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Bid adieu!



It is time for me to take leave ...

I have lived a long, satisfying, and fulfilling life, and the time has now come for me to shed this mortal body. With deep conviction and thankfulness, I can say that I leave this world wholly at peace, having lived a life that has brought me profound satisfaction and meaning.

I was born to loving parents, my father Kavuru Raghavaiah, a small landholding farmer whose integrity and hard work shaped my earliest values, and my dear mother Naga Ratnam, whom I lost unfortunately very early in my life, yet whose spirit and blessings guided me throughout my journey. From those humble beginnings, I had the privilege of pursuing an education in engineering, beginning my own business, and striving to take it to the greatest heights that I could. In whatever way possible, I tried to contribute to the building of our great nation.

Among the many blessings of my life, the most meaningful was the opportunity to represent my fellow citizens in Parliament. To serve the people, to stand for their voices, and to remain available to anyone in need at any time was an honour that I cherished deeply.

By my side through the journey of life has been my beloved wife, Hemalatha, my true companion and steadfast support. We recently celebrated sixty years of our union, a bond that has been a source of strength and joy through every season of life. Through moments of challenge as well as happiness, she stood beside me with patience, grace, and unwavering encouragement. I pray to the Almighty that she is blessed with many more years of good health, happiness, and fulfilment, surrounded by the love of our children, our grandchildren, our great-grandchildren, and the society she has always cared for so deeply.

Throughout my life, I have been abundantly blessed with a loving and supportive family, dear relatives, treasured friends, colleagues, and many wonderful acquaintances. Above all, I have been profoundly touched by the affection of my beloved Telugu people and my fellow countrymen and women, whose boundless love and goodwill have been the greatest gifts of my life.

As I take leave, I carry with me immense gratitude for every kindness, every friendship, and every moment shared along the way.

I wish each one of you health, happiness, and fulfilment in the years ahead.

Jai Telugu Thalli.. Jai Bharat Mata..

With love and blessings to one and all

Your

Kavuru Sambasiva Rao

Fmr. Union Cabinet Minister, GOI.

Family Members

Dr. Srinagi, Dr. Ramesh Babu Byrapaneni / Srimani, Mathukumilli Sri Pattabi Ramarao / Geetha, Bhaskar Kavuru / Srivani, Mullapudi Rangarao / Vidhi, Veera, Jayabhanu, Rajeev Bolla / Aryaveer, Tejeswini, Mathukumilli Sribharat / Mahadevashree, Eshaa, Vibhu, Shivarjun Byrapaneni / Siri, Venkatarayudu Mullapudi / Radhe, Deva, Rama, Rukmini, Rushyant Mulpuri / Swetha, Mathukumilli Siddhartha / Venkatarun Byrapaneni / Ramyataru Mullapudi / Karishinu, Sanvi, Anupama, Venu Thottempudi / Haasya, Nihaas Ratan, Jayanthi, Vasireddy Badarinadh.

Late. Byrapaneni Venkateswara Rao Garu, Late. Nageswari Garu / Late. Savithri Devi Garu, Late. M.V.V.S. Murthy Garu / Smt. Lakshmi Samrajyam, Sri Kandimalla Srinivasa Rao / Smt. Narayanamma Garu, Late. Mullapudi Venkatarayudu Garu / Smt. Rama, Sri Bolla Ramesh Garu / Smt. Vasundhara, Sri Nandamuri Balakrishna Garu / Smt. Meena, Sri Mulpuri Ramakrishna Garu / Smt. Parneeta, Sri Prasad Muppana Garu / Smt. Srilatha , Sri Ravipati Venkataratnam Garu / Aditi Chowdary, Smt. Swathi, Sri Kilaru Srikrishna Sandeep.



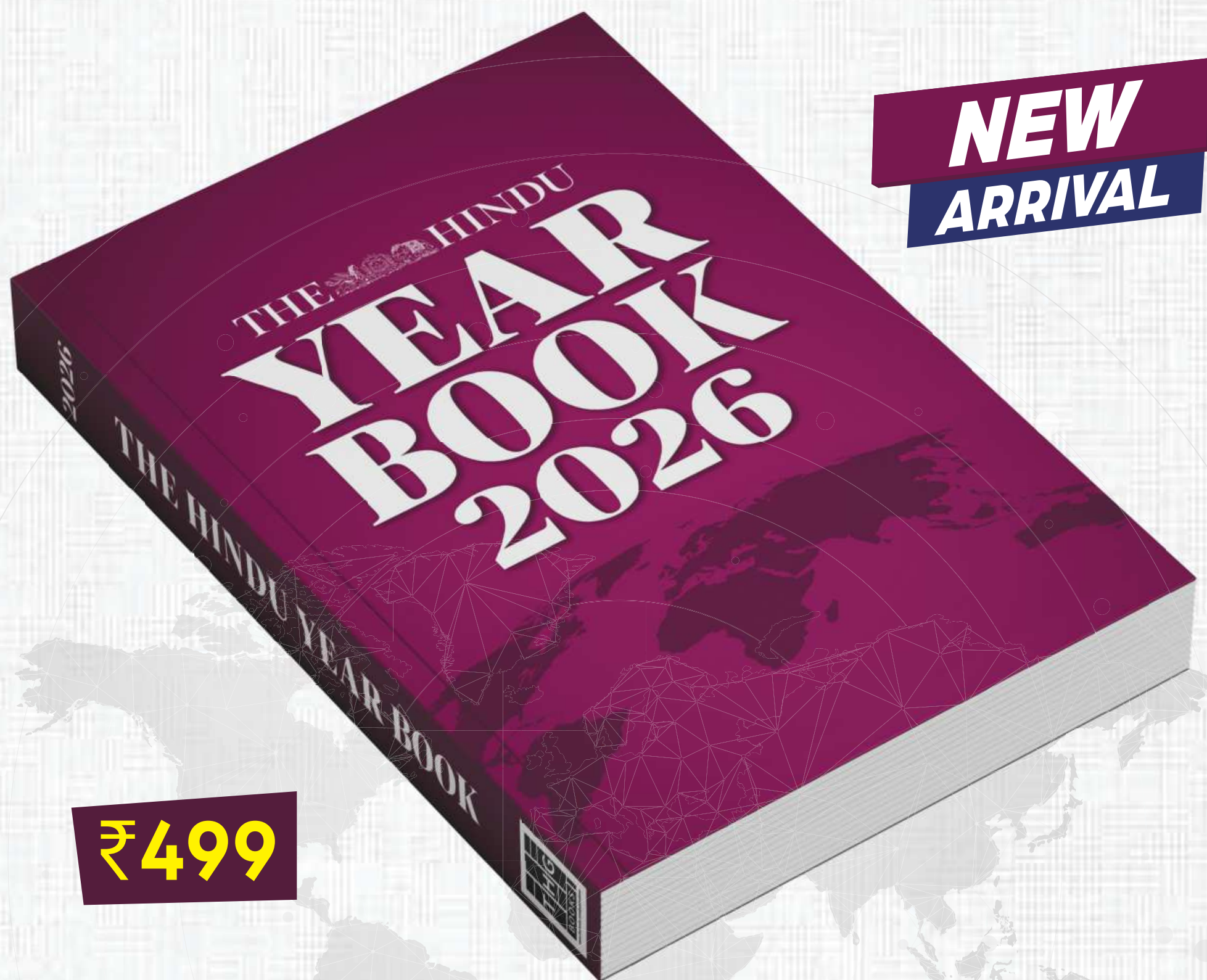
THE HINDU GROUP

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The Hindu Year Book 2026

provides chronological, contextual, and factual information on the key events that occupied public attention **between January and December 2025.**

It features a Calendar of Events with Profiles of People, and Data on India and the World. Expert essays cover critical topics such as like AI and the Indus Waters Treaty, while dedicated sections analyse global governance, economy, and sports through evocative photographs and factual reporting.



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Fear over LPG supply disruption simmers among restaurateurs

Hyderabad's restaurant industry includes over 74,000 establishments and generates around ₹5 lakh crore; industry representatives warn prolonged disruption could force eateries to scale down services or shut temporarily

Siddharth Kumar Singh
HYDERABAD

Hyderabad, which boasts more than 74,000 restaurants with an estimated business turnover exceeding ₹5 lakh crore, is beginning to witness early signs of uncertainty in the supply of commercial Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG), raising concerns within the city's food industry. The figure was shared by the National Restaurant Association of India (NRAI) in 2024, and industry representatives believe the number of establishments has only increased since then.

Amid the ongoing conflict in West Asia, restaurant operators say vendors have started indicating possible disruptions in commercial LPG supply, though an immediate shortage has not yet been reported in Hyderabad. The situation remains uneven, with some suppliers continuing deliveries while others have warned of constraints in the coming days.

"As per our information, a vast majority of restaurant operators rely on LPG; very few rely on electricity. As of Monday, there were no supply disruptions, but now we hear people are being informed that they may not get LPG supplies," said Sandeep Balasubramanian, head of NRAI Hyderabad Chapter.

The concern comes



The situation remains uncertain, with some suppliers continuing deliveries while others have warned of constraints in the coming days. SIDDHANT THAKUR

amid reports on disruptions in commercial LPG supply – in multiple cities across India – which is widely used in restaurant kitchens. "If supplies are not available, we will be forced to shut down because it is impossible for the majority of restaurants to function without LPG," he added.

Mr. Balasubramanian said NRAI is in discussions with the Union Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, oil companies and distributors to address the issue. He said the association has urged the government to treat LPG supply for restaurants as an essential service if the disruption continues.

"During COVID, food

services were treated as essential and supplies were maintained. We are urging the government to look at the situation in a similar manner," he said.

Kavitha Mantha, managing partner of Sage Farm Cafe and Ciao Italiano, said while restaurants may be able to tide over a short-term disruption, a prolonged shortage could significantly affect operations.

"In Hyderabad, there is no panic at the moment. As of now, there are no delays in LPG supplies from vendors. However, discussions are on within the industry on staying prepared if the situation worsens. By this weekend or early next week, we will have a clear

er idea on what steps need to be taken," said Gopi Byluppala, founder of The Culinary Lounge.

Abhik Mitra, CEO and MD of Paradise, said "Our suppliers and distributors have informed us that there could be a shortage, so we are preparing accordingly. Internally, we have been reviewing our LPG inventory across the network and exploring alternative cooking mechanisms, including electricity, to ensure that our core products continue to be available without compromising on quality. As of now, we have enough supply to manage for the next few days, but we are closely monitoring the situation."

TSHA warns of temporary closures

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Hotels and restaurants across Telangana may face temporary closures if restrictions on the supply of commercial LPG cylinders continue, the Telangana State Hotels Association (TSHA) has warned, urging the government to ease the curbs affecting kitchen operations in the hospitality sector.

In a representation submitted to Food and Civil Supplies Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on Tuesday, the association said the ongoing supply restrictions have created serious operational difficulties for hotels and restaurants, which rely on commercial LPG for daily cooking activities. "If the situation persists, it could lead to temporary shutdowns of establishments, unemployment among workers and disruption of food services for a large number of people who depend on eateries for daily meals," they said.

The association added that many staff members working in hotels and restaurants also rely on the kitchen facilities at their workplaces for their daily meals.



Haleem, a quintessential part of Iftar, is cooked over wood-fired kilns for nearly 12 hours. NAGARA GOPAL

Haleem holds steady, bhattis keep burning

Serish Naniseti
HYDERABAD

As the restaurant industry in the country and in Hyderabad stares at a shortage of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) cylinder shortage, the industry-scale haleem production during Ramzan is unlikely to be affected in a big way.

"The cooking of haleem will not be affected as most of the industry uses wood-fired kilns. However, we use gas stoves to make the brista (fried onions) that are very much part of both biryani and haleem. That will be affected," said Mohammed Majeed of Pista House, one of the biggest restaurant chains serving haleem and biryani.

"The regular food served to the personnel working in the restaurant industry is also likely to be affected by this sudden development. Most restaurants and hotels have a stock of only two or three days," said Mr. Majeed.

"My supervisor just informed me that we have run out of our LPG cylinder stock. Ramzan month

is on and we are very tense. We need a constant supply of gas cylinders since we cannot stock them. We cook biryani, eggs and chicken 65 on gas," said Ali Reza Jowkar of Cafe 555 in Masab Tank on Tuesday afternoon.

At 10.52 p.m. on March 9, the Union Petroleum Ministry shared information about the supply constraints: "LPG supply to other non-domestic sectors, a committee of three EDs of OMCs have been constituted to review the representations for LPG supply to restaurants/hotels/other industries."

Flavour of the season

Haleem is a GI-tagged seasonal delicacy served during the month of Ramzan in Hyderabad, and shipped across the country by multiple restaurant chains. Cooked over wood-fired ovens – known as 'bhatti' – for nearly 12 hours, the wheat, meat, and spices are turned into a gooey consistency by evening and is part of the fast-breaking food items at Iftaar.

Gig workers worried over impact on livelihood

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Gig workers on Tuesday stated that a possible shortage of LPG and CNG supplies in parts of the country could severely affect platform workers, especially those engaged in app-based transport and delivery services.

The Telangana Gig and Platform Workers' Union (TGPWU) and the Indian Federation of App-Based Transport Workers (IFAT) said the ongoing international conflict and disruptions in fuel logistics could affect LPG and CNG supplies over the next one to two days.

According to the unions, thousands of drivers operate LPG and CNG vehicles while working on app-based platforms such as Ola, Uber and Rapido. These workers rely on uninterrupted access to affordable fuel to sustain their daily livelihoods. Any disruption in supply could lead to long queues at fuel stations, fewer trips and an immediate loss of income for drivers already grappling with rising operational costs.

TGPWU and IFAT urged both the Central and State governments to closely monitor the situation and ensure uninterrupted LPG and CNG supply in urban centres.

Shaik Salauddin, an office bearer of the unions, said, "Restaurant aggregators could face difficulties amid LPG shortages, potentially affecting order volumes and earnings."

Telangana bets on more gap days between SSC exams

B. Pradeep
HYDERABAD

The debate over whether longer gaps between exam papers improve performance or instead cause loss of momentum and fatigue is now largely settled in Telangana. The School Education Department is set to implement a significantly stretched Secondary School Certificate (SSC) exam schedule this year – 33 days compared to around 10 days in previous academic years.

The SSC March 2026 examinations will begin on March 14 and conclude on April 16, with the last two days reserved for Open SSC and Vocational students.

When the timetable was released on December 9, it sparked debate as it included longer gaps between papers – three days between the first and second language exams, five days between Science Part II and Social Studies, and four days between most other papers, similar to the pattern followed by the CBSE and other boards.

Student unions termed the schedule unscientific and submitted representations seeking its withdrawal. School management associations also raised concerns, citing pressure on students, possible loss of concentration and logistical challenges in conducting exams over such an extended period. However, Education officials say the objective is to reduce stress, strengthen learning and improve results.

The State recorded a 92% pass rate in the 2025 SSC examinations, 91% in 2024 and 86% in 2023.

School management associations also raised concerns, citing pressure on students, possible loss of concentration and logistical challenges in conducting exams over such an extended period

Under the department's plan to utilise the gap days, students will have three structured sessions each day: revision and concept reinforcement focusing on key topics, formulae and weightage areas; a practice test of up to six questions based on the final exam pattern; and guidance on answer writing.

The days are also structured to provide students with feedback and analysis of previous papers, and all periods are divided into 20 minutes for the teacher's explanation and 40 minutes for students' practice.

"If I get a Sunday break before Math exam, my immediate stress will disappear and I will feel happy studying. The aim now is to make students feel this way before every exam and help them perform better," said G. Ramesh, director of the State Council of Educational Research and Training, who prepared the action plan along with his team.

Officials also said students should stay away from distractions such as mobile phones, social media and television during the gap days, and parents must ensure a supportive environment at home.

Sticks down, spirits up



Off the turf: Members of the Welsh women's hockey team share a moment of camaraderie during the St. David's Day celebrations held at the British Deputy High Commissioner's residence in Hyderabad on Tuesday. SIDDHANT THAKUR

Provisional merit list for Civil Assistant Surgeon posts out

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Telangana Medical and Health Services Recruitment Board (MHSRB) has released the provisional merit lists for recruitment of Civil Assistant Surgeon (Specialist) posts in selected disciplines and announced certificate verification for shortlisted candidates later this week.

According to a web notice issued on Tuesday, the provisional merit lists were published for the posts of Civil Assistant Surgeon (Specialist) in Anaesthesia, Gynaecology and Paediatrics, along with Medical

Officer Specialist posts in Anaesthesia and Paediatrics.

Certificate verification will be done on March 12 and 13 at Indian Institute of Health and Family Welfare here in Vengal Rao Nagar..

Reserve day

March 16 has been kept as a reserve day for submission of pending documents and for candidates who may be unable to attend the verification on the scheduled dates.

Following completion of the verification process, the final merit list and selection list will be released in due course.

Waqf Board scrambles to upload documents before March 12

Syed Mohammed
HYDERABAD

The Telangana State Waqf Board (TGWB) and mutawallis across the State are racing against time to meet the March 12 deadline for uploading documents related to waqf properties on the UMEED portal. But with the sheer number of properties, officials say it is an uphill task.

Officials told *The Hindu* that the thousands of properties must be uploaded and subsequently verified before the deadline.

According to officials, the pressing concern stems from the fact that the erstwhile composite Medak district accounts for a particularly large number of waqf properties. The district alone, they said, has around 28,000 properties. Hyderabad also has a significant number of such properties that require documentation and verification.



Telangana State Waqf Board, located at Haj House. NAGARA GOPAL

Officials pointed out that the process of verification presents an additional challenge. The designated checker and approver must be a government employee and cannot be an outsider. As a result, inspectors and assistant se-

cretaries are responsible for providing the final clearance for the uploaded properties.

Despite the pressure of the deadline, board officials expressed confidence that the work would be completed in time, stating that teams would work round the clock until March 12 to ensure that the required documents are uploaded and approved.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, TGWB Chief Executive Officer Mohammed Asadullah said, "The number of waqf properties is large in number. We have been speaking with mutawallis and others to expedite the process. We will be able to finish the work on time."

Shah Ghouse halts Irani chai service

Syed Mohammed
HYDERABAD

The LPG cylinder shortage linked to the ongoing conflict involving the United States, Israel and Iran has claimed a casualty in Hyderabad's cuisine, with some outlets of the Shah Ghouse chain halting the serving of tea to conserve cooking gas.

According to the management, the decision was taken to ensure that the shortage does not disrupt the preparation of key dishes, particularly biryani. "We have decided to stop serving chai in some of our seven restaurants owing to the shortage of LPG cylinders. If we don't do this, our biryani and other preparations will be affected," Mohammed Rabbani of Shah Ghouse said.

Mr Rabbani urged the government to intervene and ensure steady supplies of LPG so that restaurants are able to sustain production and continue serving customers without disruption.



Irani chai has become a casualty in the ongoing war in West Asia. FILE PHOTO

State sees early onset of summer again

CM
Y
K

CYBERABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
Ameerpur Circle-47, Serilingampally Zone, eec47.gm@gmail.com

Procurement Notice
Short Tender Notice No. Engg - 09/GCM/CAMPRC-47/2025-26 Dated: 05.03.2026
Published for Developmental works in Ameerpur Circle-47 on 'e'-procurement platform. The Details can be seen by logging @ www.tender.eprocurement.gov.in in the date of events are detailed below :-

Events	Date & Time
Bid Document down load start	06.03.2026 @ 04.00 PM
Last Date & Time for receipt of bids	13.03.2026 @ 04.00 PM
Price Bid Opening	13.03.2026 @ 10.30 PM

Address of the Officer concerned, Executive Engineer, Ameerpur Circle-47, Serilingampally Zone, CMC further details can be seen at www.tender.telangana.gov.in Sd/- Executive Engineer,
DIPR R.O.No.16726-PP/CLADVT/1/2025-26 Dt. 10.03.2026 Ameerpur Circle-47, Stp Zone, CMC

TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS, TIRUPATI
CHIEF ENGINEER OFFICE e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

Adv.No.70/D3/CE/TD/2025-26 Dated: 09.03.2026
e-tenders invited on e-procurement for Fifty Eight(58) works of TTD Engineering Dept.
SE-I: NIT No. 106 to 109/SE-I/2025-26(04 works), SE-II: NIT No. 1071 to 1087/SE-II/2025-26(17 works), SE-III: NIT No. 56 & 57/SE-III/2025-26(02 works), SE-IV: NIT No. 101/EE-IV/2025-26(01 work), SE-V: NIT No. 105/EE-V/2025-26(01 work), EE-III: NIT No. 1090 to 113/EE-III/2025-26(05 works), EE-III: NIT No. 82 to 84/EE-III/2025-26(03 works), EE-III: NIT No. 324 to 327/EE-III/2025-26(04 works), EE-III: NIT No. 208 to 211/EE-III/2025-26(04 works), DE(Eng)-I: NIT No. 330 to 332/DE(Eng)-I/2025-26(03 works), DE(Eng)-II: NIT No. 568 to 573/DE(Eng)-II/2025-26(06 works), DE(Eng)-I: NIT No. 402/DE(Eng)-I/2025-26(01 work). For details log www.tirumala.org and log in <https://tender.eprocurement.gov.in> for work details.
TTD-4002/1/2025/PRD SEC/A...N..429/D... 10.03.2026 EXECUTIVE OFFICER

GREATER HYDERABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
Executive Engineer-II, Circle-44, Mettuguda
'e' Procurement Short Tender Notice

NIT No.: 09/EE-II/Cir.44/SBZ/GHMC/2025-26 Dated: 10-03-2026, Name of the Work: 1) Supply, Transportation & fixing of New LED fixtures & New Automatic Street Light control systems, 2) Maintenance of street lights for Supply & Delivery of 1x16, 1x16+25 and 3x16+25 sq.mm Multi strand AB Cable's, 3) Supply, transportation and replacement of failure Drivers for various LED light wattages, 4) Supply and Fixing of Automatic street light controllers, Contactors, MCBs and Coin batteries, 5) Removal of water stagnation & Repairs of SW Drain, 6) Proposals for Recarpeting of damaged BT Stretches at various locations (2nd Recall) (Sl.No.1 to 8), Estimate Amount / ECV in lakhs: 124.20, Start date & Time for receipts of Bids: From 11.03.2026 @ 2.00 PM, Last date & Time for receipts of Bids: 16.03.2026 @ 2.00 PM, Name & Address of officer Cell. No.: Executive Engineer-II, SBZ, GHMC, Cell No. 97044 05076. Further details can be seen at e-Procurement @ <https://www.tender.eprocurement.gov.in>
Sd/- Executive Engineer-II, Circle-44,
DIPR R.O.No.16780-PP/CLADVT/1/2025-26 Dt. 10.03.2026 Mettuguda, Sec-bad Zone, GHMC

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
General Administration (OM.I) Dept.
TENDER NOTICE

Memo.Nos.GAD01-OPOM00FFPR(STAT)/47/2024-OM-1-1B, 2B, 3B, Dt.09.03.2026
General Administration Department, A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi desires to procure the annual requirement of Stationery/ Non-Stationery and Computer items/ Refreshment items and other items for a period of One Year from April, 2026 to March, 2027. The interested registered agencies are requested to submit their SEALED tenders to the O/o, the Deputy Secretary to Government (General), General Administration (OM.I) Department, as per the time schedule shown below :-
1) Sale of Tender Documents: 16.03.2026 to 17.03.2026 between 11.00AM to 5.00PM available at Assistant Secretary to Govt. (OM), General Administration Department, Ground Floor, Building No.1, IGC, Velagapudi,
2) Cost of the Tender Document: Demand Draft for Rs.1000/- drawn separately for each Tender in favour of the Dy. Secretary to Government (General), A.P. Secretariat, IGC, Velagapudi and the DD should be drawn in the State Bank of India, A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi Branch only.
3) Other details can be accessed at www.ap.gov.in
DIPR 19303/CL, Dt: 10-03-2026 Sd/- Principal Secretary to Govt. (POLL.)

Jharkhand Skill Development Mission Society
Expression of Interest (EoI) to invite Apparel Industries of Jharkhand to empanel as Training Services Providers (TSPs) Solely for Placement linked Training Program under DDUKK of Mukhyamantri Sasthi Yojna.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

S.No.	Reference Description	Description
1.	RFP Number	JSDM/01/2026
2.	Date of publishing of RFP	10.03.2026
3.	RFP Title	Expression of Interest (EoI) to invite Apparel Industries of Jharkhand to empanel as Training Services Providers (TSPs) Solely for Placement linked Training Program under DDUKK of Mukhyamantri Sasthi Yojna.
4.	Availability of RFP document	Available on government e-portal: jharkhandtenders.gov.in
5.	Validity of Proposal	6 Months
6.	Cast of Tender Document	10,000/-INR
7.	EMD	2,50,000/-INR
8.	Language of the proposal	English
9.	Last date for receiving Pre-Bid queries	04.04.2026
10.	Pre-Bid Meeting	07.04.2026 at 3.00 PM
11.	Publishing of responses to Pre-Bid Queries	10.04.2026
12.	Proposal submission Last Date	20.04.2026 at 6.00PM
13.	Late Proposal submission	Late Proposal i.e., proposal received after the specified date and time of receipt will not be considered.
14.	Date, Time and venue for opening of proposal of all participants	21.04.2026, 01.00 pm at The Office of Mission Director-cum-CEO, JSDMS
15.	Date of Presentation of Services Providers	Will be communicated to Technically Qualified Bidders.

Sd/- Mission Director cum CEO
Jharkhand Skill Development Mission Society
PR 374665 Labour Employment and Traning (25-26)_D

BEFORE THE HONOURABLE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II
1st FLOOR, TRIVENI COMPLEX, ABIDS, HYDERABAD
AT : HYDERABAD

O.A. NO. 1033 OF 2025

Between :
Canara Bank Applicant
Versus
M/s. Aadya Skanda Diagnostics Private Limited & Others Defendants

SUMMONS BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION

To,
1. Mrs. Pandraveti Roopa Chandu, W/o. Gadi Venkata Sudhakar Reddy, Aged about 44 years, Occ: Director, Residing at Flat No. 408, Block-A, Vertex Sadguru Krupa, Nizampet, Hyderabad, Telangana-500085. Defendant No. 2
2. Mr. Gadi Venkata Sudhakar Reddy, S/o. Gadi Venkata Reddy, Aged about 45 years, Occ: Director, Residing at Flat No. 408, Block-A, Vertex Sadguru Krupa, Nizampet, Hyderabad, Telangana-500085. Defendant No. 3

PAPER PUBLICATION
Please take the summons in the above O.A. No. 1033/2025 filed by the Applicant for Recovery of money of Rs. 36,84,297.62/- against you. The Hon'ble Tribunal ordered summons to you by way of paper publication in daily newspaper in English and in Local Language posted the matter to 09-04-2026.
In accordance with sub section (4) of section 19 of the Act, you, the defendants are directed as under :-
1. To show cause within **thirty days** of the service of summons as to why the relief prayed for should not be granted.
2. To disclose particulars of properties or assets other than properties and assets specified by the applicant under serial number 3A of the original application.
3. You are restrained from dealing with or disposing of secured assets or such other assets and properties disclosed under serial number 3A of the original application pending hearing and disposal of the original application for attachment of properties.
4. You shall not transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise, except in the ordinary course of his business any of the assets over which a security interest is created and/or other assets and properties specified or disclosed under serial number 3A of the original application without prior approval of the tribunal.
5. You shall be liable to account for the sale proceeds realized by sale of secured assets or other assets and properties in the ordinary course of business and deposit such sale proceeds in the account maintained with the bank or financial institutions holding a security interest over such assets.
You are hereby required to show cause on **09-04-2026 at 10.30 AM** at Debts Recovery Tribunal-II, 1st Floor, Triveni Complex, Abids, Hyderabad-500001, in person or by an advocate duly instructed as to why the relief prayed for should not be granted.
Take notice that in case of default the Application will be heard and determined in your absence.
Given under my hand and the seal of this tribunal on this day **09th March, 2026**.
(By Order of the Tribunal)
Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal-II, Hyderabad

EAST COAST RAILWAY
Notice No.: ET-North-WAT-07-2026 Dt.: 03.03.2026

NAME OF THE WORK :
CONSTRUCTION OF LIMITED HEIGHT SUBWAY (LHS) AT TRESPASSING LOCATIONS AT KM. 335/9-11 BETWEEN SINGAPUR ROAD-RAYAGADA AND AT KM. 387/15-17 BETWEEN GUMADA-PARVATIPURAM ON RAIPUR-VIZIANAGARAM LINE UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF ASSISTANT DIVISIONAL ENGINEER / RAYAGADA OF WALTAIR DIVISION.

Approx cost of the work :
₹ 8,28,12,24.28, EMD :- ₹ 5,64,100/-, Completion Period of the Work : 12 (Twelve) Months.

Tender Closing Date and Time :
26.03.2026 at 1500 Hrs.

No manual offers sent by Post / Courier / Fax or in person shall be accepted against such e-tenders even if these are submitted on firm's letter head and received in time. All such manual offers shall be rejected summarily without any consideration.

Complete information including e-tender documents of the above e-tender is available in website : www.ireps.gov.in

Note : The prospective tenderers are advised to revisit the website 15 (Fifteen) days before the date of closing of tender to note any changes / corrigendum issued for this tender.

Divisional Railway Manager (Engg.),
PR-1205/Q/25-26 Waltair

DILSUKHNAGAR BRANCH DILSUKHNAGAR

APPENDIX - IV (Rule-8(i))
POSSESSION NOTICE (for immovable property)
UNDER SEC 13(4) OF THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF THE FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT 2002
Read Post with Ack Due

Date: 09.03.2026
Place: Hyderabad

From: Mrs. Swathi Bayya Authorised Officer under SARFAESI Act
Indian Bank Santoshnagar Branch Hyderabad
Whereas The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Indian Bank under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 8 and 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated 29/12/2025 calling upon the borrower(s): 1.M/s Eastern Synergy India Pvt.Ltd., rep by its Directors Mr. P Aswini Kumar & Mrs. P Leela Narmada .Bd. Address:No 3-7-42/162, Road No 8, South End park, Mansoorabad, Saromagar, Hyderabad.500068, Unit Address:Plot No 84, Singareni colony, Batasingaram, Abdullapurmet,Hayatnagar, Rangareddy, 501512 .2.Mr. P Aswini Kumar (Guarantor) #No 3-7-62/165, Road No 8, South End park, Mansoorabad, Saromagar, Hyderabad.500068 Ph: 9246584489 & Mrs. P Leela Narmada (Guarantor) #No 3-7-62/165, Road No 8, South End park, Mansoorabad, Saromagar, Hyderabad.500068 Ph: 9246155359, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs. 1,59,59,804 (Rupees One crore fifty nine lakhs sixty nine thousand eight hundred four only) as on 30/12/2025 within 60 days of the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower having failed to repay the total amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 and 9 of the said rules on this 09-03-2026
The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property, and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Indian Bank for an amount of Rs. 91,66,591.00 (Rupees Ninety one lakhs sixty six thousand five hundred ninety one only) as on 09/03/2026 and interest and charges thereon.
SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTY-DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY
The specific details of the assets in which security interest is created are as under:-All that the part and parcel of Residential House bearing No 3-7-62/165 on Plot No 165 & 166, admeasuring 255 sq.yards in S.No 8 & 9, Ward No 3, Block No 7, Situated at South End Park, Mansoorabad Village, Saromagar, Revenue Mandal, Rangareddy District belongs to Mr. P Aswini Kumar and bounded by North : Plot No 164, South : Storm Water Drive, East :20 wide Road, West :Plot Nos 167 & 168.
Date: 09.03.2026, Place: Hyderabad
Authorised Officer

CHENNAI METRO RAIL LIMITED
(A Joint Venture of Govt. of India & Govt. of Tamil Nadu)
(ISO 9001:2015 AND ISO 14001:2015 CERTIFIED)
METROS, ANNA SALAI, NANDANAM, CHENNAI - 600 035.

E-TENDER NOTICE

CMRL invites tender through CPP Portal (<https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app>) from eligible firms who fulfill the qualification criteria as mentioned in the tender document under Single Stage Two Cover (Technical & Financial) system for the work mentioned below:

Tender No. CMRL/CP/TDR-65-CS-DPR/2026 "Consultancy Assignment for preparation of Detailed Project Report for Multi - Modal Integration within 500 m Radius of 41 Phase - I Metro Stations of Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL)".

(i) Bid Document available from: 14 Mar 2026
(ii) Deadline for Bid submission: 13 Apr 2026 upto 15:00 Hrs.

For Notice Inviting Tender (NIT), please visit: www.chennaiemtorail.org.

Any Corrigendum/Addendum to this publication, if any, would appear only in the CPP Portal and will not be published through newspapers.

Sd/-
For Managing Director
Director (Projects)
Chennai Metro Rail Limited
DIPR/1685/TENDER/2026

BENGALURU SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT LIMITED
Office of the Deputy General Manager-1,BSWML, 1st Floor, BBMP Building, Thimmaiah Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru – 560 052.

No: DGM-1/BSWML/TEND/28/2025-26 Date: 10.03.2026

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER
(Through GOK KPPP only) (3rd Call)

The Deputy General Manager-1, Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited on behalf of the Managing Director, BSWML, Bengaluru invites bids from eligible bidders for the Services mentioned in the table given below.

Sl. No.	Name of the work	Approx. Amount put to tender (Rs. in lakhs)	EMD (Amount in Rs.)	Time of Completion
1	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in Byatarayanapura division (Package-33) Call-03	2,265.34	Rs.1,00,000/- through e- payment mode under of the following i.e., online / RTGS / NEFT / OTC and the balance Rs. 21.65,000/- by Bank Guarantee/FDR issued by Nationalized/Scheduled Bank.	84 Months

1) Last date for uploading Pre-bid Queries in KPP Portal: 15.03.2026 upto 17:30 hrs. 2) Tender Pre-Bid meeting: 16.03.2026 at 15:00hrs at above mentioned office. 3) Last Date of Receipt of Tender: 25.03.2026 before 17:30 hrs. 4) Opening of Technical Bid: 26.04.2026 after 17:30 hrs.

More details can be downloaded from website - <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in>
Sd/-
Deputy General Manager-1, BSWML
DIPR/CP/JA/6152/2025-26

BENGALURU SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT LIMITED
Office of the Deputy General Manager-1,BSWML, 1st Floor, BBMP Building, Thimmaiah Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru – 560 052.

No: DGM-1/BSWML/TEND/25/2025-26 Date: 10.03.2026

Invitation for Short Term Tender
(Through GOK KPPP only) (Call-03)

The Deputy General Manager-1, Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited on behalf of the Managing Director, BSWML, Bengaluru invites bids from eligible bidders for the Services mentioned in the table given below.

Sl. No.	Name of the work	Approx. Amount put to tender (Rs. in lakhs)	EMD (Amount in Rs.)	Time of Completion
1	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in Yeshwanthpura-2 division (Package-29) Call-03.	1,569.52	Rs.1,00,000/- through e- payment under of the following i.e., online / RTGS / NEFT / OTC and the balance Rs. 14,70,000/- by Bank Guarantee/FDR issued by Nationalized/Scheduled Bank.	84 Months

1) Last date for uploading Pre-bid Queries: 15.03.2026 before 17:30 hrs. 2) Tender Pre-Bid meeting: 16.03.2026 at 15:00hrs at above mentioned office. 3) Last Date of Receipt of Tender: 25.03.2026 before 17:30 hrs. 4) Opening of Technical Bid: 26.04.2026 after 17:30 hrs.

More details can be downloaded from website - <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in>
Sd/-
Deputy General Manager-1, BSWML
DIPR/CP/JA/6149/2025-26

कार्यालय: जिला अभियंता, लातेहार

अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना
ई०-संख्या- ZP/LATEHAR- 35/2025-26

कार्य का नाम :-

क्र	योजना का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि	अग्रघन की राशि	परिमाण विपत्रन की राशि	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि	NIT रेफरेंस संख्या
1	लातेहार जिला परिषद कार्यालय भवन का निर्माण	8,08,12,524	16,16,300	10,000	11 माह	01/2025-26 /ZP/LATEHAR

1. वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि:- 12.03.2026
2. ई-निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय:-25.03.2026, 5.00 बजे अपराह्न तक।
3. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय:-27.03.2026 अपराह्न 11:00 बजे।
4. परिमाण विपत्रन की राशि घट-बढ़ सकती है तदनुसार परिमाण विपत्रन का 02 प्रतिशत राशि अग्रघन की राशि के रूप में जमा करना होगा।
5. निविदा शुल्क की राशि केवल Online Mode द्वारा स्वीकार किया जाएगा।
6. अग्रघन की राशि का ई-मुगतान जिस खाता से किया जाएगा उसी खाते में अग्रघन की राशि वापस होगी।
7. निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता:- जिला अभियंता, लातेहार।
8. ई-निविदा प्रक्रास्ट का दूरभाष संख्या:- 93347-02381
9. प्राक्कलित राशि बढ़ या घट सकती है।
10. उक्त निविदा में जिला परिषद, लातेहार में निबंधित समुचित श्रेणी के संवेदक निविदा में भाग ले सकते हैं।
11. विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए वेबसाइट www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है।

जिला अभियंता,
लातेहार
PR 374644 Rural Development (25-26)_D

EAST COAST RAILWAY
Tender Notice No. VSKP-ELECTG-25-26-WC-47, Dated: 25.02.2026

NAME OF THE WORK : (1) UPGRADATION/ REPLACEMENT OF DILAPIDATED PANELS, LOCATION BOXES, DAMAGED U/G CABLES, IMPROVEMENT OF SHED LIGHTING AND ASSOCIATED WORKS IN ELS/ VSKP. (2) UPGRADATION/ REPLACEMENT OF DILAPIDATED PANELS, LOCATION BOXES, DAMAGED U/G CABLES, IMPROVEMENT OF SHED LIGHTING AND ASSOCIATED WORKS IN DLS & NCC/VISAKHAPATNAM.

Tender Value : ₹ 2,36,37,162.84, Bid Security: ₹ 2,68,200/-, Completion Period: 240 days.

Tender Closing Date and Time : At 1330 Hrs. of 31.03.2026.

Date and Time of Opening of Tender : At 1600 Hrs. of 31.03.2026.

Complete details and Tender documents will be available at website www.ireps.gov.in
The tenderers are required to watch the website for any corrigendum's issued.
Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (S),
PR-1211/Q/25-26 Waltair

CENTRAL RAILWAY
SOLAPUR DIVISION
ELECTRICAL WORK

The Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer (TRD), Central Railway, Solapur, for and on behalf of the President of India invites online e-tenders on Railways e-procurement website www.ireps.gov.in from reputed, experienced & licensed Electrical contractors for the following works:
Tender No.: SUR/TD/12/025/29R2. **Name of work:** Electrification of Unwired pit lines/sidings of Solapur Division. (Re-invitation). **Estimated cost:** ₹ 2,26,900/-. **Bid Security:** ₹ 1,53,83,701.79. **Completion period:** 12 months. **Validity of offer:** 60 Days. **Date & time of tender closing on website:** 03.04.2026 at 15.00 hours. **EXP-08**
Download RailOne App for Tickets

कॅनरा बँक Canara Bank
REGIONAL OFFICE : HYDERABAD NORTH
No.3-5-168/1234, 1 Floor, Opp. Shanthi Talkies, Narayanaguda, Hyderabad-500029

POSSESSION NOTICE
(SECTION 13(4)) (For Immovable Property)
Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Canara Bank under Securitization And Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act 54 of 2002) (hereinafter referred to as "the Act") and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a Demand Notice dated 31-12-2025 calling upon the borrowers M/S Goshen Exim is represented by its Partners Sri Bommak Ramesh S/o Bommak Pochiah & Sri Dharmender Tulasidas S/o D. Tulasidas and Sri Vijay Ojha S/o Govind Gopal Ojha to repay the amount mentioned in the notice, being Rs.9,11,90,674.87 (Rupees Nine Crore Eleven Lakhs Ninety Thousand Six Hundred Seventy-Four and Paise Eighty Seven Only) within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.
The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him / her under section 13 (4) of the said Act, read with Rule 8 & 9 of the said Rule on this 09th day of March in Year 2026.
The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Canara Bank for an amount of Rs.9,57,28,083.52 (Rupees Nine Crore Fifty Seven Lakh Twenty Eight Thousand Eighty Three and Paise Fifty Two Only) and interest and other penal charges thereon
The borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of Section 13 (8) of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.
DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY
1) All that the Residential Flat No' 502 in fifth floor having Plinth Area 1612 Sq ft including Common Areas 160 sq ft and 2 Car Parking along with undivided share of land 50.72 SqYards out of 1564 Sq Yards in Premises Bearing Municipal No.1-4-445 (PTIN No. 1155501273) building Known as Krishna Kunj Situated at Kavagudiga 'Hyderabad' Telangana State' and Bounded by: North: Open to Sky, South: corridor, East: Open to Sky, West: Flat No.503
2) All that the Residential Flat No.505, in fifth floor having plinth Area 1959 Sq ft including Common Areas 160 sq ft and 2 Car parking along with undivided share of Land 61.30 Sq yards out of 1564 Sq Yards in premises Bearing Municipal No. 1-4-445 (PTIN No.1155501274) building known as (Krishna Kunj) Situated at Kavagudiga Hyderabad, Telangana State, and Bounded by: North : Flat No. 503 & Corridor, South: Open to Sky, East: Flat No.504, West: Open to Sky,
3) All that the Residential Flat No' 503 in fifth floor having Plinth Area 1479 Sq ft including Common Areas 160 sq. ft and 2 Car Parking along with undivided share of land 46.54 SqYards out of 1564 Sq. Yards in Premises Bearing Municipal No.1-4-445 (PTIN No. 1155500932) building Known as Krishna Kunj Situated at Kavagudiga 'Hyderabad' Telangana State' and Bounded by: North: Open to Sky, South: Flat No.505, East: Flat No.502, West: Open to Sky.
4) All that piece and parcel of land in Survey No.55/E (Sub-division from Survey No.55), admeasuring 3993 Sq.Yds., or 3338.14 Sq.Mtrs.(which is equivalent to Ac. 0-3300 Guntas), Situated at Buddupall Village, under Buddupall Municipal Corporation, Medipally Mandal, Medchal-Malkajigiri District, Telangana State and Bounded by: North: Land belongs to B.Vishwanath in Survey No.55, South: Land Belongs to B.Gopal in Survey No.55, East: Land Belongs to B.Ramesh in Survey No.55, West: 40' Wide Road.
Date: 09.03.2026 Authorized Officer
Place: Hyderabad Canara Bank

BENGALURU SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT LIMITED
Office of the Deputy General Manager-1,BSWML, 1st Floor, BBMP Building, Thimmaiah Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru – 560 052.

No: DGM-1/BSWML/TEND/22/2025-26 Date: 10.03.2026

Invitation for Short Term Tender
(Through GOK KPPP only) (Call-03)

The Deputy General Manager-1, Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited on behalf of the Managing Director, BSWML, Bengaluru invites bids from eligible bidders for the Services mentioned in the table given below.

Sl. No.	Name of the work	Approx. Amount put to tender (Rs. in lakhs)	EMD (Amount in Rs.)	Time of Completion
1	Primary Collection and Secondary Transporation of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in Mahadevapura-2 Division (Package-25) Call-03.	1,865.37	Rs.1,00,000/- through e- payment under of the following i.e., online / RTGS / NEFT / OTC and the balance Rs. 17,65,000/- by Bank Guarantee/FDR issued by Nationalized/Scheduled Bank.	84 Months

1) Last date for uploading Pre-bid Queries: 15.03.2026 before 17:30 hrs. 2) Tender Pre-Bid meeting: 16.03.2026 at 15:00hrs at above mentioned office. 3) Last Date of Receipt of Tender: 25.03.2026 before 17:30 hrs. 4) Opening of Technical Bid: 26.04.2026 after 17:30 hrs.

More details can be downloaded from website - <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in>
Sd/-
Deputy General Manager-1, BSWML
DIPR/CP/JA/6148/2025-26

LIC HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED
#201, 2 nd Floor, Krishe Sapphire Building,Near Image Hospital, Hitech City Main Road, Madhapur, Hyderabad – 500081.

APPENDIX -IV A [See provision to Rule 8 (6)]
SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY
WHEREAS the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of L.I.C Housing Finance Ltd (LIC HFL), under Securitization Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 & in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 had issued Demand Notice to following Borrowers/Mortgagors calling upon them to repay the outstanding due amount mentioned in the said notices. However, the Borrowers/ Mortgagors having failed to repay the said due amount, the undersigned has taken PHYSICAL POSSESSION of the following properties in exercise of powers conferred U/s 13(4) and U/s 14 of the said Act read with the Rule 8 of the said Rules.

Sl No	Loan No./Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower	Property Address and Flat Area/ UDS of land	Reserve Price	EMD (10% of Reserve Price)	Bank details (EMD to be transferred to)
1	Loan A/c No: 712300003195 Mr. Battu Bhojanna, House No. 1-4-25/H2/A, P. No. 8, Sy. No. 551, 552, admeasuring land area of 266.66 Sq. Yards with built-up area of 1549.26 Sft., situated at Manjulapur, Near to Govt. Urdu Medium School, Nirmal, Nirmal District, Telangana - 504 106., belonging to Mr. Battu Bhojanna, S/o. Battu Poshetty, registered vide Sale Deed Doc. No. 8658/2021 dated: 01.12.2021 and bounded by: East : 30' Feet Wide Road West : Open Plot North : Plot No. 7 South : Plot No. 9	Rs 54,00,000/-	Rs 5,40,000/-	Account Number:- LHFLHY712300003199 Beneficiary Name: LIC Housing Finance Ltd Collection AC Hyderabad Branch Name: Lakdikapul, Hyderabad. Bank Name: HDFC Bank Ltd IFSC Code:- HDFC0000021	
2	Loan A/c No: 712300003195 Mr. Tiwari Ravi, House on Plot No. 174, Sy. No. 219, 174, Sy. No. 219, "NJR Cplony, Phase-III" War No. 12, "NJR Colony", Phase-III, Cheeryal Cheeryal Village & Grampanchayat, Keesara Mandal, Medchal-Malkajigiri District, Hyderabad belonging to Mr. Tiwari Ravi S/o. Tiwari Kishore, registered vide Sale Deed Doc. No. 12062/2022 dated: 22.09.2022 and bounded by: North : Plot No. 173 & 155 South : Neighbour's Land East : Plot No. 153 West : 30' Wide Road	Rs 65,00,000/-	Rs 6,50,000/-	Account Number:- LHFLHY712300003195 Beneficiary Name: LIC Housing Finance Ltd Collection AC Hyderabad Branch Name: Lakdikapul, Hyderabad. Bank Name: HDFC Bank Ltd IFSC Code:- HDFC0000021	

Website of e-Auction <https://www.bankeauctions.com>

Date & time of Inspection of Property 28.03.2026 and 04.04.2026 between 10.00 AM and 5.00 PM

Date & Time of Property Documents Inspection 30.03.2026 and 06.04.2026 between 10.00 AM and 5.00 PM

Last date of submission of Tender/Sealed Bid 13.04.2026 before 5.00 PM

E-Auction Date 15.04.2026 from 12.00 PM to 1.00 PM

Further to this PUBLIC NOTICE for E-Auction Sale of the above said Assets/properties (Terms and conditions of the SARFAESI, Act2002 and rules there under) LICHFL invites OFFERS EITHER in sealed cover/s or in Online mode to purchase the said properties on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT ISBASIS".
1.E-Auction is being held on 'As is where is Basis', 'As is what is Basis', 'Whatever there is' And 'Without Any Recourse Basis', and will be conducted "Online". The E-Auction will be conducted through LIC-Housing Finance approved E-auction service provider "M/s C1 India Private Limited".
2.The intending bidders should register their names at portal <https://bankeauctions.com> and get their user-id and password free of cost. Prospective bidders may avail online training on e-Auction from

New Amrit Bharat trains announced

Police return lost, stolen phones to owners

CM
YK

INBRIEF

CM to inaugurate Narmeta oilpalm processing unit

The oilpalm processing unit established at Narmeta in Siddipet district by the State Government would be inaugurated by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on March 22, said Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao on Tuesday. The Minister said the capacity of the unit would be crushing (oil extraction) 120 tonnes of oilpalm bunches an hour. He stated that two such processing units set up by the TG-Oilfed were already functioning in Bhadradri-Kothagudem district. The Narmeta unit in Nangunur mandal of Siddipet district was established with a cost of about ₹300 crore and its initial crushing capacity would be 30 tonnes per hour, which would be enhanced to 120 tonnes gradually.



Power utilities' staff protest over Centre's Electricity Bill

The employees of State power utilities on Tuesday staged lunch-hour demonstrations at Vidyt Soudha, corporate offices of two Discoms, district offices and generating stations in response to a call given by the National Coordination Committee of Electricity Employees and Engineers to protest the Centre's Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2025. At Vidyt Soudha here, the headquarters of TG-Genco and TG-Transco, members of the Telangana State Power Engineers Joint Action Committee staged the protest raising slogans and holding placards against the Bill.



Turmeric Board all for IPM practices to boost exports

The National Turmeric Board on Tuesday conducted a farmer awareness and quality improvement training programme at Kowtla (B) in Nirmal district to promote the adoption of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in turmeric cultivation. The Board selected Nirmal district for the initiative to ensure that pesticide residue levels in turmeric are reduced and overall quality is improved. It aims to reduce residue levels and promote residue-compliant turmeric suitable for premium export markets through the focused awareness programmes and training. Speaking to farmers, Secretary of the Board N. Bhavani Sri explained the importance of adopting IPM practices to improve turmeric quality.



Congress undermining democratic systems: Harish

BRS leader T. Harish Rao has criticised the Congress party for reciting constitutional values in Delhi while violating the same in States such as Telangana. Speaking at the orientation meet for the party legislators here on Tuesday, he said both Congress and BJP were two sides of the same coin when it comes to weakening the democratic institutions. He termed the statements made by Congress leaders in Delhi on constitutional morality as hypocritical when the same principles were not followed by the Congress Government in Telangana.

Officials told to get ready for Godavari Pushkarams

Revenue and Housing Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy has instructed officials to prepare plans for development of all major temples situated on the banks of Godavari river before the Godavari Pushkaralu, a major festival celebrated once every 12 years, slated next year. Comprehensive plan should be prepared to provide hassle free road connectivity to all Pushkaram sites before the onset of the Pushkaralu, to be held between June 26 and July 7 next year. The Minister was speaking at the meeting of the Cabinet sub-committee headed by Minister D. Sridhar Babu to review the arrangements being made for the Pushkaralu here on Tuesday. Mr. Srinivas Reddy

wanted a comprehensive master plan to be prepared for the development of areas abutting the major highways connecting the Pushkaram sites. Along with Basar, Bhadrachalam and Hanuman temple at Kondagattu, officials should focus on other major temples while planning connectivity related aspects. Since the master plan for Basar was already prepared, officials should take steps to develop similar plan for Bhadrachalam and take approval from Chief Minister, he said.

Bhatti for permanent buildings to all panchayats within 3 years

Buildings for Tahsildar and MPDO offices should be constructed wherever land is available, says Deputy Chief Minister

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka has directed the Panchayat Raj department officials to prepare plans for constructing permanent buildings for gram panchayats that do not have their own buildings within three years. Addressing a pre-budget meeting with senior officials on Tuesday, he wanted them to explore the possibility of constructing tahsildar and MPDO offices together wherever land was available. Special attention should be given to the health of children in anganwadi centres. He wanted appropriate teaching methods to be introduced in schools for young children along with provision of nutritious food for their healthy development.

He lamented that people, carrying infants, were continuing the practice of begging on roads in urban areas and such children should be brought to Sishu Vihar centres so that necessary steps could be taken for their welfare. Children on the streets

Rovers for land resurvey in State

M. Rajeev
HYDERABAD

In a first of its kind move, the State government has decided to deploy specialised rovers for conducting comprehensive resurvey of land across the State in the coming days. The government has decided to procure rovers, GNSS/GPS-based, high-precision receivers used for real-time kinematic (RTK) mapping, which are used for achieving sub-centimeter accuracy. The Revenue department has already procured 400 rovers and orders will be placed for 460 more in the coming days for taking



File photo of a rover model.

up the long overdue resurvey. Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy has submitted the proposals relating to the department's requirements for the next financial year during a pre-budget review meeting convened by Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka on Tuesday. The development follows the provision in the Bhu Bharati Act prescribing a comprehensive survey for ascertaining the land ownership pattern. "There shall be a Record of Rights in all lands in every village as soon as the Bhu Bharati Act comes into force," the Act says. Survey of land and agricultural properties will significantly enhance the value of the properties as they will get a unique identity in the form of permanent Bhudaar (property) cards. Though the previous BRS Government initiated the process, it could not complete it due to reasons best known to the then authorities.

were exposed to harsh sunlight and other vagaries resulting in their valuable childhood fading away. Such situation should be not allowed to continue, he

said. The Deputy Chief Minister wanted officials to introduce employment oriented courses in Advanced Technology Centres (ATCs). Companies

Eligible beneficiaries to get house site pattas in Khammam today

The Hindu Bureau
KHAMMAM

The stage is set for the distribution of house site pattas to eligible beneficiaries among displaced persons of Bhoodan lands in Khammam. According to official sources, Minister for Revenue and Housing Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy is scheduled to attend the pattas distribution programme at the Integrated District Offices Complex in Khammam at 4 p.m. on Wednesday.

Demolition drive
Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka and Agriculture Minister Tummala Nageshwara Rao will be present at the meeting. It may be mentioned that the Housing Minister

Police detain Kavitha, Dalit leader

The Hindu Bureau
KHAMMAM

Telangana Jagruthi president Kalvakuntla Kavitha and Dalit Shakthi Programme State president Visharadan Maharaj, who are on a hunger strike, were shifted from Khammam to Hyderabad in an early morning swoop by the police on Tuesday. The two leaders launched hunger strike at Ambedkar Bhavan in Khammam on Monday night demanding justice to the displaced poor families

promised allotment of house site pattas and sanction of Indiramma houses



K. Kavitha staging a protest in Hyderabad on Tuesday. NAGARA GOPAL

of Vinoba Navodaya Colony, Velugumatla. According to sources, a strong posse of police descended on Ambedkar Bhavan at around 5.45 a.m. and detained the two fasting leaders before shifting them to the State capital in a police vehicle.

to the eligible persons among displaced poor families following the demonstration drive on Bhoodan lands at Velugumatla on February 24, 2026.

Central govt. approves 18,213 PMAY-U houses for Telangana

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Telangana government's housing scheme for poor received a boost as the Centre approved 18,213 houses in 118 urban regions of Telangana under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana -Urban 2.0 (PMAY-U). It has sanctioned ₹273.20 crore. The State government has proposed to construct the 18,213 houses at estimated cost of ₹910.65 crore – with the State's share ₹637.45 crore and ₹273.20 crore from Centre. For each of the house, ₹5 lakh is approved.

The proposal was approved by PMAY-U's Central Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee in New Delhi, said Telangana Housing Corporation's Managing Director V.P. Gautham. He said that this will accelerate implementation of Indiramma Housing Scheme for poor in the State. A few days ago, Revenue and Housing Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy directed officials to ensure that ground breaking ceremonies for all 3.6 lakh sanctioned houses under Phase-I is completed by the time Phase-II rolls out in April.



Women applying for Indiramma houses. FILE PHOTO

naging Director V.P. Gautham. He said that this will accelerate implementation of Indiramma Housing Scheme for poor in the State. A few days ago, Revenue and Housing Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy directed officials to ensure that ground breaking ceremonies for all 3.6 lakh sanctioned houses under Phase-I is completed by the time Phase-II rolls out in April.

Teenmaar Mallanna's plea before CJ bench

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Justice N. Tukaramji of the High Court directed the Registry to place before the bench of Chief Justice of the HC the writ petition filed by MLC Chintapandu Naveen alias Teenmaar Mallanna seeking a direction to transfer all cases registered against him in different parts of the State to the Special Court trying cases against public representatives. The judge also gave exemption to him from appearance before the different courts for eight weeks. The MLC sought a direction to the government to transfer all the cases pending against him for trial to the designated special court for MLAs and MPs.

The Government Pleader maintained that the Supreme Court categorically stated cases against MLAs and MPs. But the MLC's counsel contended that MLCs should also be treated on par with MLAs.



BJP State president N. Ramchander Rao and senior academics participating in Forum for Nationalist Thinkers meeting in Hyderabad on Tuesday. NAGARA GOPAL

'Urban naxal' dominance in education panel: BJP

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

The Telangana government is "pushing the future of children into darkness" by entrusting individuals with "urban Naxal and Maoist ideologies" to draft the new education policy, alleged BJP State president N. Ramchander Rao on Tuesday. He accused the Congress government of forming an Education Commission "dominated by urban Naxals" who, he claimed, were attempting to impose "Leftist ideology". Any new education policy, he

said, should focus on improving literacy and guiding students toward higher education but the education sector, "completely neglected during the previous BRS regime" continued to remain in poor shape under the present government, he said. He was speaking at a round-table discussion on 'Telangana Education System -2026' organised by the Forum for Nationalist Thinkers in Osmania University. The draft policy recently submitted to the government was prepared with a sense of hostility, he alleged.

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ED attaches 50 properties in illegal surrogacy case

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

The Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Hyderabad zonal office, has provisionally attached 50 immovable properties worth ₹29.76 crore under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 in connection with an alleged illegal surrogacy and child trafficking racket run by Dr Pachipalli Namratha alias Athluri Namratha, through the Universal Sruthi Fertility and Research Centre.

According to the ED, the attached assets include land parcels, flats and a hospital held in the names of Dr Namratha and her sons.

While the provisional attachment value stands at ₹29.76 crore, the agency estimates the current market value of these proper-

ties to be around ₹50 crore.

The investigation was initiated on the basis of multiple FIRs registered at the Gopalapuram police in Hyderabad, for offences including fraud, cheating, criminal conspiracy, illegal surrogacy and child trafficking. Investigators said Dr Namratha ran a racket through her clinic that supplied newborn babies to childless couples with the help of employees and agents.

The probe found that a network of agents and sub-agents arranged pregnant women from economically weaker backgrounds and persuaded them with money to hand over their newborns after delivery. According to investigators, Dr Namratha allegedly paid around ₹3.5 lakh for a female child and ₹4.5 lakh for a male child.

5% GST revenue must go to civic bodies: Karnataka panel

State Finance Commission says this will help municipal bodies fund infrastructure projects; it adds that the five city corporations have been key contributors to industry and service sectors

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a bid to ensure mobilisation of resources for infrastructure development and civic services in urban areas in Karnataka, the Fifth State Finance Commission has recommended that the State government earmark a minimum of 5% of its total GST revenue generated in cities to Urban Local Self Governments, including those coming under Greater Bengaluru Authority.

In its report tabled in the State Legislature on Tuesday, the three-member commission led by former MP Dr. C. Narayanaswamy observed that the revenue of the municipal bodies would increase by 52% if they get at least



Talking numbers: The Budget Session of the Karnataka Assembly in progress on Tuesday. ANI

5% share of the State's GST revenue.

The commission has indicated that its recommendation stems from estimates that urban areas account for 70% of the State's total GST revenue. Interestingly, this is si-

milar to Karnataka's argument before the Centre that it should get a higher share of GST returns as it is the second highest GST revenue contributor in the country.

With respect to Bengaluru, the Finance Commis-

State pays ₹125 cr. a day to service debts: BJP leader

BENGALURU

Every individual in Karnataka has a loan burden of ₹1,12,400 owing to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's "indiscriminate borrowing", Opposition leader R. Ashok has said. To service the debts, the State was forced to repay ₹45,600 crore a year — or roughly ₹125 crore a day, the BJP leader said.

Siddaramaiah joins Shivakumar at celebratory dinner, praises him

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Amid the ongoing leadership tussle in the Congress government in Karnataka, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah led the partymen, legislators and Cabinet Ministers on Tuesday in congratulating Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, who completed six years

as president of the Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC).

In a post on X, Mr. Siddaramaiah said the KPCC chief's sagacity, ideological commitment and hard work is a model for young leaders. In the evening, Mr. Siddaramaiah attended a celebratory dinner hosted by Mr. Shivakumar. (Inputs from PTI)



D.K. Shivakumar greeting Siddaramaiah in Bengaluru.

Kerala High Court issues notice to Dileep, others in actor rape case

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

The Kerala High Court on Tuesday issued notices to actor Dileep and others in the 2017 actor rape case, a fortnight after the Kerala government filed a petition challenging their acquittal.

The government in its appeal also sought enhancement of the punishment awarded to the convicts.

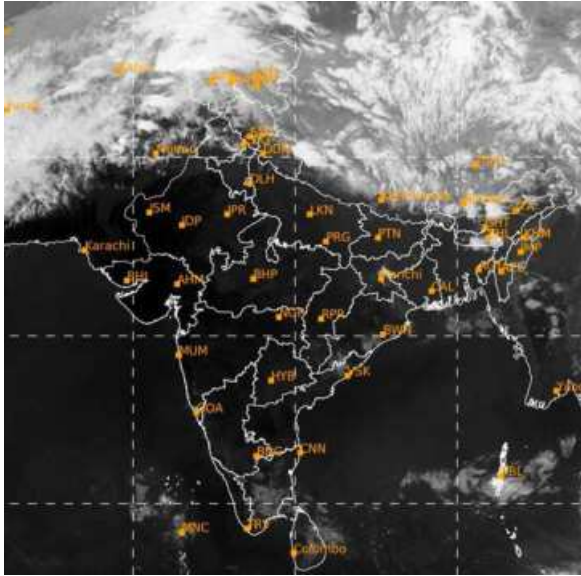
The government's contention was that the acquittal of Mr. Dileep and three others by the Ernakulam Sessions Court was "illegal and contrary to the evidence on record". "The judgment was illegal and unsustainable, and liable to be set aside and modified," it said.

The sentence awarded was "highly disproportionate and inadequate, consi-

dering the nature of the offences, the manner of execution, and the terror created in society," the government said. It said the trial court failed to "undertake a comprehensive and holistic evaluation of the prosecution evidence in its entirety" against all the accused who were charged with the same offences, for being members of the criminal conspiracy.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.15 HRS)

Forecast for Wednesday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh and Muzaffarabad. Thunderstorm with lightning/gusty winds likely at isolated places over Himachal Pradesh, Bihar, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Sikkim, West Bengal, Jharkhand and Odisha

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala		32.4	20.6	Kozhikode	.....	35.3	26.8
Ahmedabad		41.4	23.1	Kurnool	.....	35.5	23.5
Alzawl		30.0	18.2	Lucknow	.....	34.2	22.0
Allahabad		35.4	20.5	Madurai	.....	36.0	22.0
Bengaluru		31.0	19.0	Mangaluru	.....	34.8	25.6
Bhopal		36.2	14.4	Mumbai	.....	40.0	21.6
Bhubaneswar		33.3	23.6	Mysuru	.....	32.6	20.2
Chandigarh		32.4	19.3	New Delhi	.....	35.5	18.8
Chennai		33.5	22.5	Patna	.....	32.0	24.0
Coimbatore		33.2	21.8	Port Blair	.....	32.4	26.3
Dehradun		31.0	20.3	Puducherry	.....	31.0	22.6
Gangtok		22.2	12.4	Pune	.....	37.8	22.2
Goa		34.4	25.1	Raipur	.....	38.6	23.0
Guwahati		33.4	19.5	Ranchi	.....	30.1	19.0
Hubballi		35.0	19.0	Shillong	.....	0.9	12.5
Hyderabad		33.6	23.5	Shimla	.....	25.7	15.8
Imphal		0.8	29.8	Srinagar	.....	3	17.6
Jaipur		37.5	20.6	Thiruvananthapuram	.....	35.1	23.4
Kochi		32.6	26.0	Tiruchi	.....	31.3	22.4
Kohima		16.6	13.9	Vijayawada	.....	34.6	21.5
Kolkata		32.3	25.0	Visakhapatnam	.....	31.8	25.6

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO ₂	NO ₂	CO	PM _{2.5}	PM ₁₀	CODE	Yesterday
Ahmedabad		100	78	27	.....	94	138
Bengaluru		74	15	38	.....	164	154
Chennai		17	10	17	.....	96	77
Delhi		17	104	81	.....	301	335
Hyderabad		3	9	56	.....	82	108
Kolkata		11	31	14	.....	68	122
Lucknow		11	40	29	.....	260	269
Mumbai		13	78	46	.....	117	132
Pune		1	78	33	.....	265	214
Visakhapatnam		13	67	18	.....	104	131

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO₂: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO₂: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM_{2.5} & PM₁₀: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Mamnoon airport set for revival

Siddharth Kumar Singh
HYDERABAD

A historic airstrip in Telangana that once hosted wartime operations, Prime Ministerial visits and commercial flights could soon return to active aviation use, with the Union government initiating plans to redevelop Mamnoon airport in Warangal.

Union Civil Aviation Minister Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu informed the Rajya Sabha, that the Airports Authority of India (AAI) has begun planning procedures for the airport's redevelopment.

Warangal airport was originally constructed in the 1930s by the last Nizam of Hyderabad State, Mir Osman Ali Khan. During the Second World War, the Mamnoon airstrip was used by the British Royal Air Force after it was hand-

ed over by the Nizam as a gesture of support.

According to the Minister, the AAI currently has about 700 acres of land at the site. However, the orientation of the available land allows for a runway length of only about 1,800 metres. "Since the aim is to develop a larger runway capable of handling wide-body aircraft and enabling international flights, the Centre has requested the Telangana government to provide additional land for the expansion and the State government has provided about 250 acres of additional land," he said.

The airport is expected to become operational in about two years, he said. Among the other locations in Telangana, the Centre is examining developing an airport in Kothagudem, and is also exploring Adilabad as another location.

Adulterated cooking oil, wheat flour seized

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Thousands of litres of adulterated cooking oil and wheat flour were seized during raids carried out by the Madhapur Special Operations Team (SOT) at two locations in Hyderabad on Monday (March 9, 2026).

The accused were identified as 46-year-old Bhanwar Ram, and his 22-year-old son Ashok Kumar, both natives of Rajasthan. According to the police, the father-son duo had been operating an adulteration racket from different premises in NTR Nagar and Vattinagulapally in Gachibowli.

During the raids which

followed a tip-off, officials seized more than 5,000 litres of adulterated cooking oil, over 5,000 kilograms of wheat flour, a weighing machine, packaging material and other equipment. The total value of the seized material is estimated to be around ₹21 lakh.

Investigation revealed that the accused allegedly collected expired cooking oil of different brands and mixed it with soybean oil. The mixture was then repackaged and sold under different brand names. Police also found that wheat flour sourced from multiple companies was repackaged and relabelled as "Jas-nath Gold Chakki Atta.

GREATER HYDERABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
DIVISION-31, GHMC

NIT No.08 Karwan: NIT No.08/E.E.30/GHMC/2025-26 Dated: 09.03.2026.
Name of work: Various Civil Engineering Works under Division 31, KZ, GHMC.
Estimate Amount / (Rs. in Lakhs): 71.50, Start Date & Time for receipts of Bids: Bid document Download Start Date: 10.03.2026 @ 11.00 AM, Last Date & Time for receipts of Bids: 13.03.2026 @ 11.00 AM, Name & Address Officer: EXECUTIVE ENGINEER-31, GHMC, 5th Floor Abids Parking Complex, Abids, Hyderabad. For further details can be seen at e-procurement website.
Sd/- EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
DIPR R.O.No.16716-PP/CL/ADVT/1/2025-26 Dt. 10.03.2026 DIVISION 31, GHMC

Municipal Council Isnapur, Sangareddy District
E-Procurement Notice

Notice No. E1/36/2025 Dated: 09-03-2026
Online Tenders invited by Commissioner, Isnapur Municipality Sangareddy District, on e-procurement platform for the execution of (11) works, valued at **Rs.1500.00 Lakhs** (Recall) (Payment will be made from Nagarabhiruddhi funds) and (02) works valued at **Rs. 65.00 Lakhs** (Payment will be made from general funds). Tenderers may download tender schedules and have further details from www.tender.telangana.gov.in. Last date and time for submission of filled in tenders is up to 11-00 A.M. on 18-03-2026.
Sd/- Commissioner,
DIPR R.O.No.16709-PP/CL/ADVT/1/2025-26 Dt. 10.03.2026 Isnapur Municipality.

CYBERABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
QUTHBULLAPUR ZONE

NIT No.: 05/SE/QBZ/CMC/2025-26 Date: 10.03.2026, Name of the Work: Maintenance Works, Others-03, Estimate Amount (Rs. in Lakhs): 508.90, Bid Submission Start Date & Time : 11.03.2026 @ 02.30 PM, Bid Submission of Closing Date & Time: 16.03.2026 @ 11.30 AM, Name & Address Officer Cell No.: Superintending Engineer, Quthbullapur Zone, 79954 68066, 73311 81426. For further details can be sent at e-procurement @ <http://www.tender.telangana.gov.in>
Sd/- Superintending Engineer,
DIPR R.O.No.16774-PP/CL/ADVT/1/2025-26 Dt. 10.03.2026 Quthbullapur Zone, CMC

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

శ్రీ దయాంజలి

శ్రీనిధి రెడ్డి హాస్తిరేయలు

All India Radio, The Hindu & ఆంధ్రప్రదేశ్ మాజీ కార్పొరేటర్ వార్త నెంబర్ 46 Ex .Board member శ్రీ వీర వేంకట సత్యనారాయణ స్వామినారాణి దేవస్థానం, అన్నపూర్ణ ప్రొఫైటర్: ప్రభాత్ అపార్ట్మెంట్స్, కాకినాడ.

మా శుభ్ర శ్రీ గారు వారణాసి సూర్యనారాయణ గారు

ది. 02.03.2026 న సోమవారం స్వప్నస్వప్నవారాని తెలియజేయుటకు చింతిస్తూ వారి పవిత్రాత్మకు శాంతి చేకూరాలని భగవంతుని ప్రార్థిస్తున్నాము.

కుమారులు - కోడళ్లు

వారణాసి సూర్యనారాయణమూర్తి - సరోజ వారణాసి రామగోపాల్ - ఉమా సత్యవాణి కుమార్తెలు - అల్లుళ్లు

చౌడేశ్వరి కనకలక్ష్మి - శేషు శ్రీనివాస్ గొల్లపల్లి వెంకట సుబ్బలక్ష్మి- సూర్య భాస్కరరావు మనుమలు, మనవరాలు:

వారణాసి సూర్య అభినేత్ , చౌడేశ్వరి రవిచంద్ర శంకర్, గొల్లపల్లి శ్రీశర్మ ప్రభాత్, శ్రీరమణ - సందిష్, శ్రీనివాస్ సునిశ- గిరిష్.

మనిమనములు : ఆదర్శ శ్రీ, చరిత్ర శ్రీగణేశ్

చెల్లెలు : గొల్లపల్లి మంగళాయాదు మరియు మేనల్లుళ్లు , మేనకోడళ్లు

పెద్దకార్యం : శే.ది.12-03-2026 గురువారం ధోర్ నెం|| 1-4-6 చర్చి గేటు వీధి, కొండయ్యపాలెం , మిలటరీరోడ్ , కాకినాడ. మా స్వగృహం నందు జరుపబడును,సెల్: 98664 83016, 96180 24546.

DEATH

UTHAYNA

|| Sri Hari ||

SHRI SUDHIR SANGHI

15th December 1950 - 8th March 2026
(THE SANGHI GROUP)
(S/o Late Shri Ramsharanji & Late Smt. Kamalaraniji Sanghi)

UTHAYNA - Today, 11th March 2026, 11 am to 12 noon
Venue : Hare Krishna Golden Temple (Sankirtan Bhavan),
Road No. 12, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad.

BAITHAK - 12th March to 14th March 2026, 4 pm to 6 pm,
at our Residence, 550C/A, Road No. 92, Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad.

Deeply Mourned by : Usha Sanghi (Wife) Siddarth-Juhi Sanghi (Son & Daughter-in-law)
Pooja-Prateek Poddar (Daughter & Son-in-law) Devansh, Ayaansh, Aareyaman, Kanav (Grandsons)
Shobha-Rameshji Jain, Jaishree-Shashiji Mittal (Sister & Brother-in-law)
Anjana Sanghi (W/o : Late Sri Anand Prakash Sanghi) (Sister-in-law)
Ravi-Anita Sanghi, Gireesh-Alka Sanghi (Brother & Sister-in-law)
Swati, Amit, Ekta, Aditya-Shruti, Alok-Priyanka, Aarti-Rahul Gupta, Gaurav-Ankita, Ashish-Ravisha

Forever remembered, deeply missed.

IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES

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Strategic blunder

The U.S. must pull back instead of tailing Israel in this reckless war

By picking Ayatollah Mojtaba Khamenei as the Supreme Leader, after the assassination of his father Ali Khamenei in a joint U.S.-Israeli strike on February 28, Iran has signalled defiance and continuity. Last week, U.S. President Donald Trump, who demanded Iran’s “unconditional surrender”, made it clear that the younger Khamenei was unacceptable to him. But Iran’s Assembly of Experts, the 88-member clerical body, chose the 57-year-old ayatollah, who also lost other close family members in the February 28 strike, as the new “leader of the revolution”. Having fought “on the frontlines” of the Iran-Iraq war and studied Islam in the seminaries of Qom, Mojtaba Khamenei has maintained close ties with the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps and the clerical establishment. By elevating him, Tehran has sent an unmistakable message: the Islamic Republic stands firm despite the war. If Mr. Trump believed that his initial decapitation strike would lead to the Islamic state’s collapse, he was mistaken. Instead, all branches of the state rallied behind the military and the clergy, while Iran regionalised the war by attacking U.S. bases and energy infrastructure in the Persian Gulf as well as Israel. Now, a new Khamenei is in power; the Iranian state is far from collapsing; energy prices are soaring and leaders in the U.S. and Israel are searching for exit strategies.

This was a wholly unnecessary war. Israel and the U.S. began attacking Iran hours after Oman, which mediated talks between Tehran and Washington, had said that a nuclear deal was within reach. After the war began, Mr. Trump kept shifting the goalposts. On day one, he said the overthrow of the Iranian state was his objective; by the fifth day, he said he wanted to be involved in selecting Iran’s new leader, and by the eleventh day, he declared that America had already won and that the war would be over “soon”, even as Iranian missiles continued to rain down on Israel and target U.S. bases in the region. To be sure, the U.S. and Israel possess immense air power and can continue to pound Iran. Independent investigations have found that American missiles struck a girls’ school in Iran on February 28, claiming over 160 lives. Last week, Israeli strikes on Iran’s oil storage facilities enveloped Tehran in thick smoke. But what is the point of continuing to bomb a people whom the Americans promised to “liberate” until a few days ago, without clearly achievable political goals? The Iranian state is not folding, it is fighting back. If Mr. Trump and Benjamin Netanyahu continue this war, the global economy will come under even greater stress. Whether they realise their grave miscalculation or not, the way forward is not more bombing. This war must be brought to an end immediately.

Catch them young

Increasing activity, eating healthy meals will help keep obesity away

The phrase ‘catch them young’ has acquired a perverse slant in a world grappling with a galloping non-communicable diseases epidemic. The full gamut of conditions that comprise metabolic diseases, usually impacting people with advancing age, are affecting even children, studies show. The recently released World Obesity Atlas 2026 delivers a true shocker. As per the report, released on World Obesity Day (March 4), in 2025, there were 14.9 million children in the 5-9 years group and more than 26.4 million children in the 10-19 age group in India who were overweight or obese. About 41 million children had a high BMI rate. Further, estimates suggest that by 2040, 20 million children in India will be obese and 56 million will be overweight. The report also estimates that at least 120 million children of school-going age are expected to have early signs of chronic illnesses such as hypertension and cardiovascular disease due to weight, in 2040. While, globally, China leads both categories, with 62 million children with high BMI and 33 million with obesity, India comes second, and is tailed by the United States (27 million high BMI; 13 million obesity). With such high obesity figures, the attendant health statistics too are unacceptably off the charts: In India, children aged 5-19 years with disease indicators attributed to high BMI, including hypertension, diabetes, hyperglycaemia, high cholesterol, and metabolic dysfunction-associated steatotic liver disease (MASLD) are projected to rise substantially by 2040. The risk factors are similar to adult-onset metabolic conditions, broadly categorised as insufficient activity and consumption of unhealthy foods. Other aspects, mentioned as causes, include poor access to healthy school meals for primary and secondary grade children, and sub-optimal breast feeding for infants aged 1-5 months.

Clearly, not enough is being done to stem this tide of growing childhood obesity. The World Obesity Federation calls for greater action and emphasis on monitoring in terms of marketing restrictions and sugar levies on packaged food products. Experts have also called for restrictions on marketing packaged foods to children, sincere implementation of global physical activity recommendations for children, ensuring the mandatory breastfeeding period for infants, and healthier school food standards, besides integration of prevention and care into primary health systems. It is worrisome that obesity and overweight, once associated with higher-income countries, are now catching up rapidly in low- and middle-income countries. If nothing is done at this stage, the gains that the nation expects from its youth, even as it heads towards a grey path, will be hollowed out. The only way out is to catch them young, even before non-communicable diseases can.

Inside China, authority, conflict and strategic challenges

The progression from Mao Tse Tung/Mao Zedong to Deng Xiaoping to Xi Jinping in China reveals the nature of the power shifts that have occurred since the country became a communist nation in 1949. All three iconic leaders, in their own way, demonstrated what was essential to maintain and sustain power in a country that had managed to stave-off takeovers by foreign powers over the years.

Since 1949, when Mao Tse Tung led the Communist Party of China (CPC) to victory and took control, the three eponymous leaders wielded unquestioned authority over the party and the country. Between 1949 and 2026, there have, no doubt, been many other leaders who steered the country’s fortunes, but it is Mao, Deng and Mr. Xi who left an indelible stamp on China’s fortunes and progress.

The ‘inner devils’

Across China, signs of Mr. Xi’s authority are markedly evident. However, even as China has emerged as the second most powerful country, it faces its own ‘inner devils’. Periodic purges at the highest levels of state institutions have led to conflicting interpretations as to the real state of affairs. While China outwardly appears to be a monolith, several purges have been intended to eliminate opposition to the leader of the time. This was also the case during the periods of Mao and Deng.

In the latest purge, Mr. Xi removed the highly placed general of the Peoples’ Liberation Army (PLA) , and vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission, General Zhang Youxia, and another senior officer, Gen. Liu Zhenli, from the highest policymaking body of the CPC. The purge also claimed nine military law makers from China’s Parliament including Ground Force Commander Li Qiaoming and Information Support Force Political Commissar Li Wei. It is worth examining whether this is merely another purge by Mr. Xi or an indication of the growing challenges to his leadership. A hint to this effect is the language used to describe Gen. Zhang in the People’s Liberation Army Daily, viz. ‘a toxin that had to be incised’. This could lead to an inference of inner party struggles at the top of the Chinese Communist pyramid. While by no means proven, it is still worth examining.

Even during Mao’s lifetime, there was the infamous Liu Shaoqi episode, which though not acknowledged as a power struggle, is viewed by experts as having been an abortive challenge to Mao’s supremacy. While Mr. Xi appears to have emerged successful, yet again, the fig leaf of another massive anti-corruption purge is beginning to wear thin. It merits a rethink of China today as a monolith, facing few internal challenges.



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Given China’s global position, the prevailing situation within the country demands closer and deeper understanding of events

Most prophets seem to flounder when it comes to making political predictions. While Mr. Xi may appear stronger on the surface following the recent purges, it is worth considering the nature of the ‘inner devils’ said to be hindering China’s progress. Analysing China’s future clearly demands better comprehension of where China stands today.

Over the years, the mask that China is a monolith has been wearing thin. Insightful analysis would seem to suggest that belief in the goals set by the leadership has been declining, producing a degree of ‘trust deficit’. Together with a less than optimistic assessment of the state of the Chinese economy, and the problems faced by some of its political institutions, it may be presumed that inner tensions are increasing, and are beginning to impact the highest levels of the party. Dealing with such a situation would undoubtedly require drastic measures to retain control and ‘snuff out’ all opposition to the leadership, even at the highest party levels. This, rather than accusations of corruption against senior party functionaries, would seem a more plausible explanation for the periodic purges taking place.

Dents to global credibility

Exacerbating international tensions and China’s apparent ineffectiveness in addressing challenges beyond its ‘near abroad’ – namely East and Southeast Asia – seem to have damaged its image as a global power, potentially intensifying tensions within the CPC leadership. Venezuela was a test case of China’s global outreach in this respect at the beginning of 2026. China failed the test and could not counter United States President Donald Trump’s assertions that the Western Hemisphere belonged to the U.S. and no one else. This despite China having invested a great deal in Venezuela in recent years. More recently, in West Asia, China again failed to demonstrate its ability to checkmate the U.S. and prevent an attack on Iran, leading to the death of Iran’s supreme leader, Ayatollah Khamenei.

The outcome in West Asia has, incidentally, prompted unfavourable comparisons between Chinese weaponry and that of the U.S. and the West, further harming China’s reputation. China’s conspicuous incapability to counter the U.S. both in the Western Hemisphere and in West Asia is undoubtedly having repercussions and may have possibly impacted China’s image beyond repair. In China’s eyes, it has, meanwhile, shattered a carefully contrived impression that China is more than equal to the West. It would be reasonable to surmise that this too would have led to recriminations at the highest levels of the party, even, perhaps, provoking a challenge to the ruling dispensation.

It is, however uncertain, as of now, whether

AI and the national security calculus

Anthropic, an American Artificial Intelligence (AI) lab, is asking for three Chinese AI labs (DeepSeek, MoonshotAI, and MiniMax) to be treated as national security threats. The AI models of Anthropic and other American labs have also reportedly been used by the U.S. military in the Iran attacks to fast-track the “kill chain” from target identification to legal approval and strike.

The Pentagon has labelled Anthropic a “supply chain” risk – a designation associated with foreign adversaries, for raising concerns about how its technology is being used in military operations. This decision is now being challenged in court. These developments over the course of a few weeks have serious implications for AI development and national security calculus worldwide.

The issue

The Chinese AI labs have been accused of distilling frontier models from American AI companies. In a nutshell, this involves taking a stronger AI model’s outputs to teach a weaker model. The attacks were sophisticated and used deceptive techniques to mask the identity and intent of the distillers. Anthropic claims that this happened on an industrial scale – “16 million exchanges with Claude through approximately 24,000 fraudulent accounts, in violation of our terms of service and regional access restrictions”.

Generative AI is often equated with nuclear technologies, with the aim of containing the proliferation of the technology. However, it is a dual-use general-purpose technology that is more comparable to semiconductors than nuclear weapons. Unlike nuclear technologies, where governments drive research and development efforts, cutting-edge AI research happens in the private sector for civilian applications. It just so happens that the same technology also has military applications.

Nuclear non-proliferation works because fissile



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The controversy over AI integration in military systems highlights the need for plurilateral commitments by states to responsible use

material is rare, controlled and traceable. The same is not true for mathematical AI models. The fact that DeepSeek was able to achieve comparable performance of frontier models at a fraction of the cost after export controls were imposed is proof that restrictions are not effective. The nuclear narrative asks us to treat querying an AI model as equivalent to weapons proliferation.

Distilled models and guardrails

Anthropic’s argument that a distilled model will be used less responsibly lies on weak foundations. Models from frontier American AI labs such as Anthropic, OpenAI, Google and xAI could be used by the U.S. military for applications such as surveillance, cyberwarfare and lethal autonomous weapons systems. In fact, when Anthropic recently raised concerns about the kinds of uses its models were put to, it faced the threat of being removed from defence systems and designated as “supply chain risks”. Its rival, OpenAI, however, has accepted a permissive contract for military uses, highlighting a race to the bottom, given the competitive pressure to serve government clients. When their own models are being put to such uses, the argument that distilled models will not have guardrails collapses.

It is extremely hard to control the diffusion of such a technology for many reasons. Talent mobility is hard to restrict. Many of the researchers at Chinese labs were trained in U.S. universities or worked in U.S. companies. The restrictions on inputs such as semiconductors have been repeatedly circumvented and are now partially repealed. Now, distillation is one more vector that is even harder to restrict, as the Anthropic report acknowledges. Each time a restriction appears, workarounds find a way to bypass it. If distillation is seen as extremely risky, not allowing public access to it should be an option to consider.

China is indeed undergoing a turmoil at the very highest levels of the CPC. What is discernible is that a normally belligerent China has, of late, been acting with far greater circumspection than usual in its dealings with the world at large, and with the U.S. in particular. This is even more surprising considering that China is riding a wave of turbocharged innovation in many areas such as electric vehicles, pharmaceuticals and logistics, and, of late, Artificial Intelligence. In all this, China appears well ahead of the curve.

A reticence

What is even more surprising is that – and with the exception of Taiwan – China, of late, has been disinclined to take a confrontational posture, vis-à-vis the U.S., even deferring to it on some issues. The journey of a Chinese cargo ship, in late 2025, from Asia to Europe, through the Arctic Ocean, that was completed in a fortnight as against the normal three weeks (through the Suez Canal), would normally have been heralded by China as evidence of the emergence of a ‘Polar Silk Road’. But China has preferred to play down this achievement, stating that this contributes to ‘supply chain stability’.

Strategic experts are confounded by this display of reticence, and feel that it is intended to avoid ruffling the feathers of western powers at a time when China’s economy is facing certain problems and Mr. Trump has warned of the threat posed to U.S. interests in Greenland by Chinese ships in the vicinity. Apart from this, China’s unwillingness to press its claims to being a ‘near Arctic State’ requires a valid explanation. Most strategic experts seem to feel that problems at the highest levels of the CPC can be the only plausible explanation.

What also needs valid explanation is the general mood of pessimism that appears to be sweeping across China. No plausible explanation has emerged so far. Cracks in the Communist party monolith could possibly be one explanation. Or it might well be an aggravating fear – about ‘the wind in the tower heralding a great storm’. All this might appear rather far-fetched for now, but is worthy of more detailed analysis, given the past history of Chinese politics.

Given China’s position in the world, the prevailing situation in China deserves a better and more detailed understanding of what is taking place. Events in China cast a shadow not only over Asia but also over much of the world. What is happening in China needs better explanation and understanding. A more benign and less antagonistic China would be of great value to a world facing many crosscurrents. For India, a return to an earlier era of ‘Hindi Chini Bhai Bhai’ (Indians and Chinese are brothers) would be a gift worth savouring.

In the language of national security, these restrictions do not make the world safer. They make it harder for rivals to compete with dominant U.S. companies even on civilian applications. Input-based restrictions are ineffective and only cause collateral damage to innovation, scientific collaboration and widespread economic development. They effectively consolidate power in the hands of a few U.S. companies.

Equating distillation to industrial-scale intellectual property theft also seems unfair, given that frontier AI models are trained on the creative and intellectual output of millions of people who were not compensated and did not consent. The process of asking a model millions of questions and learning from its answers is arguably no more extractive than training that model on billions of web pages written by people who never consented to it.

The companies whose models were distilled are right to claim that their terms of service have been violated by those distilling their models and can pursue measures to block such actors. However, they are also arguing for a coordinated response across the AI industry, cloud providers, and policymakers. This move further entrenches the market power of a handful of companies.

What is needed

As scary as it is, it seems inevitable that armed forces worldwide will integrate generative AI into military systems. The Anthropic episode demonstrates that corporate guardrails are not a substitute for governance: a company can be overridden, replaced, or pressured into compliance. What is needed instead are plurilateral commitments by states to responsible use, covering meaningful human control over lethal decisions, prohibitions on mass civilian surveillance, and auditable technical standards for such capabilities. These commitments must apply universally for them to be effective.

K.N. Pannikar

In the passing of Professor K.N. Pannikar, the nation has lost a great intellectual and historian. His approachability with students and colleagues also made him a truly distinguished personality. **Balasubramaniam Pavani**, Secunderabad

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the postal address.

Reevaluating the office of the Speaker

The recent no-confidence motion moved by the Opposition against Om Birla has reignited the debate over the constitutional position and accountability of the office of the Speaker of the Lok Sabha. While such motions are rare, their significance lies not merely in the possibility of removal but in what they reveal about the functioning of parliamentary institutions and the evolving conventions surrounding the Speaker's office.

The office of the Speaker is one of the most critical pillars of India's parliamentary democracy. As the presiding officer of the Lok Sabha, the Speaker ensures orderly debate, enforces the rules of procedure, safeguards the rights of members, and maintains the balance between government authority and the voice of the Opposition. The Constitution establishes the Speaker as an impartial arbiter expected to rise above party politics once elected. Convention demands that the office be exercised with neutrality and fairness. The Speaker's authority extends to several crucial functions such as the recognition of members, interpretation of procedural rules, disciplinary powers, and the certification of Money Bills. These powers significantly shape legislative outcomes and parliamentary debates, and because of this influence, the constitutional framework provides strong protections to ensure that the Speaker cannot be removed easily for political reasons.

The process for removal
The procedure for the removal of the Speaker is deliberately stringent. According to Article 94(c) under the Constitution, the Speaker can be removed only through a resolution passed by a majority of all the members of the Lok Sabha, not merely those present and voting. This high threshold reflects the intent to safeguard the stability and dignity of the office. The process begins



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when a member submits a written notice to the Secretary-General of the Lok Sabha seeking removal. At least 14 days' notice must be given before the motion can be taken up. Once admitted, the motion requires the support of at least 50 members to proceed for discussion in the House. The procedural framework governing this process is laid down in the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, specifically Rules 200 to 203. The rules mandate that the resolution must clearly state the charges against the Speaker. During the debate on such a motion, the Speaker may participate in the proceedings as a member of the House, and while the Speaker can vote on the resolution in the first instance, he/she cannot exercise their vote in case of a tie.

No-confidence motions against the Speaker have been extremely rare in India's parliamentary history. Only three such attempts have occurred – in 1954, against G. V. Mavalankar; in 1966, against Hukam Singh; and in 1987, against Balram Jakhar. In all three cases, the motions failed. These precedents demonstrate the political and procedural difficulty involved in removing a Speaker.

Larger impact
Although the present motion may not result in the Speaker's removal, it carries broader institutional significance. It reminds presiding officers that their authority derives from the collective confidence of the legislature. The Speaker's credibility depends heavily on the perception of impartiality. Allegations of partisan conduct can weaken public confidence in parliamentary processes. While the high constitutional threshold ensures that the Speaker is not vulnerable to routine political pressure, it still allows a democratic mechanism for accountability. However, several challenges affect the functioning of the Speaker's office. First, there is a

growing perception of politicisation. In recent years, decisions on matters such as disqualification of legislators under the anti-defection law or certification of Money Bills have often been viewed through a partisan lens. Second, frequent confrontations between the ruling party and the Opposition have led to procedural deadlocks in Parliament. When the neutrality of the presiding officer is questioned, trust between political actors erodes, making consensus-building more difficult. Third, parliamentary conventions – unwritten norms that once guided the impartial conduct of the Speaker – have gradually weakened. As political competition intensifies, these conventions risk being overshadowed by tactical considerations.

The way ahead
To preserve the credibility of Parliament and strengthen democratic governance, reforms and renewed commitment to parliamentary norms are necessary. Reinforcing institutional conventions should be the first step. Political parties must collectively reaffirm the tradition that the Speaker acts above party lines once elected. Enhancing transparency in procedural rulings can also improve trust. Clear explanations for major decisions – such as rejecting requests for discussion or certifying legislative bills – would reduce allegations of bias. Encouraging dialogue between the government and the Opposition is equally important. Structured consultations on parliamentary procedures and reforms could reduce confrontations and improve legislative productivity. Finally, codifying best practices regarding the Speaker's discretionary powers may help clarify ambiguities. While flexibility is essential in parliamentary procedure, clearer guidelines could reduce disputes over interpretation.

The crisis of unemployment in J&K

The lack of a diversified industry has limited job creation in the region

STATE OF PLAY

Bilal Gani

Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) is grappling with an unemployment crisis. In recent years, the unemployment rate in the region has soared to alarming levels. Such an increase has forced thousands of highly-qualified youth into low-paying jobs. In the Kashmir valley, hundreds of jobless youth have been struggling to find stable employment despite completing their education and acquiring various skills.

Myriad reasons
The unemployment rate of J&K is higher than the national average. In December 2025, Parliament said that J&K's unemployment rate was 6.1% in July-September 2025, higher than the national average of 5.2%. Urban areas have shown sharper gaps with an unemployment rate of 10.6%, compared with the rural unemployment rate of 5.1%. As per estimates, the region has approximately 3.6 lakh registered unemployed youth, with roughly two lakh in Kashmir and 1.5 lakh in Jammu. The unprecedented rise in the region's unemployment rate has been precipitated by its heavy reliance on the government sector in the absence of a robust private sector. Tourism and horticulture, traditional areas of the private sector, have been shrinking and are unable to absorb the growing educated workforce. The lack of a diversified industry has caused unemployment by limiting job creation in sectors beyond tourism and horticulture, leading to structural unemployment. The delays in recruitment have further exacerbated this



crisis. Almost 80% of all recruitment exams announced by the J&K Services Selection Board (JKSSB) and the J&K Public Service Commission (JKPSC), two premier recruiting agencies, have been delayed or challenged in court. Thousands of posts now lie vacant across different departments like health, public works and education. The absence of a fair and transparent recruitment mechanism has worsened the situation. On December 15, the J&K government terminated 103 employees of the Fire and Emergency Services Department after large-scale irregularities were revealed in the recruitment process.

The region's economic unpredictability has turned entrepreneurship into survival ventures rather than growth engines. Moreover, the absence of a well-defined public employment policy has replaced regular recruitment with contractual hiring. J&K has more than one lakh daily wagers across different departments who continue to work without job security or benefits. Their regularisation has been overlooked for decades by successive governments. The job crisis in the region is particularly alarming among highly educated individuals who account for 23.9% of the total unemployment rate. This situation reflects a serious mismatch between educational attainment and job

opportunities. **A swift response** J&K's job crisis demands urgent and effective government intervention. A strong start-up culture and a robust entrepreneurship ecosystem can effectively address unemployment in the region. Over the years, some local entrepreneurs have established successful start-ups and provided employment to hundreds of youths. Therefore, the Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI), the premier public institute supporting entrepreneurship development in the Union Territory (UT), should be fully funded to be an effective platform for encouraging entrepreneurs to build new start-ups.

However, the public sector remains the main employment generator in the region. There should be massive recruitment drives to fill vacant positions and curb the unemployment graph, which continues to rise year after year. The government should appoint a monitoring agency which can oversee the selection process of recruiting agencies in the UT, so as to ensure transparent and time-bound recruitment to various government positions. J&K's youth should be provided with equal employment opportunities in public and private sectors through fast-track recruitment, financial and logistics support, and market-oriented education with special focus on skill-based courses. Private investors should be encouraged to invest in the region's talented human capital which will be a critical driver of productivity, innovation and economic growth. Bilal Gani is with the faculty of Political Studies, Government Degree College Beerwah, J&K

More women deleted from rolls in most States after SIR

Tamil Nadu is the only major State where the gender ratio improved slightly, despite the State recording one of the largest reductions in total electors

DATA POINT

Devvyanshi Bihani
Srinivasan Ramani

The Election Commission of India's (EC) Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls – a large-scale exercise aimed at updating voter lists – is being carried out across 12 States and Union Territories (UTs) covering close to 51 crore voters. The enumeration phase of the exercise began in November 2025. Among these States and UTs, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, West Bengal, and Puducherry are scheduled to go to the polls in April 2026.

The first round of the clean-up exercise was carried out earlier in Bihar, where more than 65 lakh names were deleted from the electoral rolls and the gender ratio fell sharply from 907 women per 1,000 men to 892 women after the SIR.

The Hindu had found that the exclusions were higher in the 18-29 age category, with one of the primary reasons being that the women had "permanently shifted". The EC had then said in the Supreme Court that women's names would have been excluded as they had migrated to other States after marriage. Yet, The Hindu's data stories had shown that more men migrated for work than women who migrated for marriage, according to the Census and later surveys. This raises the question of whether similar patterns are visible in other States where the SIR exercise has been carried out.

Decline across States
Data from the 2024 Lok Sabha election rolls and the final SIR rolls show that while the drop in gender ratio is not as steep as in Bihar, all major States have recorded a decline in the proportion of women voters relative to men after the revision. The gender ratio improved, even though the State

witnessed one of the largest reductions in total electors following the exercise.

Uttar Pradesh has not been included in this analysis as the final electoral roll for the State is yet to be published. The EC has extended the revision schedule multiple times and the final roll is now expected to be released on April 10.

In West Bengal, the gender ratio fell from about 966 women per 1,000 men in the 2024 Lok Sabha rolls to around 956 after the SIR revision. The State also recorded one of the largest reductions in its electorate – a 8.06% decline.

Nearly 60 lakh people are still being adjudicated for "logical discrepancies" but are part of the rolls so far.

The gender ratio in Gujarat recorded a sharper shift as it fell from roughly 945 women to about 938 in the final SIR rolls. The total electorate declined from 5.08 crore to 4.4 crore, a reduction of 13.4% of the electorate.

Madhya Pradesh also saw a decline in the gender ratio after the revision, from 945 women to 934 in the final SIR rolls.

The State's electorate shrank from about 5.74 crore voters before the SIR to 5.39 crore in the final rolls, a reduction of around 34.25 lakh electors (5.97%).

The number of women electors in Rajasthan fell from about 2.56 crore to 2.45 crore, while the number of male electors declined more modestly. The gender ratio dropped from 920 to 911. Overall, the State's electorate witnessed a 6.13% reduction.

In contrast, Tamil Nadu, one of the States where women form a majority on the electoral rolls, recorded an improvement in the gender ratio.

The ratio increased from 1,034 women per 1,000 men in the 2024 rolls to 1,044 in the final SIR rolls. But the total electorate in the State declined from 6.41 crore to 5.67 crore, a reduction of about 74 lakh electors, or 11.5% from the pre SIR rolls.

However, Kerala, another State with a higher number of women voters than men, saw a decline in the gender ratio after the revision. The ratio fell from 1,064 to 1,053 in the final SIR rolls, though women continue to remain more numerous than men on the electoral rolls. The total electorate also declined by about 3.2%.

Similarly, women continue to slightly outnumber men in Chhattisgarh although the ratio fell from 1,016 to 1,002 in the final SIR rolls. The total electorate declined by about 11.77%.

Goa is also among the States where women continue to outnumber men. But the State's electorate saw a significant contraction. The total number of voters saw a decline of around 10.7% of voters.

Status of Union Territories
Among Union Territories, Puducherry has historically seen higher women participation and representation on the rolls and has continued to show a strong female presence even after the revision. However, the total number of voters declined from about 10.2 lakh to 9.4 lakh, representing a 7.5% reduction.

In the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, the gender ratio rose from 919 to 979 after the revision. The number of female electors fell by a smaller margin compared with male electors, leading to an increase in the ratio even as the overall electorate dropped significantly. The rolls declined from 3.1 lakh to about 2.58 lakh voters, representing a reduction of 16.8%, the largest proportional declines among the regions analysed.

Lakshadweep, on the other hand, saw only a marginal increase in the gender ratio from 968 women voters to 971 in the final SIR rolls. The Union territory recorded almost no change in its electorate with just a 0.3% drop.

With inputs from Mohammed Iqbal, Sreeparna Chakrabarty, Mehul Malpani and Shubhomoy Sikdar.

Gender gap among electors

The data for the charts were sourced from the Election Commission of India



Roll revision: A copy of the final electoral roll that was released after the SIR in Salem in Tamil Nadu on February 23. E. LAKSHMI NARAYANAN

Table 1: Gender ratio (women per 1,000 men) in the Lok Sabha 2024 electoral rolls and final SIR rolls across States and Union Territories where SIR was held recently

State/UT	Gender ratio (LS election 2024)	Gender ratio (final SIR)
Andaman & Nicobar	919	979
Chhattisgarh	1,016	1,002
Goa	1,063	1,068
Gujarat	945	938
Lakshadweep	968	971
Madhya Pradesh	945	934
Puducherry	1,129	1,128
Tamil Nadu	1,034	1,044
West Bengal*	966	956
Rajasthan	920	911
Kerala	1,064	1,053

Table 2: The percentage decline in electors across States and UTs, from the pre-SIR and Lok Sabha 2024 rolls to the final SIR rolls

State/UT	% change in electors (pre-SIR rolls to final SIR)	% change in electors (LS 2024 to final SIR)
Andaman & Nicobar	16.87	18.28
Chhattisgarh	11.77	9.42
Goa	10.76	10.35
Gujarat	13.40	8.29
Lakshadweep	0.36	0.60
Madhya Pradesh	5.97	4.74
Puducherry	7.57	7.79
Tamil Nadu	11.55	9.13
West Bengal*	8.06	7.44
Rajasthan	6.13	3.72
Kerala	3.22	3.07

1 In Bihar, the gender ratio fell from 907 women per 1,000 men to 892 women after the SIR

2 All major States, except Tamil Nadu, have recorded a decline in the gender ratio

Darker blue indicates higher gender ratios and darker red indicates lower gender ratios. Lighter shades represent values closer to the middle range

*In West Bengal, nearly 60 lakh people are still being adjudicated for "logical discrepancies" but are part of the rolls so far

Darker red represents larger percentage declines among electors and lighter shades indicate smaller reductions

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Hindu

FIFTY YEARS AGO MARCH 11, 1976

STD on 8 routes inaugurated

New Delhi, March 10: The Posts and Telegraphs Department today introduced eight subscriber trunk dialling routes and 13 "no delay service routes", besides adding 12,500 lines to various telephone exchanges in the country to mark the centenary of the invention of telephone by Alexander Graham Bell.

The Union Minister of State for Industry and Civil Supplies, Mr. A.C. George, inaugurated STD between Delhi and Trivandrum by speaking to the Kerala Home Minister, Mr. K. Karunakaran. Mr. K.C. Pant, Union Minister for Energy, speaking to the Gujarat Governor, Mr. K.K. Viswanathan inaugurated STD between Delhi and Gandhinagar.

Besides, Mr. K. Raghuremiah, Union Minister for Works, Housing and Parliamentary Affairs, inaugurated extension of the Janpath IV exchange of Delhi telephones by 800 lines.

Presiding over the function, the Union Minister for Communications, Mr. Shankar Deyal Sharma, said that a telex exchange at Jodhpur and a trunk automatic exchange at Ambala were also being commissioned to-day.

Mr. Sharma said that the establishment of STD between Delhi and Trivandrum and Delhi and Gandhinagar was part of the scheme to connect Delhi with all the State Capitals.

By the end of 1976, all the State Capitals, except the four in the eastern sector, would be connected to Delhi.

He also said that by the end of the current month, the P and T department proposed to provide 1.2 lakh new telephone connections. In the remaining years of the plan, it was proposed to provide over six lakh new telephone connections.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO MARCH 11, 1926

Shakespeare theatre to be rebuilt

Rugby, March 9: It has been definitely decided to rebuild the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre on Stratford-on-Avon, which was destroyed by fire on Saturday. A fund raise £100,000 will probably be launched shortly. The destruction of the Theatre will not interfere with the holding of birthday and summer festivals at Shakespeare's birthplace.

WWS

Gas shortage blows out restaurant stoves; diners find favourites off menu

The Hindu Bureau

Hoteliers across various States in the country have flagged the shortage of commercial cooking gas, and urged the Union government to ensure uninterrupted supply of fuel.

The National Restaurant Association of India (NRAI), Indian Hotel and Restaurant Association (AHAR), Bengaluru Hotels Association, Chennai Hotels Association, Chennai Tea Shops Association, the Hotel & Restaurant Association of Odisha (HRAO), and several hoteliers in the States have warned that the shortage of cooking gas would force many units to shut shop.

“The restaurant industry is predominantly dependent on commercial LPG for its operations. Any disruption therein will lead to a catastrophic closure of majority of restaurants,” the NRAI said in a statement.

In Bengaluru, the disruptions in the supply of commercial LPG cylinders has affected several eateries, triggering concerns among both businesses

and households. On Tuesday, a number of small restaurants limited their services to “only tea and coffee” after being informed by gas dealers that refilling of commercial cylinders had not taken place since March 7.

Around 20% of hotels and restaurants in Mumbai have shut down, with associations projecting that nearly 50% of hotels and restaurants in Mumbai will shut down in two days if the situation does not improve.

‘At least 25% supply’

“We understand the reason but instead of blanket stoppage, the supply should continue for at least 25%, so the hotels can survive somehow,” a representative of the AHAR, the apex body for hospitality trade in Maharashtra, said.

While some large restaurants in Delhi-NCR said they have not yet been impacted by the shortage because they have a stock of four to six extra cylinders, smaller outlet owners said they are forced to buy in the black market.

A kebab and biryani



Local impact: People waiting in a long queue to refill their LPG cylinders outside a centre in Lucknow on Tuesday and a number of small restaurants limited their services to ‘only tea and coffee’ in Bengaluru. SANDEEP SAXENA/ K. MURALI KUMAR



shop owner in New Delhi said: “The cylinders available in the black market that cost ₹1,200 yesterday are now being sold at ₹1,400 to ₹1,500 today.”

The cooking fuel shortage has affected paying guest accommodations and hostels in Hyderabad. Managers and supervisors of large paying guest facilities, particularly in the IT hubs, fear disruption to preparation of food.

In Tamil Nadu, the Sree Annapoorrna Sree Gowrishankar Group, a Coimba-

man of the Southern India Mills Association, said that all textile processing factories used LPG commercial cylinders for singeing process and there is no alternative for it. This will come to a standstill, he said.

In Madhya Pradesh, R.K. Gupta, vice-president of the LPG Association, said commercial LPG cylinders had not been supplied at any bottling plant in Bhopal since Monday.

The hospitality sector in parts of Punjab has been impacted as well. Satish

time will go up due to supply side pressure.

Many hotels in Odisha’s coastal town of Puri, which attracts thousands of tourists from India and abroad, said they would run out of commercial LPG cylinders in the next couple of days.

Hundreds of hotel and restaurant owners in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar are in panic as several districts witnessed long queues of people outside LPG distribution centres to refill their gas cylinders.

Andhra Pradesh Civil Supplies Minister Nadenla Manohar clarified that there is no shortage of LPG in the State and people should not panic.

Visakhapatnam houses Hindustan Petroleum’s major LPG cavern storage facility with a capacity of about 60,000 metric tonnes.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Shahul Hameed, general secretary of the All Kerala Caterers’ Association, who runs Foodwey Catering in Kozhikode, said a good number of caterers in Kerala will soon have to shut down due to the severe

shortage of commercial cooking gas.

People across West Bengal were affected by the crisis as well. Restaurants in Kolkata have reported a shortage of commercial gas supply. Hotel and Restaurant Association of Eastern India president Sudesh Poddar said some restaurants may have stock between two to seven days, but most do not have enough to keep their kitchens running.

With the wedding season in full swing and tourist arrivals going up in Rajasthan, hoteliers were worried about not having cooking gas in sufficient quantity. The Gujarat government has curtailed gas supply to industries by up to 50% to safeguard domestic LPG availability, State Energy Minister Rushikesh Patel said.

Close to 90% of India’s LPG import and 30% of natural gas requirements are routed through Strait of Hormuz, which is now shut by Iran. The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has set up a committee to review supply shortages of commercial LPG.

Rahul has never bowed before this govt.: Priyanka

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

The Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, has “never bowed before this government”, and the ruling side is unable to “digest the truth he speaks in the House”, Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra said on Tuesday.

Ms. Vadra took a swipe at the Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju for invoking Jawaharlal Nehru during a parliamentary debate, despite the BJP’s long-standing criticism of India’s first Prime Minister.

“He [Mr. Rijiju] mentioned that I was laughing. I wanted to clear that I was laughing because whom they keep criticising day and night, that Nehruji, they used a quote of Nehruji for their own argument. They have suddenly started respecting Nehruji and that he strengthened democracy and gave such a speech,” she said.

She said that Mr. Gandhi continued to raise uncomfortable questions in Parliament.

Opposition brings up suspensions, mic row during debate on Speaker

MPs pull up govt. over failure to appoint Deputy Speaker, raise issue of Rahul not being allowed to talk, microphone being switched off when Opposition leaders speak; no-confidence motion an attempt to keep Om Birla under pressure, says JD(U)

Sandeep Phukan

NEW DELHI

Arguing for the ouster of Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, Opposition MPs on Tuesday had a list of complaints, including mass suspensions, the microphone being switched off while they spoke, and the failure to appoint a Deputy Speaker for the past 12 years.

Senior Congress MP Manish Tewari argued that the reason for the Opposition’s insistence on moving the resolution seeking the Speaker’s removal can be summed up in one phrase: the government must have its way but the Opposition must have its say.

‘Quoted from magazine’

Addressing the issue of the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi not being allowed to speak about the content of the yet-to-be-released memoir of former Army Chief General M.M. Naravane (ret'd), Mr. Tewari said that



Suspended Lok Sabha members protesting on the Parliament premises on Tuesday. The suspension was raised in the House. ANI

Mr. Gandhi had been quoting from a magazine.

“That magazine that [Mr. Gandhi] was quoting is a published magazine, it is available in the public space even now. And the contents of the magazine or that story has not been controverted by the government till now,” the Congress leader said.

He said the charge that women Opposition MPs

suspend any Opposition member.

Trinamool Congress MP Mahua Moitra said it was ironic and “divine karma” that she was opening the debate from her party against the Speaker who had denied her the opportunity to defend herself during her expulsion from the 17th Lok Sabha.

Moitra’s remarks

Participating in the debate, Ms. Moitra said the current speaker has set “less than graceful benchmarks” while presiding over the House. Since 2004, a total of 245 MPs, all from Opposition parties, have been suspended. Nearly half of them, 120 MPs, were suspended during Mr. Birla’s tenure.

“In December 2023, Bir-laji ordered the largest mass suspension in the history of Indian Parliament, suspending 100 Opposition MPs. This one episode alone accounted for over 40% of all Lok Sabha suspensions since 2004,” she

claimed.

Samajwadi Party MP Rajeev Rai questioned the Chair over the control of the microphones, claiming that the microphones never go off when his party’s members attack former Prime Ministers of the Congress regime, but get cut off within 30 seconds when Opposition members question the government.

DMK leader T.R. Baalu said Mr. Birla was a gentleman under pressure. “He is such a gentleman, but I don’t know what went wrong with him. He has suspended so many MPs in the last seven years. But why does he have to take such harsh steps?” Mr. Baalu said.

JD(U) leader and Union Minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh said the no-confidence motion was nothing but an attempt to keep the Speaker under pressure. “To maintain the decorum and dignity of the House, the Speaker has to control unruly members,” he said.

Fast-tracking Bill on women’s quota may influence U.P. polls

NEWS ANALYSIS

Sobhana K. Nair

NEW DELHI

The timing of the government’s feelers to Opposition leaders seeking their opinion on bringing in an amendment to advance the timeline for implementing the Constitution (One Hundred and Sixth Amendment) Act, or the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam (women’s reservation Bill), which seeks to allocate 33% of seats in directly elected legislative bodies such as the Lok Sabha and Assemblies for women, is notable.

In 2027, elections will be held in seven States, four of them ruled by the Bharatiya Janata Party. Among them, Uttar Pradesh is the biggest prize and a major challenge. The BJP, seeking a third straight term, faces declining numbers, from a historic 312 Assembly seats in 2017 to 255 in 2022. If the 2024 Lok Sabha votes are mapped to Assembly segments, the Samajwadi Party leads in 178 seats, and with ally Congress, the bloc crosses the majority mark in the 403-member House.

Internal discontent within the BJP adds pressure. While the party has so far contained factional strains, they are surfacing. In January, the BJP MLA for Charkhari led a protest against the State Water Minister, an unusual public display of dissent.



Only about 14% of MPs in the 18th Lok Sabha are women. PTI

while the SP has 15.

An SP leader admitted the BJP is better positioned to find women candidates because more women occupy organisational ranks within the party.

Caste discontent

Caste tensions threaten the BJP’s electoral calculus. Brahmins, a core BJP constituency, feel sidelined under Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, whose administration is seen as favouring Thakurs.

The sharper concern, however, is the erosion of the OBC support. In the 2024 Lok Sabha election, the BJP’s Uttar Pradesh tally fell from 62 to 33 seats, signalling a drift among the OBC voters. The SP leader quoted earlier doubted whether women’s reservation could bridge these caste grievances. “Women candidates do not exist in a casteless vacuum,” he said.

India’s struggle with women’s political representation goes back to Independence. The Constituent Assembly had only 15 women members. Early leaders such as Renuka Ray opposed women’s quotas, arguing that they might pigeonhole women and that ability should determine selection.

However, decades of low representation gradually altered the consensus. Accelerating implementation would break a political deadlock that has lasted three decades.

Women have emerged as a stable support base for the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance in many States. Moving from symbolic commitment to actual reservation could deepen it. Whether women prefer voting for women remains inconclusive, but the political signal matters.

Opposition, govt. spar over ‘rural distress’ during debate in RS

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

Opposition MPs attacked the Centre over decrease in funds to the rural sector and its “inability to address rural distress” during a debate on the working of the Union Ministry of Rural Development in the Rajya Sabha on Tuesday.

BJP members, countered the attack, and said that the Narendra Modi government believed in building strong villages.

Initiating the debate, BJP MP K. Laxman said the Union government had uplifted rural lives. “Modi government increased the allocation to the rural employment scheme by 40% compared to the UPA regime,” he said, adding that the VB-G RAM G scheme was a transparent scheme.

Congress MP Rajani Patil said statistics looked good on paper but the ground reality in villages was different. “Unemployment is increasing. Farmers are in distress,” she said.

Trinamool Congress MP Mohammed Nadimul Haque said the Union government was adopting a “step-motherly” attitude to West Bengal, and asked the Centre to explain the reasons for withholding funds meant for rural schemes. He termed the VB-G RAM G Act “a hasty piece of legislation”.

Nominated MP Sudha Murty said the government was doing good work in skilling rural persons.

CPI(M) MP John Brittas said there was a rural distress and the Centre was not addressing it.

Opposition walks out of Rajya Sabha over refusal to discuss West Bengal SIR

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

The Opposition parties staged a walkout in the Rajya Sabha on Tuesday after Chairman C.P. Radhakrishnan refused their demand for a fresh discussion on the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in West Bengal.

The confrontation began when Trinamool Congress leader Derek O’Brien attempted to raise a point of order pressing for a debate on the SIR exercise. Mr. Radhakrishnan rejected the plea, stating that adequate time had already been given during the Winter Session for discussions on electoral reforms.

Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge backed Mr. O’Brien’s demand, calling it “very important”. Mr. Radhakrishnan’s re-



Call for debate: Proceedings under way in the Rajya Sabha during the Budget Session on Tuesday. SANSAD TV

peated pleas for restoring order had little impact on the protesting Opposition members, who then staged a walkout.

Following the walkout, Leader of the House J.P. Nadda accused the Opposition of avoiding substantive debate. The senior Bharatiya Janata Party leader said extensive dis-

accusing the Opposition of undermining democratic norms and “bringing about anarchy”.

The dispute continued into Question Hour, where Trinamool Congress MP Sukhendu Sekhar Ray used a brief preface to question the Centre’s “coercive measures” in West Bengal under the SIR. He pointed to Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee’s five-day dharna, saying it underscored threats to the fundamental rights of millions. Mr. Ray urged the Centre to send representatives to investigate why only West Bengal was being subjected to such measures.

Responding to his allegations, Mr. Nadda accused the West Bengal government of ignoring the rules and regulations. He added that “a lady Chief Minister has disrespected a lady President of India.”

Nadda’s charge

He reiterated the charge he had levelled on Monday,

INBRIEF



Sensex, Nifty bounce back on retreating crude oil prices

Stock market benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty ended almost 1% higher on Tuesday after two days of massive decline, following a drop in crude oil prices and recovery in global peers amid indications the West Asia crisis could end soon. The 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 639.82 points or 0.82% to settle at 78,205.98. During the day, it surged 960.09 points, or 1.23%, to 78,526.25. The 50-share NSE Nifty climbed 233.55 points, or 0.97%, to end at 24,261.60. PTI

No storage/dwell time charges for stranded containers: JNPA

The Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA), in compliance with the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways directives, waived storage/dwell charges and Reefer Plug-in charges for West Asia-bound export containers stranded at port area on account of geopolitical disturbances in the region. This is to mitigate the hardships faced by the port users due to the ongoing war. The JNPA provided for storage of stranded containers at its container yards till the cargo is shipped out.

Dutch aviation veteran Pieter Elbers quits as IndiGo CEO

IndiGo CEO Pieter Elbers resigned three months after the airline faced network-wide flight disruptions. He would be relieved from March 10. Promoter and MD Rahul Bhatia would assume charge of the management on an interim basis, as per a statement. IndiGo is likely to announce a new CEO soon. Mr. Elbers, formerly of KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, joined IndiGo in August 2022 after the pandemic and steered the airline through a challenging phase for global aviation.

Union Cabinet tweaks 2020 rules to allow Chinese investments

Press Note 3 issued in 2020 had said all investments from countries sharing a land border with India would need the Centre's approval first

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Union Cabinet has amended its 2020 rules that had placed restrictions on foreign direct investment from countries that shared a land border with India, the government announced on Tuesday.

The amendment now incorporates a provision of 'beneficial ownership' and specifies that companies with non-controlling stake belonging to entities from these countries can invest in India without first seeking Indian government approval.

Press Note 3, issued in 2020, had specified that any entity of a country that shares a land border with India can invest in India only after securing Government approval. Earlier, this rule had applied only to



The amendment incorporates a 'beneficial ownership' provision

entities in Bangladesh and Pakistan. The 2020 rule expanded this to the other countries that shared a land border with India, with the biggest investor by far being China.

"The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved changes in guidelines on investments from countries sharing land border with India (LBCs)," the government said in a release. "Investors with non-

controlling LBC beneficial ownership of up to 10% shall be permitted under the automatic route as per the applicable sectoral caps, entry routes, attendant conditions," the government said. "Such investments shall be subject to the reporting of relevant information/details by the investee entity to the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade of India (DPIIT)."

Apart from these, the government added that proposals for LBC investments in specified sectors such as the manufacture of electronic capital goods, electronic components, polysilicon and ingot-wafer "shall be processed and decided within 60 days".

The Committee of Secretaries under the Cabinet Secretary may also revise the list of specified sectors.



Fall Feb: This is the steepest decline since February 2021, when SIP contributions dipped 6%. GETTYIMAGES/ISTOCK

SIPs see the worst February in 5 years

Ashokamithran T.
MUMBAI

Monthly contributions to mutual fund schemes through systematic investment plans (SIPs) dipped 3.7% to ₹29,845 crore in February 2026 as against ₹31,002 crore in the previous month, according to data from the Association of Mutual Funds of India (AMFI) and CMIE.

This is the steepest decline since February 2021, when SIP contributions dipped 6%, a comparison of February month contribution shows.

The decline also comes after contributions in January 2026 stagnated at ₹31,002 crore compared with December 2025. Moreover, the number of contributing SIPs fell 5% to 9.44 crore accounts from 9.9 crore accounts. SIPs, one of the most-sought after routes to invest in mutual funds, have reduced by this quantum both on value and volume, following continued global shocks that kept markets volatile.

However, Venkat Chalasani, CEO of AMFI said, "The marginal moderation

compared with recent months is primarily due to February being a shorter month, with some end-of-month SIP instalments typically getting processed in early March."

Net inflows into gold exchange traded fund (ETF) fell 78% to ₹5,249.5 crore, after two months of continued investor inflow into the category, according to data released on March 10.

The net inflow into this category of investment, which tracks gold prices, was up as high as ₹24,040 crore as of January 2026.

"Gold ETFs, which saw record inflows in January 2026, appear to have moderated, suggesting that some of that defensive positioning is unwinding," said Nitin Agrawal, CEO, Mutual Funds, InCred Money.

The overall inflows in all open-ended schemes fell 39% to ₹94,194.01 crore in the reporting month as against ₹1,56,508.12 crore in the previous month.

To be sure, overall inflows have been reducing for seven consecutive months now, although February 2026 saw the slowest pace of decline.

Govt. invokes Essential Commodities Act for natural gas allocation

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Invoking the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG) has sought diverting natural gas to certain priority sectors with a tiered structure.

In a gazette notification dated March 9, the Ministry underlined domestic piped natural gas (PNG), Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) for vehicular fuel, and Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) production alongside fertilizer manufacturing, tea industries, manufacturing and other industrial consumers, among the priority sectors.

Earlier this week, the Centre had invoked the Essential Commodities Act for prioritising LPG supply to domestic consumers.

The latest gazette notification introduced tiered allocation priorities to each of the mentioned sectors. For example, domestic piped natural gas supply, CNG for transport and LPG production, among others, have been accorded for "priority allocation" with supplies to be upheld uninterrupted at "hundred per cent", subject to operational availability.

This would be premised on their average consumption from the previous six months. Fertilizer plants would be supplied 70% of consumption requirements, premised on their average consumption in the previous six months.

MALABAR CANCER CENTRE
(POST GRADUATE INSTITUTE OF ONCOLOGY SCIENCES & RESEARCH)
NABH & NABL Accredited (an autonomous Institution under Government of Kerala)
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Fax: 91 480 2355880 Email: mccc@kerala.gov.in Web: www.mccc.kerala.gov.in
E816522/MCC/02/2026-E2-GADH 10.03.2026
EXISTING VACANCIES/PERMANENT
1. Scientific Officer - Scale of pay - ₹56100-177500, Level 10 of 7th CPC
2. Bio Medical Engineer- Scale of Pay- 9300-34800 GP 4800 (MP13350)-6th CPC (Pre Revised)
Online Applications are invited for the aforementioned posts on permanent basis.
The last date for submitting online applications are 09.04.2026 at 5PM.
Details are available in mccc.kerala.gov.in. Sd/- Director

KOLKATA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION e-TENDER
ABRIDGED NIT
The Director General, P&D Department, KMC invites online e-tender/quotation expression of interest of lower bidder for the under mentioned work:
NIT No. : KMC/D.G.(P_D)/C/093/2025-26 (1st Call)
Name of the work: Refurbishment by desilting and lining of brick sewer along Old Court House Street, Hemanta Basu Sarani, Government Place (East, North, West), Netaji Subhas Road, Council House Street at B.B.D. Bag area in Ward No. 45 under Br-V. Estimated value: Tender amount to be quoted by the bidder. Earnest money: ₹ 10,00,000.00 (The balance amount of earnest money fall short of 2% of quoted tendered amount will be deposited by the successful bidder in the form of demand draft in favour of "The Kolkata Municipal Corporation"). Period of completion: 24 (Twenty Four) months. Pre-bid meeting (date & time): 19.03.2026 (12 Noon). Place of pre-bid meeting: Office of the Director General, P&D Department, KMC, 19, Nellie Sengupta Sarani, Kolkata-700087. Bid submission start date (online): 27.03.2026 (11.30 A.M.). Last date and time of submission of bid: 28.04.2026 (11.30 A.M.). Bid opening date for technical proposals (online): 30.04.2026 (1 P.M.). The bid forms and other details are available on and from 11.03.2026 (11.30 A.M.) from the website: <https://wbttenders.gov.in> (2378/25-26)

TRANSMISSION CORPORATION OF ANDHRA PRADESH LIMITED
(A Government of Andhra Pradesh Undertaking & An ISO 27001:2022 Certified Company)
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
The APTRANSCO invites bids online for Spec.No. PMM32-e-19/2026: Supply of 740 Nos. 33 KV Polymer LAs and 68 Nos. 220 KV Polymer LAs with 31mm/kV creep age distance. Date & Time of availability of above tender: 11.03.2026 at 6:00 PM. Website: www.tender.apecprocurement.gov.in. Contact No. CE/Transmission: 0866-2429230. Sd/- R.O. No. G/MCC/APTRANSCO/67/26 Chief Engineer/Transmission

Kerala Maritime Board
(A statutory Board of Govt. of Kerala)
HO TC XXII/1666 (4&5)
1st Floor, Mulamootil Building Pipinmoodu, Sasthamangalam, PIN: 695010

TENDER NOTICE
RFP for Integrated Development of Coastal Assets at Thalassery, Kannur, Kerala on PPP mode
The Kerala Maritime Board (KMB) invites a tender for the Integrated Development of Coastal Assets at Thalassery, Kannur, Kerala on PPP mode [Tender Number: 2026_KMB_828713_2] in Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode. The detailed tender document can be downloaded from Government of Kerala's e-procurement portal (www.etenders.kerala.gov.in).
Proposals must be submitted on or before 26-03-2026, 06.55 PM. For further information contact us on 0471-2910040/ 9544410029 or email us to kmb.kerala@gmail.com
For updates visit: www.kmb.kerala.gov.in
D3/255/2026 Sd/-

Office of the Project Director (Housing)
Rajasthan Urban Drinking Water Sewerage & Infrastructure Corporation Limited
4-Sa-24, Jawahar Nagar, Jaipur-302004 (RAJ.)
Tel & fax : 0141-4001187, Email: rudisico.housing@rajasthan.gov.in
No. RUDSICO/PO (H.)/Jpr/2025-26/1030 Date: 27.02.2026
Notice Inviting Bid
Bids for Selection of Agency for Providing Manpower for Establishment & Operation of State Level Technical Cell (SLTC) & City Level Technical Cell (CLTC) under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban 2.0 "Mission-Housing for All" in Rajasthan up to 18:00hrs, 23.03.2026 under two bid system on E-procurement for E-NIT 23/2025-26. Other particulars of the Bids may be visited on the procurement portal (<http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>, <http://sppp.rajinic.in>) of the state. The total approximate value of procurement is Rs. 2631.76 Lacs.
E-NIT No. 23/2025-26
UBN-RDP2526SLOB00135
Raj.Samwad/C/25/22001 General Manager RUDSICO, Jaipur

THE SINGARENI COLLIERIES COMPANY LIMITED
(A Government Company)
Singareni Thermal Power Project
Jaipur(V&M), Mancherial (Dist.), Telangana (State)-504216

Expression of Interest
The following Expression of Interest (EOI) has been hosted in SCCL Website.
For complete details, please visit <https://scclmines.com>
Phone No: 94911 44254, 94911 44780
Description/Subject:
Hiring Consultancy Services for assisting SCCL in incorporation of Joint Venture Company (JVC) between Singareni Collieries Company Limited(SCCL) and Rajas than Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited(RVUNL) and implementation support after formation of the Joint Venture Company (JVC).
Last date for Submission of EOI: 18.03.2026, 03.00 PM
R.O. No.: 1246-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2025-26, DATE: 10.03.2026 GM(E&M), STPP

BENGALURU SOUTH CITY CORPORATION
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Traffic Engineering and Mobility Cell, 2nd Floor,
9th Main Road, Jayanagara 2nd Block, Bengaluru - 560011.

No:EE/TE & M Cell/BSCC/TEND/06/2025-26 Date: 10-03-2026
INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only)
The Executive Engineer, Traffic Engineering and Mobility Cell, BSCC, Bengaluru invites Tender from eligible registered Agencies in any State Government Organization for the Service detailed below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Project
1	Providing 5 Nos. Towing Vehicles of Required Capacity as per Specification Detailed in Bid Document Complete on Hire Basis (Including Vehicle, Fuel, Driver and Maintenance of Vehicle) for Bengaluru South City Corporation (Zone-1 and 2) for a period of One year. Amount Put to Tender (Excluding GST) (Rs. in Lakhs): 210.00, EMD Amount (In Rs. in): 3,15,000/-

Calendar of Events: 1) Tender documents can be downloaded from the GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Website: <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> from 12-03-2026. 2) Last Date and Time for Queries (through Online only): 16-03-2026 upto 15.00 Hours. 3) Date and Time of Pre Bid Meeting: 16-03-2026 at 16.00 Hours. 4) Last Date and Time for Receipt of Tenders: 18-03-2026 upto 16.00 Hours. 5) Date of Opening of Technical Bid: 20-03-2026 at 16.00 Hours. 6) Date of Opening of Financial Bid: 23-03-2026 at 11.30 Hours (if Possible). Further details can be had from the above office.
Sd/- Executive Engineer (Zone-1 & 2)
Traffic Engineering and Mobility Cell, BSCC.

राजस्थान सरकार
स्वायत्त शासन विभाग राज. जयपुर
जी-3 राजमहल रजिस्ट्री परिसर, सिविल लाईन्स फाटक सी-स्क्रीन, जयपुर।
रेजीस्ट्रेशन नं.- 0141-2222403 ई-मेल- isprajasthan.lsgd@gmail.com वेबसाइट- www.lsg urban.rajasthan.gov.in
No. F55/JPA/CE/FSTP/2025-26/3727 Date:- 06/03/2026
Notice Inviting Bid(NIB)
NIB Code: DLB2526B2577
UBN No.: DLB2526WL0B37171
Online Technical and financial Bids in Single Stage two envelopes are invited on behalf of governor of Rajasthan by Directorate of Local Bodies for "Design, Supply, Construction, Testing, Trial run and commissioning of FSTPs towards Faecal Sludge & Septage Management (FSM) and 05 years operation and maintenance with one year defect liability period including supply, testing of vehicle mounted suction machine for faecal sludge desludging at 100 Nodal Villages in Rajasthan under Budget Announcement no. 09 of FY 2024-25."
Details may be seen in the RFP at the website of the State public Procurement Portal <http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in> & <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>. Interested bidders may download bid from these websites and submit their proposal online latest by 06.04.2026 at 12:00 PM. The approximate value of the work is Rs. 739.42 Crore.
(Juikar Pratik Chandrashekhhar)
Director Cum Special Secretary
DIPRC/4985/2026

No. A.12024/1/2024-E-IV
Government of India
Ministry of Jal Shakti
Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation
VACANCY NOTICE
Mahadayi Water Management Scheme, 2023 has been notified in the Gazette of India vide Notification No.S.O.2238(E) dated 22.05.2023. The said scheme mandates to constitute an Authority called as Mahadayi PRAWAH (Progressive River Authority for Welfare And Harmony) to give effect to the decisions of the Mahadayi Water Dispute Tribunal (MWDT). The Authority has come into existence w.e.f. the date of Notification and would be a body corporate and having three party States namely Goa, Maharashtra, and Karnataka with its Headquarters at Goa. All the Capital and Revenue Expenditure required to be incurred by the Authority shall be borne by the State Governments of Goa, Karnataka and Maharashtra in equal ratio.
2. Applications are invited from eligible and suitable officers for filling up the following posts in Mahadayi PRAWAH (Progressive River Authority for Welfare & Harmony), Goa on deputation (including short-term contract) basis:

S. No.	Name of the Post	Pay Scale	No. of Posts
1	Member (Environmental Issues)	Level-14 (Rs.144200-218200)	01
2	Member (Hydrology)	Level-14 (Rs.144200-218200)	01
3	Member (Monitoring and Regulation)	Level-14 (Rs.144200-218200)	01
4	Director (Finance)	Level-13 (Rs.123100-215900)	01

3. Details of the post, eligibility conditions etc. are available at jalshakti-dowr.gov.in, dopt.gov.in. Applications (in triplicate) complete in all respect of suitable and eligible officers and who can be spared immediately in the event of selection may be sent through proper channel to: The Under Secretary (Estt.IV), Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Room No. 435 (B), Shram Shakti Bhavan, Rafi Marg, New Delhi-110001 and by email at use4-mowr@nic.in & soe4-mowr@nic.in, within a period of 45 days from the date of issue/ publishing of this Advertisement in the Employment News.
4 Advance copies of application not forwarded through proper channel or application received after the prescribed period or not accompanied with the requisite information/ documents are liable to be rejected.
(Narayanan Bhattadiri K.P.)
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India
Tele. No.: 011-23716252
Email: use4-mowr@nic.in
[Note: The English version shall always prevail in case of any discrepancy or inconsistency between English version and its Hindi translation.]

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Short e-Tender Call Notice for Procurement of Certified Vegetable Seeds Mini-kit for the year-2025-26
NIT No. OSSC/Mktg (Hort)-03/2026
Interested bidders may visit the e-tender portal i.e. www.tendersodisha.gov.in for downloading the document for Procurement of Certified Vegetable Seeds Mini-kit for the year-2025-26.
Last date of receipt of tender in portal - 17.03.2026 up-to 05.00 PM.
Sd/- Managing Director, OSSC Ltd.
1001/53/2526 OIPR-1001/1045/1/25-26/0012

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PABX No.0674-2392801 / 0998 / 6437, FAX No.0674-2390633 / 085; Visit us at: <http://www.bda.gov.in/>
Invitation For Bids - Bid Identification No.438/EE/BDA/2025-26 Date: 07.03.2026
Executive Engineer, Division-V, BDA on behalf of Bhubaneswar Development Authority, Bhubaneswar invites percentage rate bids in double cover system in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors for civil works as mentioned below :

1. Nature of works	: Supply Installation Testing and Commissioning of Pre-fabricated Toilet cum Bath in Police Barrack in BBSR.
2. Total No. of works	: 01 (One) No.
3. Amount put to tender	: Rs.77.40 Lakhs
4. Class of Contractor	: "B" Class
5. Period of Completion	: 03 (Three) Calendar months
6. Cost of Bid Documents	: Rs.10,000.00 + 18% GST=Rs.7080.00 (Online transfer by the last date & time for receipt of bids)
7. Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	: 1% of estimated cost put to tender (Online transfer by the last date & time for receipt of bids)
8. Availability of Tender	: From 10.03.2026 to 5.30 PM of 26.03.2026 https://tendersodisha.gov.in
9. Date of opening of Tender	: Dt.30.03.2026 at 11.30 AM
10. Place of opening of Tender	: O/o - Executive Engineer, Division-V, BDA, Bhubaneswar.

Further details can be seen from the website: <https://tendersodisha.gov.in>. Any addendum / Corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website.
Sd/- Executive Engineer, Div.V, BDA, Bhubaneswar.
13001/545/2526 OIPR-13001/13033/1/25-26/0042

BCCI announces ₹131 crore cash reward for triumphant Team India



VIJAY SONEJI

Arshdeep docked 15% of his match fee for throwing at Mitchell in final



EMMANUEL YOGINI

Gujarat Titans names Hayden as batting coach for IPL 2026



FILE PHOTO

FIFA WC 'too big' to be postponed amid global turmoil: COO Schirgi



AF

We wanted to do something special at home: Suryakumar



EMMANUEL YOGINI

A World Cup where the willow set the tone

The 2026 ICC T20 extravaganza was marked by big hits and high scores

24
Sanju Samson smashed two dozens out of the park, the most maximums by a batter in an edition

1 India became the first team to register three 250-plus scores (256 vs. Zimbabwe; 253 vs. England; 255 vs. New Zealand) in a campaign

12 The teams breached the 200-run mark and defended it successfully

106 India's tally of maximums, making it the first side to cross 100 sixes in a T20I tournament

139
The overall batting strike rate, the best in history

255
The Men in Blue's total against the Black Caps was the highest in a title decider and the best in a T20I knockout game

499 India (253) and England (246) recorded the highest match aggregate in the tournament

780 Sixes struck during the 2026 T20 World Cup, the highest in an edition

●● The next target is to bag the Olympic gold in 2028. If India wins the T20 World Cup in the same year, it will be great

SURYAKUMAR YADAV

18 The number of deliveries Abhishek Sharma took for his half-century in the final, the fastest of the 2026 competition and the quickest in a T20 World Cup knockout game

SOURCE: ESPNCRICINFO & ICC | COMPILED BY AKANKSHA CHAKRABORTY

Lakshya keen to build on positives after agonising loss

“

Competing under national flag again should spur Russians on

Healy — a match-winner who produced her best on the big occasions

A landmark year for Indian women's sports



Reva University is the education partner. Blue Star is the cooling partner, while *Times Now* is the telecast partner.

INBRIEF



Marusic goal in stoppage time gives Lazio win over Sassuolo

A stoppage-time goal from Adam Marusic gave Lazio a 2-1 win over Sassuolo and snapped its four-game winless streak in Serie A. The result lifted the capital side one place into 10th, a point and a place behind Sassuolo.

The results: LaLiga: Espanyol 1 (Garcia 36) drew with Real Oviedo 1 (Reina 8). **Serie A:** Lazio 2 (Maldini 2, Marusic 90+2) bt Sassuolo 1 (Lauriente 35).

Manu tops 10m pistol event in National trials finals

Olympic medallist Manu Bhaker topped the finals of women's 10m pistol event, with a total score of 246.1 points, in the national selection trials T3 (Group A) which concluded in New Delhi on Tuesday. Trial two winner Sainyam finished second (241.90 while Esha Singh (220.6) secured the third spot in the eight-woman final. The national squad will start another coaching camp here from Wednesday.

Padel to feature at Asian Games in Japan this year

The racquet sport of padel has hailed “a significant moment” in its rapid growth after being included as a medal event at the Asian Games in Japan this year. Carlos Alcaraz, Cristiano Ronaldo and Max Verstappen are all big fans of the game, which is a mixture of tennis and squash.



Double delight for Krishna at sr. Natl. para badminton

Krishna Nagar clinched two gold medals in the SH6 category of the seventh senior National para badminton championships in Hyderabad on Tuesday. Krishna won the singles title, defeating M.S. Sudarsan 21-10, 21-19 in the final. In mixed doubles, Krisha and Nithya Sre Sumathy Sivan defeated Sudarsan and Shreya Kumari 21-7, 21-11. SH6 is a classification for players of short stature, usually caused by conditions such as dwarfism.

Indian youth boxers shine with five wins in Futures Cup

Five Indian youth boxers registered wins on the third day of the World Futures Cup in Bangkok on Tuesday. Chandrika Pujari (50kg) secured a 5-0 decision over a Venezuelan boxer, while Joyshree Devi (54kg) posted a RSC victory in the third round. In men's division, L. Ambekar (50kg) also advanced with a 5-0 win. Gunjan (48kg) edged past her Italian opponent 3-2, while Prachi (60kg) defeated the competitor from Ecuador with an RSC victory in the first round.

LIVE TELECAST

Hockey: Women's World Cup Qualifiers, Star Sports Khel & JioHotstar, 12.45, 3, 5.15 p.m.; India vs Wales, 7.30 p.m.
Bangladesh vs Pakistan: 1st ODI, FanCode, 1.45 p.m.
Champions League: Sony Sports Ten 2, 3 & LIV, 11.15 p.m. & 1.30 a.m. (Thursday)

Chacarra, Akshay lead the field at Indian Open golf

Sports Bureau
NEW DELHI

Spaniard Eugenio Chacarra will be back to defend his title but will face stiff competition from both home and foreign stars when the Hero Indian Open golf tees off on March 26 at the DLF Golf and Country Club.

With an increased prize purse of \$2.55 million – up from \$2.25 million last year

– and co-sanctioned with the DP World Tour, the 2026 edition of the marquee golfing event in the country will see participation from some exciting new names including American Akshay Bhatia, the 24-year-old who recently won the iconic Arnold Palmer Invitational 2026 in Orlando.

Akshay, already a three-time winner on the PGA Tour and the youngest to

make it to top-30 (Tour Championship) in the past two years, will be in the spotlight as much as former champion Francesco Molinari of Italy, a three-time PGA Tour and six-time DP World Tour winner, and Rayhan Thomas.

Among the home favourites, 2024 tied runner-up Veer Ahlawat, Yuvraj Sandhu, Manu Gandas and Shaurya Bhattacharya will be vying for the title.

Verstappen to race in the 24 Hours of Nuerburgring

Reuters
LONDON

Four-time Formula One world champion Max Verstappen will compete in the 24 Hours of Nuerburgring in May with his own Mercedes GT3 sportscar team and Red Bull backing, it was announced on Monday.

Walking Thunder wins the Common Land Plate

HYDERABAD: Trainer L.V.R. Deshmukh's Walking Thunder, ridden by P. Ajeeth Kumar, won the Common Land Plate, the chief event of Tuesday's (Mar. 10) races here.

The winner is owned by Mr. Aditya P. Thackersey. Jockey Antony Raj S scored a grand treble on the day.

1. SIR BRUCE PLATE (1,400M): WOLF CREEK (B.R. Kumar) 1, Cape May (Ajay K) 2, Sadiya (H.M. Akshay) 3 and Lego (Ashad Asbar) 4. 2, 5-3/4 and 2. 1m, 27.48s. ₹69 (w), 18, 27 and 41 (p). SHP: 71, THP: 102, PP: 628, Q: 421, Tanala: 17, 815. Favourite: Lego. Owners: Mr. Imran Isa Sayyed, Mr. Saleem Shah & The Estate of Late Mr. L. D'Silva. Trainer: R.H. Sequeira.

2. JANGAON PLATE (1,200M): SHARANGA (Antony Raj S) 1, La Quinta (Ajay K) 2, Analysis (Akshay K) 3 and Moonlite Rose (I.

Chisty) 4. 3-1/4, Neck and 7-1/4. 1m, 13.31s. ₹25 (w), 21, 19 and 13 (p). SHP: 52, THP: 65, FP: 172, Q: 106, Tanala: 402. Favourite: Sharanga. Owner: Mr. Shantanu Sharma. Trainer: Bharat Singh.

3. ABERDAR PLATE (1,000M): GRIEF (Yash Narredu) 1, Aquatone (Ashad Asbar) 2, Aditya (Rafique Sk.) 3 and Catch The Worm (B.R. Kumar) 3. 2-3/4, 2-1/2 and Dead Heat. 1m, 06.66s. ₹11(w), 10, 45, 168 and 10 (p). SHP: 69, THP: 242 and 22, FP: 91, Q: 164, Tanala: 3, 211. Favourite: Grief. Owners: Mr. S. Prasad Raju & Mr. Mukund Kakani. Trainer: K.S. V. Prasad Raju.

4. CROWN TREASURE PLATE (1,400M): NORTHERN WAVES (Antony Raj S) 1, Knight Regent (Akshay K) 2, Corte Madena (Ajay K) 3 and Trip Aside (B. Nikhil) 4. 2, 3/4 and 4-3/4. 1m, 25.33s. ₹17 (w), 11, 12 and 14 (p). SHP: 29, THP: 40,

FP: 39, Q: 22, Tanala: 83. Favourite: Northern Waves. Owner: Mr. V. Narendar Reddy. Trainer: G. Shashikanth.

5. SRISAILAM PLATE (1,200M): DARDANUS (Antony Raj S) 1, Master Class (I. Chisty) 2, Toshiro (Akshay K) 3 and Modin P. Ajeeth K 4. 1, 1 and 1-1/4. 1m, 13.67s. ₹53 (w), 18, 19 and 16 (p). SHP: 37, THP: 61, FP: 166, Q: 82, Tanala: 604. Favourite: Toshiro. Owner: Mr. Joydeep Datta Gupta. Trainer: Bharat Singh.

6. COMMON LAND PLATE (1,200M): WALKING THUNDER (P. Ajeeth Kumar) 1, Timeless Vision (Kuldeep Sr.) 2, Cherie Chevalier (Yash Narredu) 3 and Azrinaz (P. Sai K) 4. Neck, Short Head and 1. 1m, 12.00s. ₹58 (w), 10, 21 and 12 (p). SHP: 59, THP: 62, FP: 316, Q: 181, Tanala: 112. Favourite: Cherie Chevalier. Owner: Mr. Aditya P. Thackersey. Trainer: L.V.R.

Deshmukh.

NOTE: Pleasant Star (Akshay K up) whipped around soon after the start and did not participate.

7. SAROORNAGAR PLATE (1,200M): RED HOT PUNCH (P. Ajeeth Kumar) 1, Exclusive Luck (Antony Raj) 2, Deccan Ranger (B. Nikhil) 3 and Dhanadeepa (D.S. Deora) 4. 3, 3-1/2 and 3-3/4. 1m, 15.58s. ₹57 (w), 28, 11 and 20 (p). SHP: 74, FP: 89, Q: 37, Tanala: 656. Favourite: Exclusive Luck. Owners: Mr. E. Aroop Kumar Reddy, Mr. Sunil Kumar Sethi, Mr. Syed Nawaz Hussain, Mr. M. Madhukar & Mr. T. Rakesh Reddy. Trainer: Ananta Vatsalya.

Jackpot: 70%: ₹2,691 (148 tkts.) & 30%: 159 (1,069 tkts.).

Mini Jackpot: (i) 1,029 (160 tkts.), (ii) 9, 581 (9 tkts.).

Treble (i): 59 (244 tkts.), (ii): 1,346 (29 tkts.).

Be ruthless in front of the goal and kill the matches, urges coach Marijne

The Dutchman sheds light on the inability to score more frequently from PCs, which eventually led to India dropping points against Scotland



Trust in the process: Marijne says the side is gradually adapting to his style of play. K.V.S. GIRI

WWC QUALIFIERS

Anirudh Velamuri
HYDERABAD

Despite India being on top of Pool B in the ongoing FIH Women's World Cup Qualifiers, head coach Sjoerd Marijne lamented his side's inability to capitalise on its chances in the 2-2 draw against Scotland on Monday.

“We had nine PCs and enough possibilities to score more,” Marijne told reporters.

“It feels like a loss, and that is good because you want to win these matches, you need to win these kinds of matches. That's what we are working on. I

was happy that we came back from a goal down. I like resilience, but it was not enough to kill the match.”

Marijne pointed to penalty corner execution as a key area that needs improvement.

“If you get nine PCs, we mistrap the direction of the inflexion, the performance of where the ball has to be... all these things were just not good enough, and that is something we have to keep working on.”

The 51-year-old, currently in his second stint with the team, added that the side is gradually adapting to his style of play.

“I am happy with the way the girls really pushed themselves. And in the end, we created good opportunities. Unfortunately,

we did not make more [of them]. That is the only thing I can blame the team for,” he opined.

“A few really nice attacks, very fast hockey and good defending. They did not come much into our circle. The passing quality today was better than against Uruguay. So step-by-step improvements.”

Looking ahead, Marijne expects Wales to present a similar tactical challenge.

“We have a video meeting in the morning and evening, as well as a training session [on Tuesday]. We have an important match against Wales, which also plays low zone [like Scotland].

“We have to do better in that contest, not just in PCs but also in the shots on goal”.

Aman, Antim to compete in Asian c'ships selection trials

WRESTLING

Sports Bureau
KOLKATA

Paris Olympics bronze medallist Aman Sehrawat and double Worlds bronze medallist Antim Panghal will compete in men's 57kg and women's 53kg categories respectively at the selection trials for the Asian wrestling championships to be held on March 17.

Even though the list of eligible athletes showed Aman in 61kg weight class and Antim in 55kg, coaches overseeing the camps confirmed that they would compete in their usual categories.

“Since Aman participated in 61kg at the last National championships in Ahmedabad in December last, his name has come under the 61kg list.

“However, he will take



Aman will compete in 57kg. FILE PHOTO: RITU RAJ KONWAR

part in 57kg,” said coach Vinod Kumar.

Women's head coach Vi-render Dahiya confirmed that even though Antim's name was put in 55kg under similar circumstances, she would participate in 53kg.

Weight tolerance
Weight tolerance of one kg will be allowed for the five lower weight categories



Antim will be in the fray in 53kg. FILE PHOTO: SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

and two kg for the higher weight classes across all styles.

Earlier, the trials were scheduled to be held on March 9 and 10.

Following the delayed arrival of Indian teams from the second Ranking Series event in Albania due to flight disruptions owing to the West Asia crisis, the trials were postponed to March 17.

WOMEN'S ASIAN CUP

Press Trust of India
SYDNEY

A profligate India bowed out of the AFC Women's Asian Cup with a 1-3 defeat to Taiwan in its must-win last group stage fixture here on Tuesday, paying a heavy price for the lack of finishing touches.

Despite dominating large portions of the game and creating numerous opportunities, India's inability to convert chances in the final third proved costly.

Powerful shot
Manisha Kalyan scored India's lone goal in the 39th minute, the winger unleashing a powerful shot from about 30 yards to find the target.

Taiwan took the lead in the 12th minute when Y.H.



End of the line: India had its chances but could not prevail against Taiwan. THE-AFC.COM

Su slotted the ball inside an empty goal post after a horrible back pass from Sanju to J.W. Chen.

Indian custodian Elangbam Panthoi Chanu came off her line hoping to stop Chen, who successfully squared the ball to Su.

India struck back after that, but just before half time (45+9), Y.Y. Hsu's penalty hit the upright corner of the post and deflected in off Panthoi.

This was after Pyari Xaxa handled the ball inside the box and the referee pointed to the spot.

The contest was as good as over when Yu-Chin Chen struck Taiwan's third goal in the 77th minute, getting the better of Panthoi after a run down the right side.

The result:
Taiwan 3 (Su 12, Panthoi 45+9-og, Chen 77) bt India 1 (Manisha 39).

Arsenal favourite at Leverkusen; Real faces tough outing against Man City

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Agence France-Presse
PARIS

Wednesday's Champions League action sees Paris Saint-Germain and Chelsea meet for the first time since last year's Club World Cup final, while injury hit Real Madrid hosts Manchester City in the first leg of their last-16 tie as the sides clash in a knockout tie for the fifth season running.

Premier League leader Arsenal, which has never been crowned European champion, remains on track for four trophies this season and will be favoured to progress as it



Getting ready: Arsenal's Gabriel, Zubimendi, Eze, Calafiori and manager Arteta during training. REUTERS

takes on Bayern Leverkusen. Mikel Arteta's men won all eight matches in the league phase to cruise

into the last 16, where success against Leverkusen will set up a tie against Bodo/Glimt or Sporting.

Central defender William Saliba has missed Arsenal's past two matches with an ankle issue but

could be back here.

PSG is wobbling as the reigning European champion. The Parisians are a long way off the scintillating form they showed in the second half of last season, with Ballon d'Or winner Ousmane Dembele one of several players struggling for fitness – he is expected to be available here, however.

Estevao Willian and Jamie Gittens are nearing a return for Chelsea as it reignited its chase for Champions League qualification for next season last midweek with a 4-1 win at Aston Villa.

Alvaro Arbeloa's record 15-time European champion stumbled at home

against Manchester City in the league phase, back when Alonso was in charge.

Its prospects has not risen much higher since, particularly with a spate of injuries including to key players Kylian Mbappe and Jude Bellingham, who are set to miss the first leg at least. Vinicius Junior, vital in the play-off round against Benfica, carries the keys to Real's potential success here.

For City Erling Haaland availability remains in doubt.

The fixtures: Leverkusen vs Arsenal (11.15 p.m.); Real vs City, Bodo/Glimt vs Sporting and PSG vs Chelsea (1.30 a.m., Thursday).

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S. P. D. C. No. B1 / 0498 / 2026

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Development of Pedestrian Plaza in Dn 177 - Zone 13 & Dn 182 - Zone 14 - Work

Value of Rs. 14,44,14,000/- (inclusive of GST @18%)-E.M.D. Rs. 14,45,000/-

Tender document will be available in website: <https://ntenders.gov.in>

EMD Amount through online net banking transaction on e-tender portal only.

Tender last date and time of submission: 15.04.2026 up to 3.00 p.m.

Tender opening date and time : 16.04.2026 at 3.00 p.m.

DIPR / 1692 / Tender / 2026

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL - NOTICE

Ref: ELCOT-FPP-Viyan-2026-01

ELCOT invites "Request for proposal (RFP) for the participation and collaboration of leading industry partners, academic institutions and technology providers to collaborate in the Development, Operation, and Management of state-of-the-art facility "Viyan AVGC-XR Centre of Excellence (CoE). For further details, please visit elcot.tn.gov.in or ntenders.gov.in. Pre-bid meeting: 18.03.2026, 11:00 am. Last date for submission of proposals: 16.04.2026, 3:00 pm. For queries: viyan@elcot.in.

DIPR/1709/Tender/2026

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PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public are hereby informed that my client Yannanreddy Eswar /S/o. Narayana Reddy Yannanreddy R/o Flat No.504, 2-2-1009/3/A,B, Nivas Vijaya Krishna Residency, Bagh Amberpet, Hyderabad-13 or his nominee intending to enter Agreement of Sale with Dikki Krishna Rao S/o. D. Ramaiah, R/o Plot No.3A, Gandhinagar, Bakaram, Musheerabad, Hyderabad, in respect of all that the House No.1-1-385/A/1 constructed on Plot No.3A, admeasuring 247.2 Sq. yards (206.65 Sq. Meters) situated at Non-Industrial Area, Gandhinagar, New Bakaram, Hyderabad-80. If any person's having any right, claim, title, interest, whatsoever in respect of the said property shall contact the undersigned within 7 days from the date of publication with all relevant documents in support of their claim and any claim made subsequently, will not be entertained and shall deemed to have been waived.

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No: DGM-1/BSWML/TEND/27/2025-26

Date: 10.03.2026

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER

(Through GOK KPPP only) (3rd Call)

The Deputy General Manager-1, Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited on behalf of the Managing Director, BSWML, Bengaluru invites bids from eligible bidders for the Services mentioned in the table given below.

Sl. No.	Name of the work	Approx. Amount put to tender (Rs. in lakhs)	EMD (Amount in Rs.)	Time of Completion
1	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in RR Nagara-2 division (Package-31) Call-03	1,859.56	Rs.1,00,000/- through e- payment mode under of the following i.e., online / RTGS / NEFT / OTC and the balance Rs. 17,60,000/- by Bank Guarantee/FDR issued by Nationalized/Scheduled Bank.	84 Months

1) Last date for uploading Pre-bid Queries in KPP Portal: 15.03.2026 upto 17:30 hrs. 2) Tender Pre-Bid meeting: 16.03.2026 at 15:00hrs at above mentioned office. 3) Last Date of Receipt of Tender: 25.03.2026 before 17:30 hrs. 4) Opening of Technical Bid: 26.04.2026 after 17:30 hrs. More details can be downloaded from website - <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in>

Sd/-
Deputy General Manager-1, BSWML

DIPR/CP/JA/6151/2025-26

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD

(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)

No.2, 2/1 and 2/3, Kalidasa Marg, 1st Main Road, Gandhinagar Bengaluru - 560 009. Phone No. 080-22265383, website: www.kiadb.in

IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-94/3889/2025-26

Date: 10.03.2026

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER

(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

Item Rate Tender under two cover bid system is invited for the work mentioned below as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Contractors who have got adequate financial resources, state of the art technology, suitable construction equipments, technical man power & sufficient past experience for the the following work as per the schedule given below:

Name of the Work : Establishment of Plug & Play Infrastructure for Manufacturing / Assembly of Electricity Vehicle Component, battery pack assembly, charging infrastructure and testing centre at plot no.1B of EV Block, Harohalli 5th Phase Industrial Area, Ramanagara Taluk, Bengaluru South District.

The last date and time of receipt of tender is : 26.03.2026 upto 4.00 pm.

Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in>.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer-1, KIADB Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/6153/Zen/2025-26

BENGALURU SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT LIMITED

Office of the Deputy General Manager-1, BSWML, 1st Floor, BBMP Building, Thimmaiah Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru – 560 052

No.DGM-1/BSWML/TEND/21/2025-26

Date: 10.03.2026

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER

(Through GOK KPPP Only) (3rd Call)

The Deputy General Manager-1, Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited on behalf of the Managing Director, BSWML, Bengaluru invites bids from eligible bidders for the Services mentioned in the table given below

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Amount Put to Tender (Rs.in Lakhs)	EMD (Amount in Rs)	Contract Period
1	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in Mahadevapura-1 division (Package-24) Call-03	1,898.76	Rs.1,00,000/- through e-payment mode under of the following i.e., online / RTGS / NEFT / OTC and the balance Rs.17,99,000/- by Bank Guarantee/FDR issued by Nationalized / Scheduled Bank	84 Months

1) Last date to upload pre-bid queries in kpp portal: 15.03.2026 before 5:30 pm. 2) Tender Pre Bid meeting: 16.03.2026 at 15:00 hrs at above mentioned office. 3) Last Date of Receipt of Tender 25.03.2026 before 5:30 pm. 4) Opening of Technical Bid: 26.04.2026 after 5:30 pm. More details can be downloaded from website - <http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in>

Sd/-
Deputy General Manager-1, BSWML, Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/6168/CCL/2025-26

BENGALURU SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT LIMITED

Office of the Deputy General Manager-1, BSWML, 1st Floor, BBMP Building, Thimmaiah Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru – 560 052

No.DGM-1/BSWML/TEND/20/2025-26

Date: 10.03.2026

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER

(Through GOK KPPP Only) (3rd Call)

The Deputy General Manager-1, Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited on behalf of the Managing Director, BSWML, Bengaluru invites bids from eligible bidders for the Services mentioned in the table given below

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Amount Put to Tender (Rs.in Lakhs)	EMD (Amount in Rs)	Contract Period
1	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in Bangalore South-1 division (Package-20) Call-03	1,438.14	Rs.1,00,000/- through e-payment mode under of the following i.e., online / RTGS / NEFT / OTC and the balance Rs.14,00,000/- by Bank Guarantee/FDR issued by Nationalized / Scheduled Bank	84 Months

1) Last date to upload pre-bid queries in kpp portal: 15.03.2026 before 5:30 pm. 2) Tender Pre Bid meeting: 16.03.2026 at 15:00 hrs at above mentioned office. 3) Last Date of Receipt of Tender 25.03.2026 before 5:30 pm. 4) Opening of Technical Bid: 26.04.2026 after 5:30 pm. More details can be downloaded from website - <http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in>

Sd/-
Deputy General Manager-1, BSWML, Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/6169/CCL/2025-26

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NOT FOR PUBLICATION, RELEASE OR DISTRIBUTION, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY OUTSIDE INDIA.



RAAJMARG INFRA INVESTMENT TRUST

The Trust has been registered in the Republic of India as an irrevocable trust set up under the Indian Trusts Act, 1882, on November 24, 2025, and registered as an infrastructure investment trust under the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Infrastructure Investment Trusts) Regulations, 2014, on December 22, 2025, having registration number IN/InvIT/25-26/0034.

Principal Place of Business: G - 5 & 6, Sector 10, Dwarka, New Delhi - 110 075; **Telephone:** +91 11 2507 4100/200 - 3211; **Compliance Officer:** Gunjan Rajpal; **E-mail:** compliance@riimpl.in; **Website:** www.raajmarginfrustrust.in

SPONSOR 	INVESTMENT MANAGER	TRUSTEE 
NATIONAL HIGHWAYS AUTHORITY OF INDIA	RAAJMARG INFRA INVESTMENT MANAGERS PRIVATE LIMITED	IDBI TRUSTEESHIP SERVICES LIMITED

INITIAL PUBLIC OFFERING OF UP TO [●] UNITS OF RAAJMARG INFRA INVESTMENT TRUST ("TRUST") FOR CASH AT A PRICE OF ₹ [●] PER UNIT TOGETHER WITH SPONSOR CONTRIBUTION AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ 60,000.00 MILLION ("ISSUE"). THE ISSUE IS AN INITIAL PUBLIC OFFER IN RELIANCE UPON REGULATION 14(4) OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE BOARD OF INDIA (INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT TRUSTS) REGULATIONS, 2014, AS AMENDED ("INVIT REGULATIONS").

Price Band: ₹99 to ₹100 per Unit

Bidders (other than Anchor Investors and Strategic Investors) can make Bids for a minimum of 150 Units and in multiples of 150 Units thereof
Minimum Bid Size for Bidders other than Anchor Investors and Strategic Investors - ₹14,850

RISKS TO INVESTORS:

- The Trust is a newly settled trust with no operating history and limited historical financial information and, as a result, investors may not be able to assess its prospects on the basis of past records and the financial information disclosed in the Offer Document.
- The Project SPV has not executed the concession for InvIT Assets with the concessioning authority.
- The Trust must maintain certain investment ratios, which may present additional risks to the Trust.
- The ability of the Trust to make or maintain consistency in distributions to Unitholders depends on the financial performance of the Project SPV and their profitability.

Credit Ratings: (i) (a) Provisional CARE AAA; Stable from CARE Ratings Limited for the proposed bank loan facilities aggregating to ₹40,000.00 million to be availed by the Trust; and (b) Provisional CARE AAA; Stable, from CARE Ratings Limited as issuer rating. and (ii) (a) Provisional Ind AAA/Stable from India Ratings & Research Private Limited for the proposed bank loan facilities aggregating to ₹40,000.00 million to be availed by the Trust; and (b) Provisional Ind AAA/Stable as issuer rating from India Ratings & Research Private Limited.

BID ISSUE/PROGRAM	BID/ISSUE OPENS TODAY	BID/ISSUE CLOSES ON FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2026*
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**The Investment Manager may in consultation with the Book Running Lead Managers, consider closing the Bid/ Issue Period for QIBs one Working Day prior to the Bid/ Issue Closing Date, in accordance with the InvIT Regulations.*

	Simple, Safe, Smart way of Application!!!	Mandatory in public issues. No cheque will be accepted.
 UPI-Now available in ASBA for Individual Non-Institutional Investor applying in public issues where the application amount is up to ₹ 500,000, applying through Registered Brokers, Syndicate, CDPs & RTAs. Individual Non-Institutional Investors 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 CDBT notification dated February 13, 2020 and press release dated June 25, 2021.		
ASBA has to be availed by all the investors except Anchor Investors and Strategic Investors. UPI may be availed by Individual Non-Institutional Investors with an application size of up to ₹ 500,000 in the Non-Institutional Category. For 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 Information" on page 271 of the Offer Document. The Bid Cum Application Form and the Abridged Prospectus can be downloaded from the websites of BSE Limited ("BSE") and National Stock Exchange of India Limited ("NSE"), and together with BSE, the "Stock Exchanges") and can be obtained from the list of banks that is displayed on the website of SEBI at www.sebi.gov.in/sebiweb/other/OtherAction.do?doRecognisedFp=yes&intMid=35 and https://www.sebi.gov.in/sebiweb/other/OtherAction.do?doRecognisedFp=yes&intMid=43, respectively as updated from time to time. For the list of UPI apays 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 and HDFC Bank Limited have been appointed as the Sponsor Banks for the Issue, in accordance with the requirements of SEBI circular dated November 1, 2018 as amended. For Issue related queries, please contact the Book Running Lead Managers ("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: ipoi@npci.org.in.		

In case of any revision to the Price Band, the Bid/Issue Period will be extended by at least one Working Day, subject to the total Bid/Issue Period not exceeding 30 days, provided that there shall not be more than two revisions to the Price Band during the Bid/Issue Period. Any revision to the Price Band and the revised Bid/Issue Period if applicable, will be widely disseminated by notification to the Stock Exchanges during the Bid/Issue Period and by indicating the change on the websites of the Trust, the Sponsor, the Investment Manager, Book Running Lead Managers, Syndicate Members, SCsBs and Stock Exchanges.

In case of force majeure, banking strike or similar circumstances, the Bid/ Issue Period may, for reasons to be recorded in writing, be extended by a minimum period of three Working Days, subject to the total Bid/ Issue Period not exceeding 30 days.

This Issue is being made through the BoB Building Process and in compliance with the InVIT Regulations and the SEBI InVIT Master Circular, wherein not more than 75.00% of the Net Issue (excluding the Strategic Investor Portion) shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis to Institutional Investors, provided that the Investment Manager may, in consultation with the Book Running Lead Managers, allocate up to 60.00% of the Institutional Investor Portion to Anchor Investors on a discretionary basis in accordance with the InVIT Regulations and the SEBI InVIT Master Circular. Further, not less than 25.00% of the Net Issue (excluding the Strategic Investor Portion) shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis to Non-Institutional Investors, in accordance with the InVIT Regulations and the SEBI InVIT Master Circular, subject to valid Bids being received at or above the Issue Price. The Issue will also include participation by Strategic Investors, wherein not less than 5.00% of the Net Issue and not more than 25.00% of the Net Issue shall be allocated to the Strategic Investors in accordance with the InVIT Regulations and the SEBI InVIT Master Circular. All Bidders, other than Anchor Investors and Strategic Investors, are required to utilise the Application Supported by Blocked Amount (“ASBA”) process by providing details of their respective ASBA accounts andUPI ID (in case of individual Non-Institutional Investors using theUPI Mechanism Bidding with a Bid Amount of ₹ 0.50 million or less), in which case the corresponding Bid Amounts will be blocked by the Self Certified Syndicate Banks (“SCSBs”) or under theUPI Mechanism, as applicable, to participate in this Issue. Anchor Investors are not permitted to participate in the Anchor Investor Portion of the Issue through the ASBA process. For details, please see the section entitled “Issue Information” on page 271 of the Offer Document.

Bidders/Applicants should ensure that PAN ID, PAN and the Client ID and UPI ID (for UPI Bidders bidding through 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 and UPI ID (for UPI Bidders bidding through the UPI Mechanism) 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 authorized 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.

LISTING: The Units to be offered pursuant to the Offer Document are proposed to be listed on the National Stock Exchange of India Limited (the “**NSE**”) and BSE Limited (the “**BSE**”, together with NSE, the “**Stock Exchanges**”). In-principle approval for listing of the Units has been received from BSE and NSE pursuant to letters, each dated February 13, 2026. For the purposes of the Issue, NSE is the Designated Stock Exchange. The Investment Manager shall apply to the Stock Exchanges for the final listing and trading approval after the Allotment and the credit of the Units to the demat accounts of the Allottees

DISCLAIMER CLAUSE OF SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE BOARD OF INDIA ("SEBI"): It is to be distinctly understood that submission of Offer Document to SEBI should not in any way be deemed or construed that the same has been cleared or approved by SEBI. SEBI does not take any responsibility either for the financial soundness of any scheme or the project for which the Issue is proposed to be made or for the correctness of the statements made or opinions expressed in the Offer Document.

DISCLAIMER CLAUSE OF NSE (the Designated Stock Exchange): It is to be distinctly understood that the permission given by NSE should not in any way be deemed to be a recommendation or an endorsement of the securities of the Company by NSE. NSE does not warrant the accuracy or completeness of the information or documents or construed that the Offer Document has been cleared or approved by NSE nor does it certify the correctness or completeness of any of the contents of the Offer Document. The investors are advised to refer to the Offer Document 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 Offer Document has been cleared or approved by BSE nor does it certify the correctness or completeness of any of the contents of the Offer Document. The investors are advised to refer to the Offer Document for the full text of the Disclaimer clause of the BSE.

GENERAL RISKS: Investments in Units involve a degree of risk and Bidders should invest any funds in this Issue unless they can afford to take the risk of losing their entire investment. For making an investment decision, Bidders must rely on their own examination of the Trust, the Units and this Issue. Bidders are advised to carefully read the section entitled **"Risk Factors"** on page 42 of the Offer Document before making an investment decision relating to this Issue. Each Bidder is advised to consult with its own advisors in respect of the consequences of an investment in the Units being issued pursuant to this Issue. The Offer Document has been prepared by the Trust solely for providing information in connection with this Issue. The Securities and Exchange Board of India ("**SEBI**") and the Stock Exchanges assume no responsibility for or guarantee the correctness or accuracy or adequacy of any statements made, opinions expressed or reports contained herein. Admission of the Units to be issued pursuant to this Issue for trading on the Stock exchanges should not be taken as an indication of the merits of the Trust or of the Units.

BOOK RUNNING LEAD MANAGERS				REGISTRAR TO THE ISSUE
 SBICAPS Complete Investment Banking Solutions	 AXIS CAPITAL	 ICICI Securities	 motilal oswal Investment Banking	 KFINTECH EXPERIENCE TRANSFORMATION
SBI CAPITAL MARKETS LIMITED 1501, 15th Floor, A & B Wing, Parinee Crescendo Building, G Block, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai 400 051, Maharashtra, India Tel: +91 22 4196 8300; E-mail: raajmarg ipo@sbi caps.com Investor grievance e-mail: investor.relations@sbi caps.com Contact person: Sanjay Sethia Website: www.sbi caps.com SEBI registration number: INM0000003531	AXIS CAPITAL LIMITED 1st Floor, Axis House, Pandurang Budhkar Marg, Worli, Mumbai 400 025, Maharashtra, India Tel: +91 22 4325 2183 E-mail: raajmarg ipo@axis cap.in Investor grievance e-mail: complaints@axis cap.in Contact person: Harish Patel/ Mayuri Arya Website: www.axis capital.co.in SEBI registration number: INM0000012029	ICICI SECURITIES LIMITED ICICI Venture House, Appasaheb Marathe Marg, Prabhadevi, Mumbai 400 025, Maharashtra, India Tel: +91 22 6807 7100 E-mail: raajmarg ipo@icici securities.com Investor grievance e-mail: customercare@icici securities.com Contact person: Shri Subramanyam / Sumit Singh Website: www.icici securities.com SEBI registration number: INM0000011179	MOTILAL OSWAL INVESTMENT ADVISORS LIMITED Motilal Oswal Tower, Rahimtullah Sayani Road, Opposite Parel ST Depot, Prabhadevi, Mumbai – 400 025, Maharashtra, India Telephone: +91 22 7193 4380 E-mail: rit.ipo@motilal oswal.com Investor grievance e-mail: moiaipredressal@motilal oswal.com Contact person: Shashank Piset/Sankita Ajinkya Website: www.motilal oswal group.com SEBI registration number: INM000011005	KFIN TECHNOLOGIES LIMITED Selenium, Tower B, Plot No-31 and 32, Financial District, Nanakramguda, Serilingampally, Hyderabad, Rangareddy - 500 032, Telangana, India Tel.: +91 1800 309 4001 / +91 40 6716 2222 E-mail: riimlp.in@kfintech.com Investor grievance e-mail: einward.ris@kfintech.com Website: www.kfintech.com Contact person: M. Murali Krishna SEBI registration number: INR0000000221
CONTACT PERSON AND COMPLIANCE OFFICER Gunjan Rajpal, G - 5 & 6, Sector 10, Dwarka, New Delhi – 110 075; Telephone: +91 11 2507 4100/200 - 3211; E-mail: compliance@riimlp.in				Bidders can contact the Compliance Officer or the Registrar to the Issue in case of any pre-Issue or post-Issue related problems such as non-receipt of Allotment Advice/ letter of Allotment, non-credit of Allotted Units in the respective beneficiary account, non-receipt of refund orders and non-receipt of funds by electronic mode.

AVAILABILITY OF THE OFFER DOCUMENT: Investors are advised to refer to the Offer Document and the **"Risk Factors"** beginning on page 42 of the Offer Document before participating in the Issue. A copy of the Offer Document is made available on the website of SEBI at www.sebi.gov.in and is available on the websites of the Book Running Lead Managers, i.e., www.sbiicap.com and www.axiscapital.co.in, www.jcisc securities.com, www.motilaloswalgroup.com, the website of the InVT at www.raajmarginfrastrust.in and the websites of the Stock Exchanges, for BSE at www.bseindia.com and for NSE at www.nseindia.com.

AVAILABILITY OF BID CUM APPLICATION FORMS: Bid-cum-Application Forms can be obtained from the principal place of business of Raajmang Infra Investment Trust, **telephone:** +91 11 2507 4100/200 - 3211 at the offices of the Book Running Lead Managers: **SBI CAPITAL MARKETS LIMITED, Tel:** +91 22 4196 8300, **AXIS CAPITAL LIMITED, Tel:** +91 22 4325 2183, **ICICI SECURITIES LIMITED, Tel:** +91 22 6807 7100 and **MOTILAL OSWAL INVESTMENT ADVISORS LIMITED, telephone:** +91 22 7193 4380 and Syndicate Member: Motilal Oswal Financial Services Limited and SBICAP Securities Limited and at the select locations of the Sub-syndicate Members, SCSBs, Registered Brokers, RTAs and CDPs participating in the Issue. Bid-cum-Application Forms will also be available on the websites of the Stock Exchanges and the Designated Branches of SCSBs, the list of which is available at websites of the Stock Exchanges and SEBI.

Sub-syndicate Members: Alankit Imaginations Limited, Almondz Global Securities Limited, Anand Rathi Share & Stock Brokers Limited, Anand Share Consultancy, ANS Pvt Limited, Asit C. Mehta Investment Intermediates Limited, Axis Securities Limited, Centrum Broking Limited, Dalal & Broacha Stock Broking Pvt. Limited, Eureka Stock & Share Broking Services Ltd., G Raj & Co. (Consultants) Limited, HDFC Securities Limited, IFIL Capital Services Limited, Innovate Securities Pvt Limited, Jhaveri Securities, JM Financial Services Limited, Kalpataru Multiplier Limited, Kantilal Chhaganlal Securities Pvt.Ltd., Keynote Capitals Limited, KJMC Capital Market Services Limited, Kotak Securities Limited, Lakshminshree Investment & Securities Pvt Limited, LKP Securities Limited, Marwadi Shares & Finance, Nirmal Bang Securities Pvt Limited, Nuvama Wealth and Investment Limited (Edelweiss Broking Limited), Patel Wealth Advisors Pvt Limited, Prabhudas Lalladhar Pvt Ltd., Pravin Ratilal Share and Stock Brokers Ltd., RR Equity Brokers Pvt. Ltd., Sharekhan Limited, SMC Global Securities Limited, SS Corporate Securities Limited, Tanna Financial Services, TradeBulls Securities (P) Limited, Upostx Securities Private Limited, Yes Securities (India) Limited

APPLICATIONS SUPPORTED BY BLOCKED AMOUNT (ASBA): Investors other than Anchor Investors and Strategic Investors, have to apply through the ASBA process. For details on the ASBA process, please refer to the details given in the ASBA Form and abridged offer document and also please refer to the section ***“Issue Information”*** beginning on page 271 of the Offer Document. ASBA Forms can also be downloaded from the websites of the Stock Exchanges. ASBA form can be obtained from the list of banks that is available on the website of SEBI at www.sebi.gov.in. ASBA Form can be obtained from Members of the Syndicate, SCSBs, Registered Brokers, RTAs and CDPs the list of which is available on the website of SEBI.

ESCROW COLLECTION BANK, REFUND BANK AND SPONSOR BANK: ICICI Bank Limited

PUBLIC ISSUE ACCOUNT BANK AND SPONSOR BANK: HDFC Bank Limited

SPONSOR CONTRIBUTION BANK: Yes Bank Limited

UPI: UPI Bidders can also Bid through UPI Mechanism.

All capitalized terms used herein and not specifically defined shall have the same meaning as ascribed to them in the Offer Document.

For Raajmarg Infra Investment Trust
on behalf of the Board of Directors

Place: New Delhi
Date: March 10, 2026

RAAJMARG INFRA INVESTMENT TRUST is proposing, subject to receipt of requisite approvals, market conditions and other considerations, to make an initial public offer of its Units and has filed the Offer Document dated February 28, 2026 with SEBI and the Stock Exchanges. The Offer Document is made available on the website of the SEBI at www.sebi.gov.in as well as on the website of the Book Running Lead Managers i.e., SBI Capital Markets Limited at www.sbicapm.com, Axis Capital Limited at www.axiscapital.co.in, ICICI Securities Limited at www.icicisecurities.com and Motilal Oswal Investment Advisors Limited at www.motilaloswalgroup.com, the website of the NSE at www.nseindia.com and the website of the BSE at www.bseindia.com and the website of the Trust at www.raajmarginfra.in. Any potential investor should note that investment in Units involves a high degree of risk and for details relating to such risks, please see the section titled **"Risk Factors"** beginning on page 42 of the Offer Document. Potential investors should not rely on the Draft Offer Document for making any investment decision.

The Units have not been and will not be registered under the United States Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act") and 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 Securities Act and applicable U.S. state securities laws. Accordingly, the Units are only being offered and sold outside the United States in "offshore transactions" as defined in and in reliance on Regulation S under the Securities Act ("Regulation S") and the applicable law of the jurisdictions where such offers and sales are made.

Adfactors

Melbourne madness

The race at Albert Park was a battle of wits, speed and a whole load of battery management; Mercedes' lead driver Russell grabbed his moments to set the tone for the year, with the Ferraris breathing down his neck

Anirudh Velamuri

George Russell's grin said it all in Melbourne on Sunday. It was more than happiness; it was vindication. He set the tone for the 2026 season by claiming a commanding victory at the Australian Grand Prix, as pre-season favourite Mercedes announced, in no uncertain terms, that it was ready to reclaim its place at the top of the grid.

For Russell, the triumph had been a long time coming. After proving his skill at Williams, he joined Mercedes just as the team's dominance was fading. Four years of watching Max Verstappen-led Red Bull Racing rule the grid, as well as last year's McLaren surge, had tested his patience. Now, with a fresh era of regulations, his moment to shine arrived.

The 2026 regulation overhaul allowed all teams to start afresh, and the Australian GP was the first real test. Mercedes - sans the sandbags - delivered a car that excelled in both qualifying and race trim. Russell claimed pole by an astonishing 0.785 seconds over the nearest non-Mercedes. It echoed Lewis Hamilton's dominance at Albert Park in 2018, the last time F1 saw such a wide gap in qualifying Down Under.

That strong qualifying performance, combined with a smart strategy - more on that later - during virtual safety car (VSC) periods and consistent pace, helped Russell dazzle his way to victory. Kimi Antonelli crossed the finish line behind him, making it Mercedes' first 1-2 from the junior programme, and their first without Hamilton since the 1955 Italian GP.

No one was more relieved to see the Silver Arrows competing for wins again than team principal Toto Wolff.

"The most important feeling is so much contentment we feel as a team. We had such a long winning stretch, winning eight championships. Then a difficult period. But after a solid one-two, you feel you are fighting for a world title ... [and] that Mercedes is back."

Whether Mercedes can sustain this form over a 24-race season remains to be seen, but Sunday was a strong statement.

Prancing Horse trips, again

True to the pre-race chatter, Ferrari surged off the line when the lights went out. The advantages of the team reportedly choosing a smaller turbocharger in its power unit were clear, as the lighter turbine spools up faster, providing stronger acceleration from low RPMs.

Russell was slow to get off the line, which allowed Charles Leclerc to charge past at Turn 1 while Antonelli tumbled down the order. A little behind him, his teammate Hamilton also made big gains, progressing from P7 to P3.

However, strategy missteps undermined their efforts.

That early advantage went up in smoke when Ferrari opted against following Mercedes into the pits during the race's first VSC. Russell and Antonelli opted for fresh rubber while Leclerc and Hamilton were directed to favour track position.

It was a decision that baffled viewers and pundits alike, with Hamilton also

airing his frustration on the team radio. "At least one of us should have pitted."

"How are they (Russell) only 10 seconds behind? How did you not call? How did you not call the pit, man?" he later added. A second VSC offered a brief lifeline, but a blocked pit lane prevented Ferrari from capitalising. The decision ultimately cost the team crucial time, confirming a familiar theme: Ferrari's speed remains, but race execution lags.

However, it is not all doom and gloom for Formula 1's oldest and most successful team, as Hamilton later explained.

"The team did a great job overall. There are lots of positives to take. I know we can be fighting for podiums. We're not as fast as Mercedes but we're right in the fight. We've got a lot of work to do to catch them, but it's not impossible."

His former boss, Wolff, also stated that Ferrari remains Mercedes' closest competitor. "It was a three-way fight at a certain stage between the two Ferraris and George, and eventually Kimi caught up. The race pace at the end was very encouraging from our side, but at the beginning, there was nothing between Ferrari and Mercedes. For me, the prevailing feeling is now we have a fight on our hands with Ferrari."

McLaren's crown slips

Oscar Piastri had a strong weekend up to Sunday, qualifying P5 and showing that the McLaren package had potential. However, all of that was undone even before the lights went out on race day.

On the formation lap at Albert Park, he lost control of his McLaren after clipping the exit kerb at Turn 4 and slid into the concrete wall. He later disclosed that his car received an unexpected surge of roughly 100 kilowatts of additional power that unsettled it.

"I got on the kerb a little bit. Essentially, I had 100 kW more power than I've had the whole weekend, at the point that I shifted. When I shifted, it went into wheelspin,

and given that I was on the kerb already, it was a combination of bad factors." Lando Norris brought home some points for McLaren, finishing a respectable P5. However, he was just the best of the rest, behind the Mercedes and Ferraris, two-stopping his way to the finish line.

Team principal Andrea Stella acknowledged that McLaren has 0.5-1 second performance gap to close to Mercedes, despite using the same engine.

"We remain a little puzzled by the difference we see in the data between the speed of our car and the speed of other cars using the same power unit. It clearly indicates that we should be doing a better job in understanding how to utilise the power unit with the complexities that came with the 2026 regulations," he explained. "We need to find a way to extract more out of the power unit and, on the other side, develop the car. This will take a few races to see some major upgrades. In these few initial races, we will have to make sure that we extract most of the car in its current configuration."

Licence to struggle

Aston Martin's problems with its new Honda power unit surprised no one. Severe vibrations from the engine limited early running in practice laps and even led to concerns about driver safety. Fernando Alonso and Lance Stroll even stated that they could only sustain a limited number of laps before risking nerve damage in their hands.

Component failures compounded the issues. Aston Martin was left with just two batteries for the race after two failed, prompting serious questions about their participation, let alone competitiveness. "We've had a fresh problem of communication internally with the battery and its management system. But the more pressing underlying problem is the vibration issues that we continue to struggle with," Adrian Newey, Aston Martin's new team principal, told the media in Melbourne.

"Today (Sunday) was primarily an opportunity to learn more about the AMR26. Both cars took the start and, when it became clear we could not compete for points, we chose to pit and check the cars over. The team then asked

Fernando to retire the car to preserve

components. The data and learnings from this weekend will help us as we go into the next event." Aston Martin will need to grasp the lessons swiftly before the window for recovery closes.

Reliability issues

As many as five cars either failed to start the Grand Prix or failed to go the race distance in Melbourne.

Isack Hadjar brought out the first virtual safety car on lap 11 after his Red Bull came to a halt with smoke pouring out the back. Seven laps later, there was a second virtual safety car period after Bottas' Cadillac broke down.

Alonso, who had a strong start by going as high as P10, pitted on lap 15 and rejoined the race several laps later after Aston Martin made some adjustments to his car. He eventually called it quits on lap 37. Two drivers did not take part in the race at all, for vastly different reasons.

Nico Hulkenberg's Audi experienced technical troubles before the race, his car never making it out of the garage. A heartbroken Piastri was resigned to watching the race on a screen rather than taking part in it.

While Alonso's teammate Stroll managed to get to the chequered flag and take P17, he finished 15 laps behind following a lengthy pit stop on lap 35.

Sunday at Albert Park was a reminder of the fine margins and unpredictability of Formula 1. Mercedes stamped its authority on the season opener, but Melbourne is only the first act of what promises to be a long saga. Trust that there will be plenty of drama lacing the championship fight this season!

THE GIST

Exceptional pace and smart strategy helped Mercedes' Russell claim victory, with teammate Antonelli finishing P2

Leclerc and Hamilton were fast off the line, but poor strategic calls proved costly. However, it is not all doom and gloom for Ferrari

Norris salvaged points for McLaren after Piastri's crash, but the team needs to quickly address the 0.5-1 second gap (per lap) to Mercedes

Aston Martin's struggles continue, with Adrian Newey stating that the team treated the race as a learning exercise

Reliability chaos hits the field, with five cars failing to complete the race and a sixth finishing 15 laps behind

GETTY IMAGES

Scientists rewire bacteria to build ‘designer’ proteins on demand

By engineering a protein called a ‘nutrient transporter’, scientists have found a way to smuggle artificial amino acids into bacterial cells; the feat allows them to manufacture complex designer proteins that can carry drugs to precise locations inside the body or perform multiple different tasks at the same time

Joel P. Joseph
BENGALURU

Researchers have found a way to hijack the natural protein-making facilities of bacteria to manufacture specific proteins of interest. They did this by turning a ‘nutrient gate’ on a bacterial cell into a Trojan horse that could ferry artificial amino acids into cells to make these proteins.

The study, conducted by teams at ETH Zurich in Switzerland and the Technical University of Munich in Germany, was published in *Nature*.

All proteins are made of some combination of the 20 natural amino acids. In the lab, chemists can also synthesise thousands of artificial amino acids, many of which have completely new properties. For example, if an amino acid called p-azido-L-phenylalanine can be built into a protein, it would allow scientists to attach drugs to the protein at a precise spot, helping it treat some disease.

The challenge however has been to get cells’ protein-making machines to use these artificial amino acids.

Idea and bottleneck

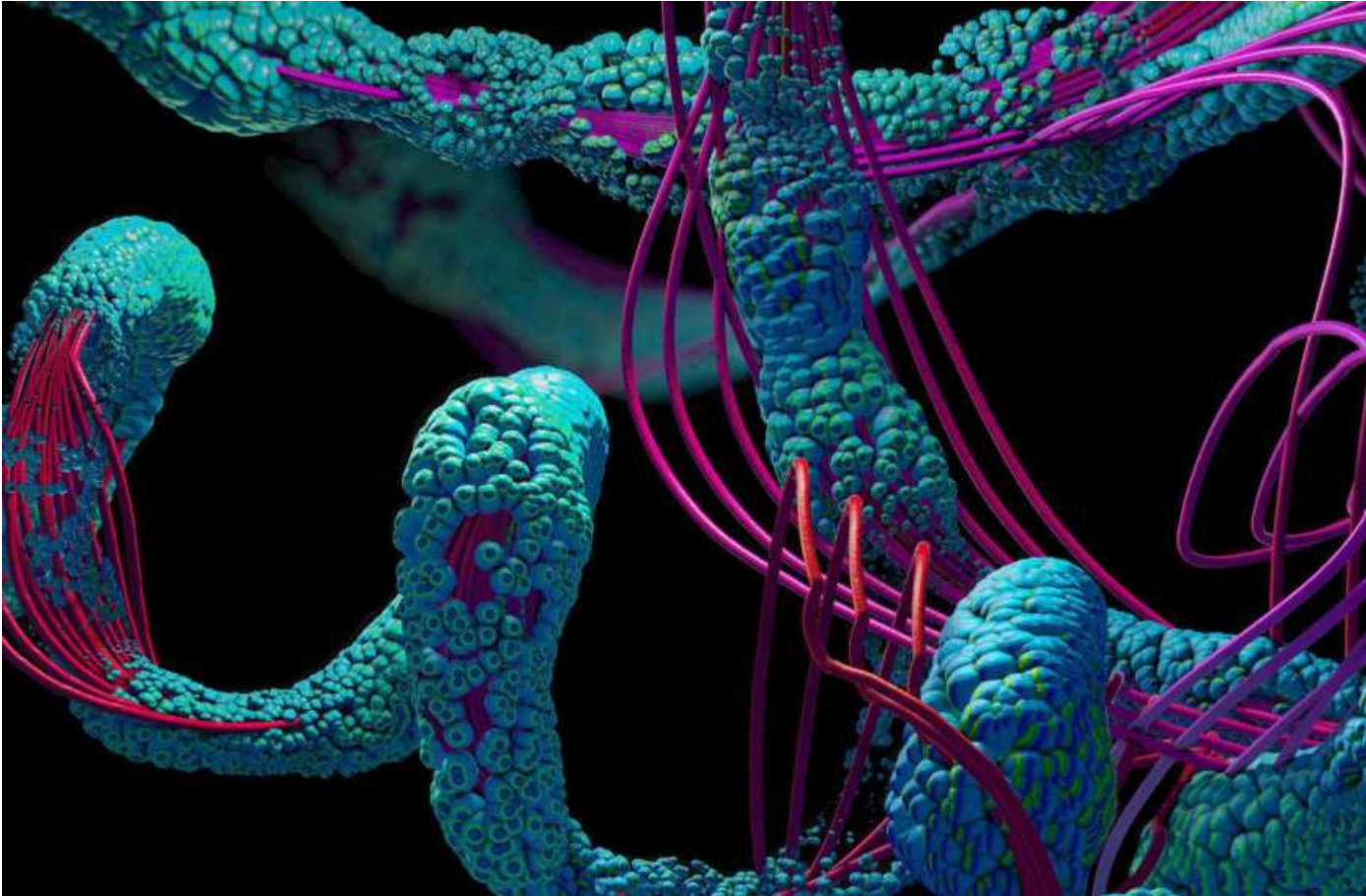
In the 1980s, Peter Schultz and his colleagues at the University of California, Berkeley, laid the foundations of incorporating artificial amino acids into proteins at specific sites. Over the years, scientists have expanded this toolkit to incorporate artificial amino acids in proteins that cells make.

Yet one problem has persisted: the struggle to get enough artificial amino acids into the cell. Most lab-made amino acids struggle to cross the cell membrane and enter the cytoplasm, where the ribosomes synthesise proteins. This is because the side chains on artificial amino acids are very water-loving whereas the core of the cell-membrane is water-repelling.

To solve this problem, scientists have used one of three approaches in the past: (i) adding large concentrations of artificial amino acids in the medium so they passively cross the cell membrane; (ii) engineering membrane-binding proteins to smuggle small peptides (short chains of amino acids) across the cell membrane and break them down to amino acids once inside the cell; or (iii) engineering metabolic pathways within the cells to produce artificial amino acids inside the cells.

These methods showed some progress but they were still specific to certain amino acids. They couldn’t be generalised.

In the new study, the researchers pinned down the exact molecule ferrying the peptides into the cell. In the absence of the transporter – the main bacterial system that normally imports small protein fragments as food – the cells



An illustration of a chain of amino acids. All proteins are made of some combination of the 20 natural amino acids. In the lab, chemists can also synthesise thousands of artificial amino acids, many of which have completely new properties. GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

almost completely lost the ability to use the artificial amino acids bound to the peptides. That was a sign this specific molecule was the smuggler. Once the peptides were inside, the cell’s own protein-cutting enzymes unpacked them.

The researchers were able to confirm this: when they removed the enzymes that normally cut peptides into individual amino acids, the cell’s protein production dropped. Taken together, the transporter brought the cargo in, then ordinary enzymes freed the artificial amino acid so the cell’s ribosome could use it.

Across the membrane

Kathrin Lang and her colleagues at ETH Zurich started from the same idea: by attaching the artificial amino acid to a short peptide. But this group pushed the idea further in the bacteria *Escherichia coli*.

Laasya Samhita, assistant professor of biology at Ashoka University in Sonapat, explained that the group engineered an ABC transporter, a specific membrane protein that imports other proteins into the cell, using directed evolution to take up peptides carrying artificial amino acids.

The ABC transporter normally transports tripeptides (i.e. three amino acids) and tetrapeptides (four amino acids) into the cell as sources of nutrients. Dr. Lang and co. designed tripeptides and tetrapeptides in which they hid an artificial amino acid between two natural

The recent study has also shown that the approach could deliver two different artificial amino acids, allowing a single protein to carry two engineered features at different positions

amino acids, thus causing the transporter to smuggle artificial amino acids into the cell. Once inside, the myriad peptide-cleaving enzymes inside the cell chopped them into individual amino acids, making artificial amino acids available for cells to make new proteins.

Unlike previous reports, this study engineered the transporter to alter a protein located in the space between the inner and the outer membranes of the bacterial cell. The researchers first identified residues that clamped onto the cargo. Then they prepared mutants of the transporter that would take up 10x more amounts of unconventional amino acids than an unmodified counterpart. This is double the efficiency in the uptake of artificial amino acids when compared to previous studies.

Easier to use

The findings matter because in many standard lab broths, there are already lots of natural peptides floating around, and they all compete for the same transporter, reducing how much of the cargo is smuggled inside the cell. So the

researchers evolved the transporter step by step to make sure it worked even in these crowded conditions, repeatedly selecting bacterial cells that imported the artificial amino acids’ peptides best. Then they built the improved version into the bacteria’s genomes. The resulting system, they reported, was easier to use to produce proteins in a routine way instead of having to carefully control the media (the broths) first.

As Maximilian Fottner, Senior Scientist in Lang’s group and a lead author of the study, said in a press note, the study makes it “possible to produce designer proteins containing unnatural amino acids just as efficiently as their natural counterparts”. These could be genuinely multifunctional proteins, such as an antibody that carries a drug at one engineered position.

The team also showed that its approach could deliver two different artificial amino acids, allowing a single protein to carry two engineered features at different positions.

Dr. Lang and colleagues are working on designing a similar system in human cells to produce artificial human-like proteins that could be suited for several therapeutic applications. The idea could extend to import molecules other than amino acids to produce complex chemical compounds, she added.

(Joel P. Joseph is a freelance science journalist and researcher. joelpjoseph2009@gmail.com)

THE GIST

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BIG SHOT



Slippery slope: An aerial photograph shows waves breaking on the shoreline at the bottom of a cliff damaged by winter storms triggering the fall of pine trees along the Atlantic Ocean in Soulac-sur-Mer, south-western France on March 4. Coastal erosion in the region has also triggered the retreat of the coastline by several meters. AFP

WHAT IS IT?

Asteroid YR4: no longer a threat

Vasudevan Mukunth

NASA has officially ruled out the possibility of asteroid 2024 YR4 colliding with the moon in 2032. This update settles concerns that first surfaced after the asteroid’s discovery in late 2024. For several months, orbital models suggested a small but notable 3.8% to 4.3% chance that the rock would strike the lunar surface on December 22, 2032.

To resolve the uncertainty, experts from NASA’s Centre for Near-Earth Object Studies used the James Webb Space Telescope to track the object. In February, the team made two important observations while the asteroid was extremely faint, a feat impossible for most other observatories. These new data points have reportedly allowed the scientists to refine the asteroid’s trajectory with higher precision. The latest calculations show that 2024 YR4 will safely bypass the moon at a distance of around 21,200 km. This follows an earlier update regarding the earth: while data in early 2025 indicated a potential threat to our planet, subsequent analysis ruled out a terrestrial impact for the next century at least.

Astronomers have said that these shifts in probability are a standard part of



An artist’s impression of an asteroid that orbits closer to the sun than the earth’s orbit, showing its dark side. NOIRLAB/J. DA SILVA

planetary defence. When scientists first discover a near-earth object, they must calculate its path using limited information, which often results in a wide range of possible outcomes. As they collect more data over time, they narrow those possibilities down. In the case of the 65-meter-wide 2024 YR4, the newest evidence confirms it is no longer a threat to the earth or its moon.

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Text & Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Rise in China's exports to Russia in first two months of 2026

19.7 in per cent. China's exports to Russia surged in the first two months of 2026, Chinese customs data showed on Tuesday. In February alone, China's shipments to Russia soared 54.7% from the previous year. Russian crude oil shipments to China in January-February nearly doubled from a year ago, said Muyu Xu, a Kpler analyst. REUTERS

Number of women beneficiaries under Assam's govt.'s scheme

40 in lakh. Forty lakh families in Assam on Tuesday received ₹9,000 each under the State government's flagship 'Orunodoi' scheme, with Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma emphasising that it was a manifestation of the regime's compassionate approach. Under the Orunodoi scheme, one eligible woman beneficiary per family receives ₹1,250 per month. PTI

Number of people displaced in Lebanon as on March 10

6.67 in lakh. The United Nations said Tuesday that more than 100,000 people had been newly displaced within Lebanon in just 24 hours amid the war raging in West Asia. "As of today, more than 667,000 people in Lebanon have now registered on the (Lebanese) government's online platform as displaced," said a UN refugee agency's representative. AFP

Number of MBBS seats approved for the academic year 2025-26

11,682 Minister of State for Health Anupriya Patel told the Rajya Sabha on Tuesday that 43 new medical colleges have been established across the country for the academic year 2025-26. The government has approved 11,682 MBBS seats and 8,967 postgraduate seats, across the country for the same academic year, she said. PTI

Number of alleged atrocities and crimes against SCs in 2023

57,789 More than 57,000 cases of alleged atrocities and crimes against Scheduled Castes were registered across the country in 2023, the government informed the Lok Sabha on Tuesday. It also said there is no proposal to amend the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989. PTI

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'41%' illusion: a quiet re-engineering of India's fiscal federal landscape

16th Finance Commission retained States' share in the divisible pool at 41% even as the divisible pool as a proportion of gross tax revenues has shrunk; various grants have been discontinued; the gap between a State's entitlement and its actual receipt depends on its capacity to meet Central monitoring requirements

ECONOMIC NOTES

Deepanshu Mohan

An Explanatory Memorandum issued by the Ministry of Finance on February 1, 2026, is seen as a useful document, not only for what it states or approves but also for observing a pattern of what it does not.

The Union government accepted the Sixteenth Finance Commission's (FC's) recommendation to retain the States' share in the divisible pool at 41%. It also accepted the horizontal formula, the local body grants, and the disaster management corpus. However, it deferred everything structural, such as amending the Fiscal Responsibility Legislation, controlling off-budget borrowings, reforming power sector distribution companies, and rationalising subsidies.

This observed asymmetry is not bureaucratic caution. It became the settlement.

The headline number deserves scrutiny before the settlement does. A 41% share sounds like continuity. In nominal terms, it is. But the divisible pool is not gross tax revenues.

Cesses and surcharges, levied and retained entirely by the Union, sit outside the pool, and their share has been growing.

As the FC16 report documents, the divisible pool as a proportion of gross tax revenues averaged 89.2% during the FC13 period, fell to 82.1% during FC14, and dropped further to 78.3% during FC15.

The Commission acknowledges this trend, notes its undesirability, and declines to fix it. Hence, 41% of a shrinking base is not 41% of total collections.

FC16 has also discontinued revenue deficit grants, sector-specific grants, and State-specific grants, instruments that offered targeted fiscal relief to States. The Commission projects that combined general government debt will fall from 77.3% of GDP in 2026-27 to 73.1% by 2030-31.

The aggregate trajectory looks orderly. It is the disaggregated picture where the real argument begins.

Structural deferrals

FC16 was aware of the fault lines it chose not to repair. Its chapters on State finances, power sector losses, and subsidies name them directly. The Commission identified States with structurally unsustainable fiscal trajectories. It called for reforms. It attached no binding enforcement mechanism to achieve them.

The most consequential gap is the residual asymmetry left by the end of GST compensation in June 2022. States lost a guaranteed 14% annual growth in SGST revenues without a structural replacement.

Tamil Nadu alone estimated a shortfall of nearly ₹20,000 crore in 2024-25. The Commission reads aggregate SGST buoyancy as evidence of recovery. The distributional stress has not followed.

The second deferral concerns off-budget borrowings and fiscal rules. FC16 documented how States borrow through government-controlled entities and service those liabilities from the budget, keeping them invisible in

Drop in shareable revenue

Divisible Pool as % of Gross Tax Revenue (GTR), from 2010-11 to 2025-26

Year	FC period	Divisible pool (% of GTR)	States' share in the divisible pool
2010-11	FC13	89	32%
2011-12	FC13	88.9	32%
2012-13	FC13	89.7	32%
2013-14	FC13	89.3	32%
2014-15	FC13	89.1	32%
2015-16	FC14	86.9	42%
2016-17	FC14	86.2	42%
2017-18	FC14	75.6	42%
2018-19	FC14	81.2	42%
2019-20	FC14	80.9	42%
2020-21	FC15	74	41%
2021-22	FC15	75.3	41%
2022-23	FC15	77.5	41%
2023-24	FC15	79.9	41%
2024-25 RE	FC15	81.9	41%
2025-26 BE	FC15	81.3	41%



Source: CAG certificates from 2010-11 to 2023-24, Union Budgets for remaining years through Figure 7.4 of 16FC Volume I - Main Report

Horizontal devolution formula of FC15 vs FC16

Criterion	FC15 weight (2021-2026)	FC16 weight (2026-2031)	Change (*pp)
Income distance (per capita GSDP)	45%	42.50%	-2.5
Population (2011 Census)	15%	17.50%	+2.5
Demographic performance	12.50%	10%	-2.5
Area	15%	10%	-5
Forest cover	10%	10%	—
Tax & fiscal effort	2.50%	Dropped	-2.5
Contribution to GDP	—	10% (New)	+10

*pp- percentage points

Source: Reports of the 15th and 16th Finance Commissions through PRS

headline deficit figures.

It is recommended that States discontinue this practice and that the Fiscal Responsibility Legislation (FRL) frameworks be amended.

The Explanatory Memorandum accepted the quantum of borrowing ceilings in principle, then noted that off-budget controls, FRL amendments, and the Union's own fiscal deficit path would be examined separately. That phrase has a history in Indian fiscal federalism. It means not now.

The Commission's own inter-State comparison documents the backdrop. Punjab carried a debt-to-GSDP ratio of 42.9% in 2023-24 and a revenue deficit of 3.7% of GSDP, borrowing primarily to address revenue shortfalls rather than build capital assets.

Rajasthan's outstanding liabilities stood at 37.9% of GSDP, West Bengal's at 38.3%, and Andhra Pradesh's at 34.6%. Each operates under fiscal rules that, by the Commission's own assessment, are effectively unenforced. The recommendation to reform those rules was made. The Union noted it for later.

Rewarding the Centre's priorities

Two choices in FC16's transfer architecture repay close reading.

The first is the replacement of the tax and fiscal effort criterion in the horizontal devolution formula with a contribution to GDP criterion. Under FC15, States received a 2.5% weight based on their own tax revenue efficiency relative to economic capacity, rewarded for trying hard.

The new criterion, assigned a 10% weight, allocates resources in proportion to each State's contribution to national GDP, measured as the square root of its

GSDP relative to all States. Maharashtra, Gujarat, and Karnataka, large, high-GSDP States that already generate substantial own revenue, benefit structurally from this shift.

Bihar, Jharkhand, and Uttar Pradesh, which are States with lower per capita incomes and greater fiscal need, do not. This is not a technical adjustment. It is an inversion of equalisation logic: the previous criterion rewarded effort, the new one rewards weight.

The shift from tax & fiscal effort (2.5%) to contribution to GDP (10%) is the defining structural change. The second is the conditionality architecture of the local body grants. The ₹7,91,493 crore recommended for rural and urban local bodies is divided into basic and performance components, with access contingent on entry-level conditions covering constituted bodies, audited accounts, and the timely constitution of State Finance Commissions.

Performance grants add further layers tied to own-source revenue benchmarks and Central database compliance. Each condition is defensible in isolation. Together, they construct a system in which the gap between a State's entitlement and its actual receipt depends on its capacity to meet Central monitoring requirements.

States with weaker governance infrastructure, which tend also to be States with greater fiscal need, face that gap most acutely. The FC15 period offers a precedent, where urban local body grants were released at only 62.6% of the recommended amount.

Read alongside the Commission's report, the Explanatory Memorandum reveals a consistent logic. The Union accepts what gives it budgetary

The Union accepts what gives it budgetary predictability: the 41% share, the formula, and the grants. It defers what would require sharing structural authority, fiscal rule reform, off-budget liability controls, and power sector restructuring

predictability: the 41% share, the formula, and the grants.

It defers what would require sharing structural authority, fiscal rule reform, off-budget liability controls, and power sector restructuring. Where FC16 diagnosed a problem and recommended a remedy, the Union took note. Where FC16 designed a flow and set an amount, the Union accepted it in full.

What makes the FC16 moment distinctive is that it arrives after years of documented State-level fiscal deterioration, the Commission's own data confirms.

Punjab borrows to pay salaries and service existing debt, not to build infrastructure. Andhra Pradesh carries reorganisation-era liabilities that no Finance Commission has resolved. Rajasthan's revenue deficit persists across multiple award periods. The Commission saw each of these. The Memorandum took note.

A federal structure whose transfers increasingly reward economic weight over fiscal need, whose structural stress is deferred cycle after cycle, and whose only reliable outcome is the perpetuation of Centre-State asymmetry is surely not a system in good health. It has somehow learned to look like it is - and that is deeply troubling and unsettling for the fiscal-federal character of India's constitutional republic which can result in long-term implications and an exacerbating civic divide.

Deepanshu Mohan is professor and dean, O.P. Jindal Global University, and Director, Centre for New Economics Studies (CNES). Nagappan Arun and Saksham Raj contributed to this column from Centre for New Economics Studies, O.P. Jindal Global University.

THE GIST

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