publicity of 'Jio' Brand:** The "Jio" trademark is owned by the Promoter, and we do not control the use of this trademark by other companies in the Reliance Group. Negative publicity arising from actions outside its control, inability to protect intellectual property or infringement claims could have a material adverse impact on our reputation, business, financial condition and results of operations.
8. **Dependency on a limited group of passive infrastructure service providers:** We rely on a limited set of passive infrastructure service providers for our operations. For instance, of the 360,537 Network Towers used by us for our operations, 174,451 Network Towers are owned by Summit Digitel Infrastructure Limited, as of June 30, 2026. Additionally, as of June 30, 2026, we rely on Jio Digital Fibre Private Limited, for substantially all our optic fibre network requirements (approximately 98%), aside from the last mile fibre network which is owned by RJIL. Any disruption in the availability of these passive infrastructure assets could have an adverse impact on our business, financial condition and results of operations.
9. **Cybersecurity, Data Privacy and Information Security Risk:** Our systems, platforms, network infrastructure, and the services provided by our Promoter and third-party technology partners are exposed to cybersecurity threats, security breaches, operational disruptions, and other technology-related risks. Any such incident or disruption could impair our operations, compromise data security, increase costs, expose us to regulatory and legal liabilities, and adversely affect our business, results of operations, financial condition, and reputation.
10. **Artificial Intelligence ("AI") and Machine Learning ("ML") Technologies Related Risk:** We rely on AI and ML technologies across our operations, including for network automation through our proprietary JioBrain platform, customer engagement and service delivery. The deployment of AI and ML technologies across our operations may not yield the desired results. Further, reliance on AI/ML technologies may expose us to inherent risks pertaining to algorithmic bias and model errors leading to inaccurate or biased outputs, which may cause reputational harm and adversely impact our business, financial condition and results of operations.
11. Our Price/Earning (P/E) ratio based on diluted EPS for Financial Year 2026 at the upper end of the price band is 33.31 as compared to the average industry peer group P/E ratio of 22.35, as of October 13, 2026.
12. Weighted Average Return on Average Net Worth for Financial Year ended 2026, 2025 and 2024 is 9.04%. Return on Average Net Worth for the three months ended June 30, 2026, and June 30, 2025 is 2.30% and 2.31% respectively (unannualized).
13. Weighted average cost of acquisition of all Equity Shares transacted in one year, 18 months and three years preceding the date of the RHP:

Period	Weighted average cost of Acquisition (in ₹)	Cap Price is 'X' times the weighted average cost of acquisition#	Range of acquisition price per Equity Shares: lowest price - highest price (in ₹)
Last one year / 18 months/ 3 years	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.

#As certified by D T S & Associates LLP, Chartered Accountants (FRN 142412W/W100595), by way of their certificate dated October 14, 2026, (UDIN 26136433YFEPPE7981).

Note: No Equity Shares were transacted in the last one year, 18 months and three years preceding the date of the Red Herring Prospectus.

14. The 19 BRLMs associated with the Issue have handled 160 public issues in the past three years, out of which 46 issues have closed below the issue price on the listing date

Book Running Lead Managers	Total public issues	Issues closed below issue price listing date
Kotak Mahindra Capital Company Limited*	-	-
Morgan Stanley India Company Private Limited*	-	-
BofA Securities India Limited*	-	-
Axis Capital Limited*	2	-
BNP Paribas*	-	-
Citigroup Global Markets India Private Limited*	-	-
CLSA India Private Limited*	-	-
DAM Capital Advisors Limited*	8	2
Goldman Sachs (India) Securities Private Limited*	-	-
HDFC Bank Limited*	-	-
HSBC Securities and Capital Markets (India) Private Limited*	-	-
ICICI Securities Limited*	5	2
IIFL Capital Services Limited *(formerly known as IIFL Securities Limited)* *	5	1
Jefferies India Private Limited*	-	-
JM Financial Limited*	3	-
J.P. Morgan India Private Limited*	-	-
SBI Capital Markets Limited*	6	4
UBS Securities India Private Limited*	-	-
360 ONE WAM Limited*	-	-
Common issues handled by the BRLMs	131	37
TOTAL	**160**	**46**

** Issues handled where there were no common BRLMs*

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR INVESTORS

1. The Company has not undertaken any pre-IPO placement from the date of filing the DRHP till date.
2. The Promoter and the Promoter Group have not undertaken any transaction of Equity Shares aggregating up to 1% or more of the paid-up equity share capital of the Company from the date of filing the DRHP till date.
3. For the pre-Issue and post-Issue equity shareholding of the Promoter, Promoter Group and top 10 public Shareholders, refer to the section titled 'Capital Structure' on page 99 of the RHP.

BASIS FOR ISSUE PRICE

(You may scan the QR code for accessing the website of Kotak Mahindra Capital Company)

*(The **"Basis for Issue Price"** section on page no. 126 of the RHP has been updated with the above price band. Please refer to the websites of the BRLMs: https://investmentbank.kotak.com, https://www.morganstanley.com/india, https://business.bofa.com/bofasindia, www.axiscapital.co.in, www.bnpparibas.co.in, www.citigroup.com/global/about-us/global-presence/india/regulatory-disclosures-investment-banking, www.india.clsa.com, www.damcapital.in, www.goldmansachs.com, www.hdfc.bank.in, www.business.hsbc.co.in, www.icicisecurities.com, www.iiflcapital.com, www.jefferies.com, www.jmfl.com, www.jpmipl.com, www.sbicaps.com, www.ubs.com/indiaoffers and www.360.one for the "Basis for Issue Price" section updated with the above price band)*

ASBA* Simple, Safe, Smart way of Application!!!

* Applications Supported by Blocked Amount ("ASBA") is a better way of applying to offers by simply blocking the fund in the bank account. For further details, please check section on ASBA below.

Mandatory in public issues. No cheque will be accepted.

UPI - UNIFIED PAYMENTS INTERFACE

UPI - Now available in ASBA for Retail Individual Investors and Non Institutional Investor applying in public issues where the application amount is up to ₹ 500,000, applying through Registered Brokers, Syndicate, CDPs & RTAs. UPI Bidders also have the option to submit the application directly to the ASBA Bank (SCSBs) or to use the facility of linked online trading, demat and bank account. Investors are required to ensure that the bank account used for bidding is linked to their PAN. Bidders must ensure that their PAN is linked with Aadhaar and are in compliance with CBDT notification dated February 13, 2020 issued by the Central Board of Direct Taxes and the subsequent press releases, including press release dated June 25, 2021 read with press release dated September 17, 2021, and CBDT circular no. 7 of 2022 dated March 30, 2022, read with press release dated March 28, 2023, and any subsequent press release in this regard.

*ASBA has to be availed by all the investors except Anchor Investors. UPI may be availed by (i) Retail Individual Investors in the Retail Portion; (ii) Eligible Employees in the Employee Reservation Portion (iii) Eligible RIL Shareholders in the RIL Shareholders Reservation Portion; (iv) Non-Institutional Investors with an application size of up to ₹ 0.50 million in the Non-Institutional Portion. For more details on the ASBA and UPI process, please refer to the details given in the Bid Cum Application Form and Abridged Prospectus and also please refer to the section **"Issue Procedure"** on page 534 of the RHP. The process is also available on the website of Association of Investment Bankers of India (**"AIBI"**) and Stock Exchanges and in the General Information Document. ASBA bid-cum-application forms can be downloaded from the websites of the Stock Exchanges and can be obtained from the list of banks that is displayed on the website of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (**"SEBI"**) at www.sebi.gov.in/sebiweb/other/OtherAction.do?doRecognisedFpi=yes&intmId=35 and https://www.sebi.gov.in/sebiweb/other/OtherAction.do?doRecognisedFpi=yes&intmId=43, respectively as updated from time to time. For the list of UPI apps and banks live on IPO, please refer to the link: www.sebi.gov.in. UPI Bidders Bidding using the UPI mechanism may apply through the SCSBs and mobile applications whose names appear on the website of SEBI, as updated from time to time. ICICI Bank Limited, Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited, Axis Bank Limited and State Bank of India have been appointed as Sponsor Banks for the Issue, in accordance with the requirements of the SEBI Circular dated November 1, 2018 as amended. For Issue related queries, please contact the BRLMs on their respective email IDs as mentioned below. For UPI related queries, investors can contact NPCI at the toll free number: 18001201740 and mail Id: ipo.upi@npci.org.in.*

AN INDICATIVE TIMETABLE IN RESPECT OF THE ISSUE IS SET OUT BELOW:

Submission of Bids (other than Bids from Anchor Investors)

Particulars	Time
Bid/ Issue Period (except the Bid/ Issue Closing Date)	
Submission and revision in Bids	Only between 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. (Indian Standard Time ("IST"))
Bid/ Issue Closing Date*	
Submission of electronic applications (Online ASBA through 3-in-1 accounts) – For RIIs, other than QIBs and Non-Institutional Investors, Eligible Employees Bidding in Employee Reservation Portion and Eligible RIL Shareholders Bidding in RIL Shareholders Reservation Portion	Only between 9:00 a.m. and up to 7:00 p.m. IST
Submission of electronic applications (Bank ASBA through online channels like internet banking, mobile banking and Syndicate UPI ASBA applications where Bid Amount is up to ₹ 500,000)	Only between 9:00 a.m. and up to 7:00 p.m. IST
Submission of electronic applications (Syndicate Non-Retail, Non-Individual applications for bids beyond ₹ 500,000)	Only between 9:00 a.m. and up to 7:00 p.m. IST
Submission of physical applications (Bank ASBA)	Only between 9:00 a.m. and up to 1:00 p.m. IST
Submission of physical applications (Syndicate Non-Retail, Non-Individual applications of QIBs and Non-Institutional Investors where Bid Amount is more than ₹ 500,000)	Only between 9:00 a.m. and up to 1:00 p.m. IST
Modification/ Revision/ cancellation of Bids	
Upward revision of Bids by QIBs and Non-Institutional Investors categories#	Only between 9:00 a.m. and up to 7:00 p.m. IST on Bid/ Issue Closing Date
Upward or downward revision of Bids or cancellation of Bids by RIIs, Eligible Employees Bidding in the Employee Reservation Portion and Eligible RIL Shareholders Bidding in RIL Shareholders Reservation Portion	Only between 9:00 a.m. and up to 7:00 p.m. IST on Bid/ Issue Closing Date

** UPI mandate end time and date shall be at 7:00 p.m. IST on the Bid/ Issue Closing Date.*
 # QIBs and Non-Institutional Investors can neither revise their bids downwards nor cancel/ withdraw their Bids.

BID/ISSUE PERIOD

Event	Indicative Date
Anchor Investor Bidding	Monday, October 19, 2026
Bid/Issue Opened on	Wednesday, October 21, 2026
Bid/Issue Closes on[(1)]	Friday, October 23, 2026
Finalization of Basis of Allotment with the Designated Stock Exchange	On or about Monday, October 26, 2026
Initiation of refunds (if any, for Anchor Investors) / unblocking of funds from ASBA Account*	On or about Tuesday, October 27, 2026
Credit of Equity Shares to dematerialized accounts of Allottees	On or about Tuesday, October 27, 2026
Commencement of trading of the Equity Shares on the Stock Exchanges	On or about Wednesday, October 28, 2026

[(1)] *UPI mandate end time and date shall be at 7:00 p.m. IST on the Bid/ Issue Closing Date, i.e. Friday, October 23, 2026*

**In case of (i) any delay in unblocking of amounts in the ASBA Accounts (including amounts blocked through the UPI Mechanism) for cancelled / withdrawn / deleted ASBA Forms, the Bidder shall be compensated at a uniform rate of ₹ 100 per day or 15% per annum of the Bid Amount, whichever is higher from the date on which the request for cancellation/ withdrawal/ deletion is placed in the Stock Exchanges bidding platform until the date on which the amounts are unblocked; (ii) any blocking of multiple amounts for the same ASBA Form (for amounts blocked through the UPI Mechanism), the Bidder shall be compensated at a uniform rate ₹ 100 per day or 15% per annum of the total cumulative blocked amount except the original application amount, whichever is higher from the date on which such multiple amounts were blocked till the date of actual unblock; (iii) any blocking of amounts more than the Bid Amount, the Bidder shall be compensated at a uniform rate of ₹ 100 per day or 15% per annum of the difference in amount, whichever is higher from the date on which such excess amounts were blocked till the date of actual unblock; (iv) any delay in unblocking of non-allotted/ partially allotted Bids, exceeding two Working Days from the Bid/ Issue Closing Date, the Bidder shall be compensated at a uniform rate of ₹ 100 per day or 15% per annum of the Bid Amount, whichever is higher for the entire duration of delay exceeding two Working Days from the Bid/ Issue Closing Date by the SCSB responsible for causing such delay in unblocking. The BRLMs shall, in their sole discretion, identify and fix the liability on such intermediary or entity responsible for such delay in unblocking. The post Issue BRLMs shall be liable for compensating the Bidder at a uniform rate of ₹100 per day or 15% per annum of the Bid Amount, whichever is higher from the date of receipt of the investor grievance until the date on which the blocked amounts are unblocked. The Bidder shall be compensated in the manner specified in the ICDR Master Circular, and the SEBI RTA Master Circular, which for the avoidance of doubt, shall be deemed to be incorporated in the deemed agreement of the Company with the SCSBs, to the extent applicable.*

THE EQUITY SHARES OF OUR COMPANY WILL BE LISTED ON THE MAIN BOARD PLATFORMS OF BSE AND NSE

In case of any revision in the Price Band, the Bid/ Issue Period will be extended by at least three additional Working Days after such revision in the Price Band, subject to the Bid/ Issue Period not exceeding 10 Working Days. In cases of force majeure, banking strike or similar unforeseen circumstances, our Company in consultation with the BRLMs, may, for reasons to be recorded in writing, extend the Bid/ Issue Period for a minimum of one Working Day, subject to the Bid/ Issue Period not exceeding 10 Working Days in compliance with the SEBI ICDR Regulations. Any revision in the Price Band and the revised Bid/ Issue Period, if applicable, shall be widely disseminated by notification to the Stock Exchanges, by issuing a public notice, and also by indicating the change on the respective websites of the BRLMs and at the terminals of the Syndicate Members and by intimation to the Self-Certified Syndicate Banks ("**SCSBs**"), other Designated Intermediaries and the Sponsor Bank(s), as applicable. However, in case of revision in the Price Band, the Bid Lot shall remain the same.

The Issue is being made through the Book Building Process, in terms of Rule 19(2)(b) of the SCRR read with Regulation 31 of the SEBI ICDR Regulations and in compliance with Regulation 6(1) of the SEBI ICDR Regulations, wherein not more than 50% of the Net Issue shall be allocated on a proportionate basis to Qualified Institutional Buyers ("**QIBs**") ("**QIB Portion**"), provided that our Company, in consultation with the Book Running Lead Managers may allocate up to 60% of the QIB Portion to Anchor Investors on a discretionary basis in accordance with the SEBI ICDR Regulations ("**Anchor Investor Portion**"), and 40% of such Anchor Investor Portion shall be reserved as under: (i) 33.33% for domestic Mutual Funds, and (ii) 6.67% for Life Insurance Companies and Pension Funds, subject to valid Bids being received from domestic Mutual Funds, Life Insurance Companies and Pension Funds at or above the Anchor Investor Allocation Price. In the event of under-subscription, or non-allocation in the Anchor Investor Portion, the balance Equity Shares shall be added to the QIB Portion ("**Net QIB Portion**"). Further, 5% of the Net QIB Portion shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis only to Mutual Funds, subject to valid Bids being received at or above the Issue Price, and the remainder of the Net QIB Portion shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis to all QIBs, including Mutual Funds subject to valid Bids being received at or above the Issue Price. However, if the aggregate demand from Mutual Funds is less than 5% of the Net QIB Portion, the balance Equity Shares available for allocation in the Mutual Fund Portion will be added to the remaining Net QIB Portion for proportionate allocation to all QIBs. Further, not less than 15% of the Net Issue shall be available for allocation to Non- Institutional Bidders and not less than 35% of the Net Issue shall be available for allocation to Retail Individual Bidders ("**RIBs**") in accordance with the SEBI ICDR Regulations, subject to valid Bids being received at or above the Issue Price. One-third of the Non-Institutional Portion shall be available for allocation to Non-Institutional Bidders with a Bid size of more than ₹ 200,000 and up to ₹ 1,000,000 and two-thirds of the Non-Institutional Portion shall be available for allocation to Non-Institutional Bidders with a Bid size of more than ₹ 1,000,000 provided that under-subscription in either of these two sub-categories of the Non-Institutional Portion may be allocated to Non-Institutional Bidders in the other sub-category of Non-Institutional Portion in accordance with the SEBI ICDR Regulations, subject to valid Bids being received at or above the Issue Price. Further, Equity Shares will be allocated on a proportionate basis to Eligible Employees Bidding in the Employee Reservation Portion, and Eligible RIL Shareholders Bidding in the RIL Shareholders Reservation Portion subject to valid Bids received from them at or above the Issue Price. All potential Bidders (except Anchor Investors) are mandatorily required to participate in the Issue through the Application Supported by Blocked Amount ("**ASBA**") process by providing details of their respective ASBA accounts and UPI ID in case of UPI Bidders, as applicable, pursuant to which their corresponding Bid Amount will be blocked by the Self Certified Syndicate Banks ("**SCSBs**") or by the Sponsor Bank(s) under the UPI Mechanism, as the case may be, to the extent of the respective Bid Amounts. Anchor Investors are not permitted to participate in the Issue through the ASBA process. For details, see *"Issue Procedure"* beginning on page 534 of the RHP.

Bidders/ Applicants should ensure that DP ID, PAN, Client ID and UPI ID (for UPI Bidders bidding through the UPI Mechanism) are correctly filled in the Bid cum Application Form. The DP ID, PAN and Client ID provided in the Bid cum Application Form should match with the DP ID, PAN, Client ID available in the Depository database, otherwise, the Bid cum Application Form is liable to be rejected. Bidders/ Applicants should ensure that the beneficiary account provided in the Bid cum Application Form is active. Bidders/Applicants should note that on the basis of the PAN, DP ID, Client ID and UPI ID (for UPI Bidders bidding through the UPI Mechanism) as provided in the Bid cum Application Form, the Bidder/Applicant may be deemed to have authorised the Depositories to provide to the Registrar to the Issue, any requested Demographic Details of the Bidder/Applicant as available on the records of the depositories. These Demographic Details may be used, among other things, for giving Allotment Advice or unblocking of ASBA Account or for other correspondence(s) related to the Issue. Bidders/Applicants are advised to update any changes to their Demographic Details as available in the records of the Depository Participant to ensure accuracy of records. Any delay resulting from failure to update the Demographic Details would be at the Bidders'/Applicants' sole risk. Investors must ensure that their PAN is linked with Aadhaar and are in compliance with the CBDT notification dated February 13, 2020 and press release dated June 25, 2021, read with press release dated September 17, 2021 and CBDT circular no.7 of 2022, dated March 30, 2022 read with press release dated March 28, 2023 and any subsequent press releases in this regard.

Contents of the Memorandum of Association of our Company as regards its objects: For information on the main objects of our Company, please see the section "*History and Certain Corporate Matters*" on page 249 of the RHP. The Memorandum of Association of our Company is a material document for inspection in relation to the Issue. For further details, please see the section titled "*Material Contracts and Documents for Inspection*" on page 577 of the RHP.

Liability of the members of our Company: Limited by shares.

Amount of share capital of our Company and capital structure: As on the date of the RHP, the authorised share capital of our Company is ₹1,900,000,000,000 divided into 10,000,000,000 Equity Shares of face value of ₹10 each and 180,000,000,000 preference shares of face value of ₹10 each. The issued, subscribed and paid-up Equity share capital of our Company is ₹89,390,308,300 divided into 8,939,030,830 Equity Shares of face value of ₹10 each. For more details of the capital structure of the Company, see "Capital Structure" beginning on page 99 of the RHP.

Names of the initial signatories to the Memorandum of Association of the Company and the Number of Equity Shares Subscribed by them: The initial signatories to the Memorandum of Association of the Company is Reliance Industries Limited (including one Equity Share each allotted to six individuals as nominees of RIL) (10,000 Equity Shares of face value of ₹10 each). For more details of the share capital history of our Company please see "Capital Structure" beginning on page 99 of the RHP.

Listing: The Equity Shares offered through the RHP are proposed to be listed on the Stock Exchanges. Our Company has received 'in-principle' approvals from BSE and NSE for the listing of the Equity Shares pursuant to their letters each dated July 7, 2026. For the purposes of the Issue, the Designated Stock Exchange shall be NSE. A signed copy of the RHP and the Prospectus has been and shall be delivered to the RoC as applicable, in accordance with Sections 26(4) and 32 of the Companies Act, 2013. For details of the material contracts and documents available for inspection from the date of the Red Herring Prospectus up to the Bid/ Issue Closing Date, see "Material Contracts and Documents for Inspection" beginning on page 577 of the RHP.

Disclaimer clause of the SEBI: SEBI only gives its observations on the Issue documents and this does not constitute approval of either the Issue or the specified securities stated in the Issue document. The investors are advised to refer to page 488 of the RHP for the full text of the disclaimer clause of SEBI.

Disclaimer clause of NSE (Designated Stock Exchange): It is to be distinctly understood that the permission given by NSE should not in any way be deemed or construed that the RHP has been cleared or approved by NSE nor does it certify the correctness or completeness of any of the contents of the RHP. The investors are advised to refer to page 493 of the RHP for the full text of the Disclaimer Clause of NSE.

Disclaimer clause of BSE: It is to be distinctly understood that the permission given by BSE should not in any way be deemed or construed that the RHP has been cleared or approved by BSE nor does it certify the correctness or completeness of any of the contents of the RHP. The investors are advised to refer to page 493 of the RHP for the full text of the Disclaimer Clause of BSE.

General risk: Investments in equity and equity-related securities involve a degree of risk and investors should not invest any funds in the Issue unless they can afford to take the risk of losing their entire investment. Investors are advised to read the risk factors carefully before taking an investment decision in the Issue. For taking an investment decision, investors must rely on their own examination of our Company and the Issue, including the risks involved. The Equity Shares in the Issue have not been recommended or approved by SEBI, nor does SEBI guarantee the accuracy or adequacy of the contents of the RHP. Specific attention of the investors is invited to "**Risk Factors**" beginning on page 30 of the RHP

BOOK RUNNING LEAD MANAGERS

Kotak Mahindra Capital Company Limited
1st Floor, 27 BKC, Plot No. C27, 'G' Block
Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East) , Mumbai - 400 051
Maharashtra, India
Tel: +91 22 4336 0000
E-mail: jio.ipo@kotak.com
Investor Grievance E-mail: kmccredressal@kotak.com
Website: https://investmentbank.kotak.com
Contact Person: Ganesh Rane
SEBI Registration No.: INM000008704

Morgan Stanley India Company Private Limited
Altimus, Level 39 & 40
Pandurang Budhkar Marg, Worli, Mumbai - 400 018
Maharashtra, India
Tel: +91 22 6118 1000
E-mail: jpl_ipo@morganstanley.com
Investor Grievance E-mail:
investors_india@morganstanley.com
Website: https://www.morganstanley.com/india
Contact Person: Keyur Thakar/ Hrithik Khanna
SEBI Registration No.: INM000011203

BofA Securities India Limited
Ground Floor, "A" Wing, One BKC, "G" Block
Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai - 400 025
Maharashtra, India
Tel: +91 22 6632 8000
E-mail: dg.jpl_ipo@bofa.com
Investor Grievance E-mail:
dg.india_merchantbanking@bofa.com
Website: https://business.bofa.com/bofasindia
Contact Person: Sahil H. Jain
SEBI Registration No.: INM000011625

Axis Capital Limited
1st Floor, Axis House
P.B. Marg, Worli, Mumbai - 400 025, Maharashtra, India
Tel: +91 22 4325 2183
E-mail: jio.ipo@axiscap.in
Investor Grievance E-mail: complaints@axiscap.in
Website: www.axiscapital.co.in
Contact Person: Sanaea Sumondy/ Simran Gadh
SEBI Registration No: INM000012029

BNP Paribas
1, North Avenue Maker Maxity
Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai - 400 051
Maharashtra, India
Tel: +91 22 3370 4000
E-mail: LIST.CIB.JioIPO@asia.bnpparibas.com
Investor Grievance E-mail:
indiainvestors.care@asia.bnpparibas.com
Website: www.bnpparibas.co.in
Contact Person: Ankur Thacker
SEBI Registration No.: INM000011534

Citigroup Global Markets India Private Limited
1202, 12th Floor, First International Financial Center, G Block
Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai - 400 098
Maharashtra, India
Tel: +91 22 6175 9999
E-mail: jio.ipo@citi.com
Investor Grievance E-mail: investors.cgmib@citi.com
Website: www.citigroup.com/global/about-us/global-presence/india/regulatory-disclosures-investment-banking
Contact Person: Naman Kulshreshtha
SEBI Registration No.: INM000010718

CLSA India Private Limited
8/F Dalamal House
Nariman Point, Mumbai - 400 021, Maharashtra, India
Tel: +91 22 6650 5050
E-mail: jio.ipo@clsa.com
Investor Grievance E-mail: investor.helpdesk@clsa.com
Website: www.india.clsa.com
Contact Person: Prachi Chandgothia
SEBI Registration No.: INM000010619

DAM Capital Advisors Limited
Altimus 2202, Level 22
Pandurang Budhkar Marg, Worli, Mumbai - 400 018
Maharashtra, India
Tel: +91 22 4202 2500
E-mail: jio.ipo@damcapital.in
Investor Grievance E-mail: complaint@damcapital.in
Website: www.damcapital.in
Contact Person: Aanchal Wagle/ Jay Shah
SEBI Registration No.: MB/INM000011336

Goldman Sachs (India) Securities Private Limited
9th and 10th Floor, Ascent-Worli
Sudam Kalu Ahire Marg, Worli, Mumbai - 400 025
Maharashtra, India
Tel: +91 22 6616 9000
E-mail: jioipo@gs.com
Investor Grievance E-mail: india-client-support@gs.com
Website: www.goldmansachs.com
Contact Person: Saurav S
SEBI Registration No.: INM000011054

HDFC Bank Limited
Investment Banking Group
Unit no. 701, 702 and 702-A, 7th Floor, Tower 2 and 3
One International Centre, Senapati Bapat Marg, Prabhadevi
Mumbai - 400 013, Maharashtra, India
Tel: +91 22 3395 8233
E-mail: jioplatforms.ipo@hdfc.bank.in
Investor Grievance E-mail: investor.redressal@hdfcbank.com
Website: www.hdfc.bank.in
Contact Person: Bharti Ranga/ Souradeep Ghosh
SEBI Registration No.: INM000011252

HSBC Securities and Capital Markets (India) Private Limited
52/60, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Fort, Mumbai - 400 001
Maharashtra, India
Tel: +91 22 6864 1289
E-mail: jplipo@hsbc.co.in
Investor Grievance E-mail: investorgrievance@hsbc.co.in
Website: www.business.hsbc.co.in
Contact Person: Harsh Thakkar/ Harshit Tayal
SEBI Registration No.: INM000010353

ICICI Securities Limited
Appasaheb Marathe Marg, Prabhadevi, Mumbai - 400 025
Maharashtra, India
Tel: +91 22 6807 7100
E-mail: jioplatforms.ipo@icicisecurities.com
Investor Grievance E-mail: customercare@icicisecurities.com
Website: www.icicisecurities.com
Contact Person: Ramesh Vaswana / Soumavo Sarkar
SEBI Registration No.: INM000011179

IIFL Capital Services Limited
(formerly known as IIFL Securities Limited)
24th Floor, One Lodha Place
Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel (West), Mumbai - 400 013
Maharashtra, India
Tel: +91 22 4646 4728
E-mail: jio.ipo@iiflcap.com
Investor Grievance E-mail: ig.ib@iiflcap.com
Website: www.iiflcapital.com
Contact Person: Gaurav Mittal/ Pawan Kumar Jain
SEBI Registration No.: INM000010940

Jefferies India Private Limited
Level 16, Express Towers
Nariman Point, Mumbai - 400 021, Maharashtra, India
Tel: +91 22 4356 6000
E-mail: Jio.Platforms.IPO@jefferies.com
Investor Grievance E-mail: jipl.grievance@jefferies.com
Website: www.jefferies.com
Contact Person: Akshat Shah/ Meghna Biju
SEBI Registration No.: INM000011443

JM Financial Limited
7th Floor, Cnergy, Appasaheb Marathe Marg
Prabhadevi, Mumbai - 400 025, Maharashtra, India
Tel: +91 22 6630 3030
E-mail: jpl.ipo@jmfl.com
Investor Grievance E-mail: grievance.ibd@jmfl.com
Website: www.jmfl.com
Contact Person: Prachee Dhuri
SEBI Registration No.: INM000010361

J.P. Morgan India Private Limited
J.P. Morgan Towers
Off C.S.T Road, Kalina, Santacruz (East),
Mumbai - 400 098 Maharashtra, India
Tel: +91 22 6157 3000
E-mail: JIO_IPO@jpmorgan.com
Investor Grievance E-mail:
investorsmb.jpmipl@jpmorgan.com
Website: www.jpmipl.com
Contact Person: Shivam Goel/ Rishank Chheda
SEBI Registration No.: INM000002970

SBI Capital Markets Limited
1501, 15th Floor, A & B Wing, G Block,
Parinee Crescenzo, Bandra Kurla Complex,
Bandra (East), Mumbai - 400 051 Maharashtra, India
Tel: +91 22 4006 9807
E-mail: jio.ipo@sbicaps.com
Website: www.sbicaps.com
Investor Grievance E-mail:
investor.relations@sbicaps.com
Contact Person: Krithika Shetty/ Prashant Patankar
SEBI Registration No.: INM000003531

UBS Securities India Private Limited
Unit 2901, Level 29, Altimus,
Dr. GM Gokhale Marg /
Pandurang Budhkar Road,
Worli, Mumbai - 400 018, Maharashtra, India
Tel: +91 22 6155 6000
E-mail: OL-jioipo@ubs.com
Website: www.ubs.com/indiaoffers
Investor Grievance E-mail: igbmindia@ubs.com
Contact Person: Vidhit Patni
SEBI Registration No.: INM000013101

360 ONE WAM Limited
360 ONE Centre, Kamala City
Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel (West),
Mumbai - 400 013 Maharashtra, India
Tel: +91 22 4031 7000
Email: jioplatforms.ipo@360.one
Investor Grievance E-mail:
mbinvestorcomplaints@360.one
Website: www.360.one
Contact Person: Devesh Patkar
SEBI Registration No.: INM000012801

REGISTRAR TO THE ISSUE

KFin Technologies Limited
Selenium Tower-B, Plot No. 31 & 32, Gachibowli,
Financial District, Nanakramguda, Serilingampally
Hyderabad - 500 032, Telangana, India
Tel: + 91 40 6716 2222/ 1800 309 4001
E-mail: jioplatforms.ipo@kfintech.com
Investor Grievance E-mail:
einward.ris@kfintech.com
Website: www.kfintech.com
Contact Person: Williams R
SEBI Registration No.: INR000000221

Company Secretary
Ms. Savithri Parekh

Compliance Officer
Mr. Venkataraman Ramachandran

TC-22, 5th Floor, A Wing, Reliance Corporate Park,
Thane Belapur Road, Ghansoli,
Navi Mumbai 400 701Maharashtra, India
Tel: +91 22 7967 0000
E-mail: jpl.investorrelations@jio.com

Investors may contact the Company Secretary or Compliance Officer or the Registrar to the Issue in case of any pre-Issue or post-Issue related grievances including non-receipt of letters of Allotment, non-credit of Allotted Equity Shares in the respective beneficiary account, non-receipt of refund orders or non-receipt of funds by electronic mode, etc. For all Issue related queries and for redressal of complaints, investors may also write to the BRLMs.

Continued on next page...

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AVAILABILITY OF THE RHP:

Investors are advised to refer to the RHP and the section titled **"Risk Factors"** on page 30 of the RHP, before applying in the Issue. A copy of the RHP is made available on website of SEBI at **www.sebi.gov.in**, websites of the Stock Exchanges i.e. BSE Limited and National Stock Exchange of India Limited at **www.bseindia.com** and **www.nseindia.com**, respectively, and on the website of the Company at **https://www.jio.com**; and on the websites of the BRLMs, i.e. **Kotak Mahindra Capital Company Limited** – https://investmentbank.kotak.com; **Morgan Stanley India Company Private Limited** – https://www.morganstanley.com/india; **BofA Securities India Limited** – https://business.bofa.com/bofasindia; **Axis Capital Limited** – www.axiscapital.co.in; **BNP Paribas** – www.bnpparibas.co.in; **Citigroup Global Markets India Private Limited** – www.citigroup.com/global/about-us/global-presence/india/regulatory-disclosures-investment-banking; **CLSA India Private Limited** – www.india.clsa.com; **DAM Capital Advisors Limited** – www.damcapital.in; **Goldman Sachs (India) Securities Private Limited** – www.goldmansachs.com; **HDFC Bank Limited** – www.hdfc.bank.in; **HSBC Securities and Capital Markets (India) Private Limited** – www.business.hsbc.co.in; **ICICI Securities Limited** – www.icicisecurities.com; **IIFL Capital Services Limited** – www.iiflcapital.com; **Jefferies India Private Limited** – www.jefferies.com; **JM Financial Limited** – www.jmfl.com; **J.P. Morgan India Private Limited** – www.jpmipl.com; **SBI Capital Markets Limited** – www.sbicaps.com; **UBS Securities India Private Limited** – www.ubs.com/indiaoffers; **360 ONE WAM Limited** – www.360.one;.

AVAILABILITY OF THE ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS:

A copy of the abridged prospectus is made available on the website of the Company, the BRLMs and the Registrar to the Issue at **https://www.jio.com/platforms/** ; **Kotak Mahindra Capital Company Limited** – https://investmentbank.kotak.com; **Morgan Stanley India Company Private Limited** – https://www.morganstanley.com/india; **BofA Securities India Limited** – https://business.bofa.com/bofasindia; **Axis Capital Limited** – www.axiscapital.co.in; **BNP Paribas** – www.bnpparibas.co.in; **Citigroup Global Markets India Private Limited** – www.citigroup.com/global/about-us/global-presence/india/regulatory-disclosures-investment-banking; **CLSA India Private Limited** – www.india.clsa.com; **DAM Capital Advisors Limited** – www.damcapital.in; **Goldman Sachs (India) Securities Private Limited** – www.goldmansachs.com; **HDFC Bank Limited** – www.hdfc.bank.in; **HSBC Securities and Capital Markets (India) Private Limited** – www.business.hsbc.co.in; **ICICI Securities Limited** – www.icicisecurities.com; **IIFL Capital Services Limited** – www.iiflcapital.com; **Jefferies India Private Limited** – www.jefferies.com; **JM Financial Limited** – www.jmfl.com; **J.P. Morgan India Private Limited** – www.jpmipl.com; **SBI Capital Markets Limited** – www.sbicaps.com; **UBS Securities India Private Limited** – www.ubs.com/indiaoffers; **360 ONE WAM Limited** – www.360.one; Registrar to the Issue, **KFin Technologies Limited** – www.kfintech.com., respectively.

AVAILABILITY OF BID CUM APPLICATION FORMS:

Bid cum Application Forms can be obtained from the Registered and Corporate Office of **JIO PLATFORMS LIMITED**, **Tel**: +91 22 7967 0000; BRLMs: **Kotak Mahindra Capital Company Limited,** Telephone: +91 22 4336 0000**; Morgan Stanley India Company Private Limited,** Telephone: +91 22 6118 1000**; BofA Securities India Limited,** Telephone: +91 22 6632 8000**; Axis Capital Limited,** Telephone: +91 22 4325 2183**; BNP Paribas,** Telephone: +91 22 3370 4000**; Citigroup Global Markets India Private Limited,** Telephone: +91 22 6175 9999**; CLSA India Private Limited,** Telephone: +91 22 6650 5050**; DAM Capital Advisors Limited,** Telephone: +91 22 4202 2500**; Goldman Sachs (India) Securities Private Limited,** Telephone: +91 22 6616 9000**; HDFC Bank Limited,** Telephone: +91 22 3395 8233**; HSBC Securities and Capital Markets (India) Private Limited,** Telephone: +91 22 6864 1289**; ICICI Securities Limited,** Telephone: +91 22 6807 7100**; IIFL Capital Services Limited,** Telephone: +91 22 4646 4728**; Jefferies India Private Limited,** Telephone: +91 22 4356 6000**; JM Financial Limited,** Telephone: +91 22 6630 3030**; J.P. Morgan India Private Limited,** Telephone: +91 22 6157 3000**; SBI Capital Markets Limited,** Telephone: +91 22 4006 9807**; UBS Securities India Private Limited,** Telephone: +91 22 6155 6000**; and 360 ONE WAM Limited,** Telephone: +91 22 4031 7000**; Syndicate Members: HDFC Securities Limited** Tel: +91 2230753400**, Investec Capital Services (India) Private Limited** Tel: + 91 2268497400**, JM Financial Services Limited** Tel: +91 22 6136 3400**, Kotak Securities Limited** Tel: +91 2242858484**, SBICAP Securities Limited** Tel: +91 22 6943 2521, **Sharekhan Limited** Tel: +91 22 6750 2000, **360 ONE Capital Market Private Limited** ***(Formerly known as Batlivala & Karani Securities India Private Limited)*** Tel: + 91 022 40317000 / +91 022 40076000 **and 360 ONE Distribution Services Limited** Tel: 9321332882 and at the select locations of the Sub-syndicate Members (as given below), SCSBs, Registered Brokers, RTAs and CDPs participating in the Issue. Bid cum Application Forms will also be available on the websites of BSE and NSE and the Designated Branches of SCSBs, the list of which is available at websites of the Stock Exchanges and SEBI.

Sub-Syndicate Members:

Almondz Global Securities Ltd, Ambit Capital Limited, Ambit Private Limited, Amrapali Capital & Finance Services Limited, Anand Rathi Share & Stock Brokers Limited, Anand Share Consultancy, ANS Pvt Limited, Asit C Mehta Financial Services Limited, Asit C Mehta Investment Intermediates Limited, Axis Securities Limited, Bajaj Financial Securities Limited, Bob Capital Markets Limited, Centrum Broking Limited, Centrum Capital Advisors Limited, Centrum Finverse limited, Centrum Wealth Management Ltd, Choice Equity Broking Private Limited, Dalal & Broacha Stock Broking Pvt Limited, DB(International) Stock Brokers Ltd, Eureka Stock & Share Broking Services Ltd, G Raj & Co. (Consultants) Limited, Globe Capital Market Limited, IDBI Capital Market Services Limited, Inga Ventures Pvt Ltd, Innovate Securities Pvt Limited, Intensive Fiscal Services Private Limited, Jhaveri Securities, Jobanputra Fiscal Services Private Limited, Kalpataru Multiplier Limited, Kantilal Chhaganlal Securities Pvt.Ltd, Keynote Capitals Limited, KJMC Capital Market Services Limited, Lakshmishree Investment & Securities Pvt Limited, LKP Securities Limited, Marwadi Shares & Finance Ltd, Mehta Equities Limited, Monarch Networth Capital Limited, Motilal Oswal Financial Services Limited, Motilal Oswal Securities Limited, Nextbillion Technology Private Limited, Nirmal Bang Securities Pvt Limited, Nuvama Wealth and Investment Limited (Edelweiss Broking Limited), Nuvama Wealth Management Limited, Pantomath Financial Services Limited, Patel Wealth Advisors Pvt Limited, Paytm, Prabhudas Lilladher Pvt Limited, Pravin Ratilal Share & Stock Brokers Limited, Religare Broking Limited, Religare Securities Limited, Rikhav Securities Ltd, RR Equity Brokers Private Limited, SMC Global Securities Limited, Standard Chartered Securities, Sundae Capital, Sunidhi Securities & Finance Ltd, Sushil Financial Services Pvt. Ltd., Systematix Shares & Stocks (India) Limited, Tanna Financial Services, Tradebulls Securities Private Limited, Trust Securities Limited, Viren M Shah, YES Securities (India) Limited, Zerodha

Escrow Collection Banks: Axis Bank Limited and ICICI Bank Limited

Refund Banks: Axis Bank Limited and ICICI Bank Limited

Public Issue Account Banks: Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited and State Bank of India

Sponsor Banks: Axis Bank Limited, ICICI Bank Limited, Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited and State Bank of India

UPI: UPI Bidders can also bid through UPI mechanism

Jio Platforms Limited has provided a toll free number to address any queries related to the Issue.

Toll free number: 1800 309 4001

You may also address your queries related to the Issue by typing **'Hi'** or **'Hello'** on

WhatsApp to 7977222222

For JIO PLATFORMS LIMITED
On behalf of the Board of Directors

Sd/-
Ms. Savithri Parekh
Company Secretary

Place : Mumbai, Maharashtra
Date : October 22, 2026

All capitalised terms used herein and not specifically defined shall have the same meaning as ascribed to them in the RHP.

Jio Platforms Limited is proposing, subject to receipt of requisite approvals, market conditions and other considerations, to make an initial public offering of its Equity Shares and has filed the RHP with RoC on October 14, 2026. The RHP is made available on the website of SEBI at www.sebi.gov.in, on the websites of the Stock Exchanges, i.e. BSE at www.bseindia.com and NSE at www.nseindia.com, on the website of the Company at www.jio.com and on the respective websites of the BRLMs. Any potential investors should note that investment in equity shares involves a high degree of risk, and for details relating to such risk, please see the section titled **"Risk Factors"** on page 30 of the RHP. Potential investors should not rely on the DRHP filed with SEBI and the Stock Exchanges for making any investment decision and should instead rely on the RHP, as filed with the RoC, for making investment decisions.

This announcement is not an offer of securities for sale in the United States or elsewhere. This announcement has been prepared for publication in India only and is not for publication or distribution, directly or indirectly, in or into the United States. The Equity Shares offered in the Issue have not been and will not be registered under the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended (**"U.S. Securities Act"**) or any state securities laws in the United States, and unless so registered, may not be offered or sold within the United States, except pursuant to an exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to, the registration requirements of the U.S. Securities Act and applicable state securities laws in the United States. Accordingly, the Equity Shares are being offered and sold (i) in the United States solely to "qualified institutional buyers" (as defined in Rule 144A under the U.S. Securities Act) in transactions exempt from, or not subject to, the registration requirements of the U.S. Securities Act, or (ii) outside the United States in "offshore transactions," as defined in, and in reliance on Regulation S under the U.S. Securities Act and the applicable laws of the jurisdictions where such offers and sales occur. There will be no public offering of Equity Shares in the United States.

Collector urges water conservation amid El Niño threat



Nalgonda: District Collector B. Chandrashekhar has urged officials to ensure the judicious use of available water and to raise public awareness regarding water conservation, in order to prevent potential drinking water shortages caused by the impact of El Niño.

On Thursday, he held a meeting in his chamber with officials and experts from the RWS (Rural Water Supply), Mission Bhagiratha, Irrigation, Electricity, Panchayat Raj, and Public Health departments to review the drinking water situation.

Speaking on the occasion, Professor Satish from IIT Hyderabad noted that El Niño is expected to have a global impact on drinking water, irrigation, power generation, and agriculture; he advised that available resources and technology should be utilized effectively to manage water supplies. The Collector stated that although seven mandals in the district have received normal rainfall, water levels are likely to decline in the coming days.

He emphasized the need for careful water consumption until the next monsoon season and directed that every village be informed that wasting water could lead to severe drinking water shortages.

He further instructed officials to collect data on current water resources and storage levels across all villages, mandals, and municipal areas to prepare an audit report. Additionally, he ordered that pipeline leakages be addressed and that areas where no water is wasted be designated as "water-waste-free villages/zones."

Create public awareness on water and power conservation: Minister Seethakka



Mulugu: Minister Seethakka urged the Indian Red Cross Society to undertake extensive efforts to prepare the public to face drought conditions arising from the impact of El Niño. On Thursday, the newly elected district governing body members of the Indian Red Cross Society, Mulugu district, led by District Chairman Dr. Allem Appaiah, paid a courtesy visit to the Minister at her camp office.

Speaking on the occasion, the Minister advised people to focus on conserving electricity, irrigation water and drinking water in view of the challenging conditions prevailing at present. She also urged farmers to opt for short-duration crops that require less water to tackle drought conditions.

She called upon the Red Cross Society to create awareness among the public and play an active role in helping people overcome such challenging circumstances.

The Minister assured the delegation that necessary funds would be allocated for the construction of the Indian Red Cross Society building at the district headquarters. She directed Panchayat Raj Executive Officer Linga Reddy to immediately prepare the proposals required for the building's construction.Those who met the Minister included Indian Red Cross Society District Vice-Chairman Gangishetti Srinivas, Secretary Kotte Rajireddy, Treasurer Shirupa Satish Kumar, and district governing

Collector stresses error-free Census Phase II

The South India Times // Nagarkurnool

District Collector Hemanta Keshav Patil has directed officials and staff to strictly follow the guidelines prescribed by the Government of India to ensure the smooth and effective conduct of the second phase of the census in Nagarkurnool district. He stressed the need to maintain accuracy at every stage and ensure that there was no scope for errors in the census process.

The Collector, along with Achampet Sub-Collector Saloni Chhabra and Additional Collectors B. Chennayya and Deva Sahayam, inaugurated a two-day training programme for census officials at the main hall of the Nagarkurnool Collectorate on Thursday. The programme was organised to train district-level officials, Revenue Divisional Officers (RDOs), municipal commissioners, census charge officers and assistant charge officers on their roles, responsibilities and procedures to be followed during the second phase.



Addressing the gathering, Hemanta Keshav Patil said the census was a crucial government exercise and that officials must ensure the accuracy and reliability of the information collected. He instructed them to thoroughly understand the rules, regulations and guidelines issued by the Government of India and exercise utmost care while collecting, verifying and recording data.

The Collector directed officials and staff to discharge their assigned responsibilities efficiently and implement the procedures explained during the training while performing their field duties. He advised them to clarify any doubts during the training sessions and follow the prescribed methods without negligence.



Lightning kills 17 goats in Kanchipuram

Kanchipuram (TSIT): A devastating lightning strike has left a couple in Kanchipuram district facing heavy losses after killing their entire herd of goats. Sekar and Rani, residents of Sethupattu area near Uttaramerur, depend on goat rearing for their livelihood. Yesterday afternoon, they were grazing their 17 goats in nearby agricultural lands as usual. Around 2:00 pm, a sudden thundershower swept through the area, catching the grazing animals in the open. A bolt of lightning struck the herd directly, and all 17 goats died on the spot. The incident has caused severe financial hardship for the couple, who lost their entire livelihood in an instant. Local residents expressed shock over the tragedy, and the incident highlights the dangers posed by sudden thunderstorms in rural areas.

Generic medicines can help reduce healthcare costs: Vaaradhi Trust



Hyderabad (TSIT): Vaaradhi Trust has called for greater public awareness of generic medicines, transparent drug pricing and improved access to quality-assured, affordable medicines to reduce the financial burden of healthcare on families.

Addressing a press conference at the Press Club in Somajiguda on Thursday, Mr. Subbarao Kattamuri, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, and Mr. M. Ravindra Vikram, Trustee, highlighted the need for a wider public conversation on healthcare costs, out-of-pocket expenditure, prescription practices and medicine pricing. The Trust noted that recurring medicine expenses place a significant financial burden on families, particularly those managing chronic conditions such as diabetes, hypertension and cardiovascular diseases. Despite health insurance and government schemes, many households continue to bear the cost of medicines purchased outside hospitalisation.

The Trust emphasised addressing misconceptions about generic medicine quality and improving public confidence through evidence-based information. It called for greater awareness of medicine composition, quality standards and price comparisons, and stressed appropriate generic-name prescribing and substitution practices while ensuring patient safety.

Highlighting variations in medicine prices, the Trust called for a review of pricing practices and greater transparency in the pharmaceutical supply chain. It pointed to differences between MRP and Price to Stockist of branded generic medicines and recommended an evidence-based review of existing pricing mechanisms, while noting the role of NPPA and DPCO in regulating prices.

Warangal police warn against QVSE fraud



Warangal (TSIT): Warangal Police Commissioner N. Swetha advised the public to remain vigilant against online investment frauds. She stated that central and state cybercrime departments had issued warnings about large-scale online investment scams being carried out through the QVSE (Quantum Vest Stock Exchange) app.

Krishi Bachao Abhiyan held across Narayanpet

Narayanpet, (TSIT): The Krishi Bachao Abhiyan programme was conducted on Thursday at 38 Rythu Vedika centres equipped with video conferencing facilities across Narayanpet district. Telangana State Agriculture Minister Thummala Nageswara Rao, Agriculture Department Secretary Suresh Surendramohan and Agriculture Department Director Dr. Gopi participated through video conferencing and provided guidance to farmers.



Officials advised farmers not to cultivate paddy during the current Rabi season and instead opt for alternative crops such as pulses, oilseeds and vegetables. They explained that due to El Niño's impact, water levels in tanks, wells and borewells were declining, making paddy cultivation inadvisable. They recommended cultivating alternative crops that require less water.

As part of the Krishi Bachao Abhiyan, being jointly implemented by the Central and State governments, agricultural officials were instructed to encourage farmers to conduct soil tests and use fertilizers based on the results.

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OM NAMO VENKATESAYA

17-10-2026



Total pilgrims : 83,806
Tonsures : 34,449
Hundi kanukalu : 3.17 CR
Laddu sale... 4.73Lac
Annaprasadam.. 2.41Lac
Ashwini hospital..8,353
Present Situation on 18-10-2026: Waiting Compartments..Outside line at Krishna teja guest house.

Approx. Darsan Time for Sarvadarshanam (with out SSD Tokens)...12 H.rs

India issues advisory for its citizens in France



Paris, Oct 21 : The Indian Embassy in France issued a travel and safety advisory on Wednesday, urging its nationals and those travelling to the Western European country to remain vigilant after protests over the rising cost of living broke out into violent clashes.

YSRCP leaders, Kadapa MP detained during nominations



Vijayawada, Oct 22 : Kadapa MP Y.S. Avinash Reddy Ravindranath Reddy, former Deputy Chief Minister Amzath Basha and MLC Ramachandra Reddy were among several YSR Congress Party leaders detained in Andhra Pradesh on Thursday during the filing of nominations for MPTC and ZPTC elections.

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CINEMA

SCAN FOR E-PAPER

SHORT TAKES

4 devotees killed in Kakinada SUV crash



Amaravati (TSIT): At least four Bhavani devotees were killed when a speeding SUV rammed into them in Andhra Pradesh's Kakinada district on Thursday, police said. Another devotee was also injured in the accident that occurred near Kathipudi in Prathipadu constituency. According to police, the accident occurred when the devotees were crossing the road to have tea after the bus in which they were travelling broke down. The bus, carrying devotees from Vizianagaram district, was on its way to Vijayawada. They were heading to Vijayawada for 'darshan' at Sri Kanaka Durga Temple.

1 killed, 100 injured in traditional stick fight

Kurnool: One person was killed, and more than 100 were injured in the traditional fight with sticks during the Dussehra celebrations in Andhra Pradesh's Kurnool district. Like every year, two groups attacked each other with sticks during Devaragattu Banni Utsav held as part of celebrations at Deveragattu village in Holagonda 'mandal' (block) late on Wednesday night. The injured were admitted to hospitals at Adoni and Alur, and the condition of 10 of them is stated to be critical. Those with simple injuries were treated at a temporary hospital set up by the authorities.

US targets lawyers behind Iran's shadow fleet

Washington (TSIT): The United States has sanctioned a law firm, shipping agents and vessel operators accused of helping Iran conceal ownership of ships and move oil and other commodities, extending its financial crackdown to the professional services supporting Tehran's overseas trade.The Treasury Department on Wednesday (local time) targeted Karnakis and Karnakis, a law firm based in Panama and Greece, five people associated with it, and maritime businesses in Singapore and Dubai.

India, Poland to deepen strategic ties

NEW DELHI (TSIT):

"Today, we have agreed to deepen our ties in the fields of defence, space, and nuclear energy. We invite Polish companies to work with India on co-development and co-production in all these strategic sectors,"



Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Thursday that India and Poland agreed to deepen ties in defence, space and nuclear energy and invited Polish companies to engage with India in co-development and co-production in these sectors.

While addressing a joint press meet with Polish PM Donald Tusk following their talks at Hyderabad House in New Delhi on Thursday, PM Modi recalled how India and Poland elevated ties to the status of Strategic Partnership during his visit to Warsaw in 2024 and noted that the bilateral partnership has gained new momentum over the past two years.

"I am delighted to extend a warm welcome to the Prime Minister of Poland in India. During my visit to Poland in 2024, he had warmly welcomed me and my delegation. During that visit, we elevated our relationship to the status of Strategic Partnership. Building on this strong foundation, our partnership has gained new momentum over the past two years. And today, in our meeting with the Prime Minister, we have taken several significant decisions to further strengthen our strategic partnership," he said.

The Prime Minister said that India and Poland are emerging as important centres of growth, technology and innovation when the world is going through a period of uncertainty and change.

"Today, we have agreed to deepen our ties in the fields of defence, space, and nuclear energy. We invite Polish companies to work with India on co-development and co-production in all these strategic sectors," he stated.

Highlighting the 'Good Mahraja' connect between India and Poland, PM Modi said, "The friendship between India and Poland is not merely based on diplomatic relations, but on a shared heritage of humanity and compassion. During the Second World War, the royal families of Jamnagar and Kolhapur had provided shelter to thousands of Polish children and families in India. Even today, the people of Poland remember Jam Saheb as Dobry Maharadza (The Good Maharaja)."

CJP leaders skip crime branch questioning



New Delhi: Cockroach Janata Party (CJP) activists Saurabh Das, Ashutosh Ranka and Ajinkya Shinde did not appear before the Delhi Police Crime Branch for questioning on Thursday after being summoned to join the probe at 12 noon.

The three have sought additional time from the Delhi Police, following which the police will issue fresh notices to them.

The Crime Branch had summoned the three leaders to its Rajouri Garden office for questioning. The development comes after a Special Executive Magistrate (SEM) court ordered the release of Das and Ranka from judicial custody after accepting their personal and surety bonds and taking written undertakings from them to maintain peace and abide by the law. SEM Ritu Raj directed the two leaders to furnish personal and surety bonds of Rs 50,000 each until the conclusion of the enquiry. The court also directed them to appear on every hearing date and comply with the conditions specified in their bonds and undertakings.

In their written undertakings, Das and Ranka promised not to breach peace or disturb public tranquillity. They also undertook not to call for protests at Jantar Mantar until the site is denotified in accordance with the law, and said any future protests would be conducted within the constitutional framework.

"Further judicial custody does not appear to be necessary at this stage, particularly after written undertakings before this Court," the SEM court observed while ordering their release.

The court directed the investigating officer to submit a verification report regarding the sureties at the next hearing. The matter has been listed for further proceedings on October 23 at 3 pm, with the two leaders and their sureties directed to remain present.

Das and Ranka were detained in connection with an October 13 protest at Jantar Mantar, which had been denotified as a designated protest site. The police had alleged that they entered the area through private premises and violated conditions relating to maintaining peace. The SEM court has clarified that the enquiry in the matter will continue in accordance with the law.

Shah rules out Congress comeback for 30 years



NEW DELHI (TSIT):

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday launched a scathing attack on Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, taking a jibe at his "foreign visits" and saying that Congress "won't get a chance to return to power for the next 30 years".

HM Shah made the remarks at the inauguration and foundation laying of the Yamuna revival projects in New Delhi.

Addressing a gathering, he said: "The country has realised Rahul ji that you and your associates want to protect the votes of the illegal infiltrators under the garb of 'vote chori' allegations."

NDA accuses YSRCP of obstructing local polls

AMARAVATI (TSIT):



The ruling National Democratic Alliance in Andhra Pradesh said it respects the decision of the State Election Commission to pause the election process for Urban Local Bodies following the Supreme Court direction, but accused opposition YSR Congress Party of trying to stop local body elections through conspiracies.

Top leaders of the Telugu Desam Party (TDP), Jana Sena Party (JSP) and Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) issued a joint statement after the State Election Commission (SEC) decided to stop, forthwith, the election process in all 100 Urban Local Bodies.

On a petition by the YSRCP, the Supreme Court on Wednesday directed the SEC to postpone the final list of candidates till October 25.

The SEC will take a decision on Thursday on extending the last date of filing nominations in Urban Local Bodies, wherever it is of the view that candidates were unable to file their nominations due to the law and order situation.

TN caps car costs for ministers, MLAs

CHENNAI (TSIT):



The Tamil Nadu government has fixed a ceiling of Rs 26 lakh for purchasing official cars for ministers and senior legislative functionaries, while setting a Rs 15 lakh limit for other MLAs under revised rules governing vehicle entitlements. The changes have been notified through a new gazette amending the travelling allowance rules applicable to members of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly. The notification lays down purchase limits, procurement procedures, ownership arrangements and conditions for returning government vehicles. Apart from ministers, the Rs 26 lakh ceiling will apply to the Speaker, Deputy Speaker, Leader of the Opposition and Government Chief Whip. All other Assembly members will be eligible for vehicles costing up to Rs 15 lakh.

BEYOND CASTE AND RELIGION: INDIA NEEDS LEADERS WHO PUT PEOPLE FIRST

BY Binish Thomas
Senior journalist

Imagine two people hoping to contest an election. One has spent years helping local residents, solving problems and earning people's trust. The other has done very little for the public but belongs to the caste or religious community that has the largest number of voters in the constituency.

Who should get the election ticket?

The answer should be obvious. The person who has worked for the people and proved their ability deserves the opportunity. Unfortunately, Indian politics does not always work this way.

Political parties often look at the caste and religious backgrounds of voters before selecting their candidates. In many constituencies, a candidate's religion or caste can become more important than their achievements, honesty or ability to serve the public.

This raises an important question: Are political parties choosing the best leaders, or simply choosing candidates who belong to the right community?

Why should religion decide who gets an election ticket?

Before elections, we often hear people describing constituencies as Hindu-majority, Muslim-majority or Christian-majority areas. In other places, a particular caste may have a large number of voters.Political parties study these numbers and often select candidates from the community they believe will help them win. But is this the right approach?Just because a constituency has a large Christian population does not mean that only a Christian can represent it. Similarly, a Muslim-majority constituency does not necessarily need a Muslim candidate, nor should a Hindu-majority constituency automatically be represented by a Hindu.

People vote for different reasons. They want good roads, better hospitals, quality education, jobs, clean drinking water and honest leaders who listen to their problems. These needs are the same regardless of religion or caste.For example, imagine a Hindu leader who has worked for years to improve schools, hospitals and roads in a Muslim-majority constituency. Should that person be denied an election ticket simply because they are not Muslim? Certainly not.

If the leader has earned people's trust through hard work, that should matter more than religious identity. The same principle must apply to every religion and caste. Political parties should ask one simple question before selecting a candidate: What has this person done for the people?

The Vijay example and the larger question

Tamil Nadu provides an interesting example for discussing this issue. Chief Minister C. Joseph Vijay formed his government with a nine-member cabinet. His approach to choosing leaders raises a larger question about what political parties should value when selecting people for important positions.The focus should be on a person's achievements, leadership qualities, honesty and ability to serve the public. A good leader should be able to recognize talent regardless of religion or caste.If a Christian is the best candidate in a Hindu-majority constituency, that person should get the opportunity. If a Muslim has an excellent record of public service in a Christian-majority constituency, religion should not stand in the way. The same should apply to a Hindu candidate contesting in a Muslim-majority area.What matters is whether the candidate is capable of representing everyone. A minister or elected representative is not supposed to work only for people belonging to their own community. Their responsibility is to serve every citizen. Ultimately, Vijay's government, like any other government, should be judged by the work it does and the results it delivers. That is the standard political parties across India should follow.

Achievements should matter more than caste

India has a long history of caste discrimination. Many communities have faced unfair treatment and have been denied opportunities for generations.

This is why the Constitution provides reserved seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in legislatures. These protections are intended to ensure that historically disadvantaged communities have a voice in government.Such constitutional safeguards are different from political parties informally deciding that a particular constituency must always have a candidate from one caste or religion. The concern is not about denying anyone representation. It is about making sure that capable people are not overlooked simply because they belong to a different community.

Consider two candidates from different backgrounds. One has helped hundreds of families, improved public facilities and worked honestly for the constituency. The other has little experience but belongs to the community that the party believes will bring more votes.

Should the second person automatically be preferred?

If political parties continue making decisions this way, deserving leaders may never get the opportunity to serve. A person's achievements should speak louder than their caste or religion.

Good leaders are losing opportunities

Another problem with selecting candidates mainly on the basis of caste or religion is that it can allow a few powerful individuals to control politics within a community.Suppose a political party regularly gives an election ticket to a leader from a particular community. Over time, that leader may become influential enough to prevent other capable people from the same community from getting opportunities.

Even someone who has worked hard for the public may be denied a ticket because they lack the support of the established leadership. This is unfair to the individual and to the voters.Political parties should encourage new leaders to come forward, especially those who have proved themselves through public service. A young person who has spent years helping villagers, improving schools or fighting corruption should have a fair chance of entering politics.

That opportunity should not depend on whether an influential community leader supports them. Every community has talented people. But no single person should be allowed to decide who can rise within it.

When political parties choose candidates based on merit, they create opportunities for honest and hardworking leaders. When they choose candidates mainly through caste and religious calculations, they risk losing those leaders.

Winning an election is not enough

Political parties may argue that caste and religion are important because they help candidates win elections. There is some truth to this. Parties want to win, and they naturally study the voting patterns of different communities. But winning an election and becoming a good leader are two different things.A candidate may win because of community support but fail to improve the constituency. Another candidate may come from a different community but have the experience and dedication needed to solve people's problems.

Which of these candidates would benefit the public more?

Political parties must look beyond the number of votes a candidate might attract. Before giving an election ticket, they should examine the person's past achievements, honesty, experience, relationship with local residents and ability to solve problems.Has the candidate helped people during difficult times? Have they worked to improve their community? Are they accessible when residents need assistance? Do they understand the constituency's problems?

These questions should matter far more than caste or religion. Parties should also give deserving newcomers a chance instead of repeatedly selecting the same influential leaders.After all, the purpose of politics should not be limited to winning elections. It should be to improve people's lives.

India needs leaders who serve everyone

India is home to people belonging to many religions, castes and communities. This diversity is part of the country's strength. But political parties should not use these differences to divide constituencies or decide who deserves to become a leader.

A Hindu should be able to represent Muslim voters. A Christian should be able to represent Hindu voters. A Muslim should be able to represent Christian voters. What matters is whether the person has the ability and commitment to work for everyone.The Election Commission of India's Model Code of Conduct prohibits appeals to caste or religious feelings to secure votes. Political parties should follow the same spirit when selecting their candidates.This does not mean ignoring the difficulties faced by disadvantaged communities or removing constitutional protections meant to ensure fair representation. It means giving capable people a fair opportunity instead of judging them only by their identity.India needs political leaders who are selected for what they have achieved, not simply for the caste or religion they belong to. A constituency belongs to all its people, not to one community.And the person chosen to represent it should be the one who has proved they can serve those people best.

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CS to probe police action against ministers during Mysuru Dasara ritual



BENGALURU, : Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar has ordered an inquiry into the incident in which ministers Balakrishna, P.M. Narendra Swamy and K.S. Basavanthappa were stopped by police while proceeding to the Nandi flag puja at the Mysuru Palace grounds during the Dasara celebrations.

The Chief Minister has instructed Chief Secretary Shalini Rajneesh to investigate the circumstances surrounding the incident, identify those responsible and submit a report. He has made it clear that appropriate action will be taken against officials found at fault.

The incident occurred ahead of the Jamboo Savari procession, when Mysuru Superintendent of Police Rishyanth reportedly prevented the three ministers from entering the puja venue, citing security concerns. The ministers, who had arrived along with Shivakumar, were left waiting as confusion arose between them and police personnel.

Shivakumar said he had to intervene personally to ensure that the ministers were allowed into the venue. In a statement, he expressed displeasure over the manner in which officials had handled the situation, saying such conduct could not be tolerated.

The incident has snowballed into a political controversy, with criticism emerging from within the Congress. Some party leaders have alleged that stopping the ministers amounted to disrespecting elected representatives and, in particular, an insult to Dalit leaders. They have demanded strict action against the police officer concerned.

The controversy has brought the issue of protocol and coordination between government representatives and the police into focus during major public functions. While the police reportedly cited security considerations, the Chief Minister has sought a formal examination of the episode before deciding on accountability.

The Chief Secretary's inquiry is expected to establish why the ministers were stopped, who issued the instructions and whether the action followed established security and protocol procedures. Shivakumar has said the government will take action after receiving the report, signalling that the matter will not be closed without examining the conduct of the officials involved.

Not possible for jailed person to plan attack and claim responsibility on social media: Supriya Sule on Tiger Shroff case



Responding to the firing incident targeting Bollywood actor Tiger Shroff, for which jailed gangster Lawrence Bishnoi has claimed responsibility, Nationalist Congress Party (SP) MP Supriya Sule said on Thursday that no jailed person can plan an attack and then take responsibility and post it on social media.

Sule said, "I was surprised because your news channels and newspapers say that Lawrence Bishnoi is in jail. Yet, he is tweeting himself and declaring, 'I take responsibility for this.' It is hard to comprehend how a person inside a jail can take responsibility like this. It is very confusing. Given how everyone is being intimidated, we will demand an inquiry into how someone sitting inside a jail can do all this."

On Thursday, Mumbai Police Crime Branch brought in four more accused, two women, Radha and Babita, and Kunal and Sumit, to Killa Court on transit remand in connection with the case. Meanwhile, police sources revealed that the accused practised shooting at a location near Mumbai before the attack. A misfire also reportedly occurred while they were testing the weapon in their hotel room in Andheri.

Reportedly, the accused actually had another Bollywood celebrity in mind. However, as per the reports, when the accused were unable to easily reach their initially planned target, they decided to target Tiger Shroff instead. The accused reportedly learned through social media reels shared by Tiger's fans that he did not have police protection at that time, and keeping this in mind, they decided to target him.

During the preliminary questioning, it has also been revealed that the attack on Tiger was intended to spread fear in the industry. On 18 October evening, Tiger had a narrow escaped after three motorcycle-borne men opened fire at him in the Juhu area of Mumbai. While the actor did not suffer any injury in the attack, his driver was injured in the incident. Within hours of the incident, a video clip was circulating on social media in which a man claiming to be Anil Pandit from the Lawrence Bishnoi gang took responsibility for the firing and claimed that it was a warning to the actor to stop working with superstar Salman Khan. The three accused were arrested at Kota railway station in Rajasthan within hours of the incident.

'Antaranga – The Nested Stories' to Showcase Inner Landscapes Through Art in Bengaluru



BENGALURU : Art enthusiasts in Bengaluru will have an opportunity to explore the relationship between landscape, memory and human consciousness at Antaranga – The Nested Stories, an exhibition featuring artists Shashwati Devsharma and Nandini Bajekal at Dwija Art Gallery from October 23 to 25. The exhibition explores the layers of meaning embedded in everyday experiences, inviting visitors to look beyond the visible features of landscapes and discover the emotions, memories and introspective narratives they evoke.

Devsharma, whose artistic practice draws on her background in architecture and influences from Indian classical dance, music, poetry and nature, examines the interplay between order and chaos through abstract mixed-media works. Her paintings transform urban fragments, rural expanses and imagined landscapes into expressive compositions shaped by colour, rhythm, memory and emotion.

Bajekal, meanwhile, approaches landscape through contemplative observation, drawing inspiration from Oriental brush-painting traditions such as Xieyi, Huaniaohua and Shan Shui. Her paintings of mountains explore their emotional and metaphorical dimensions, presenting nature as a space for mindfulness, reflection and self-discovery.Though their artistic approaches differ, both artists explore the connection between the external environment and the inner world. While Devsharma builds abstract visual narratives through colour, structure and spontaneity, Bajekal employs restraint and contemplative expression to reveal the deeper significance of landscapes.

Antaranga – The Nested Stories encourages viewers to reconsider the act of seeing and reflect on how landscapes can awaken memories, colours can communicate emotions, and images can become mirrors of the self.

Fertility treatment costs go beyond the IVF procedure: what couples should know

Kolar: IVF treatment is rarely defined by a single procedure or a single cost. Clinically, an IVF cycle involves several stages—fertility evaluation, ovarian stimulation, monitoring, egg retrieval, laboratory procedures and embryo transfer. Depending on the couple's diagnosis and response, additional investigations, medicines or procedures may become necessary, says Dr Naga Jyothi S, Fertility Specialist, Birla Fertility & IVF, Kolar.

Costs may include consultations and initial investigations, blood tests and ultrasound monitoring, stimulation medicines, egg retrieval and embryo transfer, laboratory procedures, embryo freezing and storage, genetic testing in selected cases, and treatment of underlying conditions affecting the uterus, ovaries or male fertility.

Costs can differ between couples because two patients may follow very different clinical pathways. One may respond well to stimulation and proceed to transfer, while another may require a different medication dose, additional monitoring, embryo freezing or a later frozen embryo transfer. Previous treatment outcomes, male-factor infertility, ovarian reserve and the underlying diagnosis all influence what is required.

Active listening gives leaders a competitive edge, says Dr Raeesabegam Usmani



Bengaluru ;Dr Raeesabegam Usmani of the School of Business Management, NMIMS Hyderabad, has emphasised that active listening is one of the most important yet underrated leadership skills, enabling professionals to build trust, strengthen teamwork and make better decisions. Addressing the gathering about the importance of listening in leadership, Usmani said that while confident communication and public speaking often attract attention, the ability to listen carefully is equally essential for effective leadership. Leaders must understand the concerns, experiences and expectations of their teams instead of dominating conversations or rushing to express their own opinions.

He explained that listening goes beyond merely hearing words. It involves understanding the context, emotions and intentions behind what people communicate. Leaders who make employees feel heard can build stronger workplace relationships, encourage participation and create an environment in which people are comfortable sharing ideas.

Referring to a 2022 study by researchers Avraham Kluger and Guy Itzchakov, Usmani highlighted the relationship between effective listening and positive leadership outcomes, including improved job performance, greater trust, better workplace attitudes and enhanced well-being.

He cited the leadership approach associated with industrialist Ratan Tata, who valued practical experience and understanding the realities of an organisation before making decisions. According to Usmani, leaders who understand the challenges faced by employees at different levels are better equipped to offer meaningful guidance and make informed choices.

He said professionals entering new organisations or taking up leadership responsibilities should resist the urge to speak frequently merely to demonstrate their competence. Listening to colleagues, observing workplace dynamics and understanding the issues under discussion can help them contribute more effectively.

Usmani identified empathetic listening as one of the key principles of effective leadership. Leaders should make a genuine effort to understand employees' perspectives rather than immediately disagreeing, defending their own positions or offering solutions. He referred to Leena Nair, CEO of Chanel, in highlighting the importance of listening to every voice, rather than paying attention only to those who speak the loudest.

He also stressed the need to understand the intent behind a message instead of interpreting words solely through personal assumptions. Miscommunication can lead to serious consequences when people fail to clarify instructions or verify their understanding.

Citing the 1977 Tenerife airport disaster, which involved a collision between two Boeing 747 aircraft on a runway, Usmani underscored the importance of clear communication and avoiding assumptions. He said leaders should ask follow-up questions whenever a message is unclear and ensure that all parties share a common understanding.

Non-verbal communication is another important aspect of listening, he said. Maintaining appropriate eye contact, nodding when relevant and showing an attentive posture can reassure employees that their concerns are being taken seriously. Checking mobile phones, looking at watches or allowing other distractions during conversations can convey disinterest and weaken trust.

Usmani urged leaders to make listening a regular practice rather than treating it as an occasional communication technique. Giving employees an opportunity to speak, considering their views and responding thoughtfully can improve collaboration and help organisations address problems more effectively.

He concluded that leadership is not measured only by how effectively a person speaks, but also by how well the person listens. In an increasingly complex workplace, active listening can become a significant competitive advantage by helping leaders understand people, earn their trust and make better decisions.

Mysuru Dasara 2026 blends royal heritage with modern attractions



Mysuru : The world-famous Mysuru Dasara, a symbol of Karnataka's cultural pride and a tradition spanning more than four centuries, witnessed several new attractions this year, combining royal heritage with modern entertainment. The festival was particularly significant as it was the first Dasara of Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar. The celebrations began with special prayers to Goddess Chamundeshwari atop Chamundi Hills and continued with the grand Jamboo Savari, cultural programmes, Yuva Dasara, flower shows, wrestling competitions and the torchlight parade at Bannimantap.

The participation of artists from different states, military bands and Kannada film stars added colour to the festivities. For the first time, bands representing the Army, Air Force and Navy became a major attraction during the procession, bringing a patriotic dimension to the cultural event.

Coastal Karnataka's traditional Kambala buffalo race was another highlight. The event showcased the region's agricultural traditions and offered visitors an opportunity to experience a distinctive aspect of Karnataka's cultural diversity.The flower show at Kuppanna Park attracted large crowds with artistic arrangements, including a floral representation of Vidhana Soudha. The exhibition grounds, wrestling competitions and musical performances further expanded the festival's appeal.Yuva Dasara drew young audiences, with singer Sid Sriram's performance emerging as a major attraction. Cultural programmes at Mysuru Palace celebrated music, literature and dance, while Professor Nagamani Srinath received the State Sangeetha Vidwan award.

Force Motors launches initiative for responsible vehicle scrappage



Bengaluru : Force Motors Limited has launched an initiative to promote the responsible disposal of end-of-life vehicles by facilitating access to authorised vehicle scrappage facilities for eligible customers. The initiative, in partnership with Rosmerta Auto Recycling Pvt. Ltd., will initially cover the Delhi-NCR region. It aims to improve access to organised vehicle scrappage and support the recovery and recycling of valuable automotive materials.

The move also strengthens the company's commitment under a memorandum of understanding signed with the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) to support the Commercial Vehicle Replacement Scheme in the region. Force Motors said it would explore similar partnerships in other parts of the country.Under the arrangement, eligible customers will be able to access Rosmerta's Registered Vehicle Scrapping Facility (RVSF), where vehicles will undergo documentation, depollution and dismantling in accordance with the applicable processes. The facility will also facilitate the segregation and recovery of recyclable materials and issue relevant scrappage documents, including a Certificate of Deposit wherever applicable. Prasan Firodia, managing director of Force Motors, said the company's responsibility extended beyond manufacturing and delivering vehicles to ensuring their proper disposal at the end of their useful life.

BJP cites media report to allege 'regime change plot' by Cong, calls Rahul 'gaddar'



NEW DELHI: The BJP on Thursday cited a media report on alleged links between riots in France and the recent protests in India, claiming it exposes the "anarchy and regime change plot" of the Congress, and called Rahul Gandhi a "gaddar" (traitor).

Hitting back, the Congress claimed the BJP, out of "desperation and nervousness", was trying to "divert, distract and spread lies" in the wake of "widespread anger" over alleged 'vote chori'.

According to a report published in The Times of India, a Fox News investigation has claimed to have uncovered links between the riots in France and the protests in India demanding the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gyanesh Kumar.

Addressing a press conference here, BJP spokesperson Gaurav Bhatia said, "Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi is presenting a model of anarchy and 'gaddari' before the country. Today, a report has appeared in a newspaper, detailing how these alleged links of betrayal are connected to foreign agencies. Therefore, it would not be wrong to ask, 'Who is the leader of these traitors?'" Bhatia said.

"Rahul 'gaddar'," he charged.

"It is India's misfortune that the leader of the opposition is irresponsible and immature. And when I present this evidence before you, it would not be wrong to call him a traitor or Mir Jafar.

"An investigation by Fox News shows how organisations have created an ecosystem across nine countries, including France, that is attempting to overthrow elected governments. It is a 'red-green ecosystem of protest'," he claimed.

Citing the media report, Bhatia said in this 'red-green ecosystem', the red represents "communist groups", while green represents "Islamic fundamentalist groups".

"If we look at this report, it states, 'Global chaos grows to 101 groups'. Global chaos, anarchy and disorder... These 101 organisations are operating across nine countries," Bhatia said.

"Nobody will be spared. Such anti-India forces will be destroyed. India has a strong prime minister and home minister," he asserted.

Citing the report, BJP spokesperson Pradeep Bhandari attacked the Congress and demanded a response from it. "Global investigation exposes anarchy and regime change plot of Congress," he alleged in a post on X.

Khandu reviews preparations for Buddha relics exposition in Arunachal



ITANAGAR: Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu on Thursday reviewed preparations for the exposition of the sacred relics of Lord Buddha, scheduled to be held in Tawang, Bomdila and Namsai from October 31 to November 20.

"Being a historic and spiritually significant occasion, we are committed to ensuring that every devotee has a peaceful and meaningful opportunity to pay homage to the sacred relics and seek spiritual blessings," Khandu wrote in a social media post.

He said the exposition was more than a religious gathering, describing it as a historic occasion that brings together faith, humanity and the timeless message of Lord Buddha.

"We will strive to make this exposition a landmark moment for Arunachal Pradesh," the chief minister added.

Meanwhile, the West Kameng district administration has stepped up preparations for the exposition, scheduled to be held at TGL Monastery (Lower Gompa) in Bomdila from November 8 to 14, an official report said.

Dirang MLA Phurpa Tsering attended a meeting to review arrangements for the event, with focus on transportation, accommodation, traffic management, road conditions and inter-departmental coordination.

Urging all departments to complete their assigned tasks within the stipulated time frame, the MLA stressed that decisions taken during coordination meetings must translate into concrete action on the ground.

He said every villager, including those living in remote and far-flung areas, should have the opportunity to pay their respects to the sacred relics.

He asked the administration to ensure adequate transportation arrangements for devotees.

Kalaktang MLA Tseten Chombey urged the authorities to prohibit animal slaughter in Bomdila during the exposition.

West Kameng Deputy Commissioner Dilip Kumar, Padma Shri Guru Tulku Rinpoche also offered suggestions for the smooth conduct of the exposition, the report added.

2016 Murud beach drowning case: HC quashes FIR against Pune college teacher, management



MUMBAI: The Bombay High Court on Thursday quashed a 2016 FIR against a teacher and the management of a Pune college in connection with the drowning of 14 students at Murud beach, holding that the victims were adults capable of understanding the consequences of their actions.

The incident occurred on February 1, 2016, when a contingent of 116 students and staff from Abeda Inamdar Senior College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Pune, went on a picnic to Murud beach in Raigad. While visiting the beach, 41 third-year students ventured into the sea, of which 14 were fatally swept away.

Approximately 80 days after the incident, an FIR was registered under sections 304A (causing death by negligence) and 34 of Indian Penal Code against 17 individuals, including college trustees, the principal, teachers, and staff.

Justice Milind Jadhav, in his ruling, held there was no material on record to establish any gross or high degree of negligence on the part of teachers accompanying the students.

The court asserted that the victims, being third-year BSc students "possessing a reasonable degree of life experience", can be expected to understand the distinction between right and wrong and to appreciate the likely consequences of their own actions and conduct.

"It is seen that it was in this context that these applicants permitted them to enjoy the fun and frolic on the beach," the court noted, adding that the death of 14 students by drowning was an accident.

"In the absence of any incriminating material establishing a direct or proximate connection with any negligent act leading to the deaths by drowning, liability or criminal act cannot be attributed to negligence on their part, the court ruled.

Calling for effective implementation of safety norms, the HC said, "It is unfortunate that every time a tragedy involving the loss of multiple lives occurs, it is followed by widespread public outcry." However, effective implementation of safety norms and other preventive measures continue to remain a matter of serious concern, the bench said.

"We cannot have a knee jerk reaction after every mishap," the bench said while asking government to consider take or fortify measures at beaches in the larger interest of society.

Golden Chariot luxury train journeys in refreshed avatar from Oct 24: Minister

BENGALURU: Karnataka's flagship luxury tourist train, the Golden Chariot, will commence its 2026-27 season on October 24 with enhanced onboard hospitality and curated itineraries covering wildlife, royal heritage, UNESCO World Heritage sites, coffee estates and coastal destinations, Tourism Minister K J George said on Thursday.

The five-night, six-day 'Pride of Karnataka' journey, the first trip of the season, has recorded 100 per cent bookings, with 75 guests set to travel, he said. Nearly 60 onboard staff members will provide hospitality and other services during the journey.

George said Chief Minister D K Shivakumar had taken a keen interest in strengthening the Golden Chariot as one of Karnataka's flagship premium tourism products.

"Our objective is to offer world-class hospitality while showcasing Karnataka's diversity through a carefully curated journey and position the Golden Chariot strongly in domestic and international premium tourism markets," he said in a release.

The 'Pride of Karnataka' itinerary brings together wildlife experiences at Bandipur, the royal heritage of Mysuru, the architectural legacy of Belur and Halebidu, coffee estates in Chikkamagaluru, the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Hampi and Goa's coastal attractions and Indo-Portuguese heritage, the release said.

Ahead of the new season, the train underwent scheduled technical maintenance at the Mysuru Workshop between May and August 2026. Its exterior was refreshed, while onboard hospitality facilities were upgraded. The kitchen now has a combi oven and high-capacity induction systems. The onboard RO water purification plant was also upgraded.

A total of 13 luxury journeys have been scheduled for the 2026-27 season, comprising seven 'Pride of Karnataka' trips, three 'Glimpses of Karnataka' journeys and three 'Jewels of South' journeys.

Tourism Secretary Ram Prasath Manohar said the full booking for the first trip provided an encouraging start to the season.

"The priority now is to sustain this demand across the season," he said.

Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation (KSTDC) Chairman M Srinivas said, "Our priority is to carry this momentum into subsequent journeys and take Karnataka's diverse tourism experiences to a larger number of domestic and international travellers," he said.

Man climbs 120 ft water tower with son, threatens to jump over family dispute

GIRIDIH: A man climbed a 120-foot-high water tower with his four-year-old son held tightly against his chest and threatened to throw the child and jump off the tower over a family dispute in Jharkhand's Giridih district on Thursday, police said. Mahtodih police outpost officer-in-charge Shailendra Kumar told reporters that Mahadev Tiwari, a native of Ajidih, was distressed after being denied his right to get his share of ancestral land by his family members. "In desperation, Mahadev had climbed onto the water tower along with his four-year-old son and threatened to throw his son and jump from the tower if he was not given his share of the land," the police officer said. The local police, along with Giridih Sadar Circle Officer Jitender Prasad, reached the site, opened a dialogue with Mahadev and assured him that he would be given justice.

Delhi HC refuses to halt release of film 'Doosra' on Sourav Ganguly's plea



NEW DELHI: The Delhi High Court on Thursday refused to stop the theatre release of the film 'Doosra' on October 23 on a plea filed by cricketer Sourav Ganguly.

A vacation bench of Justice Dinesh Bhatt orally observed that the 'balance of convenience' favours the makers of 'Doosra', stated to be the story of a middle-class Rajasthani girl inspired by certain sporting events involving the former India captain.

'Balance of convenience' is a legal test used by courts to decide whether to issue a preliminary injunction, by weighing the potential harm to the plaintiff if an injunction is denied and to the defendant if it is granted.

"It is due for release tomorrow (Friday). Balance of convenience prima facie does not favour you. You may have a valuable right. (But) We are not stopping the film today," the judge orally told the plaintiff.

The court listed the matter for hearing on Friday.

Besides Ganguly, Luv Films LLP, which is producing a biopic of the former cricket captain, is also a plaintiff in the lawsuit.

The senior counsel appearing for the filmmakers assured that 'Doosra' was not a biopic and that due permissions were taken to use certain clips involving the plaintiff.

"This is blackmailing on the last day," said the filmmakers' counsel, informing the court that over a hundred theatres have been booked and advance payments have been made.

Ganguly's counsel apprehended a violation of the cricketer's personality rights, asserting that no licence was taken from him for the production of 'Doosra'. He informed the court that a biopic on Ganguly's life was already under production.

"The movie (Doosra) is being promoted on Sourav Ganguly. Sourav Ganguly is the actual hero of the movie. He and his life are the main theme of the movie," Ganguly's counsel said, offering to pay the "advance booking amount" to defer the release.

AAP govt running away from accountability: Punjab BJP chief

CHANDIGARH: Punjab BJP president Kewal Singh Dhillon on Thursday lashed out at the AAP government after the first day of the state Assembly session concluded within 10 minutes, alleging that it has "failed miserably" on every front and was "running away from its accountability".

"The Punjab Assembly session today lasted only eight to ten minutes, during which neither Punjab's concerns were discussed nor any deliberations were held on the issues facing the state. This has resulted in a waste of public money worth lakhs and crores of rupees," said Dhillon here.

Following obituary references, Speaker Kultar Singh Sandhwan adjourned the sitting till Friday on the first day of the Punjab Vidhan Sabha session.

Earlier, the Question Hour, Calling Attention Notices, resolutions and other business were proposed to be taken up after obituary references. The BJP leader said the government would have to answer over the drug menace, gangsterism, extortion and the deteriorating law and order situation.

"The people of Punjab are demanding answers from the AAP government regarding the deaths of Parvinder Singh Jhota, Bikramjit Singh and Gulzar Singh," he said.

The government employees are on strike, while instead of fulfilling their demands, the government is busy "intimidating and threatening them", he alleged in a statement.

However, the BJP stands firmly with the employees, he said.

Farmers are struggling in grain markets, drugs are destroying the youth of Punjab, voices raised against drugs are being suppressed, and incidents of firing and murders are occurring almost every day, he charged.

"Yet, the chief minister has no time to spare from his leisure trips, while leaders from Delhi, whom he described as having arrived like plunderers, have been looting Punjab for the past four and a half years," alleged Dhillon.

The state BJP president said the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) should stop worrying about the BJP and start focusing on Punjab. Given the situation the AAP government has created in the state, the people of the state will no longer tolerate this "incompetent" government, he said.

Dhillon said that Union Home Minister Amit Shah had visited Punjab two days ago and claimed that drugs would be eradicated from the state by December 31, 2029.

He added that the home minister had once again reiterated his commitment to eliminating drugs from Punjab and had also asserted that an NDA government would be formed in the state.

This, Dhillon said, meant that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) would form the government in Punjab.

Dhillon said that the BJP was prepared to contest all 117 assembly constituencies and would enter the electoral fray independently with full preparation.

Earlier, former Punjab BJP president Sunil Jakhar demanded an impartial investigation into the murder of an Abohar resident whose family held a protest outside the Vidhan Sabha complex here.

Odisha aims to shift from mineral-driven to chemical-led industrial economy: CM



BHUBANESWAR: Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi on Thursday said the state aims to transition from a mineral-driven economy to a chemical-led industrial hub by leveraging its mineral resources, ports, and emerging investment opportunities.

Addressing the 14th edition of India Chem 2026 in Mumbai, Majhi stressed that Odisha was looking to play a larger role in India's chemical and petrochemical industry.

He noted the strategic advantages offered by Odisha's ports at Paradip, Gopalpur and Dhamra, providing connectivity to domestic and international markets, according to a statement issued by the Chief Minister's Office.

He underscored the importance of the Paradip Petroleum, Chemicals and Petrochemicals Investment Region (PCPIR), Indian Oil Corporation Limited's refinery and petrochemical complex, and the Plastic Park at Paradip in creating downstream opportunities in polymers, packaging and technical textiles.

The chief minister also pointed to emerging opportunities in refrigerants, fluorochemicals, green hydrogen and green ammonia at Gopalpur, along with coal-gasification-based projects at Talcher and Lakhanpur.

"These initiatives could strengthen domestic manufacturing and expand Odisha's role in India's chemical and petrochemical value chain," he said.

Majhi said nearly 200 industrial units had been established in the state in less than two-and-a-half years, attracting investments of around Rs 3.52 lakh crore.

"Odisha has received investment proposals worth more than Rs 22.50 lakh crore, of which over Rs 12.50 lakh crore have been approved by the High-Level Clearance Authority (HLCA)," he said.

Majhi said the state's industrial policies, infrastructure, skilled workforce and institutional support from organisations such as the Institute of Chemical Technology (ICT) and the Central Institute of Petrochemicals Engineering and Technology (CIPET) make it an attractive destination for investment.

"Odisha is ready to contribute at scale to realise India's one-trillion-dollar chemical dream by 2040," he said, inviting investors to explore opportunities across the state.

Content creator arrested for 'racial slurs' against Tripura youth in viral video



NEW DELHI: A Delhi-based content creator was arrested for allegedly subjecting a youth from Tripura to racial abuse and humiliation, an official said on Thursday.

Earlier, the Delhi Police had taken suo motu cognisance of a purported video of the incident and launched an investigation after registering a case.

"The content creator, identified as Amir Shokeen, is a bad character of Sadar Bazar area and has previously been involved in multiple cases of brawling," Deputy Commissioner of Police (North) Niharika Bhatt told PTI.

Delhi Police's Intelligence Fusion and Strategic Operations (IFSO) unit is investigating the video of the alleged racial abuse.

The police's Special Police Unit for North Eastern Region (SPUNER) had written to the IFSO unit, asking it to investigate the video, they said.

Police personnel then visited Shokeen's residence, but a senior police officer said he was not present there.

The development comes amid widespread condemnation of the viral video on social media, with Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju and Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha calling for action against the content creator.

Leaders across party lines have condemned the alleged incident and demanded action.

Rijiju on X said he would face action and police in Delhi and Tripura would teach him a "hard lesson".

"This evil man will be punished. There was a delay in lodging the official complaint, but Delhi Police and Tripura Police will teach him a hard lesson," the minister said.

Police sources said the Tripura Police team is expected to land in Delhi later in the night and will first visit Sadar Bazar police station, where it will take custody of Shokeen from the Delhi Police. The police will then produce Shokeen before a Delhi court to seek transit remand. Shokeen had allegedly recorded the controversial video in Ahmedabad around a month ago. Police sources said there are seven to eight accused in the case and their role will be investigated. The Tripura Students Forum Delhi (TSFD), in a complaint on Wednesday addressed to the Joint Commissioner of Police (SPUNER), sought an urgent and impartial investigation into the video, alleging it showed a person from Tripura being subjected to sexual assault, harassment and humiliating treatment by a social media content creator.

The complaint identified the Instagram account of Shokeen as allegedly linked to the incident and sought verification of the identity and role of the person operating it, along with others who may have participated in or recorded the incident.

The forum also alleged that the video contained racially derogatory expressions directed at the individual and a demeaning reference to Tripura, which it said had caused anguish among members of the state's community.

Seeking appropriate legal action, the forum urged police to preserve electronic evidence, including the original recording, metadata, account details and upload history, and take measures to prevent further harassment or intimidation of the person concerned.

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EDITORIAL

India's 2035 Climate Targets in Focus as UNEP Calls for 45% Global Emissions Cuts

Goa: The world is set to exceed the 1.5 degrees celsius warming threshold, but rapid and deep cuts in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions could limit the extent of the overshoot and make a return to that level by the end of the century possible, according to a new United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Emissions Gap Report released on Tuesday.

For India, this warning comes as the government has set new climate targets for 2035, including a 47% reduction in emissions intensity from 2005 levels and a commitment to source 60% of cumulative installed electricity capacity from non-fossil fuels.

UNEP Emissions Gap Report

According to the UNEP EGR, global greenhouse gas emissions must fall 18% by 2030, 45% by 2035 and 69% by 2040 from 2025 levels to keep the possibility of bringing global warming back down to 1.5°C by the end of the century.

"Every additional fraction of a degree and additional year of warming above 1.5°C increases climate impacts and risks, such as the deadly floods, heatwaves and wildfires that have plagued many nations this year," said Inger Andersen, Executive Director of UNEP in a message on the report. "So, we must pull out all the stops to minimize peak warming and return to 1.5°C by the end of the century. This is possible." As per the report, even if countries fully implement their current Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), global emissions would fall by only 5-8% by 2030 and 11-15% by 2035, relative to 2025 levels. The report's NDC assessment includes pledges submitted by September 1, 2026.

The report estimates that current country policies could lead to global warming of around 2.8°C over the course of this century. If countries implement their national pledges and sustain their efforts, warming could be limited to around 2.6°C. Even in the most optimistic scenarios assessed by UNEP, in which countries meet their NDCs and achieve additional net-zero targets, global warming would still reach around 2.1°C this century.

In its EGR, the UNEP says accelerating renewable energy and improving energy efficiency are critical to closing the emissions gap. Since the Paris Agreement was adopted, global renewable electricity capacity has grown three times faster than anticipated, while solar photovoltaic capacity has expanded seven times faster.

"A continuation of these trends, supported by additional policies, would bring the world on track to triple renewable energy capacity by 2030 and increase the share of wind and solar in electricity generation to levels consistent with the lowest possible 1.5°C overshoot scenario," the report stated.

Under its proposed benchmarks, global coal-fired electricity generation would need to fall by at least 75% by 2035 from 2025 levels, while methane emissions would need to decline by at least 25% lower than 2025 levels by 2030. Even the lowest-overshoot scenario would require the removal and permanent storage of roughly 320 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide over the course of this century.

Reading the balance of power and building national strength

The most important stage of any remedy is accurate diagnosis. Whether the problem concerns an individual, a society or a state, correctly identifying its root cause clarifies the path forward. Ignoring a problem leaves it intact. Fleeing from it allows it to wait. Surrendering permits it to dominate. Facing it, by contrast, opens constructive paths: applying a known solution or learning and overcoming the obstacle to gain new experience. Neglect, flight or surrender remain alternatives only for those who refuse both knowledge and will.

A simplified reading of the post-1945 order is useful. Exhausted European powers left space for American financial and energy interests to convene experts and design a framework for global influence. They backed a military figure suited to indirect campaigns. Dwight Eisenhower received that support. The State Department was strengthened and a presidential intelligence service, which later became the CIA, was established. Stephen Kinzer's account of the Dulles brothers, who headed those organizations, illuminates important aspects of this trajectory. Understanding the present requires reading that history carefully. From the earliest stages of the Arab-Israeli conflict through 1967 and to the present, the principal beneficiaries of continued strife have been the merchants of disaster and arms, foremost the American military-industrial complex that Eisenhower himself warned against.A practical rule is to ask who profits from catastrophe. In the 1960s, military and religious leaderships were encouraged toward hostilities, drawing multisectarian Arab societies into conflicts fueled by successive waves of Jewish immigration from Europe and Russia. Some of the underlying thinking paralleled the earlier displacement of indigenous populations in North America.

Washington's policies have repeatedly favored concentrated interests over the daily challenges facing ordinary citizens



The 1973 war produced limited Arab success yet prolonged the conflict and consolidated American regional influence. French Foreign Minister Michel Jobert observed that the true victor was neither the Israelis nor the Arabs but the US. Likud's long dominance followed. President Richard Nixon noted that continuation of the conflict served Israeli and Jewish American interests, while President Jimmy Carter reportedly told Anwar Sadat that freedom of maneuver was limited and required dealing directly with Jewish leaders. Ezer Weizman spoke of the complex among European immigrants who regarded all Arabs as enemies.Washington's policies have repeatedly favored concentrated interests over the daily challenges facing ordinary citizens. Externally, selective interventions have produced fragile governing systems and resource insecurity, treating the developmental needs of other societies as secondary. Internally, rising public debt, political polarization and a form of capitalism that can erode the social cohesion it claims to strengthen have constrained the capacity to impose rules unilaterally.

Across much of the Arab world, this pattern supported military leaders and repressive systems that produced failed or failing states in which many people struggled to meet their basic needs — with the notable exception of the Gulf states. In the US, Britain and France — the countries with the greatest influence over the Arab world — the fusion of capitalism and democracy has generated concentrated capital that disproportionately rewards the already wealthy while leaving many households with rising debt, higher healthcare costs and stagnant real wages. When concentrated capital merges with electoral competition, elections increasingly function as contests among donors rather than mechanisms for setting public priorities. A "doctrine of inevitability" reinforces this dynamic by presenting technological and market outcomes as largely beyond genuine civic negotiation. When resistance is framed as futile, democratic capacity weakens.

Today, these three countries face overlapping political and economic pressures. In the US, President Donald Trump is in his second term and the Republicans control Congress, yet the midterm elections of Nov. 3 loom, with the Democrats poised to take the House and cost-of-living concerns dominant. Trump's approval rate sits near 33 percent. Growth of nearly 2 percent is supported by artificial intelligence investment, yet inflation has risen to 3.7 percent, driven primarily by energy prices linked to conflict in the Middle East. Real wages are stagnant or declining and consumer sentiment is near historic lows.

Today is not a time for waiting — it is a time for reading events wisely and acting with determination

Britain's Labour government under Andy Burnham, in office since July following Keir Starmer's resignation, faces an autumn budget test amid high borrowing costs and energy-driven inflation; growth is resilient at near 1.3 percent but is expected to slow.

France under Emmanuel Macron, in the final months of his second term, has a fragile government without a stable majority, very weak growth of about 0.4 percent, a deficit well above EU targets and public debt near 119 percent of gross domestic product, accompanied by protests over living costs and deteriorating services. Public debt as a share of GDP stands at about 124 percent in the US, 119 percent in France and 94 percent in Britain. All three continue to spend more than they collect while borrowing costs rise, automatically enlarging the debt stock. We are in a transitional phase. For decades, the US and its principal allies maintained influence by supporting conflicts, wars, coups and leaders unable to deliver the minimum of local development. The result across much of the Arab world has been failed or failing states that became fertile ground for gangs and militias backed by regional powers.

What, then, should be done? Events must be read with an independent eye, drawing on the wisdom of earlier generations, deep insight, precise measurement and the principle of triangulation so that we consistently choose the lesser of two harms or the more beneficial of two goods. Strategic vision and the development of national capabilities are the real instruments of strength.

Read without false emotion, successful strategic planning turns the future we seek into lived reality. Great powers, corporate states and disaster capitalism make mistakes and then exploit crises to correct course in their own favor. Every state has its own plans, ambitions and fears. International relations are governed by interests and shifting balances of power, not by sentiment. The states of the Gulf Cooperation Council must study their own realities and futures and reassess their alliances with courage and wisdom. Interests change and balances shift, regardless of polished statements.

We should rely on our genuine sources of strength, prepare plans and alternatives and learn from history before it is too late. Saudi Arabia is advancing steadily toward sustainable development, committed to the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals, in order to build a prosperous future for all rather than for the wealthy alone. On cross-border issues of technology, energy and security, sustained cooperation among multiple centers of power is a more realistic option than assuming that any single alliance can permanently write the rules for everyone. Inevitability is not a law of nature; it is a choice that reflects whose voice is counted. At the individual level, understanding the problem is half the solution. Practical steps can create positive change: join collective efforts, as collective action multiplies impact; keep the larger picture in view, especially in complex conflicts such as the Palestinian-Israeli issue, without losing sight of the ultimate goal of a just peace and dignified coexistence; preserve diversity and draw the best from people everywhere; tell your story.

Uttar Pradesh will become safe only through accountable police system

SAURABH VARSHNEY

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, on the occasion of Police Memorial Day, conveyed the message that in the new Uttar Pradesh, no one is above the law and that the police have been given complete freedom to take effective action against criminals. According to the Chief Minister, this freedom has transformed the state's identity from one of unrest to celebration. His statement underscores the government's priorities regarding law and order in the state and the role of the police. Undoubtedly, peace, security, and the rule of law are fundamental prerequisites for development in any democratic system. But the true success of the rule of law is determined not by mere claims of strict action, but by the confidence of security in the minds of ordinary citizens, the availability of justice, and the impartiality of the administration.

Police Memorial Day is not merely a ceremonial event, but an opportunity to remember the supreme sacrifice of those brave police officers who laid down their lives while protecting the nation and society. The police's responsibility extends not only to apprehend criminals or enforce the law, but also to assist citizens in times of crisis, ensure the safety of vulnerable groups, and foster an environment of trust in society. Dedication to duty, courage, and discipline are the hallmarks of police service. Therefore, a true tribute to martyred police officers will only be meaningful if their safety, working conditions, modern resources, and professional training are continuously improved.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, referring to the law and order situation before 2017, said that at that time the state was under the influence of mafia and anarchic elements. Incidents like the Jawahar Bagh incident in Mathura are a reminder of the seriousness of law and order challenges and the difficulties police officers face in dealing with them. The current government claims that political or administrative pressure is not being allowed to hinder action against criminals. If this policy is implemented with fairness and consistency, it could strengthen public trust in the law.

However, it is essential for any government to assess law and order improvements not solely based on its own achievements, but also to consider independent data, the changing nature of crime, and the experiences of citizens. Controlling crime is not simply about increasing the number of arrests and confiscation of property. A true achievement will be recognized when women, children, the elderly, businessmen, farmers, and vulnerable sections of society are provided with a safe environment. Citizens are not harassed when filing complaints, victims receive timely assistance, and crime investigations are completed impartially. Along with police efficiency, the speed of the judicial process and the quality of prosecution are equally important.

The Chief Minister cited steps taken to make the police system more efficient and modern, including the recruitment of over 2.26 lakh police personnel, a tenfold increase in training capacity, the implementation of the Police Commissionerate system in seven major cities, the establishment of cyber police stations in every district, and the provision of women's help cells in all police stations. These initiatives aim to prepare the police to meet changing social and technological challenges. In a vast state like Uttar Pradesh, with a growing population and rapid urbanization, expanding the police force's strength, efficiency, and resources is essential. New recruitments can help reduce police workload, increase patrolling, and deliver services to citizens.

But along with recruitment, special attention must also be paid to the quality of training. Police officers must have practical knowledge of law, human rights, cybercrime, forensic investigation, digital evidence, and community policing. Simply providing modern weapons and technical equipment is not enough. Sensitivity, patience, and professionalism are equally important in police work. Accountability must be ensured at every level, from hearing a victim's complaint to completing a crime investigation. The reputation of the police is built not only on its powers, but also on the responsible use of those powers.

Cybercrime has emerged as a major challenge today. Online fraud, identity theft, digital payment fraud, and crimes committed through social media have imposed new responsibilities on the police. Establishing cyber police stations in every district is a useful step, but these stations also require trained staff, modern technology, and a system for prompt action. Citizens should find it easy to file cybercrime complaints. Similarly, the establishment of women's helplines will be effective only if women's complaints are heard seriously, their privacy is protected, and immediate assistance is provided when needed.

The government has reported action against 88,973 criminals under the Gangsters Act and the seizure of illegal assets worth over ?15,000 crore. These figures indicate the government's action against organized crime and criminally acquired assets. Legal action against criminally acquired assets can be an important means of weakening the economic base of organized crime. However, such action requires adherence to due process of law, sufficient evidence, and a fair investigation. The basis for action against an individual should be their crime, not their political identity, social status, or any other form of prejudice.

Akash Missile Could Be India's Next Big Export. But There's A Problem

MANISH KUMAR JHA



India's reported sale of its indigenous Akash surface-to-air missile system to Tajikistan and Turkmenistan could mark an important step in the country's ambition to become a major global arms exporter. Beyond the commercial value of the deals, the entry of Akash into Central Asia would open a new market for Indian defence technology in a region where countries are increasingly looking to diversify their military suppliers away from Russia and China. Earlier, Armenia and the Philippines already received missiles and munitions from India, showing the high potential and trend. The significance of Akash goes well beyond the sale of a missile system. It represents a larger transformation in India's defence industrial policy - from a country that depended heavily on imported weapons to one seeking international markets for its indigenous military capabilities. For decades, India's defence manufacturing ecosystem was constrained by excessive controls, a policy mindset that did little to encourage exports. The result was a persistent contradiction: India remained among the world's largest arms importers. That contradiction is now beginning to change, rather radically. But policy reform must not stop at encouraging exports. It must also make exporting commercially viable. Telling Numbers The numbers tell a good story. India's defence production rose from Rs 46,429 crore in 2014-15 to approximately Rs 1.78 lakh crore in 2025-26. Defence exports climbed from just Rs 686 crore in 2013-14 to a record Rs 38,424 crore in 2025-26, reaching more than 80 countries. The government has set its sights on annual defence production of Rs 3 lakh crore and exports of Rs 50,000 crore by 2029. These are ambitious targets, but they are not beyond reach if the country can scale up manufacturing with a sustained international presence. Importantly, India is gradually moving beyond the export of components, spares, and low-value equipment towards complete weapon systems and sophisticated platforms. Missiles, radars, electronic warfare subsystems, counter-drone solutions, artillery systems, and naval equipment are now part of the export conversation. The BrahMos cruise missile and Akash air-defence system illustrate this shift. Other indigenous capabilities, including the Astra air-to-air missile, offer further opportunities. The Tejas light combat aircraft and Indian-built naval platforms could also contribute to the country's longer-term export ambitions. Wonder why India's robust capabilities in warships - from corvettes to frigates to destroyers - are still not part of the global military export systems, from Asia to Africa? The Akash programme is particularly instructive, and its improved variants, including Akash Prime and Akash-NG, demonstrate why exports must be supported by continuous research, upgrades, and reliable production. An Economic Opportunity Defence manufacturing is often discussed primarily through the lens of national security. That is understandable, but incomplete. Defence is also an economic activity capable of generating massive investment, a skilled workforce, technological innovation, and industrial growth. However, a few manufacturing sectors impose such demanding requirements on suppliers. Defence companies must satisfy stringent quality standards, undergo extensive trials and validation, meet security, and prove their ability to deliver over long periods. They must also invest in research, testing, and specialised manufacturing, often well before a contract translates into revenue. The best part: technologies developed for the military add many capabilities in advanced materials, electronics, sensors, communications, propulsion, and precision manufacturing. So, the export orders can help Indian companies increase production volumes, spread development costs, and reduce their dependence on a single domestic customer.

Star Health Urges People in Andhra Pradesh to Seek Timely Preventive Care This Season



Vijayawada, October 22, 2026: Malaria, dengue and seasonal fevers remain a concern across Andhra Pradesh this post monsoon season, particularly in the coastal and north coastal districts. According to the State Health Department, malaria cases rose 27.9% to 7,895 up to August 30 this year, with increases in Alluri Sitarama Raju, Polavaram and Vizianagaram districts, while 1,475 dengue cases were recorded. Bird flu has also been a concern in other part of the state, and residents have been advised to stay vigilant.

With early symptoms of most seasonal infections looking alike, timely consultation is more important than self-medication. Against this backdrop, Star Health and Allied Insurance Company Limited (NSE: STARHEALTH; BSE: 543412), one of India's leading standalone health insurance companies, is encouraging families to put prevention first, and is strengthening access to Virtual Doctor Consultations, guided care support and Home Health Care across Andhra Pradesh.

CARE AT HOME, UNDER MEDICAL SUPERVISION

Star Health Insurance's data points to growing adoption of medically supervised treatment at home. Home Health Care utilisation among eligible policyholders in Andhra Pradesh grew over 4.2X between April and September 2026 compared with the same period last year, after tripling the year before, taking overall growth to more than 12X in two years. Adoption has been seen across key locations including Vijayawada, Visakhapatnam, Guntur, Kakinada, East Godavari, Kadapa, Prakasam (Darsi), Gudivada, Narasaraopet, Narsapur and Anantapur.

SIMPLE STEPS FOR A HEALTHY SEASON

• Prevent mosquito breeding: clear stagnant water around the home, in line with the State Health Department's weekly Friday Dry Day.

• Avoid mosquito bites: use mosquito nets and repellents, and wear full sleeved clothing, especially at dawn and dusk.

Consult a doctor early for fever with chills, severe headache, body ache or joint pain, particularly in the case of senior citizens, children and people with existing conditions, and seek immediate medical attention for breathing difficulty, persistent high fever, bleeding or signs of dehydration.

Commenting on the advisory, Mr. Srinivas KBB, Business Head, Andhra Pradesh, Star Health Insurance, said: "Prevention remains the simplest and most effective form of healthcare. Malaria, dengue, seasonal flu and viral fevers can look alike in their early stages, and only a doctor can tell the difference, so the costliest mistake a family can make is waiting it out. Between April and September, Home Health Care utilisation among our customers in Andhra Pradesh grew over 4.2X compared with the same period last year, which shows that families are increasingly choosing medically supervised treatment at home when their condition allows it. With Talk to Star, Virtual Doctor Consultations and Home Health Care, our policyholders are one call away from the right care."

Indriya Unveils 'Festival of Love', Its Diwali Campaign Featuring Aditi Rao Hydari and Siddharth



Mumbai, October 2026: Diwali is one of the few times of the year when we pour ourselves into creating joy for everyone we love. Every detail matters, from decorating our homes and preparing rituals to choosing gifts and welcoming family and friends. Yet, in the midst of this celebration, the simplest expressions of love for our inner circle can often take a back seat. Rooted in Indriya's philosophy of finding the 'Us in We', Festival of Love celebrates the relationships and moments of connection that sit at the heart of every celebration. This Diwali, Indriya, Aditya Birla Jewellery, brings this thought to life through its latest campaign featuring Aditi Rao Hydari and Siddharth. The campaign brings to life the warmth, affection and intimacy shared between two people amid the larger celebrations of Diwali. Set around Aditi and Siddharth preparing to host friends for the festival, the film captures the easy banter and quiet yearning for togetherness that often gets lost amidst the festive rush. As they navigate the beautiful chaos of Diwali preparations, a thoughtful gesture takes centre stage, creating a heartfelt moment that prompts their friends to playfully ask, "Aaj Diwali hai ya Valentine's Day?" At the heart of Festival of Love is the idea that every celebration is made meaningful by the relationships at its centre. While Diwali is marked by togetherness and shared joy, it is often the personal gestures between loved ones that leave the deepest impression. Through the campaign, Indriya shines a light on these moments of affection and connection, where jewellery becomes more than an adornment, evolving into a meaningful expression of love, gratitude and togetherness. Sandeep Kohli, CEO, Indriya, said, "The festive season remains one of the most important periods for the jewellery industry, shaped by the enduring traditions of celebration, gifting and auspicious purchases. As Indriya continues to expand its presence across India, we see this as an opportunity to build deeper emotional connections with consumers through stories that resonate with how they celebrate today. With 'Festival of Love', we wanted to spotlight the relationships and moments that make the festive season meaningful, while Padmika brings this sentiment to life through jewellery inspired by prosperity, blessings and new beginnings. Together, they reflect our vision of creating jewellery that is rooted in Indian culture yet relevant for the modern consumer." Shantiswarup Panda, Head of Marketing and Visual Merchandising, Indriya, said, "Festival of Love is a natural extension of our 'Us in We' philosophy, which celebrates the relationships that bring meaning to our lives. This Diwali, we wanted to move beyond the larger spectacle of the festival and focus on the moments of affection and connection that often unfold quietly within it. Aditi and Siddharth brought this thought to life effortlessly. As a couple, they embody the warmth, playfulness and genuine companionship that the campaign seeks to celebrate, making the story feel authentic and relatable." On conceptualising the campaign, Tanuja Bhat, Senior Executive Creative Director & Creative Head, Beauty & Luxury Collective, Ogilvy West, said, 'While Diwali is about coming together, it is also about those little moments we manage to steal with the people closest to us. With 'Festival of Love', we wanted to move beyond the spectacle of the festival and explore the intimacy that exists within it.

ICICI Life reports robust PAT growth of 26.5% to Rs. 760 crore in H1-FY2027

The Board of Directors of ICICI Life Insurance Limited approved and adopted the financial results for the quarter ended September 30, 2026.

In H1-FY2027, the retail protection segment grew by 47.2% year-on-year and the annuity segment grew by 50.0% year-on-year. As a result, retail sum assured increased by 34.9% year-on-year to 2.32 lakh crore, reflecting a meaningful expansion in the coverage offered to customers.

New business premium of the Company grew by 25.0% year-on-year to 11,821 crore in H1-FY2027. Value of New Business (VNB) grew by 22.3% year-on-year to 1,283 crore, with a margin of 26.0%. Profit After Tax (PAT) increased by 26.5% year on year to 760 crore in H1-FY2027.

Mr. Sidharatha Mishra, Chief Operating Officer (COO) of ICICI Life Insurance Limited said, "Customer centricity has always been ICICI Life's core ethos, and this steadfast commitment will continue to guide all our actions in the years ahead as well. Protection and annuity remain at the heart of our long-term strategy, addressing deeply underpenetrated needs in India. Backed by a well-diversified distribution network, innovative & customer-centric product portfolio, customer-first sales & service, industry leading quality parameters, strong risk & capital metrics, we are a resilient organisation that can successfully capitalise on emerging opportunities. Our commitment is to deliver sustainable VNB growth while balancing business, profitability and risk & prudence."

The Company's claim settlement ratio stood at 99.3% in H1-FY2027, with an average turnaround time of 1.1 days for non-investigated claims. During the period, the Company settled 2,627 crore of death claims and paid 8,634 crore as maturity and survival benefits, reflecting its continued focus on delivering timely financial protection and peace of mind to customers when needed the most. The Company has been renamed to 'ICICI Life Insurance Limited', marking an important milestone in its 25-year journey of securing dreams and financial future of more than 20 crore Indians. As this new chapter unfolds, the Company's commitment of making 'Har Kal Aasaan' for all its stakeholders continues to be guided by its customer-first philosophy.

Krystal Targets Rs. 300–350 Crore Annual Revenue from City Lighting & Urban Infrastructure Business



Mumbai, 2026: Krystal Integrated Services Limited (KISL), a well-diversified provider of integrated facility management, staffing solutions, security services, catering and waste management services across India announced that the Company has acquired 100% equity stake in Citelum India Private Limited ("Citelum India") from its current shareholders including Citelum S.A.S., France. Citelum India will become a wholly owned subsidiary of Krystal Integrated Services Limited.

The acquisition marks Krystal's entry into the City Lighting & Urban Infrastructure segment and forms part of its strategy to build an engineering-led infrastructure services business. Krystal is targeting annual revenue of ?300–350 crore from the new vertical over the next 3–4 years and plans to invest approximately ?100 crores in engineering capabilities, technology platforms and business expansion. The Company plans to scale its operations across 30–40 cities in 12–15 states, with infrastructure services expected to contribute 12–15% of consolidated revenues.

STRATEGIC RATIONALE

· This acquisition marks Krystal's entry into city lighting and urban infrastructure services supported by increasing investments in energy-efficient public infrastructure and city development initiatives.

· Integrates Citelum India's expertise in city lighting and urban infrastructure services with Krystal's facility management and technical operations platform.

· Strengthens the Company's ability to deliver end-to-end infrastructure services particularly for long-term operations and maintenance projects.

· Krystal intends to build on Citelum India's domain expertise and expand the Company's operations across a wider spectrum of electrical infrastructure services including connected lighting, smart metering, EV charging infrastructure and other city-focused electrical solutions.

MANAGEMENT COMMENTARY

Commenting on the performance, Mr. Sanjay Dighe, CEO & Whole Time Director, Krystal Integrated Services Ltd, said, Krystal Integrated Services Limited took a strategic step toward strengthening its presence in infrastructure-linked services through the acquisition of Citelum India Private Limited, a company operating in the city lighting and urban infrastructure segment.

Urban infrastructure in India is witnessing growing investment driven by urbanization, increasing focus on energy efficiency and public infrastructure development. As cities increasingly adopt technology-enabled street lighting systems that improve energy efficiency, monitoring and asset management, demand is rising for service providers capable of delivering both installation expertise and long-term operations and maintenance of lighting infrastructure.

Citelum India operates in this segment offering services across the design, engineering, installation and maintenance of street lighting and city lighting infrastructure with extensive experience in delivering connected lighting solutions and managing lighting assets.

The proposed acquisition will enable Krystal to integrate Citelum India's technical capabilities with its existing operational strengths in integrated services and technical maintenance enhancing its ability to participate in infrastructure-linked opportunities requiring specialized engineering expertise and long-term service delivery.

The madness is back! Wol3d brings India's biggest 3d printing sale — six days to buy the future

Mumbai, October 2026: The future won't wait. And neither should you! WOL3D India Ltd., India's first 3D printing company listed on NSE Emerge, is bringing back its much-awaited MAD Sale — Mega Anniversary Dhamaka, from October 24– 7 Nov 2026of extraordinary deals, leading global technology brands and exciting opportunities to enter the world of 3D printing. Bigger ambitions. Bolder ideas. More accessible technology. And six days to make your move. Positioned as India's Biggest 3D Printing Sale, MAD Sale 2.0 brings together leading global brands including Bambu Lab, Creality, ELEGOO, Snapmaker and Anycubic, with exciting offers across 3D printers, 3D scanners, laser engravers, filaments, accessories and combo packages. Available at WOL3D stores and online at www.wol3d.com, this six-day shopping extravaganza is for anyone who believes the next big opportunity belongs to those ready to create it.

DON'T JUST BUY A PRODUCT. INVEST IN WHAT YOU CAN CREATE.

Imagine designing a product at home, bringing it to life, and creating customized toys for your children. Developing prototypes for your next business idea. Learning a future-ready skill and or starting a small business with the power to manufacture products on demand. That is the promise of 3D printing. Until recently, advanced manufacturing technology was largely associated with factories, laboratories and large corporations. Today, desktop 3D printing is opening new possibilities for homes, schools, colleges, design studios, entrepreneurs and businesses. WOL3D wants every Indian to see a 3D printer not merely as a machine, but as a tool for imagination, innovation and income generation. Through MAD Sale 2.0, WOL3D aims to make this technology more accessible to first-time buyers, existing users and aspiring entrepreneurs. Because the real value of a 3D printer is not just what it costs today, it is what you may be able to create with it tomorrow. The next toy brand could begin in your home. The next product innovation could start on your desk. The next business could begin with one idea and one 3D printer. Why wait for the future when you can start building it?

GLOBAL BRANDS. BIG-TICKET DEALS. SIX DAYS OF MADNESS.

For six days only, MAD Sale 2.0 brings together some of the most recognised names in the global 3D printing ecosystem under one nationwide celebration. Customers can explore: * Up to 60% OFF on select products across categories, subject to applicable offers and availability. * Up to 15% OFF on 3D printers. * Up to 12% OFF on 3D scanners. * Up to 15% OFF on laser engravers. * Exciting combo offers and additional deals across participating products. Offers may vary by product, brand and sales channel. Terms and conditions apply. Whether you are buying your first 3D printer, upgrading to a faster, more advanced machine, exploring 3D scanning, entering laser engraving, or equipping your business for the next phase of growth, MAD Sale offers a chance to explore advanced technology at compelling prices. From beginners discovering the magic of their first creation to professionals looking to expand their capabilities, the possibilities are endless. Your ideas are limitless.



Beyond the Revival:

How Jawa Yezdi Rebuilt Confidence Across Every Stage of Ownership

Mumbai October 2026: A motorcycle brand is built on more than the motorcycle itself. For riders, the real test begins after the keys are handed over and how easily they can access the nearest dealership, how quickly a replacement part can be sourced, how the motorcycle holds up over time and how confidently they can access service when needed.

For Jawa Yezdi Motorcycles, these fundamentals have become central to the next chapter of its journey. The return of an iconic motorcycle marque naturally begins with the product. But sustaining that revival requires considerably more. It requires building an ownership ecosystem that can support riders long after the excitement of a new motorcycle wears off. Over the past few years, Jawa Yezdi has increasingly focused on strengthening the foundations of ownership across network reach, parts availability, product quality and service.

The most visible change has been the brand's growing physical presence. Jawa Yezdi has been on an accelerating its network expansion, with its footprint moving towards the 500-dealership milestone in 2026 and a roadmap to reach more than 700 touchpoints across India by FY28. The expansion is also extending the brand's presence into emerging markets and bringing it closer to riding communities across the country.

For riders, however, network expansion is about more than a number on map. It means being able to find the brand closer to home, not only when buying a motorcycle, but also when it requires attention, maintenance or support. As the footprint grows, accessibility is becoming an increasingly important part of the Jawa Yezdi ownership proposition.

The same principle applies to something less visible but equally important: spare parts. A motorcycle is meant to be ridden, not kept waiting for a part. Parts availability can often determine whether a routine repair remains routine or becomes an extended interruption to everyday riding. Jawa Yezdi has therefore been strengthening its spare-parts ecosystem alongside its expanding network, with authorised service infrastructure providing access to genuine parts and consumables.

Initiatives such as the nationwide Legends' Care Camp have further brought parts, service and maintenance support closer to riders across the network. It is a seemingly straightforward aspect of ownership, but one that has an outsized impact on how riders experience a brand over the years. Ultimately, ownership confidence is built through hundreds of small interactions.

The latest generation of Jawa and Yezdi motorcycles reflects a continued focus on refinement, fit, finish and engineering.

Minister says 32 UK government services unavailable due to global cyber-security issue



Large companies normally have big IT departments and plans in place for this sort of thing, but smaller companies "are much more vulnerable", warns Charlotte Wilson of cyber-security firm Check Point Software. She tells Radio 4's World at One programme what these smaller companies should be doing right now: Make a call to whoever manages your website - which may be an external organisation. Wilson says you need to find out if the website uses PHP and if you're affected. If so, do they have a plan in place and has this been applied? Don't assume anybody else has fixed it. Wilson notes that, even if you have a website hosting provider who oversees the underlying infrastructure, your business could still be responsible for using its software Back up your website. Check that you can restore it too, so that if something goes wrong and you need to recover it quickly, you have a protected copy separate from your live website Keep a watchful eye moving forward. Wilson recommends keeping a monitor on your website to pick up suspicious behaviour even after you've patched the problem. While there's not been evidence of successful hacks so far, she cautions that you normally don't know someone's managed it until things go wrong . David Lloyd Clubs has confirmed its app is down due to the ongoing PHP incident affecting millions of websites worldwide. The gym group responded to a member on X who complained they were unable to book classes, saying: "Due to a global outage affecting organisations around the world, our app is temporarily unavailable while precautionary updates are carried out." David Lloyd Clubs says its locations remain open and that members can book classes in person. More now from technology minister Baroness Lloyd of Effra on the government's response. "Whilst we have heard reports of exploitation activity and scanning internationally, we are not aware of any compromises in the UK public sector or in the UK as such," she says. The technology minister once again urges both the public and private sectors to increase cyber resilience "by taking the measures that we have suggested". Those measures, she says, include "signing up to early warning systems...understanding fully your supply chains, and ensuring that they all meet the requisite standards of cyber resilience". Olly Whitehouse, the chief technology officer for the UK's National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC), says the "scale of this is unprecedented". "It will be universally felt, I suspect," he tells BBC Radio 4's World At One. On the possibility this flaw has been used by hackers, he says there are "no indications" at the moment of "any successful breaches". Without being drawn into specific organisations, he says the NCSC is "starting to see positive confirmation" that advice sent to those affected has been received and is being acted on. When asked if there will be more events like this, he says it is "reasonable to expect that this will not be the last".Olly Whitehouse, the chief technology officer for the UK's National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC), says the "scale of this is unprecedented". "It will be universally felt, I suspect," he tells BBC Radio 4's World At One. On the possibility this flaw has been used by hackers, he says there are "no indications" at the moment of "any successful breaches". Without being drawn into specific organisations, he says the NCSC is "starting to see positive confirmation" that advice sent to those affected has been received and is being acted on. When asked if there will be more events like this, he says it is "reasonable to expect that this will not be the last". Speaking in the House of Lords, technology minister Baroness Lloyd of Effra says the National Cyber Security Centre was "briefed by OpenAI last week on this potential specific vulnerability". That warning prompted efforts by the government "to ensure that disclosure happened in a coordinated way with vendors so that there was sufficient preparation to protect customers", she says. As a reminder, the PHP Foundation's original plan was to release a software patch in late October, but it was forced to bring forward the announcement after a leak. We've heard more from Baroness Lloyd of Effra, who has given further details about how the UK government's response is playing out. "The government acted proactively ahead of public disclosure," she says in the House of Lords. Departments were "alerted to the vulnerability and advised to identify potential affected systems, assess their exposure, and prepare to implement mitigations and security updates". She reveals that the National Cyber Security Centre was "able to make 50,000 proactive notifications to the wider economy to advise business and other organisations on what actions they should take". The baroness adds: "The government continues to monitor the situation closely and work with departments to maintain the security resilience and availability of public services." She says the number of government services that are unavailable has "largely resulted" from precautionary measures taken to protect systems while updates and mitigations are applied. They are working closely with departments to "restore the services safely and securely", she adds. The advice is to mitigate then restore the services, which they are doing as quickly as possible, the minister adds. Thirty-two government services are unavailable and four are partially unavailable amid the PHP cyber security issue, Baroness Lloyd of Effra has said in the House of Lords.

EL SALVADOR'S PRESIDENT THREATENS HAITIAN GANGS OVER MILITARY HOSTAGES

Highlights

- El Salvador's president has said he has launched a military operation to rescue four air force personnel who have been missing in Haiti since Sunday.



El Salvador's president has said he has launched a military operation to rescue four air force personnel who have been missing in Haiti since Sunday. Threatening further action, Nayib Bukele said that Wednesday's attack was "nothing" compared with what would happen if all the hostages - who he said were not combatants - were not returned alive. They went missing after being ambushed by "heavily armed criminal groups," El Salvador's armed forces said. The ambush occurred in Croix-des-Bouquets, an area controlled by armed groups. They were part of the so-called Gang Suppression Force (GSF), approved by the United Nations Security Council earlier this month, to tackle escalating gang violence in Haiti. According to an X post from Bukele, the mission consisted of pilots and technical personnel, whose primary jobs were to "carry out medical evacuations and save lives, not to wage war". His post said the Salvadoran military operation's single objective was to bring the four men back home alive. He added that if all four were returned alive, without being harmed, "everything will go back to how it was before the kidnapping". Bukele added they were kidnapped "in a cowardly manner" while returning after buying food at a market in the area. A statement released by the Armed Forces of El Salvador on Sunday said the group was ambushed while travelling back to its camp in an armoured vehicle, which caught fire after being hit by explosives. So far, no gang has claimed responsibility for the attack. Salvadoran helicopters were deployed to assist, with multiple attempts to make an approach by land and air hampered by fighting and local security conditions, the armed forces said. On Wednesday, before Bukele announced the launch of the military operation, the GSF said it was searching for the four missing personnel following the attack. It added that it had "engaged armed gang elements, with helicopter support" and that early reports had indicated that several gang members were killed. Earlier this week, the UN warned that Haiti's armed gangs were adapting to intensified security conditions, saying that they were "stepping up reprisals against civilians and extending their reach into rural areas". Haiti has not held elections since 2016, and two weeks ago postponed presidential and legislative elections - scheduled for 13 December - indefinitely. The country has been wracked by economic chaos, a political vacuum and increasingly violent gang warfare since its president was assassinated in 2021. More than 5,500 people were killed in gang-related violence in Haiti in 2024. Armed gangs currently control about 85% of the capital, Port-au-Prince.

Police investigate Married at First Sight Australia after 'inappropriate' allegations



Married at First Sight Australia is facing fresh controversy after police launched an investigation into the hit reality TV show. New South Wales Police told BBC News that inquiries had taken place "following a report of inappropriate content being shared". Channel Nine, which broadcasts Married at First Sight Australia, confirmed that it was "aware of a police investigation" involving the show's production company. It is the latest blow for the show, after a BBC News investigation earlier this year into MAFS Australia revealed cast members said they had not been told their partners had previous drug and violence convictions. Those revelations led to a warning from Australia's media watchdog, which called them "serious and disturbing". The British version of Married at First Sight, known to many as MAFS UK, was separately plunged into crisis in May after BBC Panorama reported rape allegations from two female cast members - allegations the men involved have denied. MAFS UK is made by a different production company to the Australian version. Married at First Sight shows single people agreeing to "marry" total strangers after meeting for the first time at their mock weddings.

HOW DO ISRAEL'S ELECTIONS WORK AND WHO ARE THE MAIN CONTENDERS?



Israel's general election takes place on Tuesday 27 October. It's the first election since the 7 October 2023 Hamas-led attacks on Israel and its subsequent conflicts in Gaza and with Iran, Hezbollah and the Houthis. Many view it as one of the most pivotal elections in Israel's history, with global implications. Who are the main contenders? Current polling puts incumbent Benjamin Netanyahu in a tight race with Gadi Eisenkot, a former head of the Israel Defense Forces, to become prime minister. Eisenkot's popularity stems partly from his military credentials and his relative newness in politics, having formed his Yashar Party only last year. He lost his son, a soldier, in the first months of the Gaza war, and served in Israel's war cabinet under Netanyahu until resigning in 2024 over disagreements about the conflict. He has built his campaign on calls for accountability over the security failures that led to 7 October. Other opposition leaders include former prime minister Naftali Bennett and Avigdor Lieberman - both right-wingers who take hardline positions on security and advocate permanent Israeli control over much of the occupied West Bank - and Yair Golan, a left-winger who supports Israel's withdrawal from large parts of the territory. Despite their differences, they could work with Eisenkot to form a government. Netanyahu's current government is the most right-wing in Israel's history. In order to remain in power, he will likely have to rely on the support of some of his existing far-right coalition partners. Some hold ultra-nationalist positions, such as calling for Israel to annex the West Bank and for the "migration" of Palestinians from Gaza - which could amount to the forced displacement of civilians. Some members of Netanyahu's own Likud party have also called for Palestinian "migration" from the territory. There are two Arab party blocs in the running too, as about one-fifth of Israel's population is Arab - many of whom describe themselves as Palestinian citizens of Israel. In theory, they could prove kingmakers. But all but one of the leading Jewish parties have ruled out working with them. Israel's far right find fertile ground among first-time voters How do the elections work? Israel's parliament - known as the Knesset - has 120 seats, meaning a government must hold 61 seats to command a majority. Israel uses a proportional representation voting system, meaning governments have always been coalitions of multiple parties. This means that after election day, it may take weeks or even months before the next government is formed - with different parties wrangling for concessions and deals being struck. If no bloc can form a majority, it is possible a minority government could take power. What are the main issues? The dominating topic has been security - with the challengers to Netanyahu all heavily criticising the security failures that led to the 7 October attacks, in which nearly 1,200 people were killed and 251 others taken back to Gaza as hostages. Nevertheless, Netanyahu has once again framed himself as "Mr Security", pointing to strategic victories in Israel's wars since 2023.

Two European women held captive for more than a year in Niger freed in Libya

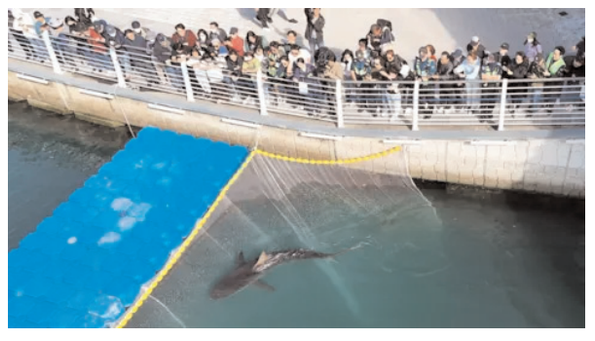


Two women - a Swiss and an Austrian – have been freed after more than a year in captivity in Niger and handed over to authorities in the Libyan city of Benghazi. Austrian national Eva Gretzmacher, 76, and Swiss Claudia Abbt, 69, were kidnapped separately in the northern Nigerien city of Agadez in January and April last year. No details have been given about who was holding them or their demands, although some reports have previously linked the kidnapping to Islamic State militants. The circumstances of their release were not disclosed. The Austrian and Swiss governments have both confirmed the release of their citizens. The Swiss government said Abbt was free and on her way back to Switzerland, while Austria said Gretzmacher had been released after "intensive diplomatic efforts". "We are all very relieved that Eva G. is free again after more than 21 months... For many months, we worked closely, discreetly, and in a spirit of trust with our regional, European, and international partners. These joint efforts have paid off," Foreign Minister Beate Meinl-Reisinger said in a statement. The Swiss foreign ministry said the country's federal administration officials had met Abbt in Benghazi and she had received medical care. "She is doing well under the circumstances and is currently on her way back to Switzerland," it added.



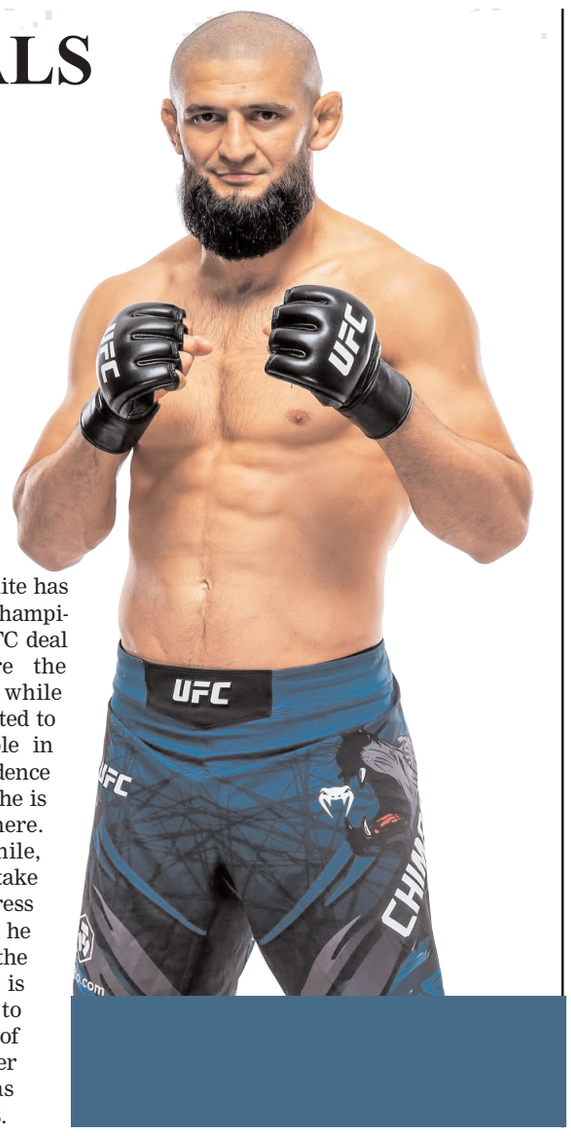
At least four dead after storm brings flooding to southern France

Celebrity shark guided out of South Korea canal refuses to swim out to sea



A famed dusky shark in South Korea is still lingering near a canal that it was guided out of on Wednesday. The shark, nicknamed Bukangi, became an unlikely sensation after it was spotted swimming in a canal in the south-eastern port city of Busan last month. For weeks, rescuers tried in vain to get it back to the open sea using large nets. On Thursday, authorities said they had reinforced barriers to prevent Bukangi from returning. But it has yet to swim out into the open sea, and has been circling back repeatedly to the mouth of the waterway. Its rescue prompted mixed reactions in Busan, where some said the shark should stay while others felt it was better for it to go. In a livestreamed operation on Wednesday, rescue workers took more than eight hours to delicately guide the three-metre-long (10ft) shark with a net towards open water in a harbour. Hundreds of adoring fans gathered at the park overlooking the canal, cheering and waving goodbye to the shark. But then, on Thursday morning, Bukangi reportedly swam back into the canal after breaking through a barrier installed by authorities. For some time, Bukangi was trapped in a tight space between two layers of nets in the canal. Rescuers freed it by removing the outer layer, and have since fortified the remaining layer of nets to prevent it from going back in. Since then, authorities said, Bukangi has been swimming further out but keeps circling back. A government official told the BBC on Thursday afternoon that rescuers had concluded their operations to free the shark. It is thought that Bukangi might have been drawn to the canal by unusually warm waters and plenty of fish. With the sea getting warmer each year, experts say Busan may play host to more sharks in the future. In the month that she has been in the canal, Bukangi had already attracted more than 1.6 million visitors. Its popularity gave a welcome boost to Busan's tourism, and the city embraced it as an unofficial mascot. But authorities were also concerned about Bukangi's well-being as it appeared to be injured and was not eating. Social media users have been circulating videos of Bukangi swimming in the canal with what appears to be a blood-ied snout.

KHAMZAT CHIMAEV REVEALS ONE CONDITION BEHIND HIS $1 MILLION OFFER TO SEAN STRICKLAND



Khamzat Chimaev has attached a condition to his $1 million offer to Sean Strickland. The UFC middleweight champion must agree to a rapid rematch. Chimaev lost the 185-pound title to Strickland by split decision at UFC 328 in May and states that he will not pay for a fight that is pushed years into the future. Strickland has not yet given any public response to the challenge. Chimaev first made the money offer on X, asking Strickland to "send location". He then made it clear that the offer remains in place only if Strickland books the rematch at this time. The Chechen thinks he won their first fight and is therefore entitled to one more opportunity. Chimaev explains his million-dollar rematch condition On October 5, Khamzat Chimaev first put forward his offer on X, stating, "Strickland, I'll pay you one million. Give me your location and let's fight, it doesn't matter if it's outside or inside the cage." The message came as Strickland publicly complained about UFC pay and suggested he may pursue a boxing match against Jake Paul after his contract. However, Chimaev has now clarified that the money is not available indefinitely. "The rematch, if he accepts tomorrow, yeah," he said. "He not accepting, like, after a couple of years. Why should I pay? It's gonna anyway it's gonna happen. If I accept, like next fight against me, I will pay." Chimaev still disputes Strickland's UFC 328 victory Khamzat Chimaev still believes he won their first meeting. Sean Strickland took the title on two 48-47 scorecards, while the third judge scored the bout for Chimaev. "I won the match, but they took my belt," the Chechen said, calling Strickland's back-foot approach an unusual way for a fighter to win a championship. He also claimed he earned "five times" Strickland's purse from UFC 328, framing a rematch as the fastest route to a bigger payday for the champion. Strickland's frustration with pay has become a major narrative. Dana White has countered that the champion signed a new UFC deal in May to secure the Chimaev fight, while Strickland has pointed to the money available in Zuffa Boxing as evidence of what he believes he is worth elsewhere. Chimaev, meanwhile, has said he may take time away to address multiple injuries if he is not booked by the end of the year. He is also scheduled to wrestle UFC Hall of Famer Robbie Lawler at RAF 14 in Las Vegas on October 23.

SANJU SAMSON REVEALS SECRET BEHIND INDIA'S HISTORIC CHASE VS NEW ZEALAND IN 1ST T20I



Wicketkeeper-batter Sanju Samson said there was no grand plan behind his blistering opening stands with Abhishek Sharma, adding that the opening pair simply watch the ball and hit hard, after the side chased down 226 against New Zealand to record their highest successful run chase in T20Is. Samson's 33-ball 67, studded with eight fours and four sixes, set up India's four-wicket win in the five-match T20I series opener. He and Abhishek (29 off 12) raced to 93 runs as an opening pair. After the duo fell, captain Shreyas Iyer's 42 and Naman Dhir's unbeaten 42 helped India reach home with two balls to spare. "We do have a lot of conversations happening in the middle, but nothing makes sense actually. We just watch the ball and hit hard. It has been working very well for us and I like batting with him at the top," Samson said at the post-match presentation ceremony, where he got the Player of the Match award.

He also revealed that once India got off to a flier in the chase, he and Abhishek felt they could put the game away early. "The ball was swinging around a lot, I think in the second half, a bit too much actually. But off the surface it was coming on very nicely. So I think me and Abhi just felt like keeping the shape and having a very positive intent in the powerplay.

"Once we got off to a flying start, we felt the match could be finished in the first half as well. Six overs, 90-odd runs - that was a great start today. So I think we just wanted to go all out."

Samson's dismissal in the ninth over sparked a slide and he felt the win in front of a sell-out crowd at the Hagley Oval was a collective effort.

INDIA VS NEW ZEALAND T20IS GET A NEW BIZARRE STREAMING PLATFORM



Cricket fans in New Zealand now have a new way to watch India vs New Zealand T20I as the opening six overs of the series is set to be streamed live on TikTok. New Zealand and broadcaster Sky have introduced the initiative to attract younger audiences through popular short video platform. This will be streamed live on the official BLACKCAPS TikTok account. The coverage will be presented in a vertical format, designed for viewers who primarily watch content from their mobile phones. The first T20 will be played at Hagley Oval in Christchurch on Thursday, October 22. The powerplay is one of the most interesting phases of a T20I match, with fielding restrictions encouraging batters to attack and bowlers looking for early wickets. By streaming this period, New Zealand Cricket hopes to bring live cricket to a younger audience. This move is a part of a massive effort by sports broadcasters to reach fans on platforms they already use regularly. Although TikTok will not stream the entire match, the short live stream could encourage viewers to follow the remaining match through broadcast channels. The first T20I begins at 8 pm, local time in Christchurch, which is 12:30 pm IST. In New Zealand, the full match will be available free to air on Three and ThreeNow. and the TikTok stream will only cover the first six overs. For viewers in India, the series will broadcast on Sony Sports Network, with live streaming on SonyLIV. The TikTok stream is only for the New Zealand audience and is not available anywhere else as of now. The five-match T20I series will be followed by five ODIs and two Test matches as India tour New Zealand.

Nina-Marie Daniele Breaks Silence On Hijab Controversy After Wearing It During Movsar Evloev Interview



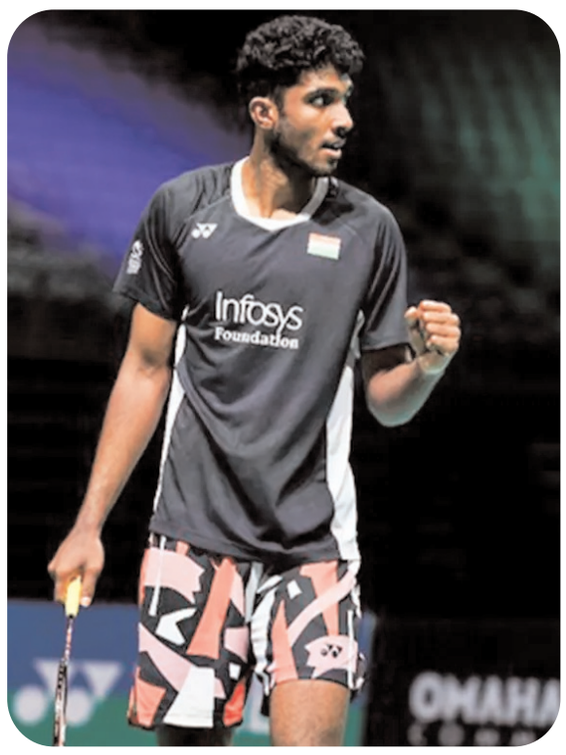
Nina-Marie Daniele has clarified why she wore a hijab in her interview with UFC fighter Movsar Evloev, and she says it was to help him feel comfortable. Some people criticised her for it, but she pushed back. The American interviewer said the decision came from respect for Muslim people and their culture, and nobody pressured her. Also, she made clear that her interviews are never mandatory for fighters, so Evloev chose to take part himself. Even though some people had problem with her wearing the religious head covering, she stood by it and thanked Evloev and his team for letting her show audiences a different side of him. Overall she was happy with how the interview turned out. I never imagined that me showing respect and wearing a hijab to interview Movsar Evloev would be so controversial… but then again everything I do is somehow always controversial. Daniele Says Her Decision Came From Respect for Muslim Culture Daniele addressed the criticism in a statement, where she explained how she looks at cultural differences. She enjoys learning about other cultures, and her UFC work gives her chances to travel, which she appreciates quite a lot. "At the end of the day it's always about respect. I have so much respect for all my Muslim friends," she wrote. She also answered the claims that she got forced to wear the hijab. And she rejected that completely. "My interviews are not 'mandatory' and never were, the fighters that show up show up because they want to and I was in no way shape or form 'forced' to do anything," Daniele explained. Then she thanked Evloev and his team for joining the interview, and added that she was happy people were enjoying it. Her point was making the fighter comfortable, not treating the hijab like a costume or a publicity stunt. Comfort of the guest first, everything else after. Evloev Also Spoke About His Dislike of Political Questions in UFC Interviews Evloev had another point to make during the conversation.

Harry Brook Breaks Shubman Gill's Huge World ODI Record, Scripts History For England



Captain Harry Brook smashed the fastest ever double century in men's one-day cricket internationals and the first for England on Thursday. Brook took 114 balls for the double ton and holed out two balls later for 202 off the final ball of England's innings against Sri Lanka in a tri-series match. He clobbered 10 sixes and 21 boundaries to lead England to 429-4, its fourth highest ODI total. Brook reached his first century off 75 balls with a ramped boundary over fine leg; reached 150 with a similar shot, and took 39 balls to hit the second century, reached with a paddle sweep against Janith Liyanage in the final over. Brook's effort was two balls less than Shubman Gill's record of 116 balls which the Indian made against West Indies at Guwahati last month. Joe Root (69), Will Jacks (66 not out) and Tom Banton (50) also contributed to England's monster total after being sent in. Sri Lanka fast bowlers Eshan Malinga (0-91) and Dilshan Madushanka (0-89) were blazed all around Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium while Dasun Shanaka, returning to ODIs after more than two years, was smacked for 74 off his six overs.

Ayush Shetty, Tanvi Sharma Exit French Open Badminton



Indian shuttlers Ayush Shetty and Tanvi Sharma bowed out in the pre-quarterfinals of their respective events of the USD 950,000 French Open badminton tournament in Paris on Thursday. Taking the court first among the Indians, Tanvi was no match for world No. 1 and top seed An Se Young of South Korea, losing 11-21, 14-21 in a 37-minute women's singles match. Later, Shetty forfeited his match against sixth seed Kodai Naraoka of Japan due to an undisclosed injury while trailing 17-21, 6-11 in a men's singles second round match. Shetty had earlier defeated compatriot Kidambi Srikanth in the opening round to progress in the tournament.

TOP-RANKED ELENA RYBAKINA INTO NINGBO QUARTER-FINALS ON RETURN FROM INJURY



World number one Elena Rybakina reached the quarter-finals of the Ningbo Open on Thursday on her return from injury when opponent Polina Kudermetova retired. The top seed and defending champion was cruising 5-0 in eastern China when the world number 105 from Uzbekistan called it quits because of injury. Moscow-born Kazakh Rybakina will face Poland's unseeded Katarzyna Kawa in the last eight. Rybakina, 27, won the US Open for her third Grand Slam crown in September and usurped Aryna Sabalenka as world number one in New York. She was then stunned in the second round in Beijing at the start of this month, and pulled out of the Wuhan Open citing a foot injury. Alexandra Eala crashed out in the Ningbo last 16 as the Philippine history-maker suffered a battling straight-sets defeat to Diana Shnaider. The Russian world number 13 won 7-5, 6-4 and will face the talented American teenager Iva Jovic in the quarter-finals. The 21-year-old Eala in August became the first player from the Philippines to win a WTA title and is typically followed by a throng of fans from her country.

But after beating France's Diane Parry in straight sets in the previous round in Ningbo, the world number 20 came up against a far sterner test in Shnaider. The 22-year-old Russian, who is seeking to win a sixth WTA singles title, used her superior power to take the first set in just over 50 minutes. The second set was closer as Eala fought for survival.

LEWIS HAMILTON WANTED TO JOIN RED BULL BEFORE MERCEDES?



Former Red Bull Team Principal and CEO Christian Horner has revealed that British driver Lewis Hamilton wanted to join Red Bull before Mercedes ahead of the 2013 season. Hamilton, one of the sport's most successful drivers, has won a joint record of seven world titles, six with Mercedes, in what is said to be the most successful driver-team partnership. Hamilton left McLaren at the end of the 2012 season, having been with the team since 2007 and winning the 2008 driver's championship. Horner spoke about Hamilton's dwindling interest in staying with the Papayas and the strained relationship with then teammate Jenson Button. "Lewis Hamilton seemed to be losing heart at McLaren," Horner wrote in his new autobiography, Drive. "From the outside, his relationship with Jenson Button looked strained, and his head was dropping after a series of mechanical failures throughout 2012. I occasionally bumped into him at races, and we were always friendly (despite his comment about Red Bull being just a drinks company), but I thought he seemed strangely vulnerable for a former world champion.

He revealed that a secret meeting took place with Hamilton, where the Brit confirmed he wanted to move to Red Bull. "Then, while checking my phone for missed calls and messages one day, I noticed his father's number on the screen and wondered whether Lewis was experiencing a change of opinion regarding Red Bull.

"When a secret meeting was then called with Lewis at Adrian (Newey)'s house near Ascot, my gut instinct was confirmed. He was looking to leave McLaren, and we were his preferred destination.

"'What will it take to join you guys?' he said, as we sat down. Adrian, who is not known for his poker face, looked ecstatic. I could hardly blame him. A driver pairing of Sebastian Vettel and Lewis Hamilton was a tantalising prospect," he added.

Simon Fuller represented Hamilton in the potential deal. Simon is the same man who had previously represented the Spice Girls and high-profile sporting figures like David Beckham and Andy Murray.

Horner also stated that there was a disagreement between himself and Red Bull Racing adviser Helmut Marko, who was credited with discovering Vettel, the then reigning champion.

KilleR" Looks High on Quality and Intriguing from the Trailer Itself – Power Director Harish Shankar at the Trailer Launch



Guess the Twist in the Second Half and Win Rs. 1 Crore" – Producer and Director Poorvaaj

The Sci-Fi Thriller KillR Is Set for a Grand Worldwide Theatrical Release on October 30 The sensational sci-fi thriller "KilleR", starring Jyoti Poorvaj and Poorvaaj in the lead roles, features Manish Gilada, Chandrakanth Kollu, Dasaratha Madhav, Vishal Raj, Archana Ananth, and Gautham Chakradhar Koppisetti in other important roles. With the blessings of Dhyanam Nannagaru, the film is being produced by Poorvaaj and A. Padmanabha Reddy under the banners of Think Cinema and AU & I Studios. Urvish Poorvaj is presenting the film, which is directed by Poorvaaj.

"KilleR" is scheduled for a grand worldwide theatrical release on October 30. OMG Pictures is distributing the film in overseas markets. The trailer was launched grandly in Hyderabad by Blockbuster Director Harish Shankar.

321' is a Wholesome Film to Watch with the Entire Family - Director-Producer Shanthi Kumar at Press Meet



Produced by Shanthi Kumar Chilumula and Ramanuja Reddy Vangapati under the Brahma Art Creations banner, the film '321' is directed by Shanthi Kumar Chilumula. The film carries the tagline 'Love Marriage Vs Arranged'. Mohit and Lavanya play the lead pair in this movie. The film is gearing up for release on October 23. Ahead of the release, a special screening of the film was held on Wednesday, followed by a press conference where the film unit interacted with the media.

Speaking on the occasion... Director and Producer Shanthi Kumar said: "My sincere thanks to Mohan garu, Mayur Patnala, and Marri Rajasekhar Reddy garu for standing by me throughout this journey. IT is my profession, but arts is my passion. Every artist in this movie delivered a wonderful performance. We can never forget the cooperation extended by Madhavi garu. It was through her references that we cast many actors in this film. Calvin Joy delivered great music. Mouna Sri garu not only penned songs but also portrayed a good role in this movie. Our film has shaped up wonderfully. It is crafted in such a way that the entire family can watch it together. Our movie is releasing on October 23, and I request everyone to watch and support it."

Producer Ramanuja Reddy said: "I worked as an assistant cameraman under many cinematographers in the industry. I have shared a close bond with Shanthi Kumar garu for many years. I am making my debut as a producer with this movie.

Jo Jo' Caution 2 Brings Rustic Romance, Unfiltered Banter and a Refreshingly Unconventional Test of Love



Following the traction garnered by Caution 1 and the audience interest in its irreverent humour and eccentric characters, the makers of Jo Jo have unveiled Caution 2, offering another glimpse into the film's raw, rustic world. Presented by filmmaker Deva Katta, the latest instalment shifts the spotlight from the pursuit of diamonds to the complications of romance, with a sharp exchange about masculinity, commitment and what it takes to stand by someone. Written and directed by Kiran Jay Kumar and produced by Vijay Krishna Lingamaneni under the Vijayam banner, Jo Jo continues to build its identity around an unfiltered comic voice and distinctly rooted characters.

The first glimpse introduced audiences to the drought-hit diamond fields of Jonnagiri, where the promise of sudden fortune brought together an unlikely group of dreamers. Its blend of absurd situations, earthy dialogue and unapologetic humour established the film's distinctive tonal space. Caution 2 carries that sensibility forward, this time through a relationship dynamic that turns a seemingly straightforward conversation into a test of character. Opening with villagers moving through Jonnagiri and visuals of people working in the fields against a landscape dotted with wind turbines, the glimpse establishes its rural setting before moving into a candid exchange between the lead characters. The woman challenges the protagonist's understanding of manhood, questioning whether it is defined by physical attributes or by the courage to take responsibility for the woman he claims to love. She draws a clear distinction between pursuing a girl for a few days and being willing to marry her, share her burdens and stand beside her for a lifetime.

The protagonist responds with an emphatic assurance that he never goes back on his word, crediting his upbringing for his conviction. The exchange then takes an unexpected comic turn with a reference to Balakrishna, adding a familiar pop-culture touch to the scene. The humour lies not merely in the punchline but in the contrast between the woman's pointed questioning and the protagonist's earnest defence of himself. It is this interplay of character, colloquial dialogue and irreverence that gives Caution 2 its appeal, allowing the comedy to emerge from the situation rather than feel imposed upon it.

At the heart of Jo Jo are two penniless dreamers and a fearless young woman pursuing the possibility of a life-changing diamond discovery. Their ambitions soon become entangled with romance, greed, betrayal, danger and comic misadventures. With the first glimpse establishing the eccentricities of their treasure hunt, the second expands the film's canvas by introducing another dimension of the relationships that drive the story.

Krishna Kamal plays Seenu, while Maahi Sri portrays Supraja. The ensemble cast includes Phanindra Devarapalli as Venkatesh, Prabhavathi as Vijayamma, Mahaboob Basha as Suri, Satish Devatte Tanjore as Rangasaami, Puduru Sharath Babu as Ramana and Makarand Deshpande as Mukesh Shah. The technical team comprises Rohit Kumar as Director of Photography, Mahesh Shankar as Music Director and Madhav Kumar Gullapalli as Editor, with lyrics by Rehman, Srinivas Mouli and Ramachandra.

With Caution 2, Jo Jo continues to build on the distinctive comic sensibility introduced in its first glimpse, pairing a rural backdrop with sharp exchanges and unconventional romantic dynamics. The film is positioned as a raw, rustic romantic comedy, and is coming soon in theatres.

Grand Pre-Release Event of "Jayaho Ramanuja"; Movie Set for Grand Worldwide Theatrical Release on the 24th of This Month



Jayaho Ramanuja" is a film directed by and starring Lion Dr. Sai Venkat. The movie is being produced by Sai Prasanna and Pravallika under the Sudarsanam Productions banner. American actress Jo Sharma plays the female lead, while Suman and Pravallika appear in other key roles. "Jayaho Ramanuja" is slated for a grand worldwide theatrical release on the 24th of this month. Today, the film's pre-release event was held grandly in Hyderabad. Speaking at the event:

Actress and Producer Pravallika said: "Our movie 'Jayaho Ramanuja' is coming out on the 24th of this month. Making a film is one task, but releasing it is another challenge altogether. We are conducting aggressive promotions for our movie, competing with the major releases of this month. We even held promotional activities near the Statue of Liberty. The film highlights Sri Ramanujacharya's efforts toward an egalitarian society and the hardships he faced along the way.

Summer Holidays Set for a Grand Theatrical Release on November 6



Dheeraj Mogilineni has earned a reputation as a successful producer and distributor by bringing content-driven films to audiences. Under his banner, Dheeraj Mogilineni Entertainments, he is producing the children's film Summer Holidays, directed by Srikar. The film promises to take audiences on a beautiful journey through childhood memories. Featuring Master Rohan Roy, Master Arun and Baby Khushi in key roles, Summer Holidays is set for a grand theatrical release on November 6.

Psychological Thriller 'Fight Maha' Starring Sunil and Akhil Uddemari to Stream on ETV Win from October 22



The psychological thriller Fight Maha, featuring the intriguing tagline, "If dreams come true, whose truth is it?", is set to stream on ETV Win from October 22. Starring Sunil and Akhil Uddemari, known for Raju Weds Rambhai, in the lead roles, the film features Dr. Srivani Gopichand, Vaishnavi, Siddharth, and Srikanth Ayyangar in key roles. The film is directed by Anand Chandra, who previously helmed Murder, produced by Ram Gopal Varma. It is produced by AVS Raju, R. Kumar Raju, and Anand Chandra under the banner of New Eye Movies LLP.

Speaking about the film, producer AVS Raju said:"When director Anand Chandra narrated this story to us, we were all very impressed by it. The story itself inspired us to produce the film. Just as brilliantly as the director narrated the story, he has brought it to life on screen with the same level of excellence. We shot the film across Visakhapatnam, Kerala, and Hyderabad.

Although only Sunil and Akhil Uddemari appear on the film's poster, nearly 40 actors have played important roles in the movie.The film Fight Maha will begin streaming on ETV Win from October 22. I would like to thank ETV Win CEO Bapinidu Chowdary and the entire ETV Win team for supporting us and making it possible for our film to stream on the platform," he said.

Director Anand Chandra said:"The sleepwalking element portrayed in Fight Maha is quite unique. Although a few films have explored similar themes in the past, we believe the way we have presented this concept will offer Telugu audiences a fresh and distinctive cinematic experience.This is an innovative psychological thriller revolving around dreams, mental illness, destiny, guilt, and hidden truths.The protagonist of our film is named 'Maha'. He constantly battles the problems and challenges he encounters in his life. That is why we chose the title Fight Maha.The film also conveys a positive message: no matter how many disappointments or frustrations one faces in life, one should never give up. Whatever difficulties come our way, we must continue fighting and move forward," the director explained.

Dr. Damodar Nerella's Dream Project Takes Off

DRR PRODUCTIONS' DEBUT FILM LAUNCHED GRANDLY ON DUSSEHRA



DRR Productions' maiden film, tentatively titled Production No. 1, was launched with traditional pooja ceremonies on the auspicious occasion of Dussehra. The film is being produced by Dr. Damodar Nerella as his dream project and marks the directorial debut of Shashank Duvvuru. Ravi Shivateja, Payala Bhaskar and Subrahmanyam Ala play the lead roles, while Neha Pathan will be seen as the female lead.

The film promises a refreshing storyline that blends friendship, romance and family relationships with intriguing science-fiction elements. The team aims to deliver a distinctive cinematic experience with engaging entertainment and unexpected twists.

A DREAM PROJECT CLOSE TO THE PRODUCER'S HEART

Dr. Damodar Nerella, founder and CEO of the Indian American Medical Association (IAMA), has been making significant contributions to the medical field. He has been practising medicine in the UK and the United States for the past 26 years. Alongside his professional commitments, he has also been actively involved in social service, organising free medical camps in remote villages. Speaking about his journey into cinema, producer Dr. Damodar Nerella said that he had been passionate about films since childhood.

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