THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

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The New Indian Express
Wishes its readers a



Happy Sankranti

Our offices and press will remain closed today and there will be no issue of the paper on Friday

LAST YEAR WAS THIRD WARMEST ON RECORD: U.N. CLIMATE AGENCY

The planet logged its third hottest year on record in 2025, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) said on Wednesday

AVERAGE TEMP 1.44ºC ABOVE 1850-1900 FIGURES

The global average surface temperature in 2025 was 1.44ºC above the 1850-1900 average, according to the WMO's analysis of eight datasets. Two of these datasets ranked 2025 as the second-warmest year in 176 years since 1850, and the other six ranked it as the third-warmest. In all eight datasets, 2023-2025 are the three warmest years on record

'THIS YEAR LIKELY TO BE FOURTH WARMEST'

- "The year 2025 started and ended with a cooling La Niña and yet it was still one of the warmest because of the accumulation of heat-trapping greenhouse gases in our atmosphere," WMO said
- Berkeley Earth, whose dataset was one of the eight analysed by the WMO, said 2026 would most likely be fourth-warmest year

14.97ºC

WAS THE AVERAGE GLOBAL TEMPERATURE IN 2025

CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

THREAT OF FAST TRIALS, EXECUTIONS

Despite Trump's threats of intervention, Iran's top judge hinted at fast trials and executions for those who were detained in the ongoing protests | **P9**

At least **2,571** people have been killed in the protests so far, claims US-based Human Rights Activists News Agency

As many as **18,434** individuals had been arrested in troubled Iran, as on Tuesday

97 cases of forced confessions broadcast so far

Over 1,100 protesters suffered severe injuries

Some personnel at US base in Qatar advised to evacuate

Dozens of Iranians cross into Turkiye amid massive nationwide unrest

Ships drop anchor outside Iran port

Many commercial ships have dropped anchor at a distance outside Iran's port in recent days, according to a Reuters report



LEAVE IRAN, INDIA TELLS NATIONALS

Jaishankar speaks with Iranian counterpart Seyed Abbas Araghchi, reviews the evolving situation

JAYANTH JACOB @ New Delhi

THE Indian Embassy in Tehran on Wednesday advised all it nationals, including students, pilgrims, businesspersons and tourists, to leave Iran using available means, as the security situation in the country sharply deteriorated amid weeks of deadly protests.

Later in the day, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar spoke with his Iranian counterpart Seyed Abbas Araghchi, during which the two leaders reviewed the "evolving situation" in and around Iran. "Received a call from Iranian Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi. We discussed the evolving situation in and around Iran," Jaishankar wrote on X.

"All Indian nationals in Iran are requested to leave the country using available means," the embassy said, and added that that citizens should keep their travel and immigration documents, including passports and IDs, readily accessible. "They are requested to contact the Indian Embassy for any assistance in this regard," it said.

The embassy reiterated that Indians and Persons of Indian Origin should exercise due caution, avoid areas where protests or demonstrations are underway, remain in contact with the embassy and closely monitor local media for developments.

The advisory comes as massive nationwide protests in Iran entered the 18th day, with demonstrations reported across nearly 280 locations. The unrest, which began over double-digit inflation and sharp currency devaluation, has escalated into violent clashes with security forces.

According to the US-based Human Rights Activists News Agency, at least 2,571 people have been killed in the protests so far. Iran has imposed a communications blackout in several areas and is facing mounting international pressure over its crackdown on demonstrators. Another NGO, Norway-based Iran Human Rights, put the verified toll at 3,428.

On Tuesday, US President Donald Trump publicly urged Iranian protesters to take over state institutions and not back down, claiming that "help is on the way," without providing further details. His remarks fuelled speculation over possible US involvement amid rising regional tensions.

In a related development, Reuters reported that several personnel were advised to vacate the Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar, the largest US military base in West Asia, by Wednesday evening as a precautionary step. Similar measures were taken ahead of US air strikes on Iran in June last year.

The Indian embassy also urged nationals who have not yet registered with it to do so through its online portal, noting that family members in India may register on their behalf if internet disruptions prevent access within Iran.

SC hearing on ED plea against Mamata today

SUCHITRA KALYAN MOHANTY @ New Delhi

THE Supreme Court will on Thursday take up a plea by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) alleging obstruction of its search at I-PAC office by West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee. The state government has also filed a caveat in the SC, seeking that no order be passed without hearing it. A bench of justices Prashant Kumar Mishra and Vipul M Pancholi will hear the ED's plea.



In a related development, the Calcutta High Court on Wednesday closed a plea filed by the Trinamool Congress seeking protection of sensitive political data the ED may have seized from I-PAC. Additional Solicitor General S V Raju, appearing for ED, told the HC that the agency did not seize anything from I-PAC director Pratik Jain's office or home, adding it was Mamata who entered the search site and took away documents and electronic evidence.

In its plea before the SC, the ED sought directions for a CBI probe into the alleged interference by the state executive. The agency said the CM's presence and confrontational act had an intimidating effect on its officers. The petition was filed against the state of West Bengal, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, DGP Rajeev Kumar, Kolkata Police Commissioner Manoj Kumar Verma, and South Kolkata Dy Commissioner Priyabatra Roy.

West Bengal Police has also filed an FIR against ED officers over the January 8 I-PAC raids.

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'Garg refused life jacket, was heavily drunk'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Guwahati

MUSIC icon Zubeen Garg was "severely intoxicated", and he drowned near the Lazarus Island after refusing to wear a life jacket, a coroner's court in Singapore was told on Wednesday.

Testimonies reconfirmed reports that the singer went into the waters wearing a life jacket but removed it and then declined to wear a second one. Witnesses saw the severely intoxicated Garg trying to swim back to the yacht, but went limp and began floating face down.

The chief investigating officer told the court that Garg and 20 others on the yacht had snacks, drinks and alcohol. The yacht's captain said he had seen two of Garg's friends holding his arms because he was unable to walk properly. The coroner's hearing is ongoing with 35 witnesses set to testify.



HAPPY PONGAL

PM Narendra Modi offering prayers during the Pongal fete at Union Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs L Murugan's residence in New Delhi on Wednesday | **PTI**

Cockfights, gambling go on unabated in State

Y BRAHMAJI @ Vijayawada

DESPITE clear and repeated directions from the Andhra Pradesh High Court prohibiting cockfights, and gambling, these illegal activities are being conducted openly, and on an unprecedented scale across the State, particularly in the coastal districts, during Sankranti.

While cockfights continue to be organised in several pockets, large-scale and organised gambling has reportedly spread to almost every village under the guise of festive celebrations, with huge sums of money changing hands, forcing youth and villagers into severe financial distress, and wiping out villagers' hard-earned money.

The continued violations have raised serious concern over enforcement 'failures' and the apparent lack of deterrent action by the authorities, even as court orders remain unambiguous.

The AP High Court, while taking serious note of the large-scale conduct of cockfights and gambling during Sankranti, had directed district collectors, police commissioners and superintendents of police to strictly enforce the provisions of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, and the AP Gaming Act, 1974.



PRASANT MADUGULA

The High Court made it clear that these laws must be implemented effectively and without fail, warning that any lapse would attract personal responsibility of the officials concerned. It cautioned that disciplinary action could be initiated against tahsildars and police officers who fail to prevent cockfights and gambling.

Emphasising proactive enforcement, the court ordered district collectors to constitute joint inspection teams in all mandals to conduct inspections. **P4**

T20 WORLD CUP

WITH ICC RUNNING AGAINST TIME, BANGLADESH MATCHES MAY GO TO LANKA

There are enough indications that the ICC might shift Bangladesh's matches to Sri Lanka and relocate a few games from the island nation to the venues in India, where Bangladesh were scheduled to play. This will reduce logistical issues for the ICC | **P11**

TODAY'S EDITION INCLUDES **4-PAGE CHITTOOR MLA GURAJALA JAGAN MOHAN'S** BIRTHDAY SPECIAL PULLOUT

EXPRESS READ

Now, people can report outbreak of diseases via IHIP

Vijayawada: For the first time, the Medical and Health Department has decided to involve the public directly in the early detection of infectious diseases. Commissioner of Health and Family Welfare Veerapandian announced that complaints and alerts will now be accepted through the Integrated Health Information Platform web link, developed under GoI's Disease program

HC quashes ₹1,500 sand theft case, holds it's non-cognizable

Vijayawada: The AP High Court has quashed a criminal case against a man accused of illegally transporting sand worth ₹1,500, ruling that police had no authority to register the FIR or investigate without Magistrate's prior permission. Justice Venkata Jyothirmai Pratapa, in her verdict recently, held that when the value of stolen property is less than ₹5,000, the offence is non-cognizable

Deliver better healthcare via PPP mode: Centre to State

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Vijayawada

THE Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has once again urged the Andhra Pradesh government to adopt the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model to strengthen healthcare delivery across the State. In a fresh communique, the Centre has highlighted the widening gap between demand and availability of medical services, and stressed that the PPP model could be the most effective way to bridge it.

On January 12, Vijay Nehra, Joint Secretary of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, addressed a detailed letter to State Health Secretary Saurabh Gaur. The letter, accompanied by a 27-page set of guidelines, explained how PPP initiatives could expand healthcare services to a wider population. **P4**

COURTING CONTROVERSY

World No 3 shuttler says opted out due to pollution

ANMOL GURUNG @ New Delhi

AS you enter the IG Stadium — the India Open badminton venue — you cannot miss the pungent heavy smell floating in the air. Inside the playing area it's much better. Yet, from the stands the light seem to cut through a film of dust.

Just to add to the woes of the organisers, a day after a Denmark player lambasted the playing conditions, World No 3 men shuttler has come out with another scathing remark. Months ahead of the World Badminton Championships to be held at the same venue in August, this is definitely not the kind of publicity Badminton Association of India would be expecting.

On Tuesday, Mia Blichfeldt raised concerns more about health than conditions. Barely 24 hours later, another Danish pro, Anders Antonsen, on his social media account, said he pulled out of the event (last week) due to 'extreme pollution'. If this was not enough, a few players posted a video of a monkey inside the stadium.



In the same post, the World No 3 raised concerns about the city's ability to conduct badminton events including the upcoming World Championships which is scheduled to be held at the same venue later this year.

"Many are curious as to why I have pulled out of the India Open for the third consecutive year. Due to extreme pollution in Delhi at the moment I don't think it's a place to host a badminton tournament," the 2025 French Open winner said. "Crossing my fingers that it will be better in the Summer when the World Championships will take place..."

On Wednesday, some of the foreign players have been sporting face masks to counter dust issues. One of the doubles players from South Korea had shared a picture of a monkey in the stands. However, India's Kidambi Srikanth dismissed criticisms by saying that there is no problem. Meanwhile, BAI secretary Sanjay Mishra said, "BAI and the venue staff have been working at the stadium continuously for the last 20 days, and this is the first time such an incident has been observed. It is possible that a door may have been inadvertently left open."

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సంక్రాంతి శుభాకాంక్షలు
వెంకటరమణ
హార్ట్ & మెటర్నిటీ హాస్పిటల్
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గుండెపోటు వచ్చినవారికి
24 గంటల లోపు
ఉచిత స్టంట్ అమర్చు
సదుపాయము
(Primary Angioplasty)



డా॥ ఆర్.నిరుపమ,
MBBS, DGO
MBA (Hosp. Admin)
Consultant Gynaecologist & Obstetrician)
Ex-Consultant Padmavathi Mahila University

24/7 Emergency Services
"ప్రాణం నిలిపే గుండెను పదిలంగా కాపాడుకోండి
క్రమం తప్పకుండా మీ గుండెను పరీక్షించుకోండి"
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అనుభవం గల వైద్యులచే నిర్వహించు ఏకైక గుండె ఆసుపత్రి

ALMANAC TODAY

Thursday : 15/01/2026 **Year:** Sri Viswavasu **Aayanam:** Dakshinayanam
Rutuvu: Hemantha **Masam:** Pushya **Paksham:** Bahula **Tithi:** Dwadasi 08.16 pm
Nakshatram: Jyeshta 05.47+ **Durmuhurtham:** 10.24 am -11.09 am
Varjyam: 09.18 am - 11.05 am **Rahukaalam:** 01.30 pm - 03.00 pm

WEATHER WATCH

MIN 17°C | MAX 31°C

FORECAST Mostly Sunny

Sunrise 06.39 am
Sunset 06.03 pm
Moonrise 03.39 am
Moonset 03.03 pm



Lord Mallikarjuna Swamy and Goddess Brahmarambha Devi ride Kailasa Vahana at Srisailam | EXPRESS

Grand Kalyanotsavam at Srisailam temple today

Chenchu devotees invited as part of Sankranti Brahmotsavams

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kurnool

LORD Mallikarjuna Swamy and Goddess Brahmarambha Devi rode majestically on the Kailasa Vahana through the streets of Srisailam on Wednesday, marking the spiritual highlight of the ongoing Sankranti Brahmotsavams at the temple.

Temple authorities said elaborate arrangements have been made for the grand Kalyanotsavam scheduled on Thursday.

As part of the seven-day Brahmotsavams, observed with Panchaahnika Deeksha, priests performed special rituals on the third day, including Chandeswara Swamy's worship at the Yagasala, japams and parayanams for universal welfare. Mandapaaradhanas, Panchavaranaarchanas and Rudra Homam were conducted in accordance with Agama Shastras, followed by Pradosha Kaala pujas and homams in the evening.

Later, the Utsava Murthis of the Lord and Goddess were adorned and mounted on the Kailasa Vahana at the Akkamahadevi Alankara Mandapam.

A grand procession followed, featuring folk art performances, Kolatam and other cultural programmes, drawing large crowds of devotees.

On January 15, special pujas, Rudra Homam and Bali Haranas will be held, followed by Nandi Vahana Seva in the evening. Rangoli competitions for women are planned near the Gangadhara Mandapam.

The highlight will be the celestial Kalyanotsavam, with special invitations extended to Chenchu devotees. The Devasthanam will also distribute traditional clothes to them, reflecting their cultural bond with Srisailam.

Preparations complete for Ahobilam Paruveta Utsavam

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kurnool

AUTHORITIES at the Ahobilam temple have completed preparations for the annual Paruveta Utsavam, also known as the Wedding Invitation of Lord Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy. The month-long celebration will begin on January 16 and conclude on February 19.

The Andhra Pradesh government declared the centuries-old tradition a state festival to preserve its cultural and historical significance.

The festivities will commence at Bachepalle village near the temple in the Nallamalla forest. Over 35 days, priests and tribal devotees, representing Lord Narasimha Swamy, will carry the deity in a palanquin procession through 33 villages in the Allagadda Assembly constituency.



Ahobilam Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy temple (File photo) | EXPRESS

According to Ahobilam Mutt Chief Administrative Officer VLN Ramanujan, the procession symbolises the Lord inviting devotees to his divine wedding. The celebrations will culminate at the Ahobilam temple with the Swamy Vari Kalyanotsavam, performed in traditional style.

'Blood donor family' takes part in Bhogi fest together

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kadapa

IN a heartwarming display of unity, nearly 48 members belonging to the families of four brothers from Chitveli mandal in the Railway Koduru constituency (now part of Tirupati district) came together to celebrate the Bhogi festival.

The four brothers — D Chandrasekhar, retired teacher D Srinivasulu, D Venu, and D Madhusudan - all reside in Chitveli. Their extended family includes several postgraduates and Ph.D holders, and the household is well known as a "blood donor family" in the region.

On the occasion of Sankranti, family members working in Hyderabad, Bengaluru, abroad, and other places returned to Chitveli to join the celebrations. For nearly 50 years, it has been a tradition for the entire family to gather on Bhogi day and share a festive meal, seated in a single row on banana leaves.

Speaking on the occasion, Srinivasulu and Venu said that festivals like Sankranti strengthen family bonds. They noted that sharing joys and sorrows together helps families live happily and deepens affection among members.

The joint celebration stood as an inspiring example of how traditions can nurture relationships and keep families closely connected across generations.



SP Nachiket Viswanath taking part in Sankranti celebrations in Kadapa | EXPRESS

Police hold Sankranti festivities on grand scale

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kadapa

THE District Police Department grandly organised Sankranti festivities at the Police Parade Ground, showcasing Telugu culture and traditions.

District SP Shelke Nachiket Vishwanath attended as the chief guest, accompanied by his family, and formally inaugurated the celebrations.

Under the SP's leadership, the parade ground was decorated with festive elements including Bhogi bonfires, colourful rangolis, Haridasu devotional songs, kite flying, bullock carts, and traditional dishes. The vibrant atmosphere captivated participants and highlighted the spirit of Sankranti.

Marking the start of the programme, SP Vishwanath lit the Bhogi bonfire. Police officers and staff, usually seen in uniform, appeared in traditional attire and joined the celebrations with their families. The event provided an opportunity for personnel, often occupied with round-the-clock duties, to come together as one family and share festive greetings.

Speaking on the occasion, the SP said the celebrations were intended to allow police personnel to spend time with their families and strengthen bonds within the department.

He expressed hope that in the new year, the police force would continue to serve the public with renewed enthusiasm and dedication.

The programme saw participation from senior officers, including Additional SP (Admin) K Prakash Babu, AR Additional SP B Ramanayya, Special Branch DSP N Sudhakar, Kadapa DSP A Venkateswarlu, and several inspectors, sub-inspectors, and staff members. Leaders of the Police Officers' Association, including District President Doolam Suresh.

65-year-old ryot attempts suicide over land issue

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Tirupati

A 65-year-old farmer from Chittoor district allegedly attempted suicide on Wednesday, reportedly over a prolonged land dispute and delays in administrative action. The incident occurred near Naravaripalle village in Chandragiri mandal, close to the residence of Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu.

The farmer, identified as Govinda Reddy of Nagirajayyagaripalle in Pedda Panjani mandal, had come to submit a petition regarding a five-year-old dispute with his brother. Relatives said he had approached officials, including the District Collector and Mandal Revenue Officer, several times, but the matter remained unresolved. They claimed he had spent nearly ₹5 lakh pursuing the case, with losses estimated at ₹20–30 lakh.

Denied entry to the CM's residence, he reportedly consumed pesticide. Locals rushed him to a nearby hospital in Naravaripalle before he was shifted to RUIA Hospital in Tirupati.

Suicide Helpline

OneLife: **78930-78930**

Roshni, Hyderabad-based NGO: **040-66202000**



BIG BONFIRE

People celebrate Bhogi festival in Tirupati on Wednesday | MADHAV K

YSRCP throws copies of PPP policy orders into Bhogi bonfire as protest

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kadapa

KADAPA district witnessed vibrant Sankranti festivities with Bhogi bonfires, songs, dances and cricket matches adding colour to the celebrations.

In Kadapa city, events at the Police Parade Grounds were led by MLA and Government Whip R Madhav Reddy along with TDP Politburo member R Srinivasulu Reddy, who wished prosperity under Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu's leadership.

Parallel to the festivities, YSRCP leaders staged protests against the government's Public-Private Partnership (PPP) policy for medical colleges, symbolically burning government orders in Bhogi fires.

Kadapa MP YS Avinash Reddy led the agitation in Pulivendula, while similar demonstrations were held in Rajampet, Kadapa and Proddatur. Avinash Reddy alleged the policy would deny affordable medical education to poor and middle-class students, recalling YSRCP's earlier campaign collecting one crore signatures against privatisation.

Separately, CPI leaders, led by district secretary G Chandra, also burnt government orders opposing the PPP model.

EXPRESS READ

SayTrees Trust opens soil testing facility

Anantapur: SayTrees Environmental Trust launched its first soil testing facility in Anantapur during Makar Sankranti to aid farmers and promote agroforestry. Revering soil as Bhoomi Talli, the centre offers rapid, technology-enabled analysis of pH, organic carbon, and micronutrients. Farmers in SayTrees' programmes will receive detailed soil health reports within an hour

Ronanki takes charge as TUDA Vice-Chairman

Tirupati: Ronanki Govindarao, a 2018-batch IAS officer, assumed charge as Vice-Chairman of Tirupati Urban Development Authority and Joint Collector of Tirupati district on Wednesday. After meeting Collector S Venkateswar, he pledged to strengthen TUDA, stressing coordination with officials and public cooperation to drive sustainable growth and position TUDA among AP's authorities

Kurnool Boating Club bags silver at national event

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kurnool

THE TG Venkatesh Kurnool Boating Club team clinched second place at the National Dragon Boat Championship held in Aatreyapuram from January 11 to January 13.

Dragon Boat Sports Association General Secretary M Avinash stated on Wednesday that the team delivered an impressive performance against strong competitors nationwide.

Union Minister of State for Heavy Industries and Steel Bhupathi Raju Srinivasa Varma, Amalapuram MP Ganti Harish Madhur, MLC Rajasekharam and MLA Bandaru Satyananda Rao (Kothapeta) presented the trophy and a cash prize of ₹50,000 to the team.

Avinash said the achievement reflects the rising standards of water sports in the Kurnool district. DSA Water Sports coach Chandrasekhar also attended the event.



Horoscopes By Holiday

HOLIDAY MATHIS

15th January : Danes and Dachshunds The book about dogs suggests that the dachshund can be ferocious, and the Great Dane might be a gentle giant. On this day of as many lucky aspects as there are challenging ones, the metaphor applies. The size of a problem will not be a reliable indicator of its impact. A seemingly big trouble may be very easily and sweetly resolved, while a tiny detail warrants vigilance.

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
You keep wondering if there's a talent inside you waiting to show itself. The wondering is truth trying to get your attention. Follow the instinct to experiment. Believe the inner voice that says, "This seems like something I should be doing more of."

TAURUS (Apr. 20 - May 20)
It's a day to shore up discrepancies, pay debts, collect on favors and generally find ways to restore the balance inside of relationships. The dynamics that are well balanced today will be fruitful tomorrow.

GEMINI (May 21 - June 21)
Relationships are shoes. A lot of them don't fit right away, but the quality shoes will form to your feet over time, and you can walk many miles in them. The cheap ones cut and chafe and don't change much until they break.

CANCER (June 22 - July 22)
You're so aware of the rules today, and even more than that, the restrictions of your role. It may feel like too much is keeping you in place, limiting your options, preventing you from the destiny you have dreamed for yourself. But no. There are still dozens of paths to try. You got this.

LEO (July 23 - Aug. 22)
Approach interactions with trust and curiosity. Not every action hides an agenda. Most people are just moving according to their nature. Trust first, analyze later. Give yourself the gift of openness.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)
Like refined sugar, some people are so sweet that when they leave, they take your blood sugar down with them, causing an inevitable crash. You are not deterred, though you may pace yourself. Intermittency is what makes it a treat.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 - Oct. 23)
People respond best to leaders who are humble and diligent. Today, you're in charge in a low-key way. Working alongside your team creates mutual respect and encourages collaboration. This is also how you learn what's really going on in the group culture.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 21)
You'll navigate nuance very well, deciding what to wear, say and do to blend into a particular environment. This isn't about people-pleasing or being a chameleon; it's about reducing friction and getting rid of anything that might keep you from connecting.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)
You're so encouraging to others that sometimes people forget that you, too, need encouragement. Then again, it might be time to seek more supportive energy. Take a moment to notice who helps you and who doesn't. Once you focus on your allies, momentum returns naturally.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)
So many things that happened in the past were beyond your control. Now you have the wisdom and maturity to realize there's no blame to be taken or given for it, just respect for what you've made of it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)
You are simply excellent at reading certain social cues, especially the ones that indicate discomfort or disapproval. You are less adept at recognizing when someone is crazy about you, but if you tune in, you'll see it very clearly today.

PISCES (Feb. 19 - Mar 20)
It's easy to push, but it takes wisdom to let the natural current pull you. Like water, you'll find the path of least resistance. Your gentle ways will open the opportunities that were once beyond reach.

Solutions to Yesterday's puzzle ⬇

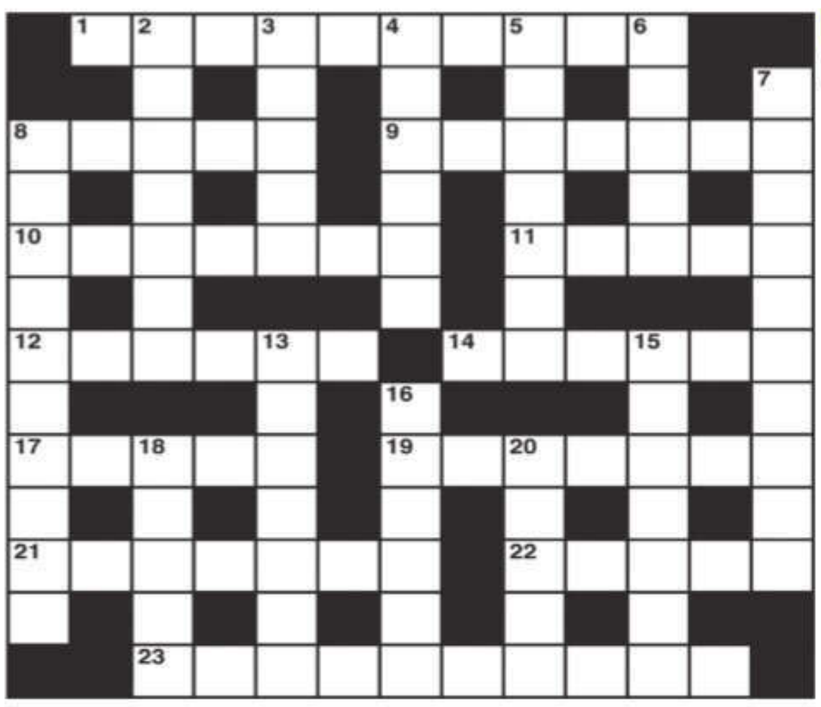
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				1				

5	9	6	4	8	7	1	2	3
4	7	2	6	1	3	5	8	9
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8	3	9	1	4	6	2	7	5
6	5	1	2	7	9	8	3	4
2	4	7	3	5	8	6	9	1
7	8	4	9	6	1	3	5	2
9	2	5	8	3	4	7	1	6
1	6	3	7	2	5	9	4	8

SU DO KU EVIL

TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



CROSS WORD

ACROSS

1 Religious rite comes to nothing in California (10)
8 Inflexibly formal (5)
9 Islands having general room for improvement (7)
10 Futile advice to the wasteful (7)
11 Animal brings everything back to mother (5)
12 Confirm a try if it is converted correctly (6)
14 A sure thing one might say? (6)
17 He keeps on accumulating endless unhappiness (5)
19 Time for settling scores? (7)
21 A row about the Spanish drawing room (7)
22 Think of Americans (5)
23 Priest very disposed to obstinacy (10)

DOWN

2 In mental disorder I get sustenance (7)
3 Plunder Winchester for example (5)
4 Spy gets a way to interfere (6)
5 Irritates by the unnecessary loss of a point (7)
6 In the old style also known as a Japanese city (5)
7 Sat and gave new privileges for some people (10)
8 Yet it's enough food to go round (6,4)
13 Women have warm regard for his wares (7)
15 In the outcome I'd be clear (7)
16 Extent of one's education (6)
18 The rest of the night (5)
20 Sides and top cut off hedges (5)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Speech, 4 Teapot, 9 Rubella, 10 Tense, 11 Sedan, 12 Lineage, 13 Worldly-wise, 18 Sparrow, 20 Loser, 22 Axiom, 23 Raiment, 24 Lining, 25 Agreed.

Down: 1 Stress, 2 Ebbed, 3 Colonel, 5 Eaten, 6 Pen pals, 7 Theses, 8 Wallflowers, 14 Ovation, 15 Willing, 16 Assail, 17 Crated, 19 Roman, 21 Suede.

JUMBLE

UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

FNYIT

CIPER

RTMKAE

NISAOC



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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

( ) . " ( ) "

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: PUTTY WHARF PRANCE DAMAGE
Answer: Unable to perform the perfect drum solo, the toddler — THREW A "PANTRUM"

TTD GETS ₹10 LAKH

Chennai-based Dhara Logistics donated ₹10 lakh to the TTD Sri Venkateswara Vidyadana Trust on Wednesday. Dhara Logistics Representatives handed over demand draft to Additional EO Ch Venkaiah Chowdary in Tirumala

People can report outbreak of diseases through IHIP

Community participation helps boost vigil, ensures faster response

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Vijayawada



FOR the first time, the Andhra Pradesh Medical and Health Department has decided to involve the public directly in the early detection of infectious diseases.

Commissioner of Health and Family Welfare Veerapandian announced that complaints and alerts will now be accepted through the Integrated Health Information Platform (IHIP) web link, developed under the Government of India's Disease Surveillance Programme.

Officials explained that outbreaks of diarrhoea, vomiting, and other waterborne illnesses often occur due to unhygienic surroundings, poor drainage systems, and contaminated drinking water.

In several cases, delays have been reported in field staff passing information to higher authorities. To overcome this gap, the government has introduced a mechanism where citizens themselves can register suspected outbreaks online.

Through the web link https://ihip.mohfw.gov.in/cbs/#/?campaign_id=202511, residents can report disease outbreaks in their localities. The platform allows users to fill in required details and upload supporting photographs.

Veerapandian said that once citizens submit information, alerts Auxiliary Nurse Midwives (ANMs), Primary Health Centre doctors, district officials, and State-level authorities will reach instantly.

Based on these alerts, field staff and senior officers can respond immediately with necessary preventive and control measures. The department has appealed to the public to make use of this opportunity and cooperate in preventing the spread of infectious diseases.

Officials stressed that community participation will boost surveillance, ensure faster response, and help safeguard public health across the State.

Energy efficiency key to governance: CS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Vijayawada

THE Chief Secretary of the State government and Chairman of the State Energy Conservation Mission (APSECM), K Vijayanand, has stressed that energy efficiency and conservation must be treated as a core governance priority. He said these measures help reduce power demand, lower public expenditure, and support the State's sustainability goals.

Chairing the 15th Executive Committee and 4th State Level Steering Committee meeting of APSECM virtually from the Velagapudi Secretariat, Vijayanand directed all departments and agencies to integrate energy efficiency measures into routine planning and ensure time-bound implementation with measurable results.

APGENCO Managing Director (MD) and APSECM Chief Executive Officer (EO) S Nagalakshmi presented the physical progress of ongoing energy efficiency programmes and outlined key proposals to strengthen conservation efforts across the State.

The Chief Secretary reviewed initiatives including Demand Side Management programmes, implementation of the Energy Conservation Building Code (ECBC), the Perform Achieve and Trade (PAT) Scheme, Standards & Labelling activities, market surveillance, and appliance testing.

Referring to the Super ECBC building constructed at Sagar Nagar, Visakhapatnam, he said such demonstration projects would serve as guiding models for energy-efficient construction and called for stronger ECBC enforcement across Urban Local Bodies.

Vijayanand highlighted the importance of awareness creation, stating that students must be sensitised at an early age. He directed APSECM to expand the Energy Clubs programme in schools and appreciated the School Children Capacity Building Programme, urging further scaling up.

On industrial and municipal energy efficiency, he emphasised strengthening capacity-building programmes for industries and MSMEs. He said APSECM's technical expertise should be used for energy audits of Urban Local Bodies and implementation of Investment Grade Energy Audit recommendations to reduce electricity expenditure.



He directed APSECM to expedite efficiency measures in government hospitals, drinking water pumping stations, and government buildings in model villages, stressing that public institutions must lead by example. The Chief Secretary welcomed initiatives promoting fuel switching and electrification of heat in the industrial sector, describing them as essential for competitiveness and emission reduction. He also supported capacity-building programmes on DSM regulations notified by APERC for DISCOMs.

He noted that energy efficiency projects in APGENCO residential colonies at RTPP and NTTPS would demonstrate the benefits of large-scale implementation. He further said that establishing NABL-accredited regional testing laboratories under the Standards & Labelling Programme would strengthen enforcement and consumer confidence. He welcomed cooperation with national and international organisations, including the proposed engagement with the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI).

Vijayanand called upon all departments and stakeholders to ensure coordinated, result-oriented implementation to improve AP's performance in energy efficiency.

Govt fast-tracks ACME's 400 MW solar project in Anantapur

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Vijayawada

THE Government of Andhra Pradesh has noted strong on-ground progress at ACME Group's 400 MW solar power project with integrated battery energy storage under the Firm & Dispatchable Renewable Energy (FDRE) framework at Anantapur district.

From State-level approvals to physical execution on site, the project has moved from clearance to construction within just four months, reflecting Andhra Pradesh's renewed focus on speed, certainty, and execution in investment facilitation.

With a total investment of ₹3,000 crore, the project combines large-scale solar generation with battery storage, enabling round-the-clock, reliable renewable power. The facility is scheduled for commissioning by 2026 and is expected to significantly enhance grid stability while supporting India's clean energy transition.

Education, IT & Electronics Minister Nara Lokesh welcomed the progress and reaffirmed the State's commitment to fast-tracking clean energy investments.

"Speed matters. Happy to see progress from State Govt approval to ground action in 4 months at ACME's 400 MW solar + battery storage project in Anantapur. This ₹3,000 crore project will be commissioned by 2026. Andhra Pradesh is proud to be a partner in boosting grid reliability and accelerating India's clean energy journey," he said.

The ACME FDRE project aligns with Andhra Pradesh's broader strategy to emerge as a national hub for renewable energy and advanced power solutions, leveraging ready land banks, robust transmission infrastructure, and a responsive single-desk clearance system.

The State government reiterated that it will continue to provide proactive support to investors across renewables, storage, and green manufacturing - ensuring projects move from intent to impact with speed and scale.

Eight A'pur boys picked for SZ U-14 cricket team

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Anantapur

EIGHT players from Anantapur district have been selected to represent the Andhra U-14 South Zone team in the ACA Inter-Zonal Cricket Matches scheduled in Vizianagaram from January 18 to 22. The Andhra Cricket Association conducted trials on January 3 and 4 for players who had not represented their district teams.

The selected players are R Havish Reddy, Jagadesh Yadav, S Md Tanveer, Deshik Reddy, Saga Prateek, P Rehan, V Charan Tej and G Dhanush. The team will leave for Vizianagaram on January 16. Coach-cum-manager R Praveen Kumar of Anantapur district will accompany the squad.

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(A Subsidiary of Coal India Limited)

NOTICE

All the tenders* issued by Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) for procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on website of BCCL www.bcclweb.in, Coal India Limited (CIL) e-procurement portal https://coalindiatenders.nic.in and Central Public Procurement Portal https://eprocure.gov.in. In addition, procurement is also done through GeM Portal https://gem.gov.in.
*This is applicable to all Open (Domestic / Global) Tenders issued through e-procurement portal of CIL.
This notice is also available on BCCL website www.bcclweb.in

SHRIRAM SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED
Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032. & Branch Office: D.No.15/387-2, Upstairs of Central Bank Of India, Govt Area, Hospital Road, Adoni, Kurnool Dist-518301.

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

We, M/s.Shriram Finance Limited (formerly known as "Shriram City Union finance Limited" amalgamated with Shriram Transport Finance limited and converted as Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited as per the orders of NCLT Bench-II Chennai dated 09.11.2022) and thereafter obtained the approval to rename as Shriram Finance Ltd (Ministry of Corporate Finance letter dated 30.11.2022), is a company registered under the Companies Act, 2013 and also registered with RBI to do Non-Banking Finance business having its registered office at Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032 and D.No.15/387-2, Upstairs of Central Bank of India, Govt Area Hospital Road, Adoni, Kurnool Dist-518301. (hereinafter referred as Company/Lender).

Where as, the undersigned being the authorized officer of Shriram Finance Limited (SFL) under the provisions of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (said Act) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (said Rules) issued demand notices to the Borrowers details of which are mentioned in the table below to repay the amount mentioned in the said demand notices.

The Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers and the public in general that the under signed has taken Symbolic 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 of the said Rules, on this **12th day of January 2026.**

Borrower Name and Address	AMOUNT DUE AS PER DEMAND NOTICE :
1. S. Veera Raju, S/o. S. Basavaraju, H.no: 3-109, Main Road, Kowthalam, Kurnool (Dt)-518344. **2. K. Chandrakala,** W/o. S. Veera Raju, H.No: 3-109, Main Road, Kowthalam, Kurnool (Dt)-518344. **3. B. Mounesh,** S/o. B. Eshappa, H.no: 9/124, Gothuladoddi (V), Halvi (P), Kosigi (M), Kurnool (Dt)-518333.	To pay **Rs. 44,71,575/-** (Rupees Forty Four Lakhs Seventy One Thousand Five Hundred and Seventy Five only) under reference of Loan A/c No: **ADONITF2303240007 Demand Notice Dated: 28-06-2025**

Schedule of the Property: Property Holder Name: S.VEERA RAJU, Document No: 3786/2023.

Item No.1: [Property covered under Doc.No.11846/2018] Kurnool District, Adoni Sub District, Sadapuram Gram Panchayat, Mandigiri village accounts, Circar Dry, Sy.No.337/B an extent of Ac.3.70 cents of land converted into house plots under a layout called & "SRI LAKSHMI NARASIMHA REAL ESTATE" and in it Plot bearing No.23, bounded on: **East:** Road, **West:** Plots of Kavya Sree, **North:** Plot No.22, **South:** Plot No.24, Within these site admeasuring East to West 40 ft. or 12.19 mts and North to South 30 ft. or 9.14 mts comprising a total extent of 133.33 sq.yards of vacant site only.

Item No.2: (Property covered under Doc.No.862/2018] Kurnool District, Aspari Sub District, Aspari Mandal, Aspari Gram Panchayat. and village.accounts. Circar Dry, Sy.No.41 an extent of Ac.4.60 cents of land converted into house plots under a layout and in it Plot bearing No.34, bounded on: **East:** Plot No.35, **West:** Plot No.33, **North:** Plot No.22, **South:** 25 ft. width colony Road: Within these site and measuring East to West 40 ft. or 12.19 mts and North to South on Eastern side 32 ft. or 9.75 mts and North to South on Western side 31.5 ft. or 9.60 mts comprising a total extent of 141.11 sq yards of vacant site only.

Item No.3: [Property covered under Doc.No.864/2018] Kurnool District, Aspari Sub District. Aspari Mandal, Apsari Gram Panchayat and village accounts, Circar Dry, Sy.No.41 an extent of Ac.4.60 cents of land converted into house plots under a layout and in it Plot bearing No.26, bounded on: **East:** Plot No.27, **West:** Plot No.25, **North:** Plot No.7, **South:** 25 ff. width colony Road; Within these site admeasuring East to West 40 ft. or 12.19 mts and North to South on Eastern side 34 ft. or 10.36 mts and North to South on Western side 31.5 ft. or 9.60 mts comprising a total extent of 145.55 sq.yards of vacant site only.

This notice is also hereby to caution the general public at large that the authorized officer of Shriram Finance Limited (SFL) is in the Lawful Symbolic Possession of the immovable property mentioned herein above and the Borrowers or any person shall not after receipt of this notice transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise deal with/alienate any of the above mentioned secured assets referred to in this notice, without prior written consent of Shriram Finance Limited (SFL).

Date: 12.01.2026
Place: Adoni
Authorized Officer
Shriram Finance Limited

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU
NOTICE TO THE PROPOSED IMPLEADING RESPONDENTS No. 18 TO 22, 24, 26, 27 & 35
Vide order dated: 06.01.2026
R.F.A.No. 1729/2018

Smt. Shanthamma ... APPELLANT
(By Sriyuths: Abhinav R. & Another advs. for appellant) -V/s-
Sri. Dyavappa & others ...RESPONDENTS
(By Sriyuths: Suresh S.M. & Another advs. for R1 & 2, A. Sampath & Another advs. for R3, A. C. Chethan & Others advs. for proposed R14 Bhailappa C. Balagali adv. for proposed R29)

To, **PROPOSED IMPLEADING RESPONDENTS: 18. SMT. MALATHI D/O DYAVAPPA**, R/AT GOLLAHALLI VILLAGE, BIDADI HOBLI, RAMANAGAR TALUK, **19. SMT. ANITHA** D/O DYAVAPPA, R/AT GANGGULUR VILLAGE, LAKKUR HOBLI, HOSKOTE TALUK, **20. SMT. SANGEETHA** D/O DYAVAPPA, R/AT DOMMASANDRA VILLAGE SARJAPUR HOBLI, ANEKAL TALUK, **21. SMT. VEENA KUMARI M.J**, GRAND D/O DYAVAPPA, R/AT PARANGIPALYA, AGARA POST, BENGALURU-560102. **22. SMT. ASHWINI M.J**, GRAND D/O DYAVAPPA, R/AT PANATHUR VILLAGE, VARTHUR HOBLI, BENGALURU EAST TALUK, BENGALURU-560087. **24. SRI. PRAVEEN KUMAR M.J** GRAND S/O DYAVAPPA, R/AT PANATHUR VILLAGE, VARTHUR HOBLI, BENGALURU EAST TALUK, BENGLAURU-560087. **26. SMT. MANJULA** D/O ANJINAPPA, R/AT NO.48/4B, 13TH CROSS, VENKATAPURA, KORAMANGALA, BENGALURU-560034. **27. SMT. SARASWATHI,** D/O ANJINAPPA, R/AT NO.48/4B, 13TH CROSS, VENKATAPURA, KORAMANGALA, BENGALURU-560034. **35. SRI. TULASI NAGENDRA KUMAR** S/o SRI. SESHAIAH, R/AT NO.12/477, GANDIAVEEDI, POURMALLA, CUDDAPAH, ANDRA PRADESH-516193.

Appeal from the Judgment and decree dated: 07.09.2018 passed in OS.No.6868/2012 on the file of the XLI Addl. City Civil & Sessions Judge, Bengaluru.

Notice is hereby given to you to appear in this court either in person or through Counsel duly instructed or through some one authorized by law, to act for you in the above appeal on **23-02-2026** in case you intend to contest the appeal. If you fail to appear, the same will be dealt with, heard and decided in your absence.

Issued under my hand and the seal of this court on 09-01-2026.

By order of the court, Assistant Registrar, High Court of Karnataka, Bangalore.

Sree NTR 24 HOME FOODS
ప్యూర్ ఆర్గానిక్ హోమ్ ఫుడ్స్
సంప్రదాయాన్ని రుచించండి, పవిత్రతను అనుభవించండి
ఫ్యాక్టరీలో తయారు చేయబడినది కాదు. రసాయనాలతో నిండినది కాదు. ఇది నిజమైన ఆహారం. సంప్రదాయ పద్ధతిలో తయారుచేయబడింది. ఇంట్లో తయారుచేసినట్లుగా వుండును.
మా వద్ద లభించునవి
• 52 రకాల వెజ్ - నాన్‌వెజ్ పికెల్స్
• సాంప్రదాయ స్వీట్స్ & శావలీస్
• చెక్క గానుగ ద్వారా తీసిన నూనెలు
• స్వచ్ఛమైన దేశీ నెయ్యి
• స్వచ్ఛమైన కాశ్మీర్ తేనె
• కాశ్మీరి డ్రై ఫ్రూట్స్
• 40 రకాల గోదావరి పొడర్లు మరియు కిచెన్ మసాలాలు
ఇంట్లో తయారుచేసిన ప్రామాణికమైన మరియు తాజా పదార్థములు
స్వీట్స్ & శావలీస్ బల్క్ ఆర్డర్లపై తాజాగా చేయబడును.
పంపిణీదారులు మమ్మల్ని ఎందుకు విశ్వసిస్తారు
• సేంద్రీయ సహజ పదార్థాలు
• సాంప్రదాయ చెక్క గానుగ పద్ధతులు
• జాగ్రత్తగా & పరిశుభ్రంగా ఇంట్లో తయారు చేయబడినవి.
• కృత్రిమ రంగులు లేదా సంరక్షణకారకాలు లేనివి.
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శ్రీనిధి ఆరి
ఫౌండర్ & మేనేజింగ్ డైరెక్టర్
FSSAI Central Licence No. 10125999000644
శ్రీనిధి తెలుగు రుచులు 24 ఫుడ్స్ ప్రైవేట్ లిమిటెడ్.
D.No. 1-6/3, శ్రీనివాసపురం, తిరుచానూరు రోడ్డు, తిరుపతి, ఆం.ప్ర. ఇండియా - 517 503. Cell: 88976 33354

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సిద్ధార్థ చెస్ట్ & అలర్జీ క్లినిక్
సూర్యనగర్, 80ft రోడ్, సంఘమేష్ సర్కిల్ దగ్గర, అనంతపురము.
స్పెషలిస్ట్ : ★ ఆస్తమా (ఉబ్బసం) ★ అలర్జీ ★ బ్రాంకైటిస్ ★ క్షయవ్యాధి (టి.బి) ★ ఊపిరితిత్తులలో నెమ్ము (న్యుమోనియా)
FACILITIES : ECG, PFT, (కంప్యూటర్ ద్వారా ఊపిరితిత్తుల పరీక్ష)

డా॥ యం.అశోక్‌కుమార్,
M.D., (Chest) FCD,
చెస్ట్ ఫిజీషియన్,
అసోసియేట్ ప్రొఫెసర్ ఇన్ పల్మనరి మెడిసిన్,
ప్రభుత్వ సర్వజన వైద్యశాల, అనంతపురం.
Ph: 08554-222234,
Cell: 9963930404, 7993333252



14 HELD IN RAIDS Anakapalle police arrested 14 persons for cockfighting and gambling in various villages on Wednesday. Acting on tip-offs, teams conducted raids, seizing fighting roosters and cash. Police warned of strict surveillance

AP High Court quashes ₹1,500 sand theft case

Rules that theft below ₹5,000 threshold is non-cognizable without Magistrate's nod

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Vijayawada

THE Andhra Pradesh High Court has quashed a criminal case against a man accused of illegally transporting sand worth only ₹1,500, ruling that police had no authority to register the FIR or investigate without the Magistrate's prior permission.

Justice Venkata Jyothirmai Pratapa, in her verdict recently, held that when the value of stolen property is less than ₹5,000, the offence of theft under Section 303(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) is non-cognizable. In such cases, police cannot directly file an FIR or carry out an investigation — they must first obtain permission from the concerned Magistrate.

The case stemmed from an incident in which P Rasheedulla of Yemmiganur, Kurnool district, was intercepted by C Belagal police while allegedly carrying sand in a tractor. Police registered a case under theft provisions and the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, later filing a charge sheet.

However, the Tahsildar's report showed the value of the seized sand was just ₹1,500 — well below the ₹5,000 threshold. Rasheedulla approached the High Court seeking to quash the proceedings. After hearing arguments from both sides, the court agreed that the police action was illegal since the offence was non-cognizable and no prior Magistrate's permission had been obtained.

The judge also clarified that in cases under the MMDR Act, courts can take cognizance only on a written complaint from an authorised government officer — not merely on a police charge sheet. The High Court has now quashed the pending case before the I Additional Judicial Magistrate of First Class Court, Kurnool.





CM Nara Chandrababu Naidu, along with his family members, took part in Bhogi celebrations at his native village, Naravaripalle, on Wednesday | EXPRESS

Bonfires & blessings as CM takes part in Bhogi at home

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Tirupati

CHIEF Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu participated in the Bhogi festival celebrations at his native village, Naravaripalle, along with his family, on Wednesday. In the early morning, CM Naidu and his family members lit the bonfire in front of their house as part of the Bhogi festival celebrations.

Later, the Chief Minister, accompanied by his wife Nara Bhuvaneswari and other family members, keenly watched traditional Haridasu sankirtanas and Gangireddu performances. The Bhogi celebrations at Naravaripalle vividly showcased the rich cultural heritage and age-old traditions of Telugu society, drawing appreciation from villagers and visitors alike.

Grievances received from the public

After Bhogi celebrations with family, Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu received petitions from the public outside his residence in Naravaripalle and gave a patient hearing to their grievances

Extending Bhogi greetings, Chandrababu Naidu conveyed his heartfelt wishes to Telugu people celebrating the festival in homes adorned with colourful Sankranti rangolis. He expressed hope that the brightly glowing Bhogi bonfires would bring new light, happiness and prosperity to families.

He also said that he would continue to stand by the people in their efforts to realise their aspirations and lead fulfilling lives.

Sankranti a celebration of gratitude to nature: Naidu

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Vijayawada

CHIEF Minister N Chandrababu Naidu conveyed warm Sankranti greetings to the people of Andhra Pradesh on the occasion of Makar Sankranti, the festival marking the Sun's transition into Capricorn. In his message, he wished that the festival bring happiness and prosperity into the lives of citizens.

Naidu emphasised that Sankranti is a celebration of gratitude to nature and farmers, and expressed hope that villages would flourish with abundant harvests. He urged people to embrace modernity while continuing to uphold traditional values.

Highlighting the importance of farmers and workers, the Chief Minister said the government is committed to ensuring that cultivators remain joyful and that hardworking communities receive fair rewards for their efforts. He assured that suitable schemes would be implemented with greater responsibility to support them.

Concluding his message, Naidu called upon everyone to celebrate Sankranti with joy and harmony, reiterating his heartfelt wishes to all families across the state.

Naidu condoles passing of Rosaiah's wife

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Vijayawada

CHIEF Minister N Chandrababu Naidu expressed his condolences to the family of former chief minister and former Governor Konijeti Rosaiah. He spoke over the phone with Rosaiah's son, Konijeti Shiva, and conveyed his sympathies.

Rosaiah's wife, Shivalakshmi, passed away in the early hours of Monday.

The Chief Minister offered his heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family members and prayed for strength to bear the loss. During the conversation, Naidu recalled his long association with the Rosaiah family and shared his grief over their loss. He assured the family of his support during this difficult time.



FESTIVAL GRIDLOCK

Vehicles heading to rooster fight arenas near Ramavarapadu caused a traffic jam on the Inner Ring Road (IRR) flyover in Vijayawada on Wednesday | PRASANT MADUGULA

Kollu, Konakalla unveil NTR statue in Masula

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Vijayawada

MINISTER for Excise Kollu Ravindra, along with APSRTC Chairman Konakalla Narayana Rao, inaugurated the statue of Telugu Desam Party (TDP) founder and former chief minister Nandamuri Taraka Rama Rao (NTR) at the Housing Board Bypass Circle in Machilipatnam, Krishna district.

The event was attended by several political leaders and party representatives, including BJP district president Chigurupati Sriram, DCMS Chairman, Jana Sena Machilipatnam in-charge Bandi Ramakrishna, and Krishna district TDP president Veeranki Gurumurthy, along with local leaders and officials.

Speaking to the media, Ravindra said it was a matter of pride that statues of two iconic leaders the late Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee and NTR now stand at the same location in Machilipatnam, the heart of Krishna district. He noted that Vajpayee's statue had been unveiled last month by Minister Nara Lokesh.

The minister described the unveiling of NTR's statue as a historic event, highlighting that the coalition government continues to prioritise welfare and development while maintaining people-centric governance. He added that these statues will serve as a lasting source of inspiration for future generations and a matter of pride not only for Machilipatnam but for the entire Krishna district.

Pawan mourns Indira Devi, first chief of AP Hindi Academy

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Vijayawada

DEPUTY Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan expressed deep sorrow over the demise of noted poet Indira Devi Dhanarajgir, wife of renowned poet Gunturu Seshendra Sharma.

In his condolence message, Pawan Kalyan said Indira Dhanaraj Gir was a distinguished literary figure with mastery over Hindi, Urdu, and English. He noted that her contributions to literature were invaluable.

She served as the first chairperson of the Hindi Academy in the undivided Andhra Pradesh and earned recognition as the first woman poet from India to be nominated for the Nobel Prize.

The Deputy Chief Minister recalled her memorable role in supporting Seshendra Sharma's literary journey. He highlighted her efforts in preserving thousands of letters written by Sharma through a special gallery, which stands as a testament to her dedication.

Praying for peace to her soul, Pawan Kalyan conveyed his heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family and remembered his association with them with respect and affection.

Former chief minister and YSR Congress Party president YS Jagan Mohan Reddy also expressed deep sorrow over the demise of Indira Devi Dhanrajgir.

Govt committed to ryots' welfare, says Min Kolusu

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Vijayawada

MINISTER for Information, Public Relations and Housing Kolusu Parthasarathi said that the government, under Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu, is prioritising the welfare of farmers and is committed to efficient governance.

He highlighted the timely crediting of paddy procurement funds into farmers' accounts within 24 hours, the creation of employment opportunities for youth, and large-scale investments for the State's development.

He expressed hope that the festive spirit of Sankranti would bring peace, prosperity and happiness to every home.

The Sankranti celebrations at Gollapudi One Town Centre in the Mylavaram constituency began with the Bhogi bonfire, attracting thousands of residents from nearby areas.

Minister Parthasarathi, along with MLA Vasantha Krishna Prasad, lit the bonfire in a ceremonial manner.

Parthasarathi said that farmers are discarding old and problematic pattadar passbooks issued by previous governments and embracing the new Rajamudra-certified passbooks issued by the current administration.

The Bhogi bonfire symbolised leaving behind hardships and welcoming hope and prosperity.

MLA Vasantha Krishna Prasad echoed the Housing and I&PR Minister's views, noting that citizens are celebrating Sankranti with peace and stability under the coalition government.



I&PR Minister Kolusu Parthasarathi takes part in Bhogi festivities at Gollapudi on the outskirts of Vijayawada on Wednesday | EXPRESS

Kakani demands immediate revival of RLI scheme

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Vijayawada

YSRCP Nellore district president and former minister Kakani Govardhan Reddy has demanded that the coalition government immediately restart the Rayalaseema Lift Irrigation Project, describing it as a lifeline for Rayalaseema, Nellore, and Prakasam districts.

Addressing the media at the YSRCP district office, he alleged that Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu suspended the project following a 'secret understanding' with Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy.

Kakani warned that if works are not resumed, YSRCP will launch a large-scale agitation with farmers and irrigation experts. He said the stoppage has already triggered public anger in Nellore, evident in farmers refusing to join the TDP's Somaseela–Kandaleru visit.

Conceived to provide assured drawal from the 800-foot level at Srisailam, the project was intended to stabilise drought-hit regions. Halting such a "sanjeevani-like" initiative, he said, amounts to betraying farmers.

He pointed out that Revanth Reddy himself claimed in the Telangana Assembly that he persuaded Chandrababu to stop the project, and Naidu's silence only strengthens that charge. Kakani criticised Naidu's record on irrigation, noting that under his tenure Somaseela and Kandaleru could not store even 60 TMC, while YS Rajasekhara Reddy expanded their capacity to 130 TMC.

He listed works completed under YSR and YS Jagan, including flood flow canals and barrage expansion, contrasting them with the lack of progress in the past 18 months.

Accusing Naidu of allowing Telangana's unauthorised projects to proliferate, Kakani said only a lift from the 800-foot level can ensure a reliable water supply. He alleged the project was sabotaged to deny credit to Jagan.

Court orders district collectors to form joint inspection teams in all mandals

Continued from page 1

The Centre also recalled an earlier letter from Union Health Minister JP Nadda, who had emphasised the PPP model as a key tool for expanding medical education.

The latest communique outlined five priority areas where the PPP model should be implemented. They include nuclear medicine, mobile medical units (MMUs), dental clinics, radiology services, and cancer day care centres. To ensure sustainability, the Centre recommended models such as Equip-Operate-Maintain (EOM) and Operate-and-Maintain (O&M), with private partners engaged for periods ranging from five to 10 years. Payment mechanisms for these partnerships were also detailed.

The Health Ministry noted that advanced services like PET-CT, SPECT imaging, and radiotherapy are scarce in tier-2 and semi-urban areas, despite their importance in treating cancer, cardiovascular, and neurological diseases. With cancer cases rising rapidly, the Centre urged immediate action to expand nuclear medicine facilities under the PPP model.

Concerns were also raised about dental care. Despite 60-90% of adults suffering from dental problems, facilities remain inadequate. Community Health Centres (CHCs) and Primary Health Centres (PHCs) lack proper equipment and specialists. The Centre recommended strengthening dental services through PPP arrangements to meet this pressing need.

Radiology services were identified as another critical gap. The availability of diagnostic tools such as X-ray, CT, and MRI machines is limited, leading to delays in disease detection. The PPP model, the Health Ministry said, could help expand access to these essential diagnostic facilities.

As part of the national fight against cancer, the Centre emphasised the importance of early screening and diagnosis. It announced plans to establish cancer day care centres in all government hospitals by 2027-28. For Andhra Pradesh specifically, 14 centres have already been sanctioned for 2025-26, marking a significant step forward.

Focus on early screening & diagnosis of cancer: Centre

Continued from page 1

Two police constables and a photographer are also part of each team.

The joint teams were instructed to visit villages, identify locations where cockfights were being conducted or where arenas and barricades were being erected, and take immediate action.

The court authorised officials to seize all equipment used or intended to be used for cockfights, along with betting money collected during such events, and permitted invocation of Section 144 of the CrPC wherever necessary to prevent unlawful gatherings.

However, the situation on the ground presents a contrasting picture. Though police had earlier acted against card gambling and other illegal activities using drone surveillance, and detained offenders, such enforcement measures now seem to have lost momentum.

Gambling dens continue to function openly in rural areas, allegedly with organisers emboldened by political backing. Authorities are reportedly refraining from taking strict action, citing political pressure, leading to allegations of selective enforcement.

Residents and social activists point out that while traditional and symbolic cultural practices associated with Sankranti may be acceptable, organised gambling, Gundata and high-stakes betting cannot be justified as tradition.

They argue that such illegal activities distort the spirit of the harvest festival.

DSPL-477

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Chief Minister, Odisha

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SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED

Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032. & Branch Office: #20/342, Upstair TVS Showroom, 1st Floor, Bellary Road, Guntakal-515801.

PHYSICAL POSSESSION NOTICE

(See Rule 8(1)) (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorized officer of the M/s.Shriram Finance Limited ("it is informed that "SHRIRAM CITY UNION FINANCE LIMITED" has been amalgamated with "SHRIRAM TRANSPORT FINANCE LIMITED" as per order of NCLT, Chennai. Subsequently the name of "SHRIRAM TRANSPORT FINANCE LIMITED" was changed as "SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED" with effect from 30.11.2022 vide Certificate of Incorporation pursuant to change of name dated 30-11-2022".) under the Securitization and Reconstruction of the Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued **Demand Notice dated 25-06-2025** in agreement no. **GNTKLTF2403290002**, calling upon the Borrowers **1. Syed Basha,** S/o S. Ibrahim, residing at D.No. 1/62-B, Dasari Veedhi, Gooty, Anantapur Dist., -515401. **2. S. Rizwana,** W/o S. Basha, residing at D.No. 1/62-B, Dasari Veedhi, Kurnool Road, Gooty, Anantapur Dist., -515401. **3. Shaik Haji Vali,** S/o Shaik Mahaboob Saheb, residing at D.No. 10-357, Janda Street, Gooty, Anantapur Dist-515401 to repay the amount mentioned in this Notice being **Rs.42,79,928/-** (Rupees Forty Two Lakhs Seventy Nine Thousand Nine Hundred and Twenty Eight Only) with further interest and other contractual charges with penalties within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrower's having failed to discharge their liabilities in full, notice is hereby given to them in particular and public in general, that the under signed being the authorized officer has taken the **POSSESSION** of the property described herein below on **12-11-2025** under Sec.13(4) of the said [Act] and also the authorized officer has taken Physical Possession of the said property with the assistance of our executives Under rule 8(1) of the said [Act] read with Rule 9 of the said rules on this **09 th day of JANUARY' 2026.** Directly the Authorized Officer has taken the Physical Possession of the said property, because the said land is vacant.

The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing with the property will be subject to the charge of the Shriram Finance Limited for the amount of **Rs.42,79,928/-** (Rupees Forty Two Lakhs Seventy Nine Thousand Nine Hundred and Twenty Eight Only) with further interest and other contractual charges and penalties till date with further interest and other costs, charges and expenses.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Anantapuramu District, Gooty Sub District, Gooty Mandal, Kothapeta Gram Panchayat and village accounts, Circar Dry Sy. No. 36-1/6 a total extent of AC.9.94 Cents and in it an extent of AC.6.00 Cents and in it an extent of AC.1.00 Cents, Circar Dry. Sy. No. 36-1/5 a total extent of AC.9.94 Cents and in it extent of AC.6.00 Cents and in it an extent of AC.1.00 Cents. Circar Dry Sy. No. 36-1/2 a total extent of AC.9.94 Cents and in it an extent of AC.6.00 Cents and in it an extent of AC.1.00 Cents. Circar Dry Sy. No. 36-1/4 a total extent of AC.9.94 Cents and in it an extent of AC.6.00 Cents and in it an extent of AC.1.00 Cents. Circar Dry Sy. No. 36-1/3 a total extent of AC.9.94 Cents and in it an extent of AC.6.00 Cents and in it an extent of AC.1.00 Cents and Circar Dry Sy. No. 36-1/7 a total extent of AC.9.94 Cents and in it an extent of AC.6.00 Cents and in it an extent of AC.1.00 Cents. Totaling an extent of AC.6.00 Cents of Land Converted in to House Plots under a Layout and in it:

Item No.1: Plot bearing No.'s 55, 56 and 57 Bounded On: **East:** Plot No. 40, 41 and 42; **West:** 20 ft., Width Road, **North:** 25ft., Width Road, **South:** Plot No. 58. Within these site admeasuring East to West 36.65 ft., or 11.90 mts., North to South 150 ft., or 45.05 mts., comprising a total extent of 5947.5 sq.ft., or 660.83 sq.yards or AC.0.13.60 Cents of Vacant site only.

Item No. 2: Plot bearing No.'s 59 Bounded On: **East:** 20ft., Width Road, **West:** Land of others, **North:** 25 ft., Width Road; **South:** Land of others; Within these site admeasuring East to West Northern side 40 ft., or 12.13 mts., East to West Southern Side 0 ft., or 0 mts., and North to South Eastern side 133 ft., or 40.34 mts., and North to South on Western Side 136.75 ft., or 41.48 mets., comprising a total extent of AC.0.06.19 Cents of Vacant site only.

Item No. 3: Plot bearing No.'s 58 Bounded On: **East:** Plot No. 39; **West:** Land of others; **North:** Plot No. 57 and 20 ft., width Road ; South :: Plot No. 38; Within these site admeasuring East to West Northern side 53.33 ft., or 16.70 mts., East to West Southern Side 46 ft., or 13.95 mts., and North to South on Eastern side 50 ft., or 15.16 mts., and North to South on Western Side 50.25 ft., or 15.24 mets., comprising a total extent of AC.0.05.71 Cents of Vacant site only.

Date: 09-01-2026 **Authorized Officer**
Place: Guntakal **Shriram Finance Limited**

Tamil Nadu Power Generation Corporation Ltd

Notice Inviting Tenders (E-Tendering Process)

Specification No.	Tender Inviting Authority	Name of the Work
4455-M	SE / P&A / TTPS	Design Engineering Supply Erection Testing and Commissioning of remaining portion of HT and LT switch

For details of works / Procurement / Due date of submission / Opening, viewing and downloading of e-tenders, please visit websites: **www.tnpdcl.org, www.tenders.tn.gov.in, www.tntenders.gov.in** **DIPR/280/Tender/2026**

SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED

Registered Office : Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032
Branch Office : D.No:1/730, 1st Floor, UTY Complex, Park Road, Yemmiganur, Kurnool Dist - 518360

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

We,M/s.Shriram Finance Limited (formerly known as "Shriram City Union finance Limited" amalgamated with Shriram Transport Finance limited and converted as Shriram Transport Finance Limited as per the orders of NCLT Bench-II Chennai dated 09.11.2022) and thereafter obtained the approval to rename as Shriram Finance Ltd (Ministry of Corporate Finance letter dated 30.11.2022), is a company registered under the Companies Act, 2013 and also registered with RBI to do Non-Banking Finance business having its registered office at Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032 and D.No : 1/730, 1st Floor, UTY Complex, Park Road, Yemmiganur, Kurnool Dist - 518360 (hereinafter referred as Company/ Lender).

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorised officer of Shriram Finance Limited (SFL) under the provisions of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (said Act) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (said Rules) issued demand notices to the Borrowers details of which are mentioned in the table below to repay the amount mentioned in the said demand notices.

The Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said Rules, on this **12th day of January 2026.**

Borrower & Guarantors Name and Address	AMOUNT DUE AS PER DEMAND NOTICE :
1. E. Govindu Goud, S/o. E. Erayya Goud, H.no:20-144, Savaramma Colony, Pattikonda (v&m), Kurnool (dt) - 518380. **2. E. Erayya Goud,** S/o. E.Thimmappa Goud, H.no: 20-144-4, Ambethkar Circle, Pattikonda (v&m), Kurnool(dt) - 518380. **3. E. Venkatalakshmi,** W/o. E. Erayya Goud, H.no:20-144-4, Ambethkar Circle, Pattikonda (v&m), Kurnool(dt).518380. **4. E. Shivayya,** S/o. E.Thimmappa,h.no:1-76, Devanakonda (v), Pattikonda (m), Kurnool(dt) - 518380.	**Rs. 22,90,780/- (Rupees Twenty Two Lakhs Ninety Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty only) under reference of Loan A/c No:- YEMNRTF2204290002 Demand Notice Dated :: 28/06/2025**

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY : Property Holder Name: E.ERAYYA, Document No: 1780/2022. Kurnool District, Pattikonda Sub-District, Pattikonda Mandal, Pattikonda Gram Panchayath and Village Accounts, Survey No.57/2, out of an extent of Ac.4.56 cents, site measuring East to West 17 ft or 5.25 mts., and North to South 77 ft or 24.02 mts.. total extent of 145.44 sq. yards or 121.80 sq.mts., in that House bearing D.No.20/144-4. **bounded on: East :** Property of Devanabanda P.Sitharami Reddy, P.Panduranga Reddy; **West :** Property of P.Ramakrishna Reddy; **North :** Property retained by vendor P. Venkatarama Reddy; **South :** Pattikonda to Adoni High Way Road.

This notice is also hereby to caution the general public at large that the authorized officer of SFL is in the lawful Possession of the immovable property mentioned herein above and the Borrowers or any person shall not after receipt of this notice transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise deal with/ alienate any of the above mentioned secured assets referred to in this notice, without prior written consent of SFL

Place : Yemmiganur **Authorized Officer**
Date : 12-01-2026 **Shriram Finance Limited**

CIAL COCHIN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT LTD

CIAL/COMMN/SEGEN/03/RDE **TENDER NOTICE** 15-01-2026

Online item rate E-tenders are invited from reputed contractors for the Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Radiological Detection Equipments at Cochin International Airport.

Name of Work	Estimated Amount	EMD	Completion Period	Cost of Tender document
SITC of Radiological Detection Equipments	Rs. 30.71 Crores (Inclusive of Taxes)	Rs. 40 Lakhs	6 Months	Rs. 11,800/-

Interested firms may register themselves on the online E-Tendering portal https://etenders.kerala.gov.in and then download the Tender documents. For eligibility criteria and other details, visit our website www.cial.aero/Tenders. All further updates will be available on the E-Tendering portal: https://etenders.kerala.gov.in

Sd/-
MANAGING DIRECTOR

SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED

Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032. & Branch Office: #20/342, Upstair TVS Showroom, 1st Floor, Bellary Road, Guntakal-515801.

PHYSICAL POSSESSION NOTICE

(See Rule 8(1)) (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorized officer of the M/s.Shriram Finance Limited ("it is informed that "SHRIRAM CITY UNION FINANCE LIMITED" has been amalgamated with "SHRIRAM TRANSPORT FINANCE LIMITED" as per order of NCLT, Chennai. Subsequently the name of "SHRIRAM TRANSPORT FINANCE LIMITED" was changed as "SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED" with effect from 30.11.2022 vide Certificate of Incorporation pursuant to change of name dated 30-11-2022".) under the Securitization and Reconstruction of the Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued **Demand Notice dated 25-03-2024** in agreement no. **GNTKLTF2108300005**, calling upon the Borrowers **1. Kallamadi Chandra Sekhar Babu,** S/o K. Chennakesavulu, residing at D.No. 1/932, Maharshi Colony, Gooty, Anantapur Dist,. 515401. **2. K. Lalitha Lakshmi @ K. Lakshmi,** W/o Kallamadi Chandra Sekhar Babu, residing at D.No. 1/932, Maharshi Colony, Gooty, Anantapur Dist,. 515401. **3. Vanamala Konda Reddy,** S/o V. Venkataramireddy, residing at D.no. 2-70, Bajaru Street, G.Erragudi, Thuggali, Kurnool Dist-518390. to repay the amount mentioned in this Notice being **Rs. 22,92,768/-** (Rupees Twenty Two Lakhs Ninety Two Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty Eight Only) with further interest and other contractual charges with penalties within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrower's having failed to discharge their liabilities in full, notice is hereby given to them in particular and public in general, that the under signed being the authorized officer has taken the **POSSESSION** of the property described herein below on **16-07-2024** under Sec.13(4) of the said [Act] and also the authorized officer has taken Physical Possession of the said property with the assistance of our executives Under rule 8(1) of the said [Act] read with Rule 9 of the said rules on this **09th day of JANUARY' 2026.** Directly the Authorized Officer has taken the Physical Possession of the said property, because the said land is vacant.

The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing with the property will be subject to the charge of the Shriram Finance Limited for the amount of **Rs. 22,92,768/-** (Rupees Twenty Two Lakhs Ninety Two Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty Eight Only) with further interest and other contractual charges and penalties till date with further interest and other costs, charges and expenses.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Ananthapuramu Regn., Dist., Gooty Sub District, Gutty Village accounts Patta No. 1411 in S.No. 19/C1 an extent of AC.3.32 Cents in this AC.1.76 Cents. Bounded by: **East:** Land of M. Venkatesh, **West:** Land of M. Anjaneyulu, **North:** Road, **South:** Land of M. Peddalinganna.

Date: 09-01-2026 **Authorized Officer**
Place: Guntakal **Shriram Finance Limited**

SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED

Registered Office: Sri Towers,Plot No.14A,South Phase, Industrial Estate,Guindy,Chennai -600 032.
Website: www.shriramfinance.in
Branch Office : Kuppam

DEMAND NOTICE

DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF THE SECURITIZATION & RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT,2022

We, M/s. Shriram Finance Limited (formerly known as "Shriram City Union finance Limited" amalgamated with Shriram Transport Finance limited and converted as Shriram Transport Finance Limited as per the orders of NCLT Bench-II Chennai dated 09.11.2022) and thereafter obtained the approval to rename as Shriram Finance Ltd (Ministry of Corporate Finance letter dated 30.11.2022), is a company registered under the Companies Act, 2013 and also registered with RBI to do Non-Banking Finance business having its registered office at Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai - 600032.Branch at **:KUPPAM**

Whereas the borrowers/co-borrowers/guarantors/ mentioned hereunder had availed the financial assistance from SHRIRAM FINANCE LTD (SFL) We state that despite having availed the financial assistance, the borrowers/guarantors have committed various defaults in repayment of interest and principal amounts as per due dates. The account has been classified as Non Performing Asset in accordance with the directives/guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India, consequent to the Authorized Officer of SHRIRAM FINANCE LTD.(SFL)Branch at KUPPAMunder Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 & in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notices on respective dates mentioned herein below under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act, 2002 calling upon the following borrowers /guarantors /mortgagors to repay the amount mentioned in the notices together with further interest at the contractual rate on the amount mentioned in the notices and incidental expenses, cost, charges etc until the date of payment within 60 days from the date of receipt of notices

The notices issued to them on their last known addresses have returned unserved and as such they are hereby informed by way of public notice about the same. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

NAME OF THE BORROWER(S)/ CO-BORROWER(S)/GUARANTORS
1.S.SURESH, S/O.Subramanyam,# Bogupalli vill, Vasanadu(P),Kuppam, Chittoor Dist-517425.
2.RATHNAMMA, W/O.Subramanyam, D.no:19-135, Jai PrakashRoad, Kuppam, ChittoorDist- 517425

NPA DATE: 09.03.2022 **Date Of Demand Notice: 28.11.2025**
Loan Amount:Rs.10,00,000/- (Rupees Ten Lakh Only),
Agreement no:KUPPMTF1903300001
Demand Notice Amount:Rs.27,44,610/- (Rupees Twenty Seven Lakhs, Forty FOur Thousand Six Hundred and Ten only)

SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTY

Chittoor District, Kuppam Sub District, KuppamMandal, Kuppam Gram Panchayat, No.128 Kuppam village accounts, Block No.19, Dry Sy.No.156/1, Vinayakam Street, near D.No.19-58/2, East: Plot bearing No.23, vacant house site, bounded on:- East : Plot No.29; West : 16 ft. width Road; North : Plot No.24; South : Plot No.39. Within these, site admeasuring East to West 45 ft. or 13.72 mts and North to South 30 ft. or 9.14 mts comprising a total extent of 1350 sq.ft. or 150 sq.yards of vacant site only

In the circumstances as aforesaid, the notice is hereby given to the above borrowers, co-borrowers and/ or their guarantors (where ever applicable) to pay the outstanding dues as mentioned above along with future interest and applicable charges within 60 days from the date of the publication of this notice failing which further steps will be taken after the expiry of 60 days of the date of this notice against the secured assets including taking possession of the secured assets of the borrowers and the mortgagors under Section 13(4) of Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and the applicable rules there under.

Please note that under Section 13 (13) of the said Act, no Borrower shall, transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise any of his secured assets referred to in the notice, without prior written consent of the secured creditor.

Place: Kuppam **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Date: 13.01.2026 **Shriram Finance Limited**

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THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS



TAMIL NADU POLICE HOUSING CORPORATION LTD

(A Government of Tamil Nadu undertaking)
(AN ISO 9001 - 2015 CERTIFIED COMPANY)
North Circle
No.1&7, Inspector quarters, PGR Line, Behind CPO Building, Annadhanapatty, Linemedu, Salem – 636 006,
email id: senctnphcl@gmail.com & sprdengmc.tnphcl@tn.gov.in, Phone: 0427-2903010

e- tender Invitation for Bids No: 34 / 2025-2026 **Dated: 14.01.2026**

Name of Work	Approximate value of work in Lakhs
1. Construction of **New District Police Office building** with development works at Kallakurichi for the newly formed **Kallakurichi** District. (SE/NC/DB/2304/2025)	₹ 1593.35 + GST @ 18%

1) For Tender document, visit **https://tntenders.gov.in**	
2) Date and Time for downloading and submission of tender documents	: **21.01.2026** from **12.00** Noon to **04.02.2026** upto **06.00** P.M
3) Date and time of opening of the e-tender	: **06.02.2026** at **11.15 A.M**
4) Detailed Tender Notice is available in the website **www.tnphc.com & www.tnpolice.gov.in**	

DIPR/262TENDER/2026 Superintending Engineer, North Circle, TNPHC Ltd

TAMILNADU CO-OPERATIVE MILK PRODUCERS' FEDERATION LTD

AMBATTUR DAIRY, CHENNAI – 600 098. Telephone No.044-23464528, 23464529, FAX – 044 – 23464536
Ref.No: 1612/DGM(P)/AD/Z5/2025 **TENDER NOTICE** Dt:13.01.2026

Tenders are invited from the contractors through online for **1) Maintenance of Housekeeping and Garden & Washing empty milk tubs at Ambattur Dairy for 24 months (2026-2028) and 2) for loading and unloading of SMP, Butter, Film, any other materials, etc.,** work contract at Ambattur Dairy for **24 months for two years.**

Sl. No.	Description	No.of workers required	Approximate estimated value (Rs. in lakh)	Permitted Date & Time for tender document download at free of cost	Pre Bid	Last date for Submission of Tender Documents	Opening of Technical bid
1	Maintenance of Housekeeping and Garden & Washing empty milk tubs at Ambattur Dairy for 24 months (2026-2028)	68 Nos.	355.83	15.01.2026 to 29.01.2026 upto 4.00 pm	20.01.2026 at 11.30 am	29.01.2026 at 4.00 pm	30.01.2026 at 3.00 pm
2	For loading and unloading of SMP, Butter, Film, any other materials, etc., work contract at Ambattur Dairy for 24 months for two years	6 Nos.	31.55	15.01.2026 to 29.01.2026 upto 4.00 pm	20.01.2026 at 11.30 am	29.01.2026 at 4.00 pm	30.01.2026 at 3.00 pm

The Tender documents can be submitted as e-tendering through the e-procurement website **https://tntenders.gov.in.** The tenderer can also check the website **https://aavin.tn.gov.in** for reference for item-wise specifications, EMD amount payable etc., For further details see the tender documents.

JOINT MANAGING DIRECTOR
DIPR / 231 / TENDER /2026 TAMILNADU CO-OPERATIVE MILK PRODUCERS' FEDERATION LTD

IN THE COURT OF THE HONBLE Vth ADDL. CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE AT BANGALORE (CCH-13)

O.S. No. 4363/2022

BETWEEN: Mr. Mohan. T S/o. Mr. T. Raja Rathnam Naidu, Aged about 45 years No: 49/1, Prabhu Shree Building, 20th Main, 9th Cross, Padmanabh Nagar, Bengaluru - 560070.
...PLAINTIFF

AND : Mr. T. Thippa Reddy & another
...DEFENDANTS

Notice/Summons to the LRs of Defendant No.2 Order V Rule 20 (1a) R/W Sec.151 of Code of Civil Procedure by way of Paper Publication

P. D2. (b). Mr. T. Rajasekhar Reddy, S/o. T. Govindamma S/o. T. Thippa Reddy, Aged Major, Resident of No.15/45, Brahmin Street Punganuru, Chittoor District, Andhra Pradesh - 517247.

P. D2. (c). Mr. T Ramesh Kumar Reddy, S/o. T. Govindamma S/o. T. Thippa Reddy, Aged Major, Resident of No.15/45, Brahmin Street Punganuru, Chittoor District, Andhra Pradesh - 517247.

P. D2. (d). Ms. M. Srinija Reddy Daughter of Late Dhanalakshmi (D/o. T. Govindamma) Aged Major, No. 14-3, Maddireddygari Palli Kurabalakota, Chittoor District, Andhra Pradesh - 517 350.

P. D2. (e). Ms. M. Srihita Daughter of Late Dhanalakshmi (D/o. T. Govindamma) Aged Major, No. 14-3, Maddireddygari Palli Kurabalakota, Chittoor District, Andhra Pradesh - 517 350.
...Defendant No. 2(b) to (e)

Whereas the Plaintiff has instituted a suit for specific performance against defendants under Order VII Rule 1 Read With Sec 26 of CPC Read With Sec 10 specific relief act 1963 and filed on application U/o. 22 rule 4 of CPC to impled you as legal heirs of deceased Defendant No. 2 T. Govindamma in this suit. You are here by summoned to appear in person or by a pleader, before CCH 13 at Bengaluru **on 07.02.2026 at 11.00 a.m.** to answer the claims and you are directed to produce on that day all the documents upon which you intend to rely in support of your defence.

Take notice in case on non-appearance on the day above mentioned, the above suit will be heard and determined in your absence.

SUIT SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of vacant site bearing No. 01 formed out of land bearing converted Survey No.'s 19/1B, 19/3B, 20/1, 21/2 and 57/13 situated at Nayandanahalli Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, duly converted for non-agricultural residential purpose vide order bearing No. BDIS.ALN(S)SR(KT) 49/2004-05, dated 02.08.2004, issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, presently comes under the limits of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike bearing New BBMP Municipal New No. 3/3, PID No. 39-12-3/3, at Nayandahalli, Mysore Road and Nayandahalli Main Road, Bangalore, BBMP Ward No. 39-Chandra Layout, measuring East to West: on Northern side:70 feet and on southern side: 68 feet and North to South: on Eastern side: 143 feet and on western side: 157 feet in all measuring 10,350 Sq.ft and bounded as follows:- **East by :** Site No. 2, **West by :** Sports Authority of India Road, **North by :** Private Property and **South by :** Main Road.

Given under my hand and seal of the court on this 18.12.2025.

By Order of the Court, Senior Sheristedar, City Civil Court, Bengaluru
Advocate for Plaintiff :
J.S. Advocates and Legal Consultants
No. 56/1-1, 4th Main, 16th Cross, Opposite to Corporation Bank, Malleshwaram West, Bangalore.

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-TENDER NOTICE

Tender No : 05/2025-26/SE/PHC/MVPA

JJM- WSS to Sreemoolanagaram, Kanjoor, Chengamanad, Nedumbasserry & Parakkadavu Panchayaths - Production Components - Package II - Laying of Clear Water Pumping Main from Chowara WTP to KANJOOR OHSR AND Existing OHSR at SREEMULANAGARAM and Construction of Kanjoor OHSR - General Civil Work. EMD : Rs. 5,00,000/-; Tender fee: Rs.16540/-; Last Date for submitting Tender : 29-01-2026, 04:00 pm; Phone : 0485 2835637.
Website: www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in

Superintending Engineer,
KWA-JB-GL-6-614-2025-26 PH Circle, Muvattupuzha

V.O.CHIDAMBARANAR PORT AUTHORITY

Civil Engineering Department
Tuticorin-628 004.

SAGARMALA

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

S No	Name of work	Estimated cost Put to tender value (Amount in INR)	Cost of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (Amount in INR)	Online Tender opening date
1	Administrative Office Building Exterior & Interior modifications in VOC Port	40,63,91,651/-	65,63,917/-	04.02.2026
2	Development of Indoor Stadium of 2600 Seating Capacity with a Cricket Net Practice Facility at V.O. Chidambaranar Port Authority	39,76,70,986/-	79,53,420/-	04.02.2026
3	Development of Outdoor Stadium and other ancillary facilities for Sports activity at V O Chidambaranar Port Authority	46,37,72,741/-	92,75,455/-	04.02.2026

Note: For eligible tenderers, downloading of bid documents from the NIC e-tendering website:
i) **https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app**
ii) **https://www.vocport.gov.in**

Sd/-
CHIEF ENGINEER
VOCPA

Canara Bank — SPECIALIZED ARM BRANCH

KVC Arcade, 3rd Floor, 13-1 RC Road, Vani Nagar, Avilala, Tirupati, AP-517501. Phone: 79016 26759, 9901574353.

AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with Rule 9(1) and proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described Immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of **Canara Bank,** will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is",** and **"Whatever there is"** on 31.01.2026 for recovery of outstanding as mentioned here below is due to the **Canara Bank** from below mentioned Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s).

DATE & TIME OF E-AUCTION: 31.01.2026 at 10:30 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.
(With unlimited extension of 5 minutes duration each till the conclusion of the sale)
EMD amount of 10% of the Reserve Price is to be deposited in E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (baanknet.com) portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through RTGS/NEFT in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before 30.01.2026 at 4.00 p.m

Borrower(s): M/s. Sri Tirumala Garments, Prop: **Smt. C B Santi Lakshmi Uraf Jakkala Lakshmi,** W/o Jakkala Sreedhar (Borrower), Sy no: 26/B3, Near Petrol Bunk Main Road, Gospadu Village, Nandyal Dist - 518674 **& Guarantors: 1. Smt. C B Santi Lakshmi Uraf Jakkala Lakshmi, W/o J Sreedhar,** H No: 3-22, Gospadu Village, Nandyal Dist-518674. **2. Mr. Jakkala Sreedhar, S/o J Venkateswarlu,** H No: 3-22, Gospadu Village, Nandyal Dist-518674.
Total Liabilities: Rs. 37,12,264.81/- as on 31.12.2025 + applicable further interest, costs and other charges from **01.01.2026.**
Description of the immovable property with no encumbrances to the knowledge of the bank: **Commercial Land & building (shed)** situated in Sy no: 26/B3, Gospadu Viillage, Gospadu Madal, Nandyal District, Sirvella Sub-registration District, Bounded with **East:** Land of Jakkala Kishore and Rastha, **West:** Land of Applicant, **North:** Rastha, **South:** Land of Jakkala Srinivasulu, **Total extent of Ac 0.64 Cents. (document no 402/2016 dt: 18.02.2016).**

RESERVE PRICE: Rs. 1,62,83,000/- **EMD AMOUNT: Rs. 16,28,300/-**

Note: Dues/Taxes, if any, known/not known to the Bank are to be borne by the auction purchaser and same is exclusive of the final bid amount.
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website www.canarabank.com or may contact Authorised Officer, Canara Bank, Specialized ARM Branch, Tirupati, Ph. No.7901626759, 9901574353 during office hours on any working day.
For E-Auction Process, contact Service Provider: **M/s PSB Alliance Pvt. Ltd (baanknet), web portal: "https://www.baanknet.com/", Contact No. 7046612345 / 6354910172 / 8291220220 / 9892219848 / 8160205051, E-mail: support.BAANKNET@psballiance.com**

Date: 13.01.2026, Place: Tirupati Sd/- Authorised Officer, CANARA BANK

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU
HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT

Tirunelveli (H) NABARD and Rural Roads Circle
TENDER NOTICE
Tender Notice No.23/ 2025-2026/ D1 / Dated: 13.01.2026

For and on behalf of Governor of Tamilnadu sealed Percentage tender for Bypass Road Work in Two cover system through online only will be received upto **16.2.2026 - 11.00 hours** by the **Superintending Engineer (H), NABARD and Rural Roads, Tirunelveli circle** for **Formation of by-pass road to Mudukulathur town Km 0/572-2/852 (Phase-II)** pertaining to **Paramakudi (H) NABARD and Rural Roads Division,** which was approved in G.O.(Ms) No.4 Highways and Minor Ports (HF2) Department dated. 12.01.2026.

Details such as Name of work, approximate value of work, online EMD, documents to be uploaded, critical dates and all other details related to the work will be available **from 15.1.2026** onwards in the Government website **https://tntenders.gov.in** If any changes/ Corrections / Amendments etc related to this tender arises, it will be published on the above Government website only.

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (H),
NABARD AND RURAL ROADS,
TIRUNELVELI-2
DIPR/210/TENDER/2026

CHOLAMANDALAM INVESTMENT AND FINANCE COMPANY LIMITED

Corporate Office: " CHOLA CREST " C 54 & 55, Super B – 4, Thiru Vi Ka Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai – 600032
Branch Address:1st Floor, Door no.1-1-67/4, 1 GNT road, Bharat nagar, Naidupet (AP) – 524126

POSSESSION NOTICE UNDER RULE 8 (1)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of **M/s. Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company Limited**, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 hereinafter called the Act and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13[12] read with Rules 3 of the Security Interest [Enforcement] Rules, 2002 issued demand notice calling upon the borrowers, whose names have been indicated in Column [B] below on dates specified in Column [C] to repay the outstanding amount indicated in Column [D] below with interest thereon 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 borrowers in particular and the Public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the properties mortgaged with the Company described in Column [E] herein below on the respective dates mentioned in Column [F] in exercise of the powers conferred on him under Section 13[4] of the Act read with Rule 8 of the Rules made there under. The borrowers in particular and the Public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties mentioned in Column [E] below and any such dealings will be subject to the charge of **M/s. Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company Limited** for an amount mentioned in Column [D] along with interest and other charges.

Under section 13 [8] of the Securitisation Act, the borrowers can redeem the secured asset by payment of the entire outstanding including all costs, charges and expenses before notification of sale.

Sl No	Name & Address of Borrower/ Loan A/c	Date of Demand notice	Outstanding Amount	Details of Property	Date of Possession
[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]	[F]
1)	**Loan A/c Nos. HE01AID00000011162 HE01AID00000043722** **1.Balachandraiah Pelluru** **2.Srilatha Pelluru** **3.Sri Lakshmi Traders** Door No.6-11-20, Assesment No.1153011177, Agraharapeta Area, Sri Kalahasti Bypass Road,L.A. Sagaram, Naidupeta Mandal, Nellore, Andhra Pradesh - 524126.	15-10-2025	**Rs. 1,95,64,267/-** as on **15-10-2025** and interest thereon	Property belongs to **Mrs. Pelluru Srilatha** (Co-Applicant):-All that part and parcel of the property situated at Ward No.6, Near D. No.6-11-20, Patta No.395, Block No.11, Harijanawada, L.A Sagaram, Agraharapeta Area, Sy.No.148/1A1, Tirupati District, Tirupati Registration District, Naidupeta Sub-District, Naidupeta Mandal, Andhra Pradesh Assessment No.1153011177, Naidupeta Municipality Limits, have acquired the same through Sale Deed Doc. No.2051/2018 registered at Naidupeta Sub-Registration Office land measuring 324.44 Sq.yds or 40 ankanams 40 sq fts with built up area admeasuring 6990 Sft and the **bounded by:Item No.1:** RCC 262.22 sq. yds.,North: Site of Lankhamraju Suneetha - This Side Measurement 59 Feets,East: Site of Item No.2 - This Side Measurement - 40 Feets,South: Site of Oduru Kamalakar Reddy - This Side Measurement 59 Feets,West: Cement Road - This Side Measurement 40 Feets, **Bounded by Item No.2** Traingle Vacant Site: 62.22 sq. yds.,North: Site of Lankhamraju Suneetha - This Side Measuring 28 Feets,East: Bypass Road - This Side Measurement 48 ½ Feets, West: Item No.1 - This Side Measurement 40 Feets.	12.01.2026

Date : 15.01.2026 Sd/- Authorised Officer
Place : Nellore M/s. Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company Limited

SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED

Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600 032.
Branch Office: D.NO:16-537,2ND FLOOR,INDIRA BHAVAN ROAD,NELLORE(Dist)

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

We, **M/s. Shriram Finance Limited** (formerly known as **"Shriram City Union finance Limited"** amalgamated with Shriram Transport Finance limited and converted as **Shriram Transport Finance Limited** as per the orders of NCLT Bench-II Chennai dated 09.11.2022) and thereafter obtained the approval to rename as Shriram Finance Ltd (Ministry of Corporate Finance letter dated 30.11.2022), is a company registered under the Companies Act, 2013 and also registered with RBI to do Non-Banking Finance business having its registered office at **Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032.**

Where as, the undersigned being the authorised officer of **Shriram Finance Limited (SFL)** under the provisions of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (said Act) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (said Rules) issued demand notices to the Borrowers details of which are mentioned in the table below to repay the amount mentioned in the said demand notices.

The Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken **Symbolic Possession** of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said Rules, on this **12.01.2026.**

BORROWERS NAME & ADDRESS: : Atmakur Chandra Sekhar, S/o Sivaramaiah, D.No:13/423,Panathulavari Street, Nellore,SPSR Nellore(DT)-524001
2)CO BORROWER: Atmakur Lakshmi, W/o Atmakur Chandra Sekhar, D.NO:13/423,Panathulavari Street, Nellore,SPSR Nellore(DT)-524001
3) GUARANTOR : Innamuri Venkata Ram Mohan Rao, S/o Innamuri Lakshmi Narasimha Rao, B-11,Vasavi Nagar,Buchireddypalem(VI&MD),SPSR Nellore Dist -524305

Demand Notice Dated: 13.10.2025 Amount due as per Demand Notice: To pay Rs., 15,54,434/-(Rupees Fifteen Lakhs Fifty Four Thousand Four Hundred Thirty Four only) under reference of **Loan A/c No:- NELL2TF1812280001**

Description of the Property: S.P.S.R.Nellore District, Gudur Registration District, Buja Buja Nellore Sub-District, Nellore Rural Mandal, Devarapalem Gram Panchayath, Devarapalem Mazara, Kondlapudi Village Accounts, Survey Nos.32, an extent of Ac.2.34 cents and Survey No.39/2 an extent of Ac.4.68 cents total extent of Ac.7.02 cents out of that approved layout Visweswara Township. Plot No.70, site measuring East to West 60 ft, North to South 40 ft total extent of 266.66 sq. yards or 33 1/3 Ankanams with all easementary rights **bounded on East:** 30 ft wide Layout Road, **West:** Plot No.59, **North:** Plot No.69, **South:** Plot No.71.

All the above Schedule Properties are in the name of **ATMAKUR.CHANDRA SEKHAR, S/o SIVARAMAIAH**

This notice is also hereby to caution the general public at large that the authorized officer of **SFL** is in the lawful Symbolic Possession of the immovable property mentioned herein above and the Borrowers or any person shall not after receipt of this notice transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise deal with/ alienate any of the above mentioned secured assets referred to in this notice, without prior written consent of **SFL.**

Place : Nellore-1, Date : 12.01.2026 **Sd/- Authorized Officer, Shriram Finance Limited**

SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED

Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600 032.
Branch Office: DNO:3/10, 1ST FLOOR, STONEHOUSEPET, NELLORE(DT)-524002

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

We, **M/s. Shriram Finance Limited** (formerly known as **"Shriram City Union finance Limited"** amalgamated with Shriram Transport Finance limited and converted as **Shriram Transport Finance Limited** as per the orders of NCLT Bench-II Chennai dated 09.11.2022) and thereafter obtained the approval to rename as Shriram Finance Ltd (Ministry of Corporate Finance letter dated 30.11.2022), is a company registered under the Companies Act, 2013 and also registered with RBI to do Non-Banking Finance business having its registered office at **Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032.**

Where as, the undersigned being the authorised officer of **Shriram Finance Limited (SFL)** under the provisions of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (said Act) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (said Rules) issued demand notices to the Borrowers details of which are mentioned in the table below to repay the amount mentioned in the said demand notices.

The Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken **Symbolic Possession** of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said Rules, on this **12.01.2026.**

BORROWERS NAME & ADDRESS: 1) Sannapureddy Vaidehi, S/o Konda Reddy, Ramalayam Veedhi,Saalumaanupuram,Buchireddypalem,Penuballi, SPSR Nellore Dist-524305
2) Sannapureddy Konda Reddy, S/o Chinnapau Reddy, Ramalayam Veedhi,Saalumaanupuram,Buchireddypalem,Penuballi, SPSR Nellore Dist -524305
3) Dwarakanath Reddy Nagi Reddy, S/o Nagi Reddy Krishna Reddy, Minagallu,Near High School, Buchireddypalem(MD),SPSR Nellore Dist -524305.

Demand Notice Dated: 21.10.2025 Amount due as per Demand Notice: To pay Rs. 31,40,698/- (Rupees Thirty One Lakhs Forty Thousand Six Hundred And Ninety Eight Only) under reference of **Loan A/c No:- NELL4TF1812010003**

Description of the Property: S P S R Nellore Regn District.,Buchireddypalem Sub-Dist., Buchireddy palem Mandalam,Penuballi Grama Panchayath area,Penuballi mazra, Salumanupuram Village,S no.173,House bearing Door no.7-49, Assessment No. 521, **bounded by: East :** House of Mallu Jayarami Reddy 34 ft., **West:** Road 34 ft., **North:** Site of Jammana Ademma 60 ft., **South :** House & Site of S.Konda Reddy 60 ft.,
Within the above boundaries an extent of 28 ankanams 24 sq ft.,or 226.66 sq yards or 189.55 sq mts of site and in it constructed ACC Sheet roofed house in an extent of 560 sq ft.,along with all fixtures and appurtenant site therein including all easementary rights,with doors,door frames, windows, ventilators,current service connection HSC No.37 etc.,
All the above Schedule Properties are in the name of **SANNAPUREDDY VAIDEHI, S/o KONDA REDDY**

This notice is also hereby to caution the general public at large that the authorized officer of **SFL** is in the lawful Symbolic Possession of the immovable property mentioned herein above and the Borrowers or any person shall not after receipt of this notice transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise deal with/ alienate any of the above mentioned secured assets referred to in this notice, without prior written consent of **SFL.**

Place : Nellore-3, Date : 12.01.2026 **Sd/- Authorized Officer, Shriram Finance Limited**

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

Materials Management Department
Auction Programme - February 2026
Notice No: 02/2026

E-Auction will be conducted for disposal of Ferrous scrap, Non-Ferrous scrap, other Misc scrap, condemned Wagon, Coaches & Locos, Scrap Rails and other Permanent Way scrap material.

Sl. No.	E-Auction Conducted By	Date of auction for the month of for February-2026				Material for auction
1	GSD/PER	05/02/26	12/02/26	19/02/26	26/02/26	The details of items to be sold in e-auction will be available in catalogue www.ireps.gov.in website
2	CSSD/GOC	04/02/26	11/02/26	18/02/26	25/02/26	
3	SSD/PTJ	03/02/26	10/02/26	17/02/26	24/02/26	
4	MAS Division	04/02/26	18/02/26	25/02/26	-	
5	SA Division	03/02/26	10/02/26	17/02/26	24/02/26	
6	TVC Division	06/02/26	13/02/26	20/02/26	27/02/26	
7	PGT Division	05/02/26	12/02/26	19/02/26	26/02/26	
8	TPJ Division	05/02/26	12/02/26	19/02/26	26/02/26	
9	MDU Division	06/02/26	13/02/26	20/02/26	27/02/26	

Total no. of auction for February 2026 = 35 Nos.

For detailed terms and conditions and downloading of catalogue please visit our web-site **http://www.ireps.gov.in->E-Auction->Sale->Live Auctions.**

Principal Chief Materials Manager

HINDUJA HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

HINDUJA HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED
Corporate office at"#167-169", 2nd Floor, Little Mount, Saidapet, Chennai- 600 015.

APPENDIX -IV Possession Notice (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of **Hinduja Housing Finance Limited (HHFL)** 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 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, Demand Notice(s) issued by the Authorized Officer of the company to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) mentioned herein below to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sub-Section (4) of the Section 13 of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement rules, 2002. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub -section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

The 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 HHFL for an amount as mentioned herein under with interest thereon.

Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/Guarantor/LAN No.	Demand Notice Date and Amount	DATE OF POSSESSION
1.Mr. S. Gangadharappa S/O S.Narasimhappa R/o.Dno: 1-130, Srirangarajupalli, Parigi, Ananthapur Dist - 515212 ....**Borrower** **2. Mrs. S.Arunamma** W/O S. Gangadharappa R/o.Dno: 1-130, Srirangarajupalli, Parigi, Ananthapur Dist - 515212 ....**Co-Borrower** **Loan Account Nos. AP/HND/HNPR/A000000077**	**14-10-2025 Rs. 5,12,840 /- (Rupees Five Lakhs Twelve Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty Only)**	**09-01-2026**

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY : All that the party and parcel of Hno: 1-150, Admeasuring Extent 156 Sq.Yds in S.Y.No:534/1A, Built Area : 544 Sq.Feets, of Sri Rangarajupalle Village and G.P Parigi Mandal Hindupur SRO and SDO, Sri Satya Sai Dist, **East -West** : 53 Feet and North – South : 26 ½,**East:** Road,**South** : Site of Anjanamma wife of Narasappa, **North:** House of Lakshmi Narasamma,**West** : Open Site of Donee

Place :Ananthapur, Date:14-01-2026 Sd/-Authorised Officer, For Hinduja Housing Finance Limited

The Kerala Minerals & Metals Ltd

KMML
(A Govt. of Kerala Undertaking) Sankaramangalam, Kollam,-691583
Phone : +91-476-2651215 to 217, E-mail : md@kmml.com, URL: www.kmml.com

TENDER NOTICE

For more details, please visit E- Tendering Portal https://etenders.kerala.gov.in or www.kmml.com

No	Tender ID	Items
1.	2026_KMML_825432_1	Fabrication Welding Laying Painting Testing & Comissioning of cooling water supply/return pipelines to ARP
2.	2026_KMML_827020_1	Trimethylol Ethane (TRIMET) - 197 MT
3.	2026_KMML_827546_1	Supply of PANEL MOUNTED INLETS CONNECTOR WITH PROTECTIVE CAPS 200A PANEL MOUNTED INLET 125A & INDUSTRIAL PLUG TOP 125 AMPS/5 PIN

Chavara. 14.01.2026 **Sd/ Managing Director for The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd**

SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED

Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032.
Branch Office: D.No.13/11, Vishnupriya complex, Subash Road, Ananthapur-515001.

PHYSICAL POSSESSION NOTICE

(See Rule 8(1)) (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorized officer of the M/s.Shriram Finance Limited ("it is informed that "SHRIRAM CITY UNION FINANCE LIMITED" has been amalgamated with "SHRIRAM TRANSPORT FINANCE LIMITED" as per order of NCLT, Chennai. Subsequently the name of "SHRIRAM TRANSPORT FINANCE LIMITED" was changed as "SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED" with effect from 30.11.2022 vide Certificate of Incorporation pursuant to change of name dated 30-11-2022".) under the Securitization and Reconstruction of the Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued **Demand Notice dated 25-06-2025** in agreement no. **ANTP2TF2304250014** calling upon the Borrowers **1. E. Suresh**, S/o E. Lalu Swamy, residing at D.No.12-36, K.K Kottala, Kalluru R.S, Garladdinne Mandal, Anantapur Dist-515774. **2. E. Lakshmi**, W/o E. Suresh, residing at D.No.12-36, K.K Kottala, Kalluru R.S, Garladdinne Mandal, Anantapur Dist-515774. **3. E. Ramanjinamma,** W/o T. Jayanna, residing at D.No.12-36, K.K Kottala, Kalluru R.S, Garladdinne Mandal, Anantapur Dist-515774. **4. B. Chinna Bayanna,** S/o B. Nallappa, residing at D.No. 5-5, K.K Kottala, Kalluru R.S, Garladdinne Mandal, Anantapur Dist-515774 all of you are to repay the amount mentioned in this demand notice being **Rs. 43,87,889/-** (Rupees Forty Three Lakhs Eighty Seven Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighty Nine Only) with further interest and other contractual charges with penalties within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrower's having failed to discharge their liabilities in full, notice is hereby given to them in particular and public in general, that the under signed being the authorized officer has taken the **POSSESSION** of the property described herein below on **16-09-2025** under Sec.13(4) of the said [Act] and also the authorized officer has taken Physical Possession of the said property with the assistance of our executives Under rule 8(1) of the said [Act] read with Rule 9 of the said rules on this **09 th day of JANUARY' 2026.** Directly the Authorized Officer has taken the Physical Possession of the said property, because the said land is vacant.

The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing with the property will be subject to the charge of the Shriram Finance Limited for the amount of **Rs. 43,87,889/-** (Rupees Forty Three Lakhs Eighty Seven Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighty Nine Only) with further interest and other contractual charges and penalties till date with further interest and other costs, charges and expenses.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Ananatapur District, Pamidi Sub District, Kalluru Gram Panchayat and Village Accounts Patta No. 231, Circar Dry, Sy. No. 332 a total extent of AC.7.24 Cents and in it an extent of AC.3.50 Cents and in it an extent of AC.1.40 Cents or 0.608 hectors of land. Bounded on: **East:** Land of Subbarayudu, **West:** Cart Track, **North:** Land of Venkatalakshmamma, **South:** Land of Pedda Laluswamy; Within these an extent of AC. 1.40 Cents or 0.608 hectors of land only.

Date: 09-01-2026 **Authorized Officer**
Place: ANANTAPUR **Shriram Finance Limited**

SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED

SHRIRAM Finance
Website: http://www.shriramfinance.in./auction

Administrative Office: Level-3, Wockhardt Towers, East Wing C-2 Block, Bandra Kurla Complex, (Bandra East), Mumbai 400 051; Tel: 022 4241 0400 , 022 4060 3100; Website: http://www.shriramfinance.in./auction
Regd Office: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600 032.
Office Address : Shriram Finance Ltd, Zonal Office : D.No:50-760-114A, 3rd Floor, U/S Samsung Smart Plaza, Gayatri Estate, Gooty Road, Kurnool-518002 And Branch Office At D.No: 15-387-2,1st Floor, Victoriapet,Govt Area Hospital,U/S Central Bank of India,Adoni, Kurnool(Dt). Pin code : 518301.

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE IN RESPECT OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES BELONGS TO: K BHASKAR

E-Auction Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to Rule 8 (6) & 9(1) of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Guarantor and Mortgagor that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the secured creditor, will be sold on in **"As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" basis on 27.02.2026,** 11.00 A.M. to 01.00P.M. for recovery of dues of **Rs. 99,45,284/- as on 22.08.2022** with further interest, costs other charges and expenses thereon from 23.08.2022 due to the Shriram Finance Limited, Secured Creditor as per **Demand Notice dated 22.08.2022** issued U/s 13(2) of SARFAESI Act, to the Borrower/Guarantor(s) mentioned below.

Name of Borrowers/ Co-Borrowers/Guarantors /Mortgagers	Date & Amount of 13(2) Demand Notice	Description of immovable property: (Property belongs to K.Bhaskar) :	Earnest Money Deposit Details (EMD) Details	Date & Time of Auction	Contact Person and Inspection date
1. Lokesh Traders By Its Proprietor B Ramanjineyulu S/o B Naganna H.No 13/294, LB Street, Adoni. **2. K Bhaskar** S/o K Venkoba H.No 13/302/1, LB Street, Adoni. **3. K Sreenivasulu** S/o K Eranna, H.no 15/62, Lb Street, Adoni.	**To pay an amount of Rs. 99,45,284/-** (Ninety Nine Lakhs Forty Five Thousand Two Hundred Eighty Four only) **as on 22.08.2022** with further interest, costs other charges and expenses. **loan account no. Agreement No. ADONITF1903270011**	Kurnool District, Adoni Sub District, Adoni Town and Municipality, Aluru Road, House bearing old Municipal No. XII – 503/1, new D.No.XIX-205, Present D.No. XVII-735, **bounded on: East :** Vanka; **West :** Public Road; **North :** Godown of K.Narasimha Reddy; **South :** Godown of Gattu Ramachandraiah. Within these, site admeasuring East to West 67 ¼ ft. or 20.84 mts and North to South 18 ½ ft. or 5.37 mts comprising a total extent of 138.23 sq.yards and in it constructed Godown in an extent of 1244.12 sq.ft along with all fixtures and appurtenant site therein. (This property corresponds to Doc.No: 2839/2019 of S.R.O. Adoni). Encumbrances if any: NIL	**EMD to be deposited by way of DD to the account details mentioned herein below in favour of SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED, BANK NAME- AXIS BANK LTD BRANCH - BANDRA KURLA COMPLEX, MUMBAI - 400710. Account No. 230010200005265, IFSC CODE. UTIB0000230**	**27-02-2026 Time: 11.00 a.m. to 01.00 p.m**	**Authorized Officer, Mr. G. Raghunath Reddy Contact : 7995070891** **Customer care: 022 -40081572** **Property Inspection Date: 25 -02-2026 Time 11.00 a.m. to 05.00 p.m.**

Reserve Price of the property : Rs 77,76,000 /- (Seventy Seven Lakhs Seventy Six Thousand Rupees Only)
EMD amount : Rs. 7,77,600/- (Seven Lakhs Seventy Seven Thousand Six hundred rupees only)
Bid Increment : Rs. 25,000/- and in such multiples Last Date for Submission of EMD: 26.02.2026, Time 10.00 a.m. to 05.00 p.m.

The interested bidders required assistance in creating login ID & Password, uploading data, submitting bid, training on e-bidding process etc., may contact **M/s. Shriram Automall India Limited contact person: Mr.Gaurav Namboodiri, Contact No.9833922941 Mr.Gaurav Namboodiri <gaurav.n@samil.in>** and for any property related query may contact **Shriram Finance Limited Authorized Officer, G. Raghunath Reddy, Ph. No ; 7995070891,** during office hours and working days.

The Authorised Officer reserves the right to reject any or all bids without furnishing any further reasons. The online auction will be conducted on website (https://eauctions.Samil.in/home) of our auction agency Shriram Auto Mall India Limited. and for the place of Tender Submission/ for obtaining the bid form / Tender open & Auction, please visit the website **https://eauctions.Samil.in/home and for detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer to the link https://www.shriramfinance.in/auction provided in the Shriram Finance Limited website.**

Note "It is informed that "SHRIRAM CITY UNION FINANCE LIMITED" has been amalgamated with "SHRIRAM TRANSPORT FINANCE LIMITED" as per order of NCLT, Chennai. Subsequently the name of "SHRIRAM TRANSPORT FINANCE LIMITED" was changed as "SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED" with effect from 30.11.2022 vide Certificate of Incorporation pursuant to change of name dated 30-11-2022."

Place: Kurnool, Date: 14-01-2026 **Sd/- (Authorised Officer)**

SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED

SHRIRAM Finance
Website: http://www.shriramfinance.in./auction

Administrative Office: Level-3, Wockhardt Towers, East Wing C-2 Block, Bandra Kurla Complex, (Bandra East), Mumbai 400 051; Tel: 022 4241 0400 , 022 4060 3100; Website: http://www.shriramfinance.in./auction
Regd Office: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600 032.
Office Address: Shriram Finance Ltd, ZONAL OFFICE, D.No:50-760-114A,3rd Floor, U/S Samsung Smart Plaza, Gayatri Estate, Gooty Road,Kurnool-518002 And Branch Office At D.No: 25/586,1st Floor, Srinivasa Nagar,Nandyal. Pin code: 518501.

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE IN RESPECT OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES BELONGS TO: G. SRINIVASULU (CUSTOMER), G.VIJAYA LAKSHMI (PROPERTY HOLDER)

E-Auction Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to Rule 9(1) of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002

E Auction Sale Notice for sale of the Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstructions of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security interest Act, 2002 read with Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules under Rule 9 (1) issued now after expiry of 30 days of the **Intending sale Notice dated.18-08-2025.** Since all of you have failed to exercise your right of redemption as contemplated under section 13 (8) of Act 54/2002 r/w Rule 8 (6) of the Security interest (Enforcement) Rules,2002, this notice for e-auction sale is issued. This is to inform the borrowers / guarantors/ mortgagers / co-applicants / co-borrowers

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the borrowers / guarantors/ mortgagers / co-applicants / co-borrowers that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the secured creditor, will be sold on in **"As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" basis on 25.02.2026,** 11.00 A.M. to 01.00P.M. for recovery of dues of **Rs.1,72,23,237/- as on 13.02.2023** with further interest, costs other charges and expenses thereon **from 14.02.2023** due to the Shriram Finance Limited, Secured Creditor as per **Demand Notice dated 13.02.2023** issued U/s 13(2) of SARFAESI Act, to the Borrower/Guarantor(s) mentioned below

Name of Borrowers/ Co-Borrowers/Guarantors /Mortgagers	Date & Amount of 13(2) Demand Notice	Description of immovable property: (Property belongs to G.Vijaya Lakshmi) :	Earnest Money Deposit Details (EMD) Details	Date & Time of Auction	Contact Person and Inspection date
1. G. Srinivasulu, S/o. G.Venkateswarlu, H No 5-128 Gayathri Nagar Bethamcherla Kurnool(dt). Pin 518599. **2. G. Vijaya Lakshmi,** W/o. G. Srinivasulu, H No 5/128 Gayatri Nagar, Near New Bus Stand, Bethamcherla, Kurnool (dt). 518599. **3. V. Rudreshwarudu,** S/o. Venkata Guru Murthi, H.no. 3-3-1, H.kottala (v), Bethamcherla(m), Kurnool(dt). 518599.	**To pay an amount of Rs.1,72,23,237/-** (One Crore Seventy Two Lakhs Twenty Three Thousand Two Hundred Thirty Seven only) **as on 13.02.2023** with further interest, costs other charges and expenses. **loan account no. Agreement No. NADY1TF1610280004**	Kurnool District, Nandyal Registration District, Betamcherla Sub District, Betamcharla Mandal, Bugganapalli Gram Panchayat and village accounts, dry sy.No.63B3 an extent of Ac.0.23 cents out of Ac.0.48 cents out of a total extent of Ac.3.48 cents **bounded on: East :** Kurnool - Betamcherla Main Road; **West :** Site of G.Srinivasulu; **North :** Site of Venugopal; **South :** Road leading to the lands of Palukuri Subbaiah; (This property corresponds to Doc.No: 1736/2016 of S.R.O. Betamcherla). Encumbrances if any: NIL	**EMD to be deposited by way of DD to the account details mentioned herein below in favour of SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED, BANK NAME- AXIS BANK LTD BRANCH - BANDRA KURLA COMPLEX, MUMBAI - 400710. Account No. 230010200005265, IFSC CODE. UTIB0000230**	**25-02-2026 Time: 11.00 a.m. to 01.00 p.m**	**Authorized Officer, Mr. G. Raghunath Reddy Contact : 7995070891** **Customer care: 022 -40081572** **Property Inspection Date: 23 -02-2026 Time 11.00 a.m. to 05.00 p.m.**

Reserve Price of the property : Rs 46,00,000 /- (Rupees Forty Six Lakhs Only)
EMD amount : Rs. 4,60,000/- (Rupees Four Lakhs Sixty Thousand only)
Bid Increment : Rs. 10,000/- and in such multiples Last Date for Submission of EMD: 24.02.2026, Time 10.00 a.m. to 05.00 p.m.

The interested bidders required assistance in creating login ID & Password, uploading data, submitting bid, training on e-bidding process etc., may contact **M/s. Shriram Automall India Limited contact person: Mr.Gaurav Namboodiri, Contact No.9833922941 Mr.Gaurav Namboodiri <gaurav.n@samil.in>** and for any property related query may contact **Shriram Finance Limited Authorized Officer, G. Raghunath Reddy, Ph. No ; 7995070891,** during office hours and working days.

The Authorised Officer reserves the right to reject any or all bids without furnishing any further reasons. The online auction will be conducted on website (https://eauctions.Samil.in/home) of our auction agency Shriram Auto Mall India Limited. and for the place of Tender Submission/ for obtaining the bid form / Tender open & Auction, please visit the website **https://eauctions.Samil.in/home and for detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer to the link https://www.shriramfinance.in/auction provided in the Shriram Finance Limited website.**

Note "It is informed that "SHRIRAM CITY UNION FINANCE LIMITED" has been amalgamated with "SHRIRAM TRANSPORT FINANCE LIMITED" as per order of NCLT, Chennai. Subsequently the name of "SHRIRAM TRANSPORT FINANCE LIMITED" was changed as "SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED" with effect from 30.11.2022 vide Certificate of Incorporation pursuant to change of name dated 30-11-2022."

Place: Kurnool, Date: 13-01-2026 **Sd/- (Authorised Officer)**

SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED

Registered Office: Sri Towers,Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai- 600 032. Website: www.Shriramfinance.me
BRANCH OFFICE : DNO:3/10: 1STFLOOR: STONEHOUSEPET: NELLORE(DT)-524002

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

We, M/s. Shriram Finance Limited (formerly known as "Shriram City Union finance Limited" amalgamated with Shriram Transport Finance limited and converted as Shriram Transport Finance Limited as per the orders of NCLT Bench-II Chennai dated 09.11.2022) and thereafter obtained the approval to rename as Shriram Finance Ltd (Ministry of Corporate Finance letter dated 30.11.2022), is a company registered under the Companies Act, 2013 and also registered with RBI to do Non-Banking Finance business having its registered office at Sri Towers, Plot No.I4A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai - 600032.

Where as, the undersigned being the authorised officer of Shriram Finance Limited (SFL) under the provisions of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (said Act) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (said Rules) issued demand notices to the Borrowers details of which are mentioned in the table below to repay the amount mentioned in the said demand notices.

The Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said Rules, on this **12th January 2026.**

Borrower Name and Address:

1. **Thummala Rajesh**, Aged About: 35Yrs, S/0 Venkateswarlu, D.No:2-136b, Krishna Mandiram, Mypadu, Indhukurpeta(Md), SPSR Nellore District-524313.
2. **Tummala Thulasiram**, Aged About: 36 Yrs, S/0 Venkateswarlu,D.No:2-136b, Krishna Mandiram,Mypadu,Indhukurpeta(Md),SPSR Nellore District - 524313.
3. **Tummala Devasenamma,** Aged About: 53 Yrs,W/0 Venkateswarlu,D No:2-136b,Krishna Mandiram, Mypadu, Indhukurpeta(Md), SPSR Nellore District-524313

Amount due as per Demand Notice : TO pay **Rs.24,51,222/-** (Twenty Four Lakhs Fifty one Thousand two Hundred And twenty Two Rupees Only) under reference of **Loan A/c No:- NELL4TF2012270001**
Demand Notice Dated:-21.10.2025

SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTY

SPSR Nellore District,Gudur Registration District, Indhukurpet Sub-District, Indukurpet Mandal,Mypadu Gram Panchayth and village accounts, Ward No .3,Ramulavari Temple Street,Survey No.526/A1, House Bearing D No.3-20, site measuring 20 Ankanams or 160 sq yards with all easementary rights, bounded on: East :House of B Kodandaramaiah and House B Janakiramaiah; West : Compound wall of this property and site of G Subrahmanyam; North :Compound wall of this property and site of D Adinarayana;South: Ramulavari Street. All the above Schedule Properties are in the name of TUMMALA DEVASENAMMA .

This notice is also hereby to caution the general public at large that the authorized officer of SFL is in the lawful Symbolic Possession of the immovable property mentioned herein above and the Borrowers or any person shall not after receipt of this notice transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise deal with/ alienate any of the above mentioned secured assets referred to in this notice, without prior written consent of SFL.

Place :Nellore-3 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Dated : 12.01.2026 **Shriram Finance Limited**

SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED

REGISTERED OFFICE: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai - 600032 website : www.shriramfinance.in.
BRANCH OFFICE : RC ROAD, TIRUPATI-1

DEMAND NOTICE

We, M/s. Shriram Finance Limited (formerly known as "Shriram City Union finance Limited" amalgamated with Shriram Transport Finance limited and converted as Shriram Transport Finance Limited as per the orders of NCLT Bench-II Chennai dated 09.11.2022) and thereafter obtained the approval to rename as Shriram Finance Ltd (Ministry of Corporate Finance letter dated 30.11.2022), is a company registered under the Companies Act, 2013 and also registered with RBI to do Non-Banking Finance business having its registered office at Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai - 600032.Branch at : **Tirupati-1**

Whereas the borrowers/co-borrowers/guarantors/ mentioned hereunder had availed the financial assistance from SHRIRAM FINANCE LTD (SFL) We state that despite having availed the financial assistance, the borrowers/guarantors have committed various defaults in repayment of interest and principal amounts as per due dates. The account has been classified as Non Performing Asset in accordance with the directives/guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India, consequent to the Authorized Officer of SHRIRAM FINANCE LTD. (SFL) Branch at Tirupati-1 under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 & in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notices on respective dates mentioned herein below under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act, 2002 calling upon the following borrowers / guarantors /mortgagors to repay the amount mentioned in the notices together with further interest at the contractual rate on the amount mentioned in the notices and incidental expenses, cost, charges etc until the date of payment within 60 days from the date of receipt of notices

The notices issued to them on their last known addresses have returned unserved and as such they are hereby informed by way of public notice about the same. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Names & Addresses of the Borrowers, Co-Borrowers & Guarantor

1. **MEGA TEXTORIUM, Prop: I.Narendra Kumar,** S/O.I.RadhaKrishna, D.no:10-80/1 A, Royal Nagar, Tirupathi, Chittoor Dist, Andra Pradesh-517501.
2. **I.NARENDRAKUMAR,** S/O. I.RADHAKRISHNATAH, Royal Nagar, Tirupathi, Chittoor Dist ,Andra Pradesh-517501.
3. **I.PUSHPALATHA,** W/O. I.NarendraKumar, D.no:10-80/1A, Royal Nagar, Tirupathi, ChittoorDist, Andra Pradesh- 517501.
4. **Gadham Shankar Vimal,** S/O: Late GB Shankar, 6-12-16/A1, KB Layout, Tirupati (Urban), Chittoor, Andra Pradesh-517501

NPA DATE: 08.03.2024 **Date Of Demand Notice: 09.09.2025**
Loan AmountRs. 18,00,000/- (Rupees Eighteen lakh Only),
Agreement no: TRPT1TF2301300004
Demand Notice Amount: Rs.25,11,455/- (Rupees Twenty five lakh eleven thousand four hundred and fifty five only)

SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTY

Schedule-I: Tirupati District, erstwhile Chittoor District, Sri Balaji Registration District, Renigunta Sub District, Renigunta Mandal, Jeepalem Gram Panchayat, No.3 Kurukaluva village accounts, old Paimash Nos. 16 and 19 and present Sy.No.2/1 a total extent of Ac.14.01 cents, Sy.No.2/1 a total extent of Ac.0.90 cents and Sy.No,2/3 a total extent of Ac. 18.78 cents and in it an extent of Ac.0.04 cents of land after subdivision Sy.Nos.2/1, 2/2 and 2/3B land converted into house plots under a layout called "SRI VENKATA CHALAPATHI NAGAR" and in it Plot bearing No.195-Part [Southern side] of vacant site, bounded on:- East: Land of Krathi Chaitanya in Sy.No.2/3; West: 30 ft. width Road; North : Site in Plot No. 195-Part [Northern side] of L.Roop Kiran; South : Site in Plot No. 194. Within these site admeasuring East to West on Northern side 58 ft. or 17.690 mts, East to West on Southern 55.11 ft. or 16.608 mts and North to South on both sides 20.6 ft. or 6.283 mts comprising a total extent of 1165.03 sq.ft. or 129.44 sq.yards of vacant site only.

Schedule-II: Tirupati District, erstwhile Chittoor District, Sri Balaji Registration District, Renigunta Sub District, Renigunta Mandal, Jeepalem Gram Panchayat, No.3 Kurukaluva village accounts, old Paimash Nos. 16 and 19 and present Sy.No.2/1 a total extent of Ac.14.01 cents, Sy.No.2/1 a total extent of Ac.0.90 cents and Sy.No.2/3 a total extent of Ac. 18.78 cents and in it an extent of Ac.0.04 cents of land after subdivision Sy.Nos.2/1, 2/2 and 2/3B land converted into house plots under layout called "SRI VENKATACHALAPATHI NAGAR" and in it Plot bearing No. 195-Part [Northern side] of vacant site, bounded on:-East : Land of Krathi Chaitanya in Sy.No.2/3; West: 30 ft. width Road; North : Land of S.Jayashyam; South : Remaining site in Plot No. 195-Part [Southern side], Within these site admeasuring East to West on Northern side 61 ft. or 18.605 mts, East to West on Southern 58 ft. or 17.690 mts and North to South on both sides 19 ft. or 5.795 mts comprising a total extent of 1130.5 sq. ft. or 125.61 sq. yards of vacant site only.

In the circumstances as aforesaid, the notice is hereby given to the above borrowers, co-borrowers and/ or their guarantors (where ever applicable) to pay the outstanding dues as mentioned above along with future interest and applicable charges within 60 days from the date of the publication of this notice failing which further steps will be taken after the expiry of 60 days of the date of this notice against the secured assets including taking possession of the secured assets of the borrowers and the mortgagors under Section 13(4) of Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and the applicable rules there under.

Please note that under Section 13(13) of the said Act, no Borrower shall, transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise any of his secured assets referred to in the notice, without prior written consent of the secured creditor.

Place : Tirupati-1 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Dated : 13.01.2026 **Shriram Finance Limited**

SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED

REGISTERED OFFICE: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai - 600032 website : www.shriramfinance.in.
BRANCH OFFICE : RC ROAD, TIURPATI-1

DEMAND NOTICE

We, M/s. Shriram Finance Limited (formerly known as "Shriram City Union finance Limited" amalgamated with Shriram Transport Finance limited and converted as Shriram Transport Finance Limited as per the orders of NCLT Bench-II Chennai dated 09.11.2022) and thereafter obtained the approval to rename as Shriram Finance Ltd (Ministry of Corporate Finance letter dated 30.11.2022), is a company registered under the Companies Act, 2013 and also registered with RBI to do Non-Banking Finance business having its registered office at Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai - 600032.Branch at : **Tirupati-1**

Whereas the borrowers/co-borrowers/guarantors/ mentioned hereunder had availed the financial assistance from SHRIRAM FINANCE LTD (SFL) We state that despite having availed the financial assistance, the borrowers/guarantors have committed various defaults in repayment of interest and principal amounts as per due dates. The account has been classified as Non Performing Asset in accordance with the directives/guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India, consequent to the Authorized Officer of SHRIRAM FINANCE LTD. (SFL) Branch at Tirupati-1 under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 & in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notices on respective dates mentioned herein below under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act, 2002 calling upon the following borrowers / guarantors /mortgagors to repay the amount mentioned in the notices together with further interest at the contractual rate on the amount mentioned in the notices and incidental expenses, cost, charges etc until the date of payment within 60 days from the date of receipt of notices

The notices issued to them on their last known addresses have returned unserved and as such they are hereby informed by way of public notice about the same. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Names & Addresses of the Borrowers, Co-Borrowers & Guarantor

1. **Vijaya.B,** W/O.Muni Venkata Prasad.B,D.no:7-21/2, Subba Reddy Nagar, Akaram palli, Tirupathi, Chittoor Dist -517501
2. **Muni Venkata Prasad.B,** S/O.B.Seshadri, D.no:7-21/2,SubbaReddy Nagar, Akaram palli, Tirupathi,Chittoor Dist -517501
3. **Haritha R.B,** W/O.M.Vijaya Kumar,D.no:I-227,Patha Bajana Gudi street, Nagari, Chittoor Dist-517590.

NPA DATE: 31.12.2020 **Date Of Demand Notice: 13.10.2025**
Loan AmountRs. 7,00,000/- (Rupees Seven Lakhs Only),
Agreement no: TRPT1TF1903300011
Demand Notice Amount: Rs. 29,29,301/-(Rupees Twenty nine lakh twenty nine thousand three hundred one only)

SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTY

Chittoor District, Sri Balaji Registration District, Renigunta Sub District, Tirupati Urban Mandal, No.27 Thimminaidupalem village accounts, presently Tirupati Municipal Corporation limits, Municipal New Ward No.22, Block No.5, Kothapalli area, Sy.No.68/5 a total extent of Ac.4.39 cents of land and in it an extent of Ac. 1.775 cents of land converted into house plots under a layout and in it **Plot bearing Nos.16 Part and 17 Part, bounded on:** East : Site in Plot No. 16 Part of Kuntrapakam Murali Krishna; West: Site in Plot No. 17 Part: North : Tank bund; South : 25 ft. width Road, Within these, site admeasuring East to West (including lane) 16 ft. or 4.880 mts and North to South 68 ft. or 23.800 mts comprising a total extent of 1088 sq.ft. or 120.88 sq.yards or 30.22 ankanams of vacant site only.

In the circumstances as aforesaid, the notice is hereby given to the above borrowers, co-borrowers and/ or their guarantors (where ever applicable) to pay the outstanding dues as mentioned above along with future interest and applicable charges within 60 days from the date of the publication of this notice failing which further steps will be taken after the expiry of 60 days of the date of this notice against the secured assets including taking possession of the secured assets of the borrowers and the mortgagors under Section 13(4) of Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and the applicable rules there under.

Please note that under Section 13(13) of the said Act, no Borrower shall, transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise any of his secured assets referred to in the notice, without prior written consent of the secured creditor.

Place : Tirupati-1 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Dated : 13.01.2026 **Shriram Finance Limited**

SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED

REGISTERED OFFICE: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai - 600032 website : www.shriramfinance.in.
BRANCH OFFICE : RC ROAD, TIRUPATI-1

DEMAND NOTICE

We, M/s. Shriram Finance Limited (formerly known as "Shriram City Union finance Limited" amalgamated with Shriram Transport Finance limited and converted as Shriram Transport Finance Limited as per the orders of NCLT Bench-II Chennai dated 09.11.2022) and thereafter obtained the approval to rename as Shriram Finance Ltd (Ministry of Corporate Finance letter dated 30.11.2022), is a company registered under the Companies Act, 2013 and also registered with RBI to do Non-Banking Finance business having its registered office at Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai - 600032.Branch at : **Tirupati-1**

Whereas the borrowers/co-borrowers/guarantors/ mentioned hereunder had availed the financial assistance from SHRIRAM FINANCE LTD (SFL) We state that despite having availed the financial assistance, the borrowers/guarantors have committed various defaults in repayment of interest and principal amounts as per due dates. The account has been classified as Non Performing Asset in accordance with the directives/guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India, consequent to the Authorized Officer of SHRIRAM FINANCE LTD. (SFL) Branch at Tirupati-1 under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 & in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notices on respective dates mentioned herein below under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act, 2002 calling upon the following borrowers / guarantors /mortgagors to repay the amount mentioned in the notices together with further interest at the contractual rate on the amount mentioned in the notices and incidental expenses, cost, charges etc until the date of payment within 60 days from the date of receipt of notices

The notices issued to them on their last known addresses have returned unserved and as such they are hereby informed by way of public notice about the same. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Names & Addresses of the Borrowers, Co-Borrowers & Guarantor

1. **A.Krishna Murthy,** S/o. A. Narayana, D.No:7-7, Church Street, Chandragiri, Tirupati, Chittoor Dist-517101.
2. **Nandini Bakery,** Prop: A Krishna Murthy, S/o. A. Narayana, D.No:7-7, Church Street, Chandragiri, Tirupati, Chittoor Dist-517101.
3. **M. Venkatesh,** S/o. Late M. Venkataramaiah, D.No:13-3-304/A/5, Nawabpet, Tirupati, Chittoor Dist-517501
4. **R. Lalitha @ R. Lalithamma,** R/o. Peddamalapalli, Thipereddygaripalli, Chinnagottigallu, Chittoor Dist-517193

NPA DATE: 31.05.2014 **Date Of Demand Notice: 01.10.2025**
Loan Amount Rs. 10,00,000/- (Rupees Ten Lakh Only),
Agreement no: TRPT1TF1306300004
Demand Notice Amount: Rs.47,29,540/- (Rupees Forty seven lakh twenty nine thousand five hundred forty only)

SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTY

Property is in the name of M. Venkatesh, S/o.LateM. Venkataramaiah vide document no : 3421/2013: Chittoor District Sri balaji Registration District, Tirupati Sub-District, Tirupati Urban Mandal, Tirupati City, Tirupati Municipal Old Ward No.9, New Ward No.13 in Nawahpet street, T.S.No.4039/1 Municipal Old Door No.383 New Door No.304 and present Door No.13-3-304A(part) of RCC Building Bounded, on: East : House bearing Door.No.13-3-304 Of AliBai; West : Property of Madugu Sreenivasulu, North: 4 ft. width joint lane; South : house bearing D.No.13-3-303 of Smt Sulochana;

Within this site admeasuring East to West 16.5 ft; Or 5.032 mts., and North to South 12.0 ft., or. 6.10 mts., comprising a total extent of 330 sq.ft., or 36.66 sq.yards., of vacant site and in it constructed RCC building having ground floor and first floor in extent of 3.30 sq.ft each along with all fixtures in the appurtenant therein including the joint right in the Western wall and half share in the stair case situated on the North East Corner and also half share in the' stair case situated on the North West Corner in the first floor belonging to 'M.Srinivasulu and half share in the bore well dug in the joint lane and also half share in the Bath room and latrine on the Western

In the circumstances as aforesaid, the notice is hereby given to the above borrowers, co-borrowers and/ or their guarantors (where ever applicable) to pay the outstanding dues as mentioned above along with future interest and applicable charges within 60 days from the date of the publication of this notice failing which further steps will be taken after the expiry of 60 days of the date of this notice against the secured assets including taking possession of the secured assets of the borrowers and the mortgagors under Section 13(4) of Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and the applicable rules there under.

Please note that under Section 13(13) of the said Act, no Borrower shall, transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise any of his secured assets referred to in the notice, without prior written consent of the secured creditor.

Place : Tirupati-1 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Dated : 13.01.2026 **Shriram Finance Limited**

EDITORIAL



"What matters in life is not what happens to you, but what you remember and how you remember it" — Gabriel García Márquez

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

INDIA & EUROPE NEED RULES-BASED TIES AMID COERCIVE GEOPOLITICS

INDIA'S engagement with Europe is entering a consequential phase. A flurry of high-level visits, expanding trade ties and shared anxiety about global instability all point to a recognition that this partnership must move beyond symbolism and become a pillar of economic and strategic resilience.

Trade remains the anchor. The European Union is India's largest trading partner in goods, absorbing roughly 17 percent of Indian exports. What is changing is the breadth of this relationship. The big European powers remain central, but countries such as Spain, Belgium and Poland are emerging as fast-growing destinations for Indian exports, broadening India's commercial footprint across the 27-nation bloc. A long-delayed India-EU free trade agreement, if concluded, could further boost competitiveness in garments, pharmaceuticals and engineering goods at a time of demand uncertainty worldwide.

Yet, the relationship is no longer defined by trade alone. Europe's turn towards strategic autonomy has made it a more serious geopolitical actor. This creates space for deeper cooperation with India in critical technologies, clean energy, digital governance, artificial intelligence and resilient supply chains. For Europe, India offers scale, growth and credibility in the Indo-Pacific. For India, Europe offers capital, technology and regulatory depth without the volatility of some other major powers.

The India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor, launched at the G20 summit in New Delhi, gives this convergence a physical form. Built on the three pillars of transport, energy and digital connectivity, IMEC aims to integrate rail, port, power and fibre-optic networks across the continents. By cutting Asia-Europe transit times by about 40 percent and generating an estimated $5.4 billion in annual trade savings, the corridor, whose future is now obscured by regional conflicts, promises to offer a broader alternative to single-country initiatives such as China's Belt and Road.

This alignment, however, is not without friction, most notably on Russia. Europe's approach is shaped by proximity to war, sanctions and a hardening view of Moscow as a direct security threat. India's stance is far from it. This divergence is real, but it need not be disqualifying. What matters is that India and Europe increasingly agree on strategic realism—that the broader objective is to prevent a fragmented global order dominated by coercion and closed blocs. As power shifts, India needs scale, technology and rules-based partners. Europe fits that bill. A decisive India-EU partnership can shape a resilient, balanced global order.

PROBE THOSE WHO CASHED IN ON GRABBED INFRA LAND

THREE decades after its conception, the Karnataka High Court has directed the state government to scrap the Bangalore-Mysore Infrastructure Corridor project and undertake a comprehensive review. The court was unsparing in its assessment: since the project was conceptualised in 1996, barely 1 km of the proposed 111-km expressway has been built and none of the five planned townships has materialised. A technical report submitted in August 1995 had envisaged an expressway between Bengaluru and Mysuru, peripheral roads connecting national highways, and residential, industrial and commercial hubs, along with five self-sustaining townships from Bidadi to Srirangapatna. Nandi Infrastructure Corridor Enterprise (NICEL), the concessionaire, did construct tolled roads linking the city to its outskirts. However, vast tracts of land acquired at negligible rates from farmers lie unused even decades later.

That five successive governments allowed the project to drift reflects sustained political and administrative abdication cutting across parties. Conceived during a JD(S) regime, the corridor was presented as a development catalyst in the Vokkaliga belt, but successive governments failed to either enforce contractual obligations or protect landowners' interests. While JD(S) leaders H D Deve Gowda and H D Kumaraswamy later highlighted the distress of farmers who sold land that has since become prime real estate, these concerns emerged long after the damage was done. NICEL was entitled to acquire only 13,237 acres of private land, yet 29,267 acres were notified. Of these, 13,404 acres remained under preliminary notification for 25 years, freezing livelihoods. A 2016 House committee detailed serious irregularities involving NICEL, its promoter Ashok Kheny and officials: land acquired at throwaway prices, stamp duty exemptions for 14,337 acres, illegal allotment of 20 lakes, and repeated violations of concession terms, including sale and mortgaging of unused land.

Recent interventions have begun to correct the record. In July 2025, the high court quashed acquisition notifications issued between 1998 and 2009, granting relief to landowners. The state cabinet has proposed returning 13,418 acres to farmers, while other notified parcels remain under review. Yet, such measures alone are insufficient. The project stands exposed as a large-scale land grab enabled by political patronage and bureaucratic complicity across regimes. Those who profited from it must now be identified, investigated and held accountable. Only then can the state claim to have closed a chapter marked by dispossession and institutional failure.

QUICK TAKE

ABANDON KITE ARMS RACE

WHILE kite festivals are being celebrated, several deaths are being reported from throats slit by barely-visible manja threads strung across roads. After two such deaths within 45 days in Indore, the Madhya Pradesh High Court has banned the sale and use of the razor-sharp 'Chinese nylon manja'. Accidents have been reported in Karnataka, Telangana and Uttar Pradesh, too. Indians have been using manja—a paste of abrasive materials like finely-crushed glass—for centuries. Even the use of nylon threads is decades old. What has changed in recent years is the explosive growth in population and two-wheelers. Charging parents with deadly negligence if nylon manja is used could be a deterrent. Beyond that, let's enjoy the sight of soaring kites, abandon this silly 'arms race' and go back to simple, brittle cotton threads.

By forcing brute American power on Latin America, Trump is blending reality with the surreal. None of it is likely to go according to plan in this diverse region

A CHRONICLE OF MAGIC REALISM FORETOLD

M K BHADRAKUMAR



Former diplomat



MANDAR PARDIKAR

DURING the past 10 days that shook the world, two fault lines have appeared in international politics—principally, the regime change project of the US President Donald Trump in Venezuela and, two, a potential break-up of the Western alliance.

If only the celebrated Latin American literary giant Gabriel García Márquez were alive today, this would have been a fitting moment in his tumultuous career—marking the entry of magical realism, a literary genre blending the mundane with the fantastic, into the realm of geopolitics.

Herein lies a paradox. While Trump may have missed the Nobel Peace Prize, he can still claim a legacy of making magical realism a global phenomenon in politics—a potentially more enduring legacy for some. He has succeeded in situating us onlookers in a predominantly realistic setting while his fantasies are rolling out in an unreal world, with unreal characters. He brings alive García Márquez's powerful metaphor of cows wandering through and eating the curtains inside a deposed dictator's home.

The regime change in Venezuela had an easy explanation—it is a vivid display of the Trump administration's prioritisation of the Western hemisphere in its foreign policy strategies, as outlined in the recent National Security Strategy released by the White House. This hypothesis was articulated, albeit somewhat crudely, by Secretary of State Marco Rubio, the most experienced top diplomat in the entire Trump team, when he spoke to a TV network on Sunday, "This is the Western hemisphere. This is where we live—and we're not going to allow it to be a base of operations for adversaries, competitors and rivals of the United States."

All sorts of atavistic fears appear to be swirling in Rubio's subconscious mind, vaguely hinting that the US, like an ageing lion losing its mane, is coming home for better cooling and hunting in a thorny terrain, but where it also has to contend with predators who appeared to settle old scores—Russia, China and Iran in particular.

Venezuela is synonymous with energy security. If China accounts for around 80 percent of Venezuela's oil exports in recent years, Russia and Iran are Caracas's team-mates in the Great Game over the petrodollar. If China has quietly 'de-dollarised' its oil trade with Venezuela, Russia and Iran are world champions in beating American sanctions. All this has been going on right under the nose of the Americans, who couldn't do anything about it.

To be sure, there's a long haul ahead for Trump. Mexico, for instance, is a challenge equivalent to Venezuela multiplied by at least five—with a 2,000-mile long land border with the US, its political economy rests firmly on a bizarre institutionalised bonding between its leftist ruling elite and the mafiosi (with collaborators in the US). President Claudia Sheinbaum is seeking a settlement with Trump, had a "good conversation" with him and even ruled out a US invasion.

On the other hand, Cuban President Miguel Díaz-Canel remains defiant, unimpressed by the shock and awe of the US's secret strategic weapon (sourced from microwave generators) generating ultra-high-frequency electromagnetic radiation.

Trump cannot emulate *Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves* by simply chanting the magical phrase 'Open Sesame' to lure the regional states to come over to his side. Ever since the US transitioned in the mid-20th century to a more proactive international strategy—with the state department officially declaring the end of the Monroe Doctrine era—the Western hemisphere has transformed beyond recognition. Trump himself admitted as much when, on January 3, he rechristened it as the 'Donroe Doctrine'.

Simply put, it is impossible to make a chastity belt to lock the elected leaders of such a vast, uncontrollable continent teeming with poets and guerrillas, or neutralise Chinese and Russian influence in the region—and, all this is to be completed by 2028. What was done to Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro will only increase anti-American sentiment, complicating the Donroe Doctrine. Presidential elections are coming up in Colombia and Brazil, where left-wing forces are predicted to win.

Russia is not the Soviet Union, and Moscow and Beijing have no misconceptions that Trump's military operation in Venezuela aims to establish unlimited control over the country's natural resources and assert Washington's hegemonic ambitions in Latin America. Over and above, it remains an 'unknown unknown' how Trump's experimentation in creating a new oligarchy in Caracas will end up. What if a 'new Maduro' emerges at the top of the heap eventually?

Again, the plain truth is that the countries in the region that are committed to cooperation with Beijing are themselves reluctant to reorient themselves towards Washington. Trump's abacus may tell him that the combined oil reserves of Venezuela, Guyana and the US will give him sway over almost 30 percent of the global total—and put him in a commanding position over international oil markets. But the oil market has hidden charms, too, as Russian President Vladimir Putin or Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman know only too well. Simply put, the oil market is such that while Saudi Arabia can pump crude at a cost of less than $10 a barrel, his kingdom needs prices above $100 to bring its fiscal deficit down to zero. Therein hangs a tale.

Big Oil cold-shouldered Trump when he graciously proposed that the industry should invest at least $100 billion to rebuild Venezuela's energy sector with US security guarantees. It emerges from reportage that it was a stormy meeting, as most CEOs told Trump that Venezuela would need big changes to attract investment. ExxonMobil CEO Darren Woods said point-blank that the country is "uninvestable" in the current state. ConocoPhillips CEO Ryan Lance said Venezuela's energy system needed to be restructured first. Chevron, the only US oil major operating in Venezuela through joint ventures with the State-owned Petróleos de Venezuela, responded that the company may be able to increase production "within our own disciplined investment schemes by about 50 percent just in the next 18 to 24 months".

Trump has since threatened to punish ExxonMobil—historically, a veritable state within the US in its scale, global reach and immense economic power, which allows it to function like a sovereign entity and operate across jurisdictions and regulations due to its integrated operations.

(Views are personal)

HUMAN COST OF NEED FOR SPEED

TULSI JAYAKUMAR



Professor, finance and economics, and Executive Director, Centre for Family Business and Entrepreneurship at Bhavan's SPJIMR

WHEN delivery workers in several major cities logged out of their apps in a coordinated manner near the end of last year, it forced India to confront an uncomfortable truth. While business circles continue to celebrate the emergence of business models that promise speed through technological prowess, the 10-minute delivery proposition must also be seen for what it is: a social experiment whose costs are disproportionately borne by those with the least power to refuse.

For many young urban migrants and new entrants in the labour market, platform work has become a default option rather than a short-term stopgap. Yet, research by the International Labour Organization has consistently noted that this growth has been accompanied by a fundamental reorganisation of work itself, where stable employment is replaced by task-based engagements governed by algorithms.

In this system of management, performance is continuously monitored through delivery times, customer ratings and acceptance rates, while the decision-making remains opaque to workers. Studies under the Oxford Internet Institute's Fairwork Project show that such opacity generates income volatility and heightens workers' dependence on platform-determined incentives. The health and cost implications are borne by the workers rather than the firms that profit from these systems.

Against this backdrop, the recent logouts must be understood as a sign of structural strain. They raise pressing questions about how India's platform economy is governed, who absorbs the costs of speed, and whether the current regulatory frameworks are equipped to deal with the form of work.

Much of the sector's defence of ultra-fast delivery rests on technical explanations. They argue that delivery times are determined not by rider behaviour but by dense networks of neighbourhood warehouses, optimised routing and short distances. In theory, this frames speed as a logistical outcome rather than a labour issue.

However, studies by the International Transport Workers' Federation and Fairwork India highlight that time pressure is experienced not simply in terms of distance but through the cumulative micro-delays resulting from traffic congestion, access barriers in apartment complexes, weather disruptions and order batching that remain invisible to algorithmic systems. Our cities are not spreadsheets, and the friction that defines everyday urban life is rarely captured in neat delivery-time calculations.

Platforms rely on automated metrics, not human supervision, to determine workers' access to future orders. Thus, they shape worker behaviour while denying employer obligations. The lack of transparency makes it difficult for workers to contest penalties or understand how to improve their standing.



PTI

> As companies are rethinking 10-minute deliveries, we must understand the result of such promises. Opaque, algorithm-based incentives compel workers to imperil themselves to improve ratings and earnings. The new labour codes do not help. We need an independent fairness index for gig platforms

This opacity has material consequences. Research by the Centre for Sustainable Employment and the ILO shows that platform workers often experience income instability even during periods of high demand, as incentive structures shift unpredictably and penalties are imposed retroactively. In such conditions, workers may prioritise speed over safety as a rational response.

In India, the Code on Social Security, 2020 recognises gig and platform workers as a distinct category—an important conceptual step. Yet, the recognition has not translated into robust protection. By linking eligibility for insurance and benefits to minimum engagement thresholds—90 days on one platform or 120 days across several—the State has inadvertently mirrored the logic of the platforms themselves.

In a system marked by high churn, unpredictability and frequent account deactivations, many workers will never remain visible long enough to qualify. The continued classification of workers as independent contractors further allows platforms to shift operational risks outwards. Fuel price volatility, insurance gaps and the absence of paid leave are treated as individual problems rather than systemic features. This fragmentation weakens collective voice even as dependence on platform income deepens. What emerges is a new kind of urban buffer class—present when demand surges, absent when liabilities arise. Flexibility, once framed as empowerment, increasingly resembles instability by design.

If India is to preserve both innovation and dignity, the next phase of platform regulation must prioritise transparency over speed. One practical step would be the creation of a publicly-visible fairness index for gig platforms—an independently governed rating system that evaluates companies on labour integrity rather than delivery velocity. Much like energy efficiency labels or food safety standards, it would allow consumers, regulators and investors to see what currently remains hidden.

The index's key dimensions could include income viability (net earnings meeting local living wages), time realism (delivery promises adjusted dynamically for traffic, weather and peak congestion), due process (a human-led mechanism to contest suspensions and penalties), and social protection (insurance and accident cover from the first day of work).

The goal is not to halt innovation, but to re-anchor it in social reality. The protests should be read as a warning signal. They point to a widening gap between the speed promised to customers and worker security. India needs to re-think its quick-commerce terms. If platform growth is to align with broader development goals, attention must shift from headline innovation metrics to the everyday working conditions. Convenience, after all, is a design choice—not a natural law.

(Views are personal)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Isro's silence

Ref: *Isro failure to dent aspirations* (Jan 14). The tactical silence on the part of Isro's board about the anomalies have only compounded the mystery. Our cost-effective independent innovation needs introspection of quality assurance and maybe, even further refinement. The failure analysis committee constituted after the failure of the May 2025 mission seems to have faltered.
Biju C Mathew, Thiruvananthapuram

Convenience politics

Ref: *Game of thrones* (Jan 14). Opportunistic alliances and rampant horse-trading have reduced local elections in Maharashtra to a mere game. Instead of strengthening self-governance, shifting loyalties and delayed polls weaken democratic accountability. Urban governance deserves principle.
Aabha Sarda, email

Past mistakes

Ref: *Making sense of the present* (Jan 14). Correcting past mistakes paves the way for a better future although history cannot be erased. Roll revisions, on the other hand, should be seen with an open mind as democratically warranted. Vulnerability of minorities—which stems from the belief of 'some more equal than others'—remains a universal feature across demographies.
Jaikishan N, Kengeri

History's judgement

Ref: *Perils of milquetoast diplomacy* (Jan 14). During Nehru's time, India lost considerable territory to China, while his much-vaunted diplomacy failed to secure any meaningful help. Leaders should not worry how history would perceive them, and prioritise public interests. Effects of current leaders' milquetoast stand is yet to be seen.
S Sundareswara Pandiyan, Chennai

Confronting US

If India invokes the principles of strategic autonomy in its stand on Nicolás Maduro's abduction, it would involve walking a diplomatic tightrope. While keen on protecting sovereign interests, India cannot afford to confront superpowers. It should not be seen supporting colonialism too.
N Rama Rao, email

Exploiting workers

Ref: *No more 10-minute delivery* (Jan 14). For too long, quick-commerce giants have prioritised convenience at the expense of gig workers with a psychological whip. The government must ensure that the Social Security Code isn't just paper-deep. We must evolve from a per-packet exploitation model.
Vijaykumar H K, Raichur

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POSTS OF THE DAY



Akhilesh Yadav @yadavakhilesh

Has the BJP and their associates turned foreign while preaching Swadeshi? They were opposing imports from China, but here they are personally welcoming them.



Mahua Moitra @MahuaMoitra

BJP louts in Nadia filling 1000s of form 7s illegally and going as "BJP Party" to force ERO to delete voters! Not only one Malpua but way too many Dilli ka Laddoos in BJP WB.



Suvendu Adhikari @SuvenduWB

The CM by her conduct has made it clear that her imaginary allegations pertaining to me being involved in a coal scam was a product of her insalubrious mindset.

Kashi-Tamil Sangamam: A tribute to Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat



OPINION

NARENDRA MODI
Prime Minister of India

A few days ago, I was in the sacred land of Somnath to be part of the Somnath Swabhiman Parv, marking the 1,000-year anniversary of the first attack on Somnath, which took place in 1026. People from all across India had come to be part of this moment of remembrance, united by a shared reverence for India's history, culture, and the enduring spirit of its people. During the programme, I met a few people who had previously come to Somnath during the Saurashtra-Tamil Sangamam and had been to Kashi during the Kashi-Tamil Sangamam. Their words of appreciation for such platforms touched me, so I thought I would share a few thoughts on this subject.

During one of the Mann Ki Baat programmes, I had said that not learning Tamil is a major regret of my life. Fortunately, over the last few years, our Government has had several opportunities to further popularise Tamil culture across India and to deepen the spirit of 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat'. A prime example of such an effort is the Kashi-Tamil Sangamam. In our ethos, Sangam or confluence has a special place. Seen in this light, the Kashi-Tamil Sangamam stands out as a truly distinctive initiative, one that celebrates the living unity of India's many traditions while honouring their unique identities.

And what better place than Kashi to host such a Sangamam? The same Kashi, which has remained a civilisational anchor from time immemorial... where, for thousands of years, people from all over have come in search of knowledge, meaning and Moksha.

Kashi's connection with Tamil people and culture is very deep. Baba Vishwanath resides in Kashi, while Rameswaram is in Tamil Nadu. Tenkasi in Tamil Nadu is known as Kashi of the south or Dakshin Kashi. Saint Kumaraguruparar Swamigal forged a lasting link between Kashi and Tamil Nadu through his spirituality, scholarship and institution-building. Mahakavi Subramania Bharati, one of Tamil Nadu's greatest sons, found in Kashi a space of intellectual growth and spiritual awakening. It was here that his nationalism deepened, his poetry sharpened, and his vision of a free, united India took clearer shape. There are several such instances that highlight this close bond.

The first edition of Kashi-Tamil Sangamam took place in 2022. I recall attending the inauguration programme. Scholars, artisans, students, farmers, writers, professionals and many others from Tamil Nadu travelled to Kashi, Prayagraj and Ayodhya.

Subsequent editions expanded the scale and depth of this effort. The aim was to keep introducing fresh themes, innovative formats and deeper engagement, thus ensuring that the Sangamam continued to evolve while remaining rooted in its core spirit. In the second edition in 2023, technology was used on a larger scale to ensure that language does not become a barrier for people. In the third edition, the focus was on Indian knowledge systems. At the same time, academic discussions, cultural performances, exhibitions and interactions witnessed greater participation. Thousands of people have taken part in these events.

The fourth edition of the Kashi Tamil Sangamam commenced on December 2, 2025. The theme picked was very interesting: Tamil Karkalam - Learn Tamil. It presented a unique opportunity for people in Kashi and across the country to learn the beautiful Tamil language. Teachers from Tamil Nadu came, and the students of Kashi had a very memorable experience!

The Kashi-Tamil Sangamam, which celebrates the living unity of India's many traditions, has delivered meaningful outcomes like strengthening cultural understanding, fostering academic and people-to-people exchanges and creating bonds between parts of the country that share a civilisational ethos. We want to make this platform even more vibrant

There were many other special events this time.

Tholkappiyam, the ancient Tamil literary classic, was translated into 4 Indian languages and 6 foreign languages.

A unique event, Sage Agasthya Vehicle Expedition (SAVE), was undertaken from Tenkasi to Kashi. Along the way, various initiatives, including camps for eyes, health awareness, and digital literacy, were held. The expedition paid homage to King Adi Veera Parakrama Pandiyan, the great Pandya ruler who spread the message of cultural oneness. There were exhibitions at Namo Ghat, academic sessions at Banaras Hindu University, and cultural programmes.

One of the things that makes me most happy about the Kashi-Tamil Sangamam is the participation of thousands of youngsters. It illustrates the passion among our Yuva Shakti to deepen their connection with our roots. It is a brilliant platform for them to showcase their talent and creativity during the various cultural programmes.

In addition to the Sangamam, efforts have been made to make the journey to Kashi memorable for the participants. The Indian Railways operated special trains to take people from Tamil Nadu to Uttar Pradesh. In many railway stations, particularly in Tamil Nadu, they were cheered, and the train journey was marked by melodious songs and conversations.

Here, I would also like to appreciate my sisters and brothers of Kashi and Uttar Pradesh for their warmth and hospitality shown to the delegates of the various Kashi-Tamil Sangamams. Several people opened the doors of their homes for the guests from Tamil Nadu. The local administration worked around the clock to ensure the guests had a seamless experience. As the MP from Varanasi, I could not be prouder!

This time, the valedictory function of the Kashi-Tamil Sangamam was held in Rameswaram, and it was graced by the Vice President of India, Thiru CP Radhakrishnan Ji, who is himself a proud son of Tamil Nadu. He delivered a very inspiring address, emphasising India's spiritual greatness and the ways in which such platforms deepen national integration.

The Kashi Tamil Sangamam has delivered meaningful outcomes, such as strengthening cultural understanding, fostering academic and people-to-people exchanges, and creating lasting bonds between parts of the country that share a civilisational ethos. In the coming times, we want to make this platform even more vibrant. Most importantly, it has furthered the spirit of 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat'. This spirit has flourished for centuries through our festivals, literature, music, art, cuisine, architecture, systems of knowledge and more.

This time of the year is very auspicious for people across the length and breadth of India. People are enthusiastically marking various festivals like Sankranti, Uttarayan, Pongal, Magh Bihu, which are, among other things, associated with the Sun, nature and farming. These festivals bring people together and deepen the spirit of harmony in our society. I convey my best wishes for these festivals and hope they continue to inspire us to deepen national unity through our shared heritage and collective participation.

Ordeal of Indian students in Iran

Majority of 3,000-plus medical students are from Kashmir, with parents seeking govt help

S LALITHA @ New Delhi

THE advisory by the Indian embassy in Iran on Wednesday, asking all Indian nationals to leave the West Asian country by any available transport mode due to the escalating situation, has sent alarm bells ringing among parents and students, most of them pursuing medicine. Financial reasons or the refusal by a leading university to hand over their passport to return have put them in a quandary.

With a majority of the 3,000-plus medical students hailing from Kashmir, the All India Medical Students Association (AISMA), J&K, has appealed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi to arrange evacuation of students. With most communication channels to Iran blocked, the students' parents are worried about their safety. Students could not be contacted as calls were not going through.

AISMA vice-president Dr Mohammad Momim Khan, whom students kept calling repeatedly seeking help, spoke to this newspaper. "Every Indian student wants to return now. Some were crying on calls as they did not have the money for the ticket which costs around ₹30,000. Parents are willing to send the money but it is not possible to send it across to Iran as all channels are barred. Hence, we want the PM and the Ministry of External Affairs to assist in bringing back the students to India," Dr Khan said.



Both the daughters of Aga Mehmood, a government employee in Srinagar, are studying in Iran, one pursuing her third-year MBBS in Tehran Institute of Medical Sciences and another at Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences (SBUMS), also in Tehran. "Parents and the children are filled with fear and anxiety after the advisory was released today asking everyone to leave. My daughters have the money for their tickets but it is not the case with many other students studying there. Many parents are worried as their children do not have the money on hand right now. They are willing to pay the money for the air fare but want the external affairs ministry to facilitate their return safely," Mehmood said.

Referring to his family, he said his older daughter was planning to come home on a vacation on January 20 and her ticket and exit visa were already ready. "We are worried for my daughter at SBUMS. The passport has to be submitted with the Iranian government through the university. The ongoing exams have presently been put on hold. They are now insisting that the students complete the exam and leave only by January 20 without understanding the gravity of the situation.

She as well as over 500 Indian students studying at this university do not have an exit visa to leave the country," he said.

Sirajuddin Taq, a resident of Baramullah, is worried for his son who is pursuing his third year at SBUMS. "My son just called me. We cannot call them back but most students use some local phone to call us. The Indian embassy there will be holding talks with the university officials in connection with handover of the passports. This was the news he told me now," said Taq.

No airline from India operates there and most generally travel by Mahan Air, a privately owned Iranian airline based in Tehran, said parents.

'Every Indian student wants to return now'

AISMA vice-president Dr Mohammad Momim Khan, whom students kept calling repeatedly seeking help, spoke to this newspaper. "Every Indian student wants to return now. Some were crying on calls as they did not have the money for the ticket which costs around ₹30,000. Parents are willing to send the money but it is not possible to send it across to Iran as all channels are barred. Hence, we want the PM and the MEA to assist in bringing back the students to India," Dr Khan said.

Home secy flags staff shortage, seeks more IPS officers for CAPFs

MUKESH RANJAN @ New Delhi

THE stagnation of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) cadre officers may continue to linger for a while, as the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has written to the states seeking nominations of more IPS officers for central deputation, who will be posted to senior positions in Paramilitary organisations.

In the letter, Secretary Govind Mohan also spoke about the shortage of officers in Central Police Organisations (CPOs), including the CBI, the NIA, and the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB).

The stagnation of CAPF cadre officers has been a major issue of concern for them, and this led them to approach the Supreme Court, which gave a ruling on May 23, 2025, to "progressively reduce" the deputation of IPS officers in the senior administrative grade (SAG) or up to the rank of Inspector-General in the CAPFs. Following this, the Union government filed a review petition in the apex court, which was dismissed on October 28, 2025.

The court's order came in the backdrop of reserved positions for IPS officers in the ranks of Deputy Inspector-General (20 percent) and Inspector-General (50 percent). Around 13,000 CAPF officers were supposed to benefit from the judgment, leading to faster promotions and overcoming stagnation.

The MHA is the cadre-controlling authority for both CAPF personnel and IPS officers. At present, out of the 188 posts at the DIG/IG level reserved for IPS officers in the CAPFs, including the BSF, CRPF, CISF, ITBP, and SSB, 36 posts are vacant.

A CAPF official said that presently, an officer who joins as Assistant Commandant (AC) takes nearly 25 years to be promoted to Commandant, whereas he or she should attain the required seniority in 13 years.

A DIG rank CAPF official said he reached the position after 31 years of service, against the 21-year requirement.

In the letter, the Home Secretary noted that 40 percent of senior duty posts in each cadre are earmarked as Central Deputation Reserve (CDR). "However, it has been the experience that some of the States/cadres do not send a sufficient number of nominations for Central deputation," the Home Secretary said in the letter.

Further, the State governments send the names of senior IPS officers, but they do not propose names for appointment from Superintendent of Police to Inspector-General, he added. "It would, therefore, be appropriate if a conscious attempt is made by the State governments to forward the nominations of officers for deputation in such a manner that officers of different levels/ranks are adequately and proportionately represented, as well as every eligible officer gets an opportunity to serve at the Centre," the letter read. Mohan also flagged delays caused by states withdrawing officers after selection or failing to relieve them.



Insufficient nominations for Central deputation

In the letter, the Home Secretary noted that 40% of senior duty posts in each cadre are earmarked as Central Deputation Reserve. "However, it has been the experience that some of the States/cadres do not send a sufficient number of nominations for Central deputation," the Home Secretary said.

Shastri Bhawan to be vacated soon, Kartavya Bhavan 2 to house ministries

PARVEZ SULTAN @ New Delhi

SEVERAL ministries operating from Shastri Bhawan are set to move into the newly constructed Common Central Secretariat (CCS) Building, Kartavya Bhavan 2. The Ministry of Defence and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), which currently have offices in South and North Block, will also relocate to the new building at the Dr Rajendra Prasad Road–Mansingh Road junction.

Officials from the ministries have already inspected their new office spaces, and the shifting is expected to be completed by mid-February, during the interval of the Budget Session.

According to an allotment letter seen by this newspaper, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MI&B) has been allocated at least 120 rooms. The Ministry of Culture will occupy 45 rooms, while the Ministry of Law and Justice will have 110 rooms. The Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers has 30 rooms, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare will move into 12 rooms. The Ministry of Education has over 50 rooms.



The Ministry of Defence has been allotted around 225 rooms, while 12 rooms on the ground and first floors are reserved for the CBI. All these ministries currently operate from Shastri Bhavan.

Ministries located in Nirman Bhavan, Krishi Bhavan, and Udyog Bhavan will also be relocated to CCS Buildings 4, 5, and 9. Once the shifting is complete, the old bhavans will be demolished to make way for new office buildings under the Central Vista Redevelopment Plan.

The Prime Minister's Office (PMO), now ready in the new Seva Teerth 1 block of the Executive Enclave, will also begin its move soon. The PMO has been operating from South Block since independence.

The Executive Enclave comprises three blocks: Seva Teerth 1, 2, and 3. The Cabinet Secretariat shifted to Seva Teerth 2 in September, and the National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS) will relocate to Seva Teerth 3 soon. Earlier, the Cabinet Secretariat operated from Rashtrapati Bhavan, and the NSCS is currently in Sardar Patel Bhavan on Parliament Street. A new residence for the Prime Minister, Executive Enclave II, is also under construction near Seva Teerth 1.

More office buildings to be constructed

Ministries located in Nirman Bhavan, Krishi Bhavan, and Udyog Bhavan will also be relocated to Common Central Secretariat buildings 4, 5, and 9. Once shifting is complete, the old bhavans will be demolished to make way for new office buildings as part of the Central Vista Redevelopment Plan.

'25 one of hottest yrs on record as global temp up

JITENDRA CHOUBEY @ New Delhi

THE World Meteorological Organization (WMO) has announced that 2025 was one of the hottest years ever recorded, continuing a trend of rising global temperatures. The last 11 years have been the warmest, and the oceans are warming at an alarming rate, it added.

According to the WMO's latest analysis, the average temperature of the Earth's surface in 2025 was approximately 1.44°C higher than the average temperature from 1850 to 1900. This report analysed data from eight different sources -- while two ranked 2025 as the second hottest year in the last 176 years, the other six placed it as the third hottest.

The past three years—2023 to 2025—are recorded as the three warmest years across all datasets. The consolidated three-year average temperature for 2023 to 2025 is 1.48°C above pre-industrial levels, with a margin of uncertainty of ±0.13°C. The past eleven years are recognized as the eleven warmest years in all datasets.

A recent study published in the journal "Advances in Atmospheric Sciences" revealed that ocean temperatures reached some of their highest recorded levels in 2025. This increase signals a long-term buildup of heat in our climate system. The oceans play a crucial role in global warming, absorbing about 90% of the extra heat generated by human activities. Therefore, ocean temperatures serve as a key indicator of climate change.

According to the WMO, around one-third of the world's oceans experienced their top three warmest temperatures historically, dating back to 1958. Approximately 57% of ocean areas ranked among the five warmest. This includes regions such as the tropical waters, South Atlantic Ocean, Mediterranean Sea, North Indian Ocean, and the Southern Oceans, highlighting that warming is occurring in numerous ocean areas.

In 2025, the average sea surface temperature was 0.49°C warmer than the average from 1981 to 2010. This decline can be attributed to the development of a weather pattern known as La Niña, but overall, the oceans continue to warm significantly.

The European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF), which operates the Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S) and Copernicus Atmosphere Monitoring Service (CAMS), found that 2025 was the third warmest year on record, only marginally (0.01°C) cooler than 2023 and 0.13°C cooler than 2024, which was the warmest year on record.

The CAMS explained that the exceptional warming observed in the past three years is attributed to several factors. These include the accumulation of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, high sea temperatures, and changes in aerosol levels.

Specifically, the build-up of greenhouse gases results from continued emissions and a reduced uptake of carbon dioxide by natural sinks. The impacts of climate change and El Niño events have led to significantly elevated sea-surface temperatures. Other factors include variations in aerosol amounts, low cloud coverage, and shifts in atmospheric circulation.



Average temperature of the Earth's surface in 2025 was approximately **1.44°C** higher than the average temperature from 1850 to 1900

OCEANS HEAT UP

The consolidated 3-yr avg temp for 2023 to 2025 is **1.48°C** above pre-industrial levels, with a margin of uncertainty of **±0.13°C**

In 2025, the average sea surface temperature was **0.49°C** warmer than the average from 1981 to 2010

57% of ocean areas ranked among the five warmest. This includes regions such as the tropical waters, South Atlantic Ocean, Mediterranean Sea, North Indian Ocean, and the Southern Oceans

NIPAH SCARE

Both the nurses who tested positive for Nipah virus were admitted to the Beliaghata ID Hospital in Kolkata, a senior West Bengal health department official said. Their condition remains critical.

6 WOMEN KILLED IN ROAD ACCIDENT IN RAJASTHAN'S SIKAR

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	27	12	Mumbai	29	23
Bhopal	22	08	Panaji	32	21
Jaipur	22	08	Patna	16	08
Amritsar	12	04	Lucknow	17	08
Chennai	28	22	Port Blair	29	23
Kolkata	22	12	Imphal	21	11
Srinagar	08	-2	Chandigarh	16	06

Experts see renewed bid to push arms, drugs into J&K to prop up terror • Vishnu Deo says 3-yr action plan to be implemented in Naxal-hit region

Call for anti-drone tech to counter Pak threats

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

SECURITY experts have called for strengthening counter-drone measures, including deploying anti-drone technology and activating air defence systems to ward off the recent threat of drone intrusions along the Line of Control (LoC) and the International Border (IB) in Jammu. They are seen as Pakistan's renewed attempt to push weapons and narcotics into Jammu and Kashmir to sustain terrorism.

Former Director General of Police, Jammu and Kashmir, S P Vaid, told this newspaper that Pakistan is trying to deliver arms and drugs to revive terrorism in the region, where local recruitment has almost stopped. The army on Tuesday evening fired at drones at two locations close to the LoC in Rajouri, forcing them to return to Pakistan. Earlier, on Sunday, five drone intrusions were reported in the border districts of Rajouri, Poonch, and Samba in Jammu province. On the previous Friday, security forces recovered an arms consignment, including two pistols, three magazines, 16 rounds, and a grenade, dropped by a Pakistani drone in Paloora village of Ghagwal near the IB in Samba district.



Consignments meant for overground workers

With local recruitment almost non-existent, the consignments of drugs and weapons are meant for overground workers (OGWs) living in border areas to resupply terrorists hiding in the forests of Jammu, including Kishtwar, Udhampur, Rajouri, Poonch, and Kathua

According to Vaid, with local recruitment almost non-existent, the consignments of drugs and weapons are meant for overground workers (OGWs) living in border areas to resupply terrorists hiding in the forests of Jammu, including Kishtwar, Udhampur, Rajouri, Poonch, and Kathua.

"The terrorists, who are already active in the forest areas, need fresh weapons and ammunition as they might have exhausted some of their weapons and ammunition. Drones are being used to resupply them," he said.

Vaid referred to the recent recovery of weapons in Samba district, saying it clearly exposed Pakistan's intent. "Security forces have found arms and ammunition dropped by drones. This confirms that the objective is to keep terrorism alive through covert means," he added. The former police chief said Pakistan Army chief General Asim Munir, who is facing political and economic turmoil back home, is trying to provoke India through such acts. "He wants to instigate India, but if he does, he will be taught a lesson by the Indian military. His partnerships with Saudi Arabia, Turkey, or China will not help him if Pakistan indulges in any misadventures," Vaid warned.

Vaid stressed the need for a more robust response: "While anti-drone technology is being used by forces, there is a need to activate the air defence system along the frontiers to neutralise the drone threat."

Review meet to ensure public trust in Bastar

EJAZ KAISER @ Raipur

WITH the fight against the banned CPI (Maoist) entering a decisive phase and peace returning, the Chhattisgarh government has intensified its focus on development in the Bastar region to strengthen public trust and prevent the revival of Maoist ideology.

Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai chaired a high-level review meeting in Raipur to assess overall development works and the expansion of basic facilities in Bastar.

"High priority given to continuous engagement with a clear goal of the double engine government to ensure the all-round and balanced development of Bastar. A comprehensive three-year action plan for Bastar's development will be prepared and implemented in mission mode. All departments have been directed to work in coordination and instructed the secretaries to visit the Bastar division regularly and review the on-ground progress of schemes," Sai said.

He said that, along with the eradication of Maoists, the rapid expansion of basic facilities such as education, health, employment, roads, drinking water, electricity, and communication is extremely important so that development reaches even the remotest areas and public confidence in governance is strengthened.



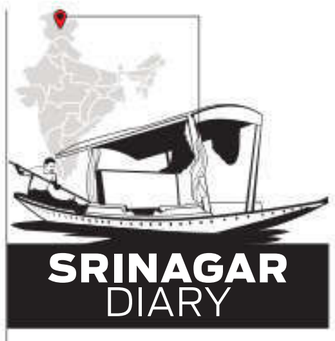
29 Maoists lay down arms in Sukma

In yet another mass surrender in Chhattisgarh's Sukma, 29 Maoist cadres renounced the violent path on Wednesday in Sukma district, south Bastar. The Maoist rebels were active as members of the banned outfit's frontal wings and decided to surrender under the "Poona Margem" initiative.

Sai noted that recent public participation in events like the Bastar Olympics and Bastar Pandum shows the local population's desire to move ahead on the path of peace and development.

During the meeting, the chief minister reviewed the status of drinking water supply, electrification, and mobile connectivity. He directed officials to electrify the remaining villages at the earliest, speed up the installation of mobile towers in remote areas, and ensure 100 percent Aadhaar card coverage through special drives.

Tourism development in Bastar is also being promoted through home-stays, development of identified sites under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme, construction of the Bastar Tourism Corridor, and linking youth with tourism-based livelihoods. The review meeting also focused on the collection and processing of minor forest produce through Van Dhan Kendras, early approval of funds for schools without buildings, expansion of Navodaya and PM Shri schools, strengthening health infrastructure, establishment of medical colleges, implementation of the PM-ABHIM scheme, bike ambulance services, irrigation projects, operation of anganwadis and balwadis, the rural bus scheme, and various action plans related to employment and livelihoods.



SRINAGAR DIARY

FAYAZ WANI
Our correspondent
in Jammu and Kashmir
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Uproar over profiling of mosques, Imams

The political parties and religious groups in Jammu and Kashmir have criticised the police profiling of mosques, Imams, mosque management committees and mosque-run charity wings in the Valley. "The nature and depth of information being sought goes far beyond any routine administrative requirement raising serious questions of intent , reflecting an attempt to control and regulate religious institutions through coercive means and checks," said Mutahida Majlis-e-Ulema (MMU), the largest conglomerate of Muslim bodies in J&K. The NC, PDP, PC and several other political and religious organisations echoed concerns.



Helicopter service to promote Gulmarg skiing

Helicopter services have been launched at the world-famous ski resort of Gulmarg to promote heli skiing, marking a step towards strengthening winter adventure tourism at the destination. The service aims to provide skiers with quick access to high altitude slopes of Gulmarg, including Sunshine Peak and Apharwat range, which are considered ideal for heli skiing but remain difficult to reach through conventional means, especially during winter. Tourism stakeholders believe the heli service will promote Gulmarg for high-end adventure tourism. They said heli skiing has the potential to attract international adventure enthusiasts to Gulmarg.

Over 85 govt employees sacked by Lt-Governor

Over 85 government employees have been sacked by Lt-Governor Manoj Sinha since 2021 for alleged involvement in anti-national activities by invoking Article 311(2)(c) of the constitution. Five of the employees, including a teacher and a laboratory technician, were sacked from government service on Tuesday for their alleged terror links. This comes despite the elected government questioning policy of dismissals without inquiry. After the abrogation of Articles 370 and 35A and bifurcation of J&K state into two UTs by the Centre on August 5, 2109, the J&K administration has gone tough against its employees in the Union Territory.

12 cops booked in Sambhal violence case

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

SAMBHAL Chief Judicial Magistrate court has ordered the authorities concerned to register an FIR against 12 policemen, and ASP Anuj Chaudhary.

CJM Vibhanshu Sudhir issued the order in connection with a person being shot during the Sambhal violence. The victim's father had filed a petition in court, in which the policemen were accused of shooting. After the hearing the plea, the court issued this order.

Yameen, a resident of Mohalla Khaggu Sarai Anjuman in Nakhasa police station area, had filed a petition in court. Yameen stated that his son Alam, had left home on November 24, 2024, to sell papad. Upon reaching the Shahi Jama Masjid area, the police shot him.

This case was filed in court on February 6, 2025. On behalf of Yameen, 10 to 12 policemen were made respondents.

The case was presented in CJM court on January 9, after which the Chief Judicial Magistrate ordered an FIR. Plaintiff's lawyer Chaudhary Akhtar Hussain said his client's son received treatment while hiding from the police and demanded registration of an FIR against former CO Anuj Chaudhary, former Inspector Anuj Tomar, and other unidentified police personnel.

'Estranged' son Tej Pratap hosts Lalu, says RJD will soon merge with his party

RAMASHANKAR @ Patna

RASHTRIYA Janata Dal (RJD) president Lalu Prasad on Wednesday participated in the 'dahi-chuda' party hosted by his elder son Tej Pratap Yadav on the occasion of Makar Sankranti at his residence, nearly eight months after expelling him from the party as well as from the family.

Besides Lalu, Bihar Governor Arif Mohammad Khan, Deputy Chief Minister Vijay Kumar Sinha and other dignitaries also attended the feast. However, Tej Pratap's mother and former CM Rabri Devi, and his younger brother and LoP in state Assembly Tejashwi Yadav gave the feast a skip.

After his expulsion from RJD, Tej Pratap floated his own political outfit, Janshakti Janata Dal (JJD), and also unsuccessfully contested 2025 Assembly election from Mahua in Vaishali district. He was expelled from RJD by Lalu over his "irresponsible behaviour" and "violation of family values" after a Facebook post featured him in May last year with a woman. He claimed that his Facebook account was hacked and also deleted the post.

When reporters asked whether he would merge his JDD with RJD, Tej Pratap claimed the situation was the other way around, asserting that the RJD would instead merge with his party. Tej Pratap said he received the blessings of his parents during the event.

Meanwhile, senior RJD leader Shivanand Tiwari on Wednesday slammed party leader Tejashwi Yadav for not hosting the Makar Sankranti feast and heaped praise on his elder brother Tej Pratap Yadav for organising such a party.



Reunion after months of estrangement, row

After his expulsion from RJD, Tej Pratap floated his own political outfit, Janshakti Janata Dal (JJD), and also unsuccessfully contested 2025 Assembly election from Mahua in Vaishali district. He was expelled from RJD by Lalu over his "irresponsible behaviour" and "violation of family values"

OBC outreach: J'khand BJP gets new chief

MUKESH RANJAN @ Ranchi

RAJYA Sabha MP Aditya Sahu was on Wednesday elected as the new BJP president in Jharkhand, replacing Babulal Marandi, a development seen as the opposition party's OBC outreach move aimed at resetting its social engineering playbook with an eye on the polls.

Union Tribal Affairs Minister Jual Oram, the party's incharge for the organisational elections of the state unit, officially announced Sahu's appointment. Oram stated that only one nomination paper of Sahu was received for the post of the state president and 21 papers for the 21 seats of the National Council.

After his election, Sahu said, "With the support of experienced leaders, I will try to take the party forward. Murder, abduction and loot have become a regular phenomenon under the JMM-led government. The tribals are feeling unsafe... Jal, jangal and jamin (water, forest and land) are being looted. We have to fight to protect them and the rights of tribals."

Oram said the party will be strengthened under the leadership of Sahu and that the BJP would once again form its government in the state in the future. Marandi as the leader of Opposition will now focus BJP affairs in the Assembly.

Jaipur court rejects plea against Rahul over remarks on PM

RAJESH ASNANI @ Jaipur

AN Additional Sessions Court in Jaipur has rejected a revision petition filed against former Congress president and Leader of the Opposition Rahul Gandhi in connection with alleged caste-based remarks against PM Narendra Modi.

The court upheld an earlier order of the lower court and declined to interfere in the matter. The ruling was delivered on Tuesday by Additional Sessions Judge Neelam Karwa, who examined the revision petition filed by advocate Vijay Kalander challenging an order passed by Metropolitan Magistrate Court No. 4. The judge observed that the complainant's statements and the material placed on record did not support the plea, leading to its dismissal. In the petition, the complainant contended that the lower court had failed to properly examine the facts of the complaint. It was alleged that Rahul Gandhi, as a senior political leader and Leader of the Opposition, had repeatedly made statements altering caste identities and inciting the public, thereby harming the unity and integrity of the country.

According to the complaint, the remarks were made during the Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra in Chhattisgarh in 2024, where Rahul Gandhi allegedly stated that the PM was not an OBC by birth but belonged to the Teli community in Gujarat. The Teli community was included in the Other Backward Classes (OBC) category in 2000. Gandhi reportedly claimed that Modi was born into the general category and later came to be classified as OBC.



Advocate Vijay Kalander objected to the remarks, alleging that they were detrimental to public peace and national integrity. He further claimed that Rahul Gandhi had concealed his own caste identity while making the statement, which, according to the complaint, hurt religious sentiments and warranted legal scrutiny.

Stir against demolition of statues at Manikarnika

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

WITH the restoration and development work at the Manikarnika Ghat in Varanasi gaining momentum, Kashi locals are accusing the district administration of desecration of idols inside some of the structures demolished.

The administration, however, denied the charges, explaining that the stone pieces containing idols carved on them, being shown with false claims, were not of deities but the artwork on the walls of the structure known as Madhi (platform). The administration said that those structures, including an image of Maratha queen Ahilyabai Holkar, who is credited with rebuilding the Kashi Vishwanath Temple and restoring the Manikarnika Ghat in the 18th century, were preserved to be made a part of the walls of the new structure of the rejuvenated ghat.

A video of the demolition exercise has been doing rounds on social media showing a big earthmover demolishing a stone structure at the Manikarnika Ghat project site, claiming that idols of deities were being desecrated. The video shows the protests not only from locals but also in Indore, the erstwhile kingdom of Ahilyabai Holkar. The protester fury prompted the Varanasi Municipal Corporation, police and district administration to take stock of the site.



Police personnel stand guard at Manikarnika Ghat in Varanasi on Tuesday | PTI

A group of Kashi locals, led by Pal community's national president Mahendra Pal Pintu, protested at the spot where the structure comprising the nearly 100-year-old statue of Devi Ahilyabhai Holkar was allegedly demolished. "We demanded that the statue of Devi Ahilyabai Holkar be reinstalled at the same location," said Pal, the state committee member of the Samajwadi Party. The protesters were led by Mahendra Pal Pintu since Ahilyabai Holkar was deeply connected to the Pal (Gadariya) community as they consider her a revered ancestor.

Varanasi DM Satyendra Kumar said the idols of the deities and Shivlingas were already kept at safe places.

Maratha queen's kin seek PM help against demolition

ANURAAG SINGH @ Bhopal

DESCENDENTS of the 18th century Holkar dynasty queen in Madhya Pradesh's most populated city Indore, are outraged over the manner in which the demolition exercise is allegedly being carried out at the world famous Manikarnika Ghat in Uttar Pradesh's Varanasi.

The Indore-based Khasgi Devi Ahilyabai Holkar Charities Trust was released a statement, "First restored by Punyashlok Devi Ahilyabai Holkar in 1791, this site was of great importance to Ma Saheb... The ghat was demolished in a matter of hours with complete disregard to the site's history or importance." It sought the PM and UP CM's intervention.

Valley of Flowers in U'khand safe, but battle rages on; IAF to join rescue ops

NARENDRA SETHI @ Dehradun

TIME is running out to prevent a forest fire from reaching Uttarakhand's Valley of Flowers, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The fire continues to rage in the Pulna-Bhyundar area for the sixth consecutive day. Despite freezing winter temperatures, the blaze shows no sign of abating. Authorities are now relying on aerial intervention and hoping for rain or snowfall to help control it.

The fire, first detected on Friday, January 9, is affecting roughly 15 hectares of forest above 3,500 metres. Satellite imagery shows flames on the hills opposite the protected park, though the core Valley of Flowers remains secure. Two fast-flowing rivers, the Yamuna-Gangotri and Pushpavati, are acting as natural firebreaks, keeping the probability of the fire reaching the park "zero", officials said.



Efforts on the ground have been severely hampered by steep inclines, rock faces, and falling debris. Forest teams reached the Hamwanti Second Beat after building temporary river crossings, but the harsh terrain forced them to retreat. Local volunteers, including members of the Mahila Mangal Dal (Pyula), helped rebuild a permanent bridge on Monday, yet accessibility remains a major challenge.

"This is an extremely remote and challenging area to access," said Forest Conservator Akash Verma. "The lack of snow cover due to drier weather has left the undergrowth, particularly dry grass and old oak stumps, highly combustible. We are focused on preventing lateral spread." The state government has escalated the response. Chamoli District Magistrate Gaurav Kumar informed officials after an appeal from the Forest Department. Aerial surveys have assessed water-bombing options, with UCADA helicopters on standby. Chief Conservator of Forests Sushant Patnaik noted, "If necessary, we are prepared to seek assistance from the Indian Air Force."

Disaster Management Secretary VK Suman confirmed seeking help from the IAF.

Nine
journalists and leading activist
freed in Venezuela union and NGO

GLOBAL WEATHER
LR: Light Rain HR: Heavy Rain LS: Light Snow TDS: Thundershower LC: Light Cloud SNY: Sunny

Beijing	29	19	SNY	Los Angeles	20	12	SNY
Colombo	29	23	TDS	Melbourne	17	5	LC
Dhaka	27	16	TDS	Moscow	4	2	SNY
Dubai	26	22	SNY	New York	2	-3	SNY
Houston	30	23	TDS	Singapore	27	25	TDS
Istanbul	33	21	SNY	Toronto	-6	-8	SNY
London	12	8	SNY	Washington	3	-2	SNY

Iran signals swift executions as protest death toll mounts

Crackdown leaves over 3,400 dead as authorities prepare rapid trials

Starlink boosts Iran protest info flow

BANGKOK: Iranian activists say SpaceX's Starlink has dropped fees, allowing more people to bypass Tehran's internet blackout and send images of nationwide protests abroad. The move follows Iran's shutdown of telecommunications on Jan. 8 as unrest grew over the economy and currency collapse. Though SpaceX has not officially confirmed the decision, activists told AP the service is now free for users with receivers inside Iran. Footage showing rows of bodies at a Tehran forensic centre was shared via Starlink, altering global understanding of the crackdown.

Evacuation advised at US base in Qatar

WASHINGTON: Some personnel at the US Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar have been advised to evacuate as a precaution amid rising regional tensions, a US official said. move follows Iranian threats referencing a past missile strike on the base and comes as protests continue in Iran and President Donald Trump warns of possible US military action if crackdowns persist. Qatar said security measures are being taken to protect critical infrastructure. The Pentagon declined comment. The base hosts thousands of US troops and was targeted by Iran in June after US strikes on Iranian nuclear facilities. No casualties were reported



Members of the Basij volunteer Islamic militia burn US and Israeli flags during a protest in front of the British Embassy in Tehran | AFP

DUBAI

IRAN's judiciary head signaled Wednesday there would be fast trials and executions ahead for suspects detained in nationwide protests despite a warning from US President Donald Trump.

The comments by Gholamhossein Mohseni-Ejei came as activists had warned hangings of those detained could come soon. The security force crackdown on the demonstrations has killed at least 3,400, according to the US-based Human Rights Activists News Agency reported. The current death toll exceeds that of any other round of protest or unrest in Iran in decades and recalls the chaos surrounding the country's 1979 Islamic Revolution.

Trump has repeatedly warned that the US may take military action over the killing of peaceful protesters, just months after it bombed Iranian nuclear sites during a 12-day war launched by Israel against the Islamic Republic in June.

Iran meanwhile has threatened it could make a preemptive strike after alleging without offering evidence that Israel and the United States orchestrated the protests. A US official said some personnel at a key US military base in Qatar have been advised to evacuate by Wednesday evening, a decision that came as a senior official in Iran brought up an earlier Iranian attack there.

A mass funeral also was held Wednesday for some 100 security force members killed in the demonstrations. Tens of thousands of mourners attended, holding Iranian flags and photos of Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. The caskets, covered in Iranian flags, stood stacked at least three high. Red and white roses and framed photographs of people who were killed covered them.

People elsewhere remained fearful in the streets. Plainclothes security forces still milled around some neighborhoods, though anti-riot police and members of the paramilitary Revolutionary Guard's all-volunteer Basij force appeared to have been sent back to their barracks. *AP*

Trump ramps up pressure over Greenland

Part of NATO, say Denmark and Greenland

NUUK: The leaders of Denmark and the country's territory of Greenland on Tuesday offered a united front against President Donald Trump's calls for the United States to take over the strategic Arctic island on the eve of critical meetings in Washington on the matter. In perhaps their sharpest pushback to date, Denmark and Greenland's prime ministers underscored that the territory is part of Denmark, and thus covered by the umbrella of the NATO military alliance. A US attempt to take over or force the secession of the massive island would tear apart the transatlantic alliance, which has been a linchpin of post-World War II security. But Trump brushed off the concern, telling reporters in Washington, "That's their problem."

NUUK

DONALD Trump said on Wednesday that NATO should help the US acquire Greenland and anything less than having the island in US hands is unacceptable, hours before Vice President JD Vance was to host Danish and Greenlandic officials for talks.

In a post on his social media site, Trump reiterated his argument that the US "needs Greenland for the purpose of National Security." He added that "NATO should be leading the way for us to get it" and that otherwise Russia or China would — "and that is not going to happen!" "NATO becomes far more formidable and effective with Greenland in the hands of the United States," Trump wrote. "Anything less than that is unacceptable."

Greenland, a semiautonomous territory of NATO ally Denmark, is at the center of a geopolitical storm as Trump insists he wants to own it — and residents of its capital, Nuuk, say it isn't for sale. The White House hasn't ruled out taking the Arctic island by force.

Vance, along with Secretary of State Marco Rubio, is to meet Denmark's Foreign Minister Lars Løkke Rasmussen and his Greenlandic counterpart Vivian Motzfeldt in Washington later Wednesday to discuss Greenland.

Along Nuuk's snow-covered main street, foreign journalists stop passersby for reactions to a crisis Denmark's prime minister warns could threaten NATO. *AP*

Only 1 in 5 Americans support Trump's Greenland madness | Reuters/Ipsos survey of 1,217 adults across the US, Jan 12–13

Do Americans back US efforts to take control of Greenland?



CRANE CRASH ON PASSENGER TRAIN KILLS 32 IN THAILAND

NAKHON RATCHASIMA

A construction crane crashed onto a moving passenger train in northeastern Thailand on Wednesday, triggering a derailment that killed at least 32 people and injured dozens more.

The crash occurred in Nakhon Ratchasima, some 200 kilometers northeast of Bangkok, on a section of a planned high-speed rail project that is intended to eventually connect China with much of Southeast Asia.

The province's Public Health Provincial Office said there were 32 fatalities and 64 injured victims, including seven with severe injuries. There were still three passengers missing among the 171 believed to have been on board the train, it said in a statement issued as night fell. Authorities said the crane was being used to build an elevated part of the railway when it fell as the train was traveling from the capital, Bangkok, to Ubon Ratchathani province. Thailand's Rail Transport Department said the crane was what is called a launching gantry crane, a self-supporting structure with vertical legs that usually runs on rails or wheels for mobility, allowing it to progress along with the construction project that it straddles. Such cranes are often used to help build elevated roads.



Rescuers work amidst the wreckage after a construction crane fell onto a train in Thailand | AP

Images published in Thai media showed plumes of white, then dark, smoke rising from the crash site, with construction equipment dangling from girders between two concrete support pillars.

Rescue workers stood on top of overturned railway carriages, some of them with gaping holes torn on their sides, video from public broadcaster ThaiPBS showed. What appeared to be sections of the crane were scattered along the track. Sixty-two year-old Samai Teechantuek, whose house is about 100 meters (yards) from the site of the accident, told The Associated Press of the horror of witnessing the accident, and hearing "the noises screeching, and then bam, bam, bam, all the way over there."

"When the dust settled, I saw the top of the train carriage. I heard people shouting 'save the children first!'" she said. "A conductor pulled people out. I saw them pulling many people out." *AP*

Israel kills six militants in Gaza clash

JERUSALEM

THE Israeli military said Wednesday it had killed six militants in an updated toll from an exchange of fire in Gaza the day before, accusing them of violating the ceasefire in the territory.

The military said in a statement late on Tuesday that it had killed two of six militants it had identified adjacent to its troops in western Rafah and that tanks had fired on them.

It said they were killed in an ensuing exchange of fire, including aerial strikes, while troops continued to search for the rest. In a statement on Wednesday, the military said that "following searches that were conducted in the area, it is now confirmed that troops eliminated the six terrorists during the exchange of fire". It said the presence of the militants adjacent to troops. *AFP*

Britain set to clear China's mega embassy

LONDON

BRITAIN's government is expected to approve a "mega" Chinese Embassy close to London's financial district after years of controversy and political wrangling over the potential security risks it poses to the UK.

Lawmakers from across the spectrum have urged planning officials to reject China's application for the new embassy. Critics fear the proposed new building, on a huge site close to London's financial district and crucial data cables, will be used as a base for espionage. Others say the supersised embassy — set to be the biggest Chinese Embassy in Europe — will pose a heightened threat of surveillance and intimidation to Chinese dissidents in exile.

The decision was initially slated for October, but it was repeatedly postponed after multiple allegations of Chinese spying and political interference piled pressure on the British government. Media have reported that the decision to approve the embassy. *AP*

EXPRESS READ

Pak explores stablecoins for cross-border payments

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has signed an MoU with SC Financial Technologies, linked to World Liberty Financial, to explore using stablecoins for cross-border transactions, Finance Ministry said. The agreement was signed in Islamabad by Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb and World Liberty CEO Zach Witkoff. The Pakistan Virtual Assets Regulatory Authority said the move aims to promote digital finance innovation

Antarctica gets first ever ice core vault to preserve climate memory

ROME

SCIENTISTS in Antarctica on Wednesday inaugurated the first global repository of mountain ice cores, preserving the history of the Earth's atmosphere in a frozen vault for future generations to study as global warming melts glaciers around the world.

An ice core is something of an atmospheric time capsule, containing information about the Earth's past changes in a frozen climate archive. With global glaciers melting at an unprecedented rate, scientists have raced to preserve ice cores for future study before they disappear altogether.

The Ice Memory Foundation, a consortium of European research institutes, inaugurated the frozen sanctuary on Wednesday at the Concordia station in the Antarctic Plateau.

The foundation livestreamed the ceremonial ribbon cutting and opening of the frozen cave where the ice samples will be kept for future generations. The first two sets of samples of Alpine mountain ice cores were drilled out of Mont Blanc in France and Grand Combin in Switzerland and arrived at the station after a 50-day refrigerated icebreaker and plane journey from Trieste, Italy.

During the inauguration ceremony, pairs of foundation team members brought box after box of ice cores into the cave, burrowed deep into a 5-meter (yard) high compacted snow drift at a constant temperature of around -52°C/-61°F. "By safeguarding physical samples of atmospheric gases, aerosols, pollutants and dust trapped in ice layers, the Ice Memory Foundation ensures that future generations. *AP*

CHANGE OF NAME

I, BEEDA SUBRAMANAYAM (OLD NAME), S/o BEEDA VENKATA RAMANAIAH, R/o. D.N0:15-254, Gollapalem street, Venkatagiri town-524132, Tirupati District, Andhra Pradesh. I changed my name **BEEDA SUBRAMANYAM**. Henceforth, I will be known as **BEEDA SUBRAMANYAM (New Name)**

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, issue the following notice to the general public that **Sri M Suresh,** S/o M.Ranganadha Reddy, 633, 8th Block, Somanadri Residency, 7th Cross,SRIMVL,2nd Main, Amarjyothi Nagar, Bangalore-560040 approached my client **LIC Housing Finance Ltd, Chittoor Area Office** to avail Construction loan by mortgaging schedule mentioned property. He informed that the Original Link Document i.e Will **Doc.No:149/1997) Dt. 22.07.1997 (SRO, Chittoor)** was misplaced and He made efforts to trace said document but in vain. As such if any body has any claims, charges, mortgages, sale agreements,court attachments, court disputes etc., shall inform to me or my client **LIC Housing Finance Ltd, Chittoor Area Office** in writing within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. Otherwise later objections will not bind my client **LIC Housing Finance Ltd, Chittoor Area Office** in this regard.

SCHEDULE : Chittoor Dist-Chittoor Municipal Corporation, Survey No.401-1, Plot No.09 situated near Door No.22-886/3A,OFE-Block, Reservce Police Colony,76 Kattamanchi Village Accounts Measurements : East-West : 30 ft, North- South-45 ft Togal Sft -1350 sft within the Boundaries East- Plot No.08, West- Plot.10, North- Road, South- Road.In this Building under Construction.

M.Subramanyam Reddy
Advocate,
Lawyers Colony, Chittoor,AP

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We understand your world.
10-3-207 & 208, 2nd Floor, Ramalingapuram, Main Road, SPSR Nellore- 524003

DEMAND NOTICE
Under Sec 13(2) of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act,2002

1. Gopala Kanthi Pal S/o. Late Gopal Samarla, D. No. 89/2-16- 6-1, Plot No.56, D Moses Colony, Balaji Nagar, Kumool, Andhra Pradesh-518006. **(Borrower & Mortgagor) 2. MNK Sales And Marketing,** Rep.by Its Partner Mr. Gopala Kanthi Pal, D. No. 50 727 Skn Gf 6, Birla Compound, Revenue Ward No.50, Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh-518002 **(Co-Borrower)** 3. Samarla Meenakshi W/o. S.gopala Kanthi Pal, D. No. 89 2 16 6 1, D Moses Colony, Balaji Nagar, Kumool, Andhra Pradesh-518006. **(Co-Borrower& Mortgagor).**

Dear Sir/Madam,

Rs. 96,27,452/- (Rupees Ninety Six Lakhs Twenty Seven Thousand Four Hundred Fifty Two Only) is due to the Bank as on 14-10-2025, with future interest under the **LAP Loan No. 89700346** granted to you by the **HDFC Bank Ltd on 23-02-2024.** In spite of our repeated requests, you have not paid any amount towards the amount outstanding in your account which has been classified as **N.P.A dated 05-09-2025** as per RBI guidelines pursuant to your default in repaying Bank's dues. Myself, exercising the powers of the Authorized Officer of the **HDFC Bank Ltd,** in pursuance to the provisions of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, had issued a notice dated 14-10-2025 under Section 13(2) of the aforementioned Act calling upon you to discharge the said debt amounting to **Rs. 96,27,452/- (Rupees Ninety Six Lakhs Twenty Seven Thousand Four Hundred Fifty Two Only)** with future interests and costs within 60 days of the notice, failing which the Bank shall exercise all or any of the rights detailed u/ Sec 13(4) of the above Act including enforcement of the security interest created by you in favour of the Bank over the property described below:-

Schedule of Immovable Property & Security: House bearing No.89/2-16-6-1, Constructed in Plot No.56, an extent of 242.66 Sq. Yds 2183.94 Sq.feet, in Sy.No.114 & 67 of Mamidalapadu Village, Kumool Mandal with in Municipal limits of Kumool Municipal Corporation, Kumool District, Kurnool Sub Registration, Andhra Pradesh. **(Property Owned By Samarla Meenakshi & Samarla Gopala Kanthipal):** East: Plot No.57, West: Plot No.55, North: 30 feet Road, South: Plot No.62.

Since the notice **dt.14-10-2025** sent to you in the address in which you originally reside/carry on business/personally works for gain has been unserved and returned to sender". You are hereby called upon U/s 13(2) of the above Act to discharge the above mentioned liability within 60 days of this notice failing which the Bank will be exercising all or any of the rights u/ Sec 13(4) of the above Act. You are also put to notice that as per terms of Sec 13(13) of the above Act, you shall not transfer by sale, lease or otherwise the aforesaid secured assets.

Place: Vijayawada
Date: 14-10-2025
Sd/-,
Authorised Officer
HDFC BANK Ltd.,

TELANGANA FOODS : IDA : NACHARAM : HYDERABAD - 500076
Phone No.27152207, 08 & 09

Tender Notification No. TF/GG/Tender/Film Rolls & lifting Disposal items/1589/2025-26(26-27), Dt:13.01.2026

Inviting e-Tenders **(a) for Supply of "Laminated Film Rolls" (b) Lifting of various Disposal of process wastage items.** For detailed information including eligibility criteria, specifications, terms & conditions and bids submission please visit website: **https://tender.eprocurement.gov.in** and website: https://tfoods.telangana.gov.in. Bids can be downloaded from 17.01.2026 @ 5.00 pm onwards.

DIPR R.O.No.1060-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/12025-26 Dt:14.01.2025
Sd/-Managing Director

ICICI Bank
Regd. Office: ICICI Bank Limited, Landmark, Race Course Circle, Vadodara- 390007
Corporate Office: ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai- 400051.
Branch Office: ICICI BANK LTD. 4/10, MYTHREE TOWER, BOMMANHALLI HOUSR MAIN ROAD Karnataka-560068

Annexure 54
Notice for Disclosure of Legal Heirs of Deceased Borrower
PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Home Loan LBNEL00005685963/ LBNEL00005768684 (Credit facility) was granted to LAXMI VITHADI along with the deceased VITHADI PRASAD by ICICI Bank Ltd. (The Bank).
We would like to inform you that the demise of VITHADI PRASAD has come to our knowledge during field visits conducted by the Bank officials and by telephonic communications on the registered contact numbers. In this regard, letter dated 12.01.2026 was previously sent to the registered addresses of the Borrowers and the deceased VITHADI PRASAD, for providing information about the Legal Heirs of the deceased Borrower. Therefore, this Notice is hereby given for sharing details of the Legal Heirs of the deceased VITHADI PRASAD with supporting documents for updating the Bank's records, within 15 days of publication of this Notice.
You may submit the above-mentioned details to RAJESWAR REDDY BASIREDDY by visiting ICICI BANK LTD ADITI CRYSTAL, D.NO. 23 / 1462 DANDAYUDHAPURAM, GT ROAD NELLORE Andhra Pradesh-524001

Date : January 15, 2026
Place : Nellore
Authorised Officer
For ICICI Bank Ltd.

Government of India
Department of Space
ISRO Propulsion Complex (IPRC)
Mahendragiri P.O., Tirunelveli District, Tamil Nadu– 627 133, India
Telephone: 04637–281803 / 4061 / 1672; Fax: 04637–281681.

E-TENDER NOTICE
Dated : 12-01-2026

On Behalf of the President of India, item-rate tenders are invited through e-tendering for the following works:

Sl. No.	Name of Works [Electrical Work - Sl.no: 01: Civil Work - Sl.no: 02: Composite Work - Sl.no: 03]	Estimated Cost ₹ (in Lakhs)	Period of completion	EMD(₹)
1	NIT no:IPRC/CMG/TD/e-158/MI/ELE-53/2025-26			
	Providing power supply to air conditioning loads of IAES Exhibition Hall at IPRC, Mahendragiri.	15.92	02 (Two months)	31,900
2	NIT no:IPRC/CMG/TD/e-159/MI/CPH-64/2025-26			
	Reconstruction of damaged Compound Wall at Chainage 11350 m at IPRC, Mahendragiri.	17.18	03 (Three months)	34,400
3	NIT no:IPRC/CMG/TD/e-157/MI/CMP-02/2025-26			
	Construction of service staircase for Main Building at IPRC, Mahendragiri. [Civil & Electrical Works]	22.32	03 (Three months)	44,700

Dates for Online Request : From 15-01-2026 [10:00 hours] To: 27-01-2026 [23:30 hours]

Due Time & Date of Submission : 29-01-2026[10:00 hours]

For eligibility criteria and other details, interested tenderers may please refer to the detailed bilingual (Hindi-English) Notice Inviting Tenders (NIT) on the website https://www.isro.gov.in/Tenders.html and tender free view at https://www.tenderwizard.com/isro

Note : All future correspondence (Corrigenda) for the above work(s) shall be published only on the websites mentioned above.

GROUP HEAD, CMG, IPRC.

SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED
Registered Office: Sri Towers,Plot No.14A,South Phase, Industrial Estate,Guindy,Chennai -600 032.
Website: www.shriramfinance.in
Branch Office : Kuppam

DEMAND NOTICE

DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF THE SECURITIZATION & RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT,2022

We, M/s. Shriram Finance Limited (formerly known as "Shriram City Union finance Limited" amalgamated with Shriram Transport Finance limited and converted as Shriram Transport Finance Limited as per the orders of NCLT Bench-II Chennai dated 09.11.2022) and thereafter obtained the approval to rename as Shriram Finance Ltd (Ministry of Corporate Finance letter dated 30.11.2022), is a company registered under the Companies Act, 2013 and also registered with RBI to do Non-Banking Finance business having its registered office at Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai - 600032.Branch at **:KUPPAM**

Whereas the borrowers/co-borrowers/guarantors/ mentioned hereunder had availed the financial assistance from SHRIRAM FINANCE LTD (SFL) We state that despite having availed the financial assistance, the borrowers/guarantors have committed various defaults in repayment of interest and principal amounts as per due dates. The account has been classified as Non Performing Asset in accordance with the directives/guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India, consequent to the Authorized Officer of SHRIRAM FINANCE LTD.(SFL)Branch at KUPPAMunder Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 & in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notices on respective dates mentioned herein below under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act, 2002 calling upon the following borrowers /guarantors /mortgagors to repay the amount mentioned in the notices together with further interest at the contractual rate on the amount mentioned in the notices and incidental expenses, cost, charges etc until the date of payment within 60 days from the date of receipt of notices

The notices issued to them on their last known addresses have returned unserved and as such they are hereby informed by way of public notice about the same. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

NAME OF THE BORROWER(S)/ CO-BORROWER(S)/GUARANTORS

1. S. Krishnamurthy , S/o L .M. Saragapani, Resident of D.No. 1-115, Lakshmipuram village and post, KuppamMandal, Chittoor District, Andhra Pradesh-517425, Cell No.809851711

2. Smt. K. Manjula, W/o. S. Krishnamurthy, Resident of D.No1-115, Lakshmipuram village and post, KuppamMandal, Chittoor District, Andhra Pradesh-517425,

3. M. PrakashBabu, S/o Muniswamy Resident of Doddavalagandi, Bangarpet, Karnataka-563120, Cell No.812333614.

NPA DATE: 31.03.2021 **Date Of Demand Notice: 01.12.2025**
Loan Amount:Rs.8,00,000/- (Eight Lakhs Only),
Agreement no:KUPPMTF1905310004
Demand Notice Amount:Rs. 29,07,144/-(Twenty Nine Lakh Seven Thousand One Hundred Forty Four Only)

SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTY

Chittoor Registration District - Kuppam Sub-Registration District - KuppamMandal - Cheemanayanapalli @ Lakshmipuram Gram Panchayath No-127 BairuganipalliMazaraCheemanayanapalli @ Lakshmipuram village Accounts Sy.No.83/2 Ramalakshmi Layout bearing plot No.22 -site measuring:- East-West : 60 feet (18.30 Meters), North-South: 30 fee (12.19 Meters) = Total: 1800 Sq. feet (or) 200 Sq. yards of vacant site situated within the following boundaries:- East : 15 feet wide Road; West : 15 feet wide Road; North : 15 feet wide Road; South : Vacant site of S. Lakshmamma;

In the circumstances as aforesaid, the notice is hereby given to the above borrowers, co-borrowers and/ or their guarantors (where ever applicable) to pay the outstanding dues as mentioned above along with future interest and applicable charges within 60 days from the date of the publication of this notice failing which further steps will be taken after the expiry of 60 days of the date of this notice against the secured assets including taking possession of the secured assets of the borrowers and the mortgagors under Section 13(4) of Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and the applicable rules there under.

Please note that under Section 13 (13) of the said Act, no Borrower shall, transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise any of his secured assets referred to in the notice, without prior written consent of the secured creditor.

Place: Kuppam **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Date: 13.01.2026 **Shriram Finance Limited**

Market Watch

MARKET			GOLD			SILVER			FOREX		
244.98 ↓	Sensex	83,382.71	₹1,470 ↑	24 carat (10 gm)	₹144,150	₹15,000 ↑	1 kg	₹290,000	↓	Dollar	90.20
66.70 ↓	Nifty	25,665 . 60	₹1,350 ↑	22 carat (10 gm)	₹132,150	₹150 ↑	10 gm	₹2,900	↓	Euro	105.04

Labour codes hit Infy profit, co raises revenue guidance

Q3 net profit falls 2% to ₹6,654 cr; revenue from operations rises 9% to ₹45,479 cr; revenue guidance for FY26 raised to 3-3.5% from 2-3%

PADMINI DHRUVARAJ @ Bengaluru

THE country's second-largest IT services company Infosys on Wednesday reported a 2% year-on-year (YoY) decline in consolidated net profit for the third quarter, weighed down by exceptional costs linked to labour code changes, even as revenue growth remained strong.

However, despite the pressure on profit margins, the company raised its revenue guidance for FY26 to 3–3.5% in constant currency terms from 2-3% quoted earlier, and retained margin guidance at 20–22%.

Infosys posted a consolidated net profit of ₹6,654 crore for the quarter, compared with ₹6,806 crore in the corresponding period last year. Revenue from operations rose 9% YoY to ₹45,479 crore during the quarter.

The company recorded an exceptional item of ₹1,289 crore in the quarter due to the impact of labour codes. In constant currency terms, revenue grew 1.7% YoY and 0.6% on a quarter-on-quarter basis. Addressing concerns around labour codes, management in the post-earnings press conference said the "exceptional item charge" is a one-time impact of this size, and expects an ongoing impact of about 15 basis points on margins every quarter.

The exceptional cost recognised by Infosys comes after similar labour code-related impacts reported by peers, including TCS and HCLTech, both of which also posted profit declines in the third quarter.

Meanwhile, Infosys' operating profit for the quarter fell 6% YoY to ₹8,355 crore and declined 10.7% sequentially. As a result, operating margin narrowed to 18.4%, compared with 21.3% in the December quarter last year and 21% in the September quarter. "Infosys delivered a strong Q3 performance demonstrating how our differentiated value propositions in enterprise AI, through Infosys Topaz, are consistently driving higher market share," said Salil Parekh, CEO and MD.

Deal momentum remained steady, with the company signing large deals worth $4.8 billion in total contract value (TCV), with a net new component of 57%. This was higher than the $3.1 billion TCV reported in the previous quarter.

On the vertical front, financial services, Infosys' largest revenue contributor, recorded 4.8% growth during the quarter and 3.9% growth in constant currency terms. Manufacturing revenues rose 10.8% in reported terms and 6.6% in constant currency, reflecting strong activity across engineering and AI-led engagements.

Growth in energy, utilities, resources and services remained muted at 1.3% in reported terms and 0.5% in constant currency (cc), while retail segment grwoth fell 3.8% in reported terms and 5.5% in cc, as global retailers continued to remain cautious on technology spending amid weak consumer demand. The communication segment delivered strong growth of 11.6% in reported terms and 9.9% in cc.

TAKE A BEATING

METRIC	Q3 VALUE	QOQ CHANGE	YOY CHANGE
Revenue (₹cr) constant currency	45,479	0.6%	1.7%
Net profit (₹cr)	6,654	9.60%	-2.00%
Operating profit (₹cr)	8,355	-10.70%	-6.00%
Operating margin (%)	18.40%	-2.6*	-2.9*
Large deal wins – TCV ($ bn)	$4.8 bn	$3.1 billion	$2.5 billion



*Percentage points

Employee count up for 6th quarter, attrition rate falls

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Bengaluru

BENGALURU-based IT services major Infosys reported a steady rise in its workforce during the third quarter, signalling growing confidence despite a cautious global technology market.

The company added 5,043 employees in the October–December period, taking total headcount to 337,034. This marked the sixth straight quarter of net employee additions. Over the past three quarters alone, Infosys has added 13,456 employees. Speaking at the company's earnings conference, CEO Salil Parekh said, "Headcount increase demonstrates that we have confidence where the market is and where we are seeing demand." Attrition during the quarter dropped to 12.3% from 14.3% in the previous quarter.

CFO Jayesh Sanghrajka said Infosys had hired 18,000 freshers so far and remains on track to onboard 20,000 freshers for full year of FY26. Meanwhile, TCS reported a decline of 11,151 employees during the quarter as it continued "workforce restructuring". HCLTech saw a fall of 261 employees, even though it added 2,852 freshers.

Further, Parekh denied the claims that one of its employees was detained by US Immigration and Customs Enforcement. "No Infosys employee has been apprehended by any US authority. A few months ago, one of our employees was denied entry into US and was sent back to India."

> **Headcount increase demonstrates we have confidence where market is and where we see demand**
>
> Salil Parekh, CEO, Infosys

Infosys adds 5,043 employees

Infosys added 5,043 employees in Oct–Dec period, taking total headcount to 337,034. This marked the sixth straight quarter of net employee additions

Corp investment in start-ups a major challenge, says DPIIT secy

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

ONE of the biggest challenges faced by the start-up ecosystem in India is lack of proper corporate investments, said Amardeep Singh Bhatia, secretary, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) on Wednesday. However, the government has been pushing corporates and even signed MoUs with several companies to have better investment.

"We are working on the major challenge — getting corporate to deepen their partnership with start-ups. So that is something we are pushing for; it is work in progress. There are instruments in place, that is something which we are actively, the entire government is working on ensuring that innovation is deepened, innovation is much deeper," said Bhatia.

As confirmed by the Ministry of Commerce, DPIIT has been pushing corporates to get more involved with the start-ups so that they can innovate and build products for big corporates. While the ministry is taking measures to ensure more investments from both domestic and international corporate, there has been an inflow of about $51 billion in the last six months.

DPIIT is focusing on enhancing the manufacturing capacity through various means. "It is not only access to the domestic market but also access to global supply chains," added Bhatia. To ensure more foreign corporate to come and invest in the start-up sector, DPIIT is taking measures "to provide an environment which is conducive for investment." The government will continue to prioritise deep tech to boost manufacturing by enabling greater access to the domestic market, the DPIIT said. Alongside ₹1 lakh crore in direct R&D funding, DPIIT expects private capital and support from other schemes, noting strong investor interest in long-term, patient funding for Indian start-ups.

AVIATION

Saudia signs codeshare pact with Air India

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

SAUDIA, the national flag carrier of Saudi Arabia, and Tata Group's Air India have signed a codeshare agreement that will take effect in February. The codeshare will provide Saudia's guests access to major cities across India via Mumbai and Delhi, including Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Kolkata, Kochi, Hyderabad, Chennai, Lucknow, and Jaipur and more than 15 other destinations as interline.

Air India guests travelling to Jeddah or Riyadh with Air India can take seamless onward connections on Saudia-operated flights to Dammam, Abha, Gassim, Gizan, Madinah, and Taif. As per Air India, the addition of codeshare flights on the Jeddah-Riyadh route now allows guests more flexibility to arrive in one city and depart from another. Connections to select complementary international destinations will be added later this year.

H.E. Engr. Ibrahim Al-Omar, director general of Saudia Group, said, "The codeshare agreement with Air India marks a strategic step forward, given both airlines' long histories and their shared commitment to increasing connectivity within their home markets and between their countries, while offering guests broader access to more destinations through simplified travel procedures that elevate the overall travel experience."

US automakers defer orders from Indian OEMs

ARSHAD KHAN @ New Delhi

AUTOMAKERS in the US are deferring new orders from Indian auto component manufacturers after President Donald Trump raised tariffs on Indian goods to 50%, one of the highest rates applied for any nation, last year. ACMA President-designate and managing director of Brakes India Sriram Viji said higher tariffs imposed by the US on several countries, including India, have created uncertainty among buyers.

Viji stated that while existing components trade with the US may continue in the near term, the bigger concern lies in future orders. He added that India faces a disadvantage as some countries have secured more favourable tariff terms under US trade rules.

Viji is hopeful that a resolution will be reached soon. Since the higher tariff rates were first announced last year, India has held multiple rounds of negotiations with the US for a trade agreement. However, nothing has materialised yet.

September 2025 was the first full month of Trump's 50% tariffs on Indian goods. This includes a 25% penalty for India's refusal to stop buying oil from Russia. Vikrampati Singhania, President of ACMA and MD of J K Fenner (India), said new contracts from the US are in limbo even as existing supply chains continue. He added that the depreciation of rupee versus the US dollar has cushioned some of the impact.

Meanwhile, the Indian auto component industry grew by 6.8% to ₹3.56 lakh crore ($41.2 bn) in the first half of the financial year 2026 as against the same period last year, supported by domestic demand, a resilient aftermarket and continued investments in capacity expansion.

As per the Automotive Component Manufacturers Association (ACMA), sales to original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) rose by 7.3% to ₹3.04 lakh crore ($35.2 bn) during the period, led primarily by the passenger vehicle and LCV segments. The aftermarket recorded a growth of 9% clocking ₹53,160 crore ($6.1 billion), driven by an expanding vehicle parc, increasing formalisation of the repair and maintenance ecosystem and deeper penetration of organised channels.



Hopes for resolution

Sriram Viji is hopeful that a resolution will be reached soon. Since higher tariff rates were first announced last year, India has held many rounds of negotiations with the US without much success.

SMBC gets RBI nod to set up subsidiary in India

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

JAPAN'S Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC) is set to receive 'in-principle' approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for setting up a wholly-owned subsidiary (WOS) in India.

SMBC is currently carrying out banking business in India in branch mode through its four branches located in New Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Bengaluru. The 'in-principle' approval has been granted to the bank for setting up a WOS through conversion of its existing branches in India. "The RBI would consider granting a licence for commencement of banking business in WOS mode under Section 22 (1) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 to SMBC on being satisfied that the bank has complied with requisite conditions laid down by RBI as part of 'in-principle' approval," an RBI statement said on Wednesday.

Having a wholly-owned subsidiary in India means SMBC will have to create a separate legal entity with its own capital base and local board of directors. It will have to make clear delineation between assets and liabilities of its India subsidiary with that of its foreign parent, with ring fenced capital and assets within the host country. Local incorporation provides effective control to the local regulator – the RBI.

As per Indian regulations, a wholly-owned subsidiary can be permitted, subject to regulatory approvals and such conditions as may be prescribed, to enter into mergers and acquisition transactions with any private sector bank in India subject to the overall foreign investment limit of 74%.

Last year, SMBC acquired 24.21% in Yes Bank, becoming the largest shareholder in the bank. Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation or a part of the Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group (SMFG) is the second largest bank in Japan with $1.72 trillion in total assets held across its operations in 39 countries, almost half of them in Asia-Pacific region.



SMBC will have to create separate legal entity

SMBC will have to create a separate legal entity with its own capital base and local board of directors. It will have to make delineation between assets and liabilities of India subsidiary with that of its foreign parent

IOB PROFIT ALL-TIME HIGH AT ₹1,365 CRORE

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Chennai

PUBLIC sector Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) on Wednesday reported an all-time high net profit of ₹1,365 crore, up 56.18% YoY in Q3FY26, driven by rise in interest income and recovery of non-performing assets (NPAs).

The bank reported ₹874 crore in Q3FY25. Ajay Kumar Srivastava, CEO & MD at IOB said the bank is planning to raise ₹4,000 crore from markets through QIP in the coming months, reducing the Centre's stake in it to nearly 4% if fully subscribed.

CASA deposits saw a growth of 7.8 % YoY to ₹1.43 lakh crore in the current quarter. RAM (retail, agri. & MSME) business grew by 33.1% YoY and total advance of the bank increased by 24.1 % to ₹2.95 lakh crore.

Total recovery for third quarter of FY26 rose to ₹890 from ₹874 crore for Q2FY26. Recovery from written off accounts (technical write off & set off) for Q3FY26 stood at ₹635 crore. Srivastava said the bank has done forward-looking provisioning of ₹1,500 crore to meet expected credit loss framework which will be effective from April 2027.

"In the September 2025 quarters, the additional requirement was about ₹2,600 crore and later came down to ₹2,200 crore in the current quarter."

Business & Beyond

More Amrit Bharat Express trains to run from West Bengal

Kolkata: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will flag off new Amrit Bharat Express trains on 18.01.2026 viz, Santragachi - Tambaram Amrit Bharat Expres, Howrah - Anand Vihar Amrit Bharat Express and Sealdah - Banaras Amrit Bharat Express. Amrit Bharat Express is a new generation train introduced for affordable, safe and long distance inter-state travel.

- 16107/16108 Tambaram - Santragachi Amrit Bharat Express

16107 Tambaram-Santragachi Amrit Bharat Express will leave Tambaram Friday at 15:30 hrs and will reach Santragachi at 20:15 hrs, the next day. In the return direction, 16108 train will leave Santragachi Saturday at 23:55 hrs and will arrive Tambaram at 10:00 hrs.

- 13065/13066 Howrah - Anand Vihar - Howrah Amrit Bharat Express

13065 Howrah-Anand Vihar Amrit Bharat Express will leave Howrah every Thursday at 23:10 hrs and will reach Anand Vihar at 02:50 hrs, the third day.



OMR Branch hands over ₹20 lakh personal accident insurance claim to bereaved family

Chennai: The OMR Branch (SBI - RBO – IT Corridor, Chennai South AO) facilitated handover of a personal accident insurance (PAI) claim cheque amounting to ₹20,00,000 to the claimant at the branch premises. The cheque was handed over by regional manager Satish Babu and branch manager Bhaskaran to Ramani Murugasan, wife of the deceased policyholder Murugasan. The insured had met with a fatal road accident, following which the claim was processed. Ramani Murugasan stated that the claim amount would be of immense support to her and her family during this difficult time. She appreciated the continuous follow-up and guidance provided by the branch officials in ensuring timely settlement of the claim.

Indian Bank wins awards for tech innovation and IT risk management

Chennai: Indian Bank has once again reaffirmed its leadership in technology-driven banking by securing multiple prestigious national-level awards, recognising its excellence in digital innovation, cybersecurity, and IT risk management. At the 21st Annual Banking Technology Conference, Expo & Citations 2024–25, organised by the Indian Banks' Association (IBA), Indian Bank was honoured under the Large Bank category with two top accolades — Best Technology Bank and Best IT Risk Management. These awards acknowledge the bank's robust IT governance framework, strong cybersecurity posture, and effective use of technology to enhance operational efficiency and customer experience. Ashutosh Choudhury, executive director, along with other top executives received the awards on behalf of the bank team. In another achievement, Indian Bank was also recognised at the SKOCH Awards.

Mercedes sales fall marginally, to start production of Maybach at Pune facility

ARSHAD KHAN @ New Delhi

LEADING luxury carmaker - Mercedes-Benz delivered 19,007 units in CY25, a marginal dip from 19,565 units delivered in CY24. The sales decline is attributed to lower entry-level luxury car sales.

Mercedes-Benz plans 12 new cars for India in CY2026, including new models and some with no predecessor, in addition to launching facelifts. Many of these products will be Top End Vehicles (TEV) and new BEVs.

Mercedes on Wednesday also announced the start of local production of the Mercedes-Maybach GLS at its manufacturing facility in Pune. This makes India the first market outside the USA to locally produce the ultra-luxury Mercedes-Maybach GLS.

"We have delivered another best-ever year in terms of revenue growth buoyed by high affinity among discerning customers, reflected in the strong growth in the TEV segment as well in top-end BEVs…2026 will be an action-packed year with 12 new product introductions, expansion of our local production portfolio, the launch of the MB.Charge Public, expansion into new markets and investment in upgrading our entire network," said Santosh Iyer, Managing Director & CEO, Mercedes-Benz India.

In 2025, TEVs, priced upward of ₹1.5 crore, portfolio comprising the exclusive S-Class, Mercedes-Maybach and AMG demonstrated resilience with 11% year-on-year growth and 25% sales penetration. The high-performance AMG portfolio grew by 34% YoY and while the battery electric vehicles (BEV) portfolio grew by 12%.



> **We have delivered another best-ever year in terms of revenue growth buoyed by high affinity among discerning customers, reflected in the strong growth in the TEV segment as well in top-end BEVs**
>
> Santosh Iyer, managing director & chief executive, Mercedes-Benz India

Raza seals last-ball win for Paarl in SA20



Sikandar Raza (27 n.o) international struck a six off the final ball to clinch a six-wicket victory for Paarl Royals against Durban Super Giants at Boland Park on Tuesday evening. With two runs off the last delivery, Raza held his nerve to Davis Wiese hit a six. Chasing 187, **Rubin Hermann** (65 n.o) held innings together for Raza to finish things off.

Bangladesh T20 World Cup matches could be shifted to Sri Lanka

FIROZ MIRZA @ Chennai

WITH the International Cricket Board (ICC) running out of time, a decision on Bangladesh Cricket Board's request of relocating its matches out of India is expected in the next few days.

There are enough indications to this daily that the ICC might shift Bangladesh's matches to Sri Lanka and relocate a few games from the Island Nation to the venues in India, where Bangladesh were scheduled to play.

As per the original programme, Bangladesh are slated to open their ICC T20 World Cup campaign in Kolkata against the West Indies on February 7. They are then scheduled to play their next two matches - (vs Italy on February 9 and vs England on February 14) at the same venue before moving to Mumbai for their contest against Nepal on February 17. Interestingly, the official ticketing platform opened additional sale of tickets where Bangladesh matches were still scheduled to be played in Kolkata.

However, a source, who has been tracking the development, feels it's already late and the ICC cannot afford to delay it further. "A lot of things like stationing of broadcast crews, assigning duties to match officials including umpires, preparation of venues, ticket sales and security arrangements have to be done. Besides, the travelling fans too have to make their arrangements including stay. Given the situation, the ICC may shift Bangladesh matches to Sri Lanka and fill the vacant slots in India by moving a few matches there from the Island Nation," is what a source feels.

EXPRESS SPECIAL

It is understood that this is the only solution which looks viable at the moment and would be acceptable to the BCB. "Asking the BCB to forfeit matches will not show the ICC in good light especially with cricket included for the 2028 LA Olympics. It can also go against India hosting the 2030 Commonwealth Games and their bidding for the 2036 Olympics."

Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) secretary Bandula Dissanayake said the board has not received any official communication from the ICC in this regard but affirmed the board is ready to host matches if allotted to it. "So far no communication to the SLC but if given the opportunity we are happy to host matches," Dissanayake told this daily.

The ICC already had a few rounds of meetings with the BCB and is expected to have another video conferencing soon. The decision is expected to be announced by the end of this week. The ICC has three options when the BCB urged the world body to shift the ICC T20 World Cup matches out of India. It first suggested the Bangladesh board two venues - Chennai and Trivandrum - in South India which was apparently turned down. The second was the BCB forfeiting the matches, which was bound to tarnish ICC's image and clearly not acceptable to the Bangladesh board.

It all began with Bangladesh pacer Mustafizur Rahman being released by Kolkata Knight Riders following protests over his inclusion in the team for the 2026 Indian Premier League. The protests started after targetted killings of Hindus in Bangladesh.

Hariharan & Arjun duo making right moves

Doubles pair have had a positive run since getting united last year

ANMOL GURUNG @ New Delhi

HARIHARAN Amsakarunan and MR Arjun are among Indians who have passed the opening-round hurdle in the ongoing India Open here. In normal circumstances, that's nothing to write home about. But for the young combination, making their first-ever appearance as men's doubles pair in the Super 750 event, that win was like oxygen, a victory that could give them that much-needed thrust in their quest to become worthy racquet-bearers at the top level.

They are still untested at the elite circuit and bound to face tougher questions in the days to unravel, but that result could be something that gives them the belief to evolve one step further. Especially given that it had come against proven rivals in the form of Ong Yew Sin and Teo Ee Yi. The duo from Malaysia were once ranked as high as World No 6. The World Championships medallists might have struggled for results in recent months but they still possess the experience and nous to take down opponents. But Hariharan and Arjun had their own plans. They were not just filling in numbers, they wanted to leave a good impression. The World No 54 pair, who are part of the Gopichand Academy, took just 38 minutes to see off the Malaysians. "We had made good preparations coming into the match. Last week, we played in Malaysia but we didn't play well. Coming into Tuesday's match, Arjun and myself wanted to give everything. The coach had also handed us some tactical inputs about our opponents. And it worked well for us," Hariharan told this daily. The coach in question is Tan Kim Her, the national doubles coach. After Tan's suggestion, Hariharan and Arjun joined hands just last year. And the decision has produced immediate results. Hariharan and Arjun captured three back-to-back titles towards the close of last season. In fact, those wins had made it possible to be part of the Malaysia Open Super 1000 event and the ongoing tournament. "We both are thankful to our coach. Ruban Kumar (Hariharan's former partner) and myself had reached top 32 but we hadn't produced the results that we wanted. The coach then suggested Arjun and me to play together for a few tournaments. It was just on a trial basis. But we performed well, winning multiple titles. Then, I decided to stick with Arjun," Hariharan said. The shuttler from Thanjavur, who took up the sport after watching his elder sister play during her school days, has now set big ambitions for himself. "It's going well and we would like to break into the top-30 ranking this year," he said. Arjun, meanwhile, hails from neighbouring state of Kerala. Hariharan said that the rapport between them has also aided them. "We both are fast movers on the court and our communication during matches is also good as we're friends and I have known him for a while. He understands Tamil while I understand Malayalam, so that helps us a great deal."



Hariharan Amsakarunan & MR Arjun in action at the India Open in New Delhi | BAI

> *We both are fast movers and our communication is also good. He understands Tamil while I understand Malayalam, so that helps us a great deal.*
>
> — Hariharan Amsakarunan, doubles player

The massive influence of senior compatriots Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, with whom they train with on a daily basis, has also pushed both the youngsters. "We are training under the same roof and sparring with them. Satwik anna (brother) was close to us. And he would encourage us to come to the academy. We trusted him and now things are going well."

As stated earlier, this is just the beginning for Hariharan. The 22-year-old felt that with more matches like the one on Tuesday, they can gradually climb the ranking ladder. "Gradually we'll come up. Once we gain more exposure, we'll get to our opponents and learn how to deal with them. We'll also learn about conditions etc. After a few matches, maybe we'll get more results," he noted. "Experience is the key. For individual category or doubles, if we gain experience and if we play as per strategy, then we can win against anybody," he added.

Up next for Hariharan and Arjun are Lian Weikeng and Wang Chang, 2024 Paris Games medallists and 2023 World Championships bronze winners.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Sindhu ousted, victory in defeat for Tanvi

ANMOL GURUNG @ New Delhi

IT'S a classic case of one step forward and two steps backwards for PV Sindhu. Just a few days ago, the double Olympic medallist had reached the last-four stage of the Malaysia Open — a BWF World Tour Super 1000 event. Given her toils last year, it was a noteworthy leap even though she couldn't quite apply the finishing touches then.

Moreover, that run was an ideal start to the new season and a perfect platform ahead of the India Open. Her tails were up and naturally, she had tall hopes to maintain her rhythm in front of home fans.

However, Wednesday was a big reminder that she's not quite at the standard where she would want to be. Granted, she was up against a tricky opponent in the form of Nguyen Thuy Linh of Vietnam (the two were 2-2 on head-to-head going into their latest match) but Sindhu was expected to rise to the occasion. But it was a big blow from India's perspective to squander a lead and lose the tie. After conceding a close first game, Nguyen went on to upset the Indian 20-22, 21-12, 21-15. "I don't think it was my day," Sindhu said. "At this level, everyone plays well and you can't expect easy points or easy wins. She has good strokes and you have to keep the tempo and the shuttle in play. Small mistakes in those moments become decisive. I definitely need to be more consistent," Sindhu reflected.

Youngster Tanvi Sharma, who was a last-minute inclusion in the main draw after withdrawals, also suffered a similar fate but despite the loss, the manner in which she performed would have handed her plenty of belief. She stretched World No 2 Wang Zhi Yi of China, even managing to pocket a game, before losing steam towards the business end. Tanvi lost 20-22, 21-18, 13-21 in 69 minutes. Meanwhile, HS Prannoy and Kidambi Srikanth won their respective matches to advance to the second round.



PV Sindhu | PARVEEN NEGI

SELECT RESULTS

MS: 2-Kunlavut Vitidsarn (Tha) bt Koki Watanabe (Jpn) 21-19, 23-25, 21-10; 5-Christo Popov (Fra) bt Wang Tzu Wei (Tpe) 13-21, 21-18, 21-19; K Srikanth bt Tharun M 15-21, 21-6, 21-19; 3-Jonatan Christie (Ina) bt Jia Heng Jason Teh (Sin) 21-16, 21-10; 8-Loh Kean Yew (Sin) bt Wang Zheng Xing (Chn) 23-21, 19-21, 21-14; HS Prannoy bt Lee Cheuk Yiu (HKG) 22-20, 21-18; WS: 2-Wang Zhi Yi (Chn) bt Tanvi Sharma 22-20, 18-21, 21-13; Thuy Linh Nguyen (Vie) bt PV Sindhu 20-22, 21-12, 21-15; 1-AN Se Young (Kor) bt Nozomi Okuhara (Jpn) 21-17, 21-9; Malvika Bansod bt Pai Yu Po (Tpe) 21-18, 21-19; 5-Han Yue (Chn) bt Sung Shuo Yun (Tpe) 18-21, 21-13, 21-17 **WD:** Nanako Hara/Riko Kiyose (Jpn) bt Rutuparna Panda/Swetaparna Panda 21-8, 21-18; Ha Na Baek/So Hee Lee (Kor) bt Gayatri Rawat/Mansa Rawat 21-5, 21-8; MD: Pakkapol Teeraratsakul/ Sapsiree Taerattanachai (Tha) bt Dhruv Kapila/Tanisha Crasto 21-15, 21-14; Marvin Seidel/Thuc Phuong Nguyen (Ger) bt Rohan Kapoor/Ruthvika Shivani Gadde 21-19, 21-14; Tyuichi Shimogami/ Sayaka Hobara (JPN) bt Ashith Surya/Amrutha Pramuthesh 21-15, 21-7

Mitchell ton helps visitors level series

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

DARYL Mitchell, who loves playing in and against India, helped New Zealand level the series with a classy, unbeaten 100 in the second ODI of the three-match series. India, asked to bat on a tricky surface, took their time to get going before setting a target of 285. Mitchell, whose game against spin is one of the best in the business across formats, took a liking to both of India's frontline spinners.

In the end, the No. 4s unbeaten 131 (11x4, 2x6) helped the Kiwis over the line at Rajkot with 15 balls and seven wickets to spare. Credit must also go to two of his partners during the run-chase. Firstly, Will Young, who was outstanding during last year's Test series in India, was composed during his 98-ball 87. The thing with Young is that there is total clarity in his methods against spin and he marries conviction with belief. His 162 run stand with Mitchell was broken by Kuldeep Yadav but the wristspinner had a rare off night on a surface where spin was negligible.

But Glenn Phillips, a very busy cricketer at the best of times, came and ensured there would be no further hiccups with his very unique style of boundary hitting coupled with running between the wickets. However, the architect of the chase was Mitchell, especially the way he handled the spinners. Granted both Ravindra Jadeja and Yadav struggled to get a tune off the strip but overseas batters need to identify that and have the capacity to utilise that to their advantage. And the 34-year-old did just that. What worked for him — what has always worked for him — is that he trusts his defence but also knows he has multiple hitting options. The sweep, the paddle behind the stumps, pumping down the ground as well as finding gaps on the off side.

On Wednesday night, he showcased his full repertoire. He scored 68 off his total runs against the two spinners (one of the main reasons why the two of them returned with figures of 1/126 in 18 overs). And there were all sorts of runs. A six down the ground, clips of the legs for singles, drives on the off side... it was a clinic on how to play spin in these parts. If India will want to look at one area looking ahead to that World Cup, it would be their spin department. What, though, would please them is the form of their batters. Couple of days after KL Rahul took them home, the wicketkeeper battled hard to hit a fine unbeaten 100. **Brief scores:** India 284/7 in 50 ovs (Gill 56, Rahul 112 n.o, Clarke 3/56) **lost to** New Zealand 286/3 in 47.3 ovs (Young 87, Mitchell 131 n.o).



NZ's Daryl Mitchell and Will Young added 162 runs for the third wicket | PTI

EXPRESS READ



Delhi beat UP, register first win of 2026 season

NAVI MUMBAI: Laura Wolvaardt and Marizanne Kapp held their nerve to seal a last-ball win for Delhi Capitals against UP Warriorz on Wednesday. Lizelle Lee (67) set up the chase for Capitals after UP posted 154/8. Capitals gained first points of the season. **Brief scores:** UPW 154/8 in 20 ovs (Lanning 54, Deol 47; Verma 2/16) **lost to** DC 158/3 in 20 ovs (Lee 67).

Senthilkumar, Tandon make winning start

DETROIT: Reigning men's national champion Velavan Senthilkumar and Ramit Tandon began the new PSA season on a winning note at the DR 21Motor City Open, a silver-level event. Senthilkumar, ranked 46th in the world, eased past England's Samuel Osborne-Wylde 11-9, 11-5, 11-6, while Tandon beat Tom Walsh 11-8, 11-4, 8-11, 11-4.

PWL to begin with clash between UP and Punjab

NOIDA: Pro Wrestling League (PWL) will return on Thursday with the opening tie between UP Dominators and Punjab Royals. All eyes will be on Antim Panghal as she will take in Punjab Royals' Meenakshi in the women's 53kg. In the women's 62kg category, Ana Godinez (62kg) will be facing Nisha Dahiya, a U23 world medallist.

Aus to play 3 matches in Pak before T20 WC

LAHORE: Australia will play three T20 Internationals in Lahore prior to the ICC T20 World Cup in India and Sri Lanka, the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) said on Wednesday. Australia will play day-night matches at the Gaddafi Stadium in Lahore on January 29, 31 and February 1 before both teams leave for the mega event.

Padikkal in focus ahead of VHT S/F

ENS @ Bengaluru

DEVDUTT Padikkal, who is scoring runs at will, will hold the key to Karnataka's chances as they take on Vidarbha in the first semifinal of the Vijay Hazare Trophy here on Wednesday.

Padikkal is batting like a man possessed, and his latest display came against Mumbai in the quarterfinal, where his unbeaten half-century pushed the rivals out of the contest. This season, the 25-year-old has scored four centuries, placing him at the top of the run charts. Karnataka's batting lineup with skipper Mayank Agarwal, Karun Nair and Abhinav Manohar so far this season have fired well. Vidarbha have shown the intent to post multiple 300-plus totals this season and they are equally adept at chasing big scores.

Young top-order batter Aman Mokade has also enjoyed a prolific season, scoring four centuries and a half-century. However, his single-digit scores in the last two matches is something Harsh Dubey would want him to address.

Young guns aim for glory

With India taking on USA in their opening game of the U19 Men's World Cup on Thursday, a look at their squad, fixtures and more...

ICC U19 MEN'S CRICKET WORLD CUP ZIMBABWE & NAMIBIA 2026

4 Australia are the defending champions as they beat India in the 2024 final to win their fourth title

GROUPINGS

GROUP A: AUS, IRE, Japan, SL.
GROUP B: BAN, IND, NZ, USA.
GROUP C: ENG, PAK, SCO, ZIM.
GROUP D: AFG, SA, TAN, WI

FAVOURITES INDIA SEEK GOOD START

Coming into the tournament, the star-studded Indian team have beaten South Africa U19 in SA and that should give them a confidence boost. Led by Ayush Mhatre, the five-time winners have a dynamic batting line-up which starts with Vaibhav Sooryavanshi at the top. The likes of Aaron George and Vihaan Malhotra also add to the strengths of the lineup.

EYES ON MHATRE, SOORYAVANSHI

While there are promising talents from top to bottom like RS Ambrish, D Deepesh etc., all eyes will be on skipper Ayush and opener Vaibhav. Having already made their marks in the IPL last year, the duo will be expected to perform better than the rest. Though India do not rely entirely on them, Ayush and Vaibhav could light up the tournament for the Blues.

India vs USA, Live on Star Sports and JioHotstar, 1 PM

1 MILLION PRIZE

How an amateur beat the likes of Sinner to win

THE Australian Open, known as the Happy Slam, continued its innovative One Point Slam. And the made for TV event saw participation from the likes of Carlos Alcaraz, Sinner and Iga Swiatek. In the end, though, the winner was Jordan Smith, a little known amateur who took home the top prize. A look...

XPLAINER

Wait, he beat Sinner?

Well, yes, kind of. So how this mixed gender event works is each match lasts all of one point and there are no warm-up, no rallies. It's man vs man or woman vs man or woman vs man. It features six rounds (five rounds if you are a seeded player) with the person winning it taking home a million dollars. Smith, en route to the final, prevailed over the Italian after the faulted on his serve. All pros get only one serve. Following that, he took out the likes of Amanda Anisimova and Pedro Martinez to reach the final.

Who did he face in the final?

True to the event's nascent unofficial branding ('anything can happen'), he faced Joanna Garland, a World No. 117. Garland had actually lost in the actual Australian Open qualifying on Tuesday, advanced through the qualifying event of the one point Slam before taking out the likes of Alexander Zverev, Nick Kyrgios and Donna Vekic. However, one shanked return in the final was all it took for Smith to walk away with the top honour.

What about Carlos & Iga?

Carlos Alcaraz, who loves a drop shot during the final of Majors, went to his trusted shot but it let him down against Maria Sakkari, a WTA star. Swiatek lost to Spain's Pedro Martinez. Others like Daniil Medvedev and Andrey Rublev were expected to have a chance but they also fell by the wayside as amateurs won big.



Is this a thing in all Majors?

Well, no, but considering Rod Laver Arena was filled to the brim to watch it, it could well be. After a lowkey first edition in 2025, they went big this year after the US Open came out with a novel mixed doubles event to open their Slam. It is part of a wider moment to maximise their earning potential leading upto the Major.

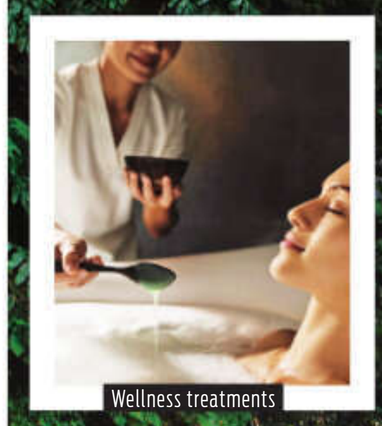


Germany introduces a visa-free transit facility for Indian passport holders travelling to non-Schengen countries



Air India economy class cabins are now accessible to your pet companions under 10 kgs under its *Paws on Board* policy

AS THE YEAR BEGINS TO SHAPE NEW TRAVEL TRENDS, WE EXPLORE THE ONE THAT'S CURRENTLY GAINING POPULARITY — HUSH TOURISM...



Wellness treatments



Kanazawa



The Himalayas



Ljubljana

Azores

SILENCE IS GOLDEN

SRUSHTI KULKARNI

IN 2026, the concept of hush tourism has evolved into a major industry trend. It has birthed a massive market called 'Hushpitality,' where the industry now prioritises quiet hospitality — a growing demand for destinations that offer: total silence, dead-zone cabins with no Wi-Fi or cellular signal. It also includes minimal human interaction and AI concierges that allow travellers to avoid social exhaustion. Even within this niche trend, there are micro-trends that one can explore before planning your next trip!

Sonic sanctuaries

Here, travellers wish to go into hiding or rather sojourn at a dedicated space using intentional sound to create peace, healing and transformation, acting as a refuge from auditory overstimulation. The Indian Himalayas make for a top choice. Smaller towns across Himachal Pradesh, Ladakh and Uttrakhand, nestled deep within mountains with rarely any human activity around are leading in inner alchemy. Across the seas, The Azores, Portugal, also known as the Islands of Silence, a volcanic archipelago has strict sustainability controls that limit crowds, making it a 2026 favorite for auditory detoxing.

Swapcation theory

This one is quite simple, tourists are exhausted with the exposure the big cities across the world get. Plus dealing with thefts on public transport, overcrowding and inflation only makes it harder to enjoy your holiday. A major 2026 strategy is trading a famous, noisy city for its quieter equivalent preserving the cultural experience you originally planned for. Examples include switching Japan's Kyoto with Kanazawa, Mexico's Tulum with Bacalar or even Venice with Ljubljana, all of which offer similar experiences for a fraction of price.

Dead zoning

Travellers are now booking cabins in zero Wi-Fi areas that feature device collection, lockboxes for phones, signal-blocking rooms or similar detoxing. Consider high end resorts like Ayana Resort in Bali, Six Senses Vana in Uttarakhand, Santani Wellness Resort in Sri Lanka and Chiva-Som International Health Resort in Thailand, for strict holidays. Another great option that naturally would hinder your experience if you looked at a device is astro-tourism. Celestial observations see a rise as silent stargazing retreats in the Atacama Desert, Namibia, Middle East and several locations across India, as well.

Digital hospitality

In 2026, luxury is defined by minimal human interaction. Travellers now prioritise digital-only check-ins to avoid the social battery drain of traditional reception desks or avoid having to make small talk with other travellers or staff on the property or through the duration of their trip. Many major hotel chains like Marriott, Hilton, Hyatt, IHG and MGM Resorts offer digital check-in, allowing guests to use their apps for mobile check-in, room selection and digital keys.

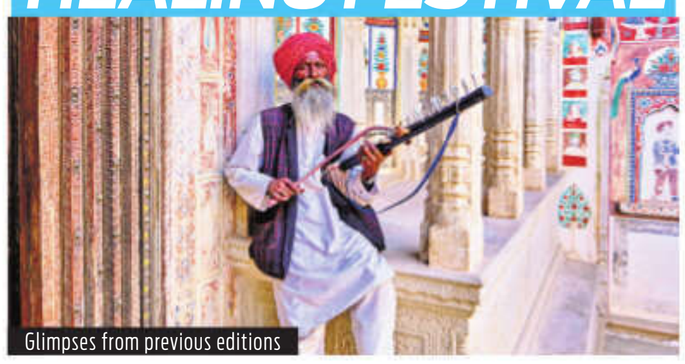


Decide for me

Several companies are now offering mystery itineraries where the traveller doesn't even know the destination until they arrive — removing the stress of having to choose between their dream destinations or planning the trip entirely. This is to help solve decision fatigue between affordibility, luxury and other factors.

SPOTLIGHT RAJASTHAN'S SHEKHAWATI REGION AT

VEDAARANYA HERITAGE AND HEALING FESTIVAL



Glimpses from previous editions

Through walks, traditional experiences, cultural gatherings and more, this event in collaboration with UNESCO returns for its 10th edition!

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

10TH edition of the *Vedaaranya Heritage and Healing Festival*, scheduled from January 22 to 26 in Ramgarh Shekhawati, Rajasthan. The festival is presented by *Shruti Foundation* in collaboration with *UNESCO* and *INTACH*, with support from the *Ministry of Tourism and Culture*, *Incredible India* and the *Rajasthan Foundation*. The 2026 theme is *Women in Heritage*.

The festival will open with a *UNESCO* panel led by Tim Curtis (Head, *UNESCO* South Asia). Ramgarh is a historical town in the Sikar district of Shekhawati region famous for its rich culture, *havelis*, frescos and stepwells; it is also called the 'City of *Seths*' because it was founded by merchants and is known for its unique art. Visitors will discover the healing traditions of Shekhawati through interactive sessions led by Manju Misra and Chandanmal Swami Vaid. *Mind Mood and Food* with Vidhi Beri will explore the emotional and nutritional intelligence of everyday eating. Heritage walks will take guests through the painted architecture of Ramgarh while evenings will conclude with intimate candlelit gatherings and musical experiences.

Artistes, craftspersons, healers, designers and cultural leaders from India and abroad will come together to exchange ideas and celebrate the living spirit of Shekhawati. At the festival, one can experience a musical evening by Ila Arun at Sethani *ka* Johad, Churu; *The Descent of Shakti* at Ramgarh Fort, conceptualised by Gauri Sharma Tripathi; *Dastaan Goi* on Meena Kumari by Fouzia; and the exhibition *Raja Ravi Varma's Women in Art and Their Influence on the Indian Mind* at Mohar Haveli, with Raja Rama Varma. The festival will also feature *Chant and Cello*, a spiritual and classical musical experience by Saskia Rao de Haas and Shruti Nada Poddar. Irish artiste Siobhan Molloy will perform in the beautifully painted *chhatris* of Ramgarh. Folk traditions of Rajasthan will come alive with performances by the *Langas* and the *Kalbeliyas*.





The *Chhau Music Festival* returns to Odisha!

Besides being a rare opportunity to experience all three distinct styles of *UNESCO*-listed *chhau*, one can also experience guided village tours, palace visits, artisan visits and more...



Chhau Music Festival

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

THE Belgadia Palace, in partnership with Aadi Naad and Rare India, has announced the 2026 edition of *The Chhau Music Festival*, a three-day cultural event celebrating *chhau*, a *UNESCO*-listed *Intangible Cultural Heritage* dance form of Eastern India. Scheduled to commence on January 29, the festival calls everyone appreciating performing arts, heritage and experiential travel to Baripada, Odisha — the birthplace of the *mayurbhanj* style of *chhau* — for an authentic encounter with the living tradition. Located along the east bank of the Budhabalanga river, Baripada is the cultural centre of north Odisha. A city that's home to Similipal National Park, Balidiha Dam, Mayurbhanj Palace, Hari Baladev Jew Temple, Sriram Chandra Library and other attractions.



Mayurbhanj Palace

Chhau draws from martial drills, folk traditions and classical dance. The art form brings mythology and folklore vividly alive. The *Chhau Music Festival* 2026 presents a rare opportunity to experience all three distinct styles of *chhau* — Odisha's maskless *mayurbhanj Chhau*, *saraikela chhau* from Jharkhand and *purulia chhau* from West Bengal.

Hosted at The Belgadia Palace, a 200-year-old Victorian-era residence of the Bhanj Deo royal family, the festival unfolds within a boutique heritage stay in Baripada, which offers regal hospitality, farm-to-table Odia cuisine, guided palace tours and curated cultural experiences, while supporting sustainable tourism, women-led enterprises and the revival of regional traditions. *Chhau Music Festival* also offers deep cultural immersion through intimate talks with members of the royal family and local NGO founders, visits to the authentic Baripada *Haat*, hands-on cooking sessions with chef Joymalya Banerjee, heritage walks, artisan village visits and village-based workshops.



Glimpses from previous edition

TRAVEL DIARY

The Postcard Ayurveda Retreat opens doors in old Goa



Overlooking acres of tranquil reserve forests, The Postcard Hotel's first-of-its-kind private sanctuary is entirely dedicated to wellness, in collaboration with Sitaram Ayurveda's 104-year tradition backed by deep knowledge around the healing science of Ayurveda. A stay at this new property, nestled in a *UNESCO*-celebrated enclave, starts from minimum 7 nights and are all-inclusive healing journeys focused on providing highly personalised programmes for medical wellness, rather than a recreational leisure escape.

Jawai, Rajasthan welcomes a new luxe resort by the Jüsta group



Jüsta Hotels & Resorts has launched a boutique wildlife retreat named Luxe High Point Jawai, in the famed leopard country. Spread over two and a half acres of area, the property features eighteen thoughtfully designed accommodations equipped with heated plunge pools, open-air showers, private gardens and spacious sit-out areas. Guests can enjoy some of the region's attractions, including the Jawai Dam, the Ranakpur Jain Temple, Pola Lake, guided jungle safaris and birdwatching experiences.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

TIRUPATI | THURSDAY | 15.01.2026



Happy Birthday to GURAJALA JAGANMOHAN

MLA, CHITTOOR

A SPACE MARKETING INITIATIVE





FROM GRASS ROOTS WORKER TO CHITTOOR MLA

Gurajala Jagan Mohan's rise marked by loyalty, service and quiet confidence

The political journey of Gurajala Jagan Mohan, the present MLA from Chittoor, is rooted in conviction, loyalty and steady perseverance. His association with politics began in 2004, inspired by the leadership of Telugu Desam Party (TDP) supremo Nara Chandrababu Naidu.

As a young TDP activist, Jagan Mohan actively took part in party programmes and frequently accompanied Chandrababu Naidu during tours. Whenever Chandrababu Naidu or Nara Lokesh visited Bengaluru, Jagan Mohan was often seen alongside them. At the same time, he was building his career in construction and real estate. Over the years, he emerged as a familiar and influential face not only in Chittoor constituency but across the district.

In the 2014 elections, he worked relentlessly for the victory of TDP candidate Shankar Yadav in Tamballapalli constituency. Staying in the constituency till the end of the polls, he played a key role in the campaign and contributed significantly to the win.

His involvement in district-level politics and TDP forums in Bengaluru helped him gain wide political exposure. From then on, he aspired to contest from his native Chittoor constituency. By 2024, he was among the active aspirants, taking part in daily campaigns and standing firmly with the party during difficult times.

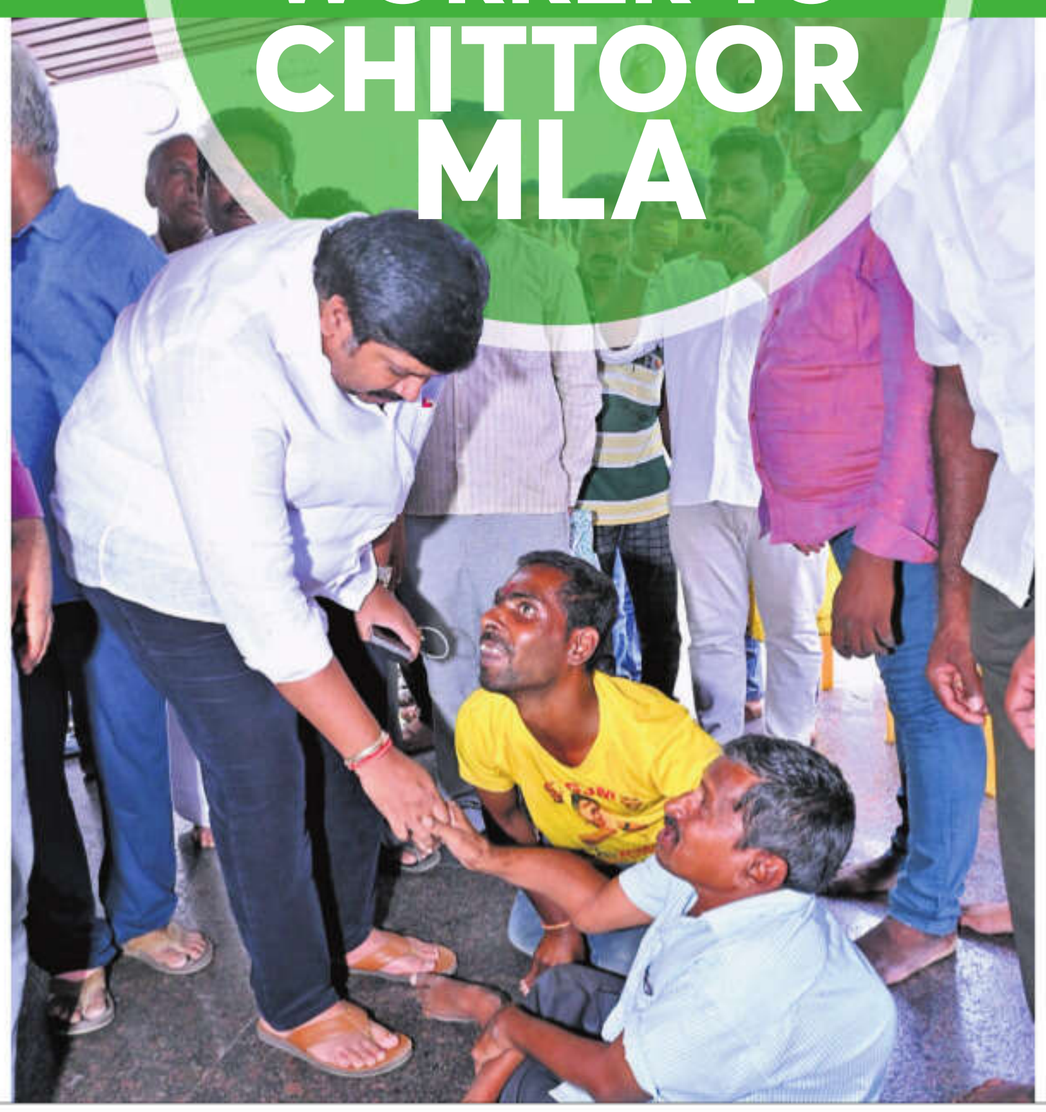
LOYALTY, BOND AND PUBLIC SERVICE

Jagan Mohan's commitment to the party was most visible during its testing times. He joined padayatras, participated in protest programmes after Chandrababu Naidu's arrest, and organised an 11-day Maha Chandiyagam at Naidu's residence in Chittoor, inviting priests and party leaders to pray for his release.

He also led a large protest at Freedom Park in Bengaluru demanding Chandrababu Naidu's release and actively carried forward the "Babu Surety, Future Guarantee" campaign in his constituency, which found strong public support.

His association with Nara Lokesh has been equally notable. He celebrated Lokesh's birthday in Chittoor with enthusiasm, organising a large cake-cutting event at the district party office and conducting charity activities in hospitals and old-age homes.

During Lokesh's padayatra, Jagan Mohan played a crucial role by mobilising leaders and cadre in large numbers. He often speaks of Lokesh's simplicity and respect for party workers, saying such qualities naturally inspire long-term loyalty. Beyond politics, Jagan Mohan remained active in service initiatives. He spent ₹7.30 lakh for the construction of a kitchen and prayer hall at Naraharipeta Zilla Parishad High School. He also arranged 400 vehicles for Om Shakti devotees to travel to Melmaruvathur, bearing rental costs and distributing clothes and financial assistance. For him, public life blends service, faith and responsibility.



MEETING CRITICISM HEAD-ON

As his political profile grew, critics labelled him a newcomer or an 'import' from Karnataka. Jagan Mohan countered this by pointing out that Bengaluru is just 170 km from Chittoor and that many educated people work elsewhere while continuing to serve their native places. He maintained that politics is defined by commitment, not geography.

His statement 'Gurajala Jagan Mohan ane nenu', made even before ticket confirmation, drew criticism. He clarified that it reflected self-belief, not arrogance. According to him, honest effort builds mental strength, which in turn leads to success.

He also rejected claims that his candidature was solely due to his friendship with Lokesh. While they shared a bond even before politics, he said Lokesh treats every party worker as a friend. His ticket, he asserted, was the result of grassroots work, surveys, his background and organisational trust.

FROM CANDIDATURE TO VICTORY

As the 2024 elections neared, Jagan Mohan often recalled his father's wish to see him serve as MLA from Chittoor. He believes this became possible only under Chandrababu Naidu's leadership, whom he reveres as his 'Kal Yug Pratyaksha Daivam'.

Contesting the 2024 Assembly elections from Chittoor as a TDP candidate, in alliance with BJP and Jana Sena Party, he secured 88,066 votes. He defeated YSR Congress Party candidate M C Vijayananda Reddy by a margin of 14,604 votes.

From a disciplined party activist to a people's representative, Gurajala Jagan Mohan's journey reflects resilience and steady dedication. For the people of Chittoor, he stands not just as their MLA, but as a leader shaped by grassroots work, loyalty and a deep sense of service.



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Happy Birthday to GURAJALA JAGANMOHAN

MLA, CHITTOOR

A SPACE MARKETING INITIATIVE

TDP MLA UNVEILS A ROADMAP TO DEVELOP CHITTOOR AS A MODEL CITY

In what could be described as one of the most comprehensive and future-oriented urban development blueprints ever outlined for Chittoor, Gurajala Jagan Mohan, MLA of Chittoor representing the Telugu Desam Party (TDP), has presented a sweeping vision that promises to fundamentally redefine the city's identity, resilience, and economic strength



Speaking in a wide-ranging interaction, the MLA has laid out a multi-sectoral strategy that addresses Chittoor's long-pending challenges most notably the recurring floods caused by the Niva River while simultaneously preparing the city for rapid urbanisation, industrial growth, and sustainable living.

From a ₹190-crore permanent flood mitigation project to industrial corridors, modern market infrastructure, assured drinking water supply, eco-friendly mobility, and world-class education facilities, the plan reflects a rare blend of engineering precision, economic foresight, and people-centric governance.

PERMANENT SOLUTION TO NIVA RIVER FLOOD THREAT

Flooding along the Niva River has for decades been a recurring nightmare for residents living in low-lying areas of Chittoor city. "A ₹190-crore permanent flood mitigation project was sanctioned by Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu on my request," he said.

A comprehensive flood management project has already received budgetary approval from the Irrigation Department. Unlike earlier piecemeal or temporary measures, this project is rooted in scientific hydrological studies, and modern urban flood-control principles. The plan includes construction of advanced storm-water drains, high-strength retaining walls, systematic desilting of the riverbed, channel widening and improvement, and reinforcement of vulnerable riverbanks. The project also envisages beautification of affected river stretches, transforming them into safe and visually appealing urban spaces. "The aim is permanent relief, not short-term fixes," the MLA emphasised, noting that the project will enhance the overall urban environment.

EMPLOYMENT-CENTRIC GROWTH IN STRATEGIC LOCATION

With youth employment emerging as a pressing concern, Jagan Mohan highlighted Chittoor's unique geographical advantage - its strategic location between the industrial and commercial powerhouses of Chennai and Bengaluru. Leveraging this, the State government is developing industrial clusters and logistics hubs along the Chittoor-Chennai corridor, and the Chennai-Bengaluru National Highway. Land procurement for these clusters has already begun, signalling a clear move from planning to execution. These hubs are expected to attract agro-processing units, warehousing facilities, logistics companies, and light manufacturing industries. The ripple effect, according to the MLA, will be large-scale job creation for local youth, reduction in migration, and a significant boost to the district's economy.

BALANCED GROWTH WITH FOCUS ON RURAL-URBAN INTEGRATION

Ensuring that growth is not concentrated only in select pockets, the development roadmap gives priority to Gudipala and Chittoor Rural mandals. These areas are being developed with a holistic approach, encompassing better road connectivity, reliable drinking water supply, modern drainage systems, and upgraded civic amenities. The MLA stressed that planning is being done with local residents at the centre, ensuring that development remains inclusive.







MODERNISATION OF MANGO TRADE AND MARKET INFRASTRUCTURE

Chittoor's identity as a major mango trading hub is set for a major upgrade. To decongest the city and improve facilities for farmers and traders, a new state-of-the-art Mango Market Yard is being constructed on the outskirts of Chittoor. The new mandi will feature scientific auction platforms, cold storage facilities, ripening chambers, grading and packing units, robust internal roads, proper drainage, and ample parking for vehicles. These facilities are expected to improve price realisation for farmers, reduce post-harvest losses, and bring efficiency and transparency to the trading system. At the same time, the existing old market yard within the city will not be neglected. It is being redeveloped into a U-shaped Integrated Market Complex, offering permanent and affordable market spaces to vendors. Modelled on the successful Siddipet Market Complex, the facility will benefit both traders and consumers.

EDUCATION AS A GROWTH ENGINE

For the first time in Chittoor's history, a Kendriya Vidyalaya will be established, significantly enhancing access to quality education. Beyond this, the government is planning two universities, one integrated government university and one private university. These institutions aim to ensure that students from Chittoor and surrounding regions no longer have to migrate to distant cities for higher education. The MLA reaffirmed that all assurances given during the 2024 Assembly elections in the education sector will be fulfilled.





CONSENSUS-DRIVEN ROAD WIDENING AND INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADE

Acknowledging that road widening often faces public resistance, Jagan Mohan attributed recent successes to transparency. In areas such as Kattamanchi, Gandhi High Road, and Santhapeta, the MLA personally engaged with property owners, explaining long-term benefits. As a result, major road widening works were completed smoothly. Key projects like the Gandhi High Road-Santhapeta stretch and the Palamaner-Iruvaram double road have enhanced urban mobility.

GREEN MOBILITY AND ECO-FRIENDLY INITIATIVES

Aligning development with sustainability, the government is rolling out an eco-green initiative involving the introduction of around 800 battery-powered cycles. Offered at subsidised prices, these cycles are intended to promote clean, non-polluting urban mobility while encouraging healthier lifestyles. The initiative reflects a commitment to reducing carbon emissions and building an environmentally responsible city.

URBAN BEAUTIFICATION

Tank bunds at Bangarakkacheru and Kattamanchi Cheruvu are being transformed into vibrant public spaces with parks, walking tracks, seating areas, food courts, and landscaped zones. Inspired by the Hussain Sagar model, statues of prominent leaders and kings are also planned to enhance cultural appeal.



ASSURED DRINKING WATER FROM HNSS RESERVOIR

Water security forms another critical pillar of Chittoor's future. To meet the city's growing drinking water needs, a dedicated pipeline is being laid from the HNSS Adavipalli Reservoir. With the approval and active support of the Chief Minister, this project is expected to drastically reduce dependence on groundwater. Once completed, the pipeline will provide protected and sustainable drinking water to Chittoor city. Measures have already been taken to ensure safe drinking water supply to every household through tap connections in all wards of the Chittoor Municipal Corporation. This initiative will ensure equitable access to protected water across the city.

VISION FOR A MODEL CITY

Summing up his vision, Jagan Mohan said Chittoor is being shaped into a modern, well-planned urban city inspired by the Bengaluru metropolitan model. With permanent flood solutions, sustainable infrastructure, strong education and employment ecosystems, and inclusive planning, Chittoor is poised to emerge as a model city in Andhra Pradesh. The roadmap signals not just development, but a decisive shift towards long-term and people-centric urban transformation.



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Happy Birthday to

GURAJALA JAGANMOHAN

MLA, CHITTOOR

A SPACE MARKETING INITIATIVE

HIS STORY IS A SAGA OF SERVICE & VISION



Born on January 15, 1983 in Kolavooru village of Gudipala mandal in Chittoor district, Gurajala Jagan Mohan's life story is one of resilience, determination and service. His father, Gurajala Chennakeshavulu Naidu, hailed from a farming family, but moved to Chittoor city in pursuit of livelihood. Starting as a conductor in private buses, and later managing a poultry business, he instilled in his son the values of hard work and perseverance.

Jagan Mohan grew up watching his father's struggles, and listening to political discussions at home, which sowed the seeds of his own interest in public life.



His education was interrupted when his father seriously fell ill with jaundice at the age of 51. As the eldest son, Jagan Mohan had to shoulder family responsibilities, and manage the poultry business.

With youthful energy and bold decisions, he expanded the business threefold, at one point dispatching nearly a lakh chickens daily in 10 vehicles.

However, local circumstances forced the family to wind down business operations, and in 2003, his father sent him to Bengaluru. There, Jagan Mohan reinvented himself—venturing into construction, real estate, and eventually becoming a successful developer.





ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT AND EDUCATIONAL VISION

In Bengaluru, Jagan Mohan's entrepreneurial drive flourished. He established ventures in construction and real estate, reaching impressive heights. Yet, his passion for education remained strong.

Determined to support underprivileged students, he founded Geetanjali Olympiad School, which educated over 700 children, offering free education to many after the COVID-19 pandemic.

His creative pursuits also led him into cinema. Through Unicraft Movies, he produced *Manalo Okkadu*, directed by RP Patnaik, marking his entry into the film industry.

SERVICE AS A SACRED DUTY

Despite his success, Jagan Mohan never forgot his roots. Inspired by the maxim "Paropakaratham idam sareeram" (the body exists to serve others), he returned to Chittoor with a mission to give back.

In 2007, he established the GJM Foundation in Lakshmi Nagar Colony, Chittoor, channelling crores of rupees into charitable initiatives.

Guided by Mother Teresa's words—"Hands that help are holier than lips that pray"—he focused on education, healthcare, community welfare, and religious service. His foundation has supported students with free bus passes, study materials, and financial aid, while contributing to temples, churches, and community organisations.

POLITICAL RISE

In 2024, Jagan Mohan contested the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly elections from Chittoor constituency as a candidate of the Telugu Desam Party (TDP), in alliance with the BJP and the Jana Sena Party. He secured a total of 88,066 votes, defeating his nearest rival MC Vijayananda Reddy of YSR Congress Party by a margin of 14,604 votes.

Today, as the elected MLA of Chittoor, Jagan Mohan continues to blend his entrepreneurial acumen with his commitment to public service.

His journey—from a middle-class agricultural family to a successful businessman, philanthropist, and legislator—stands as a testament to perseverance and dedication. Jagan Mohan's life is not just a political success story; it is a saga of service, sacrifice, and vision.

Whether through education, community welfare, or cultural preservation, he has consistently demonstrated that leadership is about empowering people.

For the people of Chittoor, Jagan Mohan is not merely their representative—he is their friend, benefactor, and champion of progress.















IMPACTFUL INITIATIVES

JAGAN MOHAN'S SERVICE PROGRAMMES SPAN ACROSS DIVERSE SECTORS

Education support

Distributed over **10,000 free** RTC bus passes worth **₹5 lakh** to rural students

Provided study materials, water bottles to students, besides financial aid for higher education

Constructed school buildings and supported infrastructure development in Chittoor city



Community welfare

Distributed **20,000** umbrellas and **20,000** wall clocks worth **₹80 lakh**

Gifted **25,000** devotional portraits worth **₹75 lakh** to households

Honoured **600 teachers** during Guru Pooja

Supplied **15,000** clay Ganesh idols, and donated **₹20 lakh** for Vinayaka Chavithi festivities

Organised annadanam on birth anniversaries of leaders DK Adikesavulu and DA Satyaprabha

SPORTS & YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

- Organised volleyball tournaments, distributed sports kits, and sponsored athletes
- Provided thousands of helmets free of cost to bikers to ensure road safety
- Infrastructure & civic amenities
- Installed cement benches at bus stops, parks, and hospital junctions for public convenience
- Donated **₹40 lakh** for a high-capacity cremation furnace, earning widespread appreciation

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

● Donated 400 pushcarts worth **₹80 lakh** to street vendors ● Extended financial aid to families of senior TDP workers for education and healthcare ● Religious & cultural contributions ● Donated **₹7.3 lakh** for the construction of a marriage hall at Varasiddhi Vinayaka Temple, Murakambattu ● Distributed Christmas gifts worth **₹60 lakh** to Christian families and church fathers ● Supported Diwali celebrations with sweets, crackers, and gifts worth **₹5 lakh**



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Happy Birthday to GURAJALA JAGANMOHAN

MLA, CHITTOOR

A SPACE MARKETING INITIATIVE









A COLLECTIVE GOOD OPINION ON GURAJALA

Across Chittoor, there is respect, and gratitude for a leader who combines administrative understanding with grassroots experience, and with a clear vision for urban development

On the occasion of the birthday of Gurajala Jagan Mohan, MLA of Chittoor, a cross-section of public representatives, elected leaders, community heads, and citizens have come forward to extend their heartfelt wishes to him, and share their opinions on his leadership.

Across the Assembly constituency, there is a common sentiment of respect, and gratitude for a leader who combines administrative understanding with grassroots experience, and compassion with a clear vision for development. Many leaders have described Jagan Mohan as a visionary who clearly understands the dynamics of urban governance and development.

AN ICON OF PROGRESSIVE VISION

"The MLA has a strong grasp of urban development, and consistently encourages development initiatives. His positive attitude, guidance, and support have played an important role in ensuring that development works move forward smoothly. He is a good human being as well as a committed public representative," said Katari Hemalatha, Chairperson of Chittoor Urban Development Authority (CHUDA).

She observed that soon after being elected, Jagan Mohan initiated several development programmes that began transforming Chittoor city, which, according to her, had seen very little progress for decades. She highlighted that his proactive approach brought renewed momentum to urban development and civic infrastructure.

Extending birthday greetings on behalf of the people of the city, S Amudha, Mayor of Chittoor Municipal Corporation, expressed hope that Jagan Mohan's leadership would continue to drive sustained growth.

A RARE MLA WITH COMMON ROOTS

"Jagan Mohan is a rare MLA in today's political landscape. The MLA who hails from a common family background, continues to prioritise the issues faced by ordinary people. His close connection with the public has earned Jagan Mohan widespread respect and trust. The MLA's accessibility and sincerity sets him apart," said K Ramesh Naidu, Chairman of Chittoor Co-operative Town Bank Ltd.

A TRUE LEADER OF FARMERS

From the farming community, strong appreciation has been expressed for Jagan Mohan's understanding of agricultural issues. The MLA who was born into a farming family, grew up as a farmer, and truly understands the hardships faced by farmers.

"This background allows him to empathise deeply with rural and agricultural communities. On his birthday, I extend my heartfelt wishes to our beloved MLA Gurajala Jagan Mohan, acknowledging his consistent support to farmers and agricultural markets," said V Jhansi Venkatesh, Chairperson of Chittoor Agricultural Market Committee.

COMMITMENT TO PANCHAYAT DEVELOPMENT

At the grassroots level, Jagan Mohan's role in strengthening panchayats has been widely acknowledged. During the past five years, many sarpanches suffered due to severe financial crisis. During this difficult period, Jagan Mohan had come forward, offering support and solutions when they were most needed. On behalf of sarpanches of the constituency, N Mohan Raj, Sarpanch of Paloor in Chittoor Rural mandal, conveyed his birthday wishes and gratitude to the MLA.

A HOPE FOR BC UPLIFT

Leaders representing Backward Classes have also highlighted the MLA's inclusive development agenda. CMTS Tyagarajan, Chairman of the Andhra Pradesh State Mudaliar Financial Corporation, said, "Jagan Mohan is a commendable leader, whose primary goal is the development of Backward Classes in the Chittoor constituency. The MLA's efforts have given hope and confidence to marginalised sections."

The BCs have wished Jagan Mohan a happy birthday, hoping that his initiatives for the economic uplift of Backward Class communities will continue.

THE MAN BEHIND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

Women leaders have lauded Jagan Mohan for his focus on women's empowerment. "Gurajala as a champion of women's empowerment, has implemented and encouraged several development programmes aimed at improving the social and economic status of women. Extending her birthday wishes, K Sumathi, former ZPTC member of Gudipala Mandal, expressed confidence that his continued support would further strengthen women-centric initiatives across the Assembly constituency.





A LEADER WHOSE HELP IS NEVER FORGOTTEN

From the unorganised and manual labour sectors, heartfelt appreciation has been voiced for the MLA's compassion. Jagan Mohan as a brotherly figure, stood by manual labourers in times of need. For many in the community, the MLA is like an elder in the family, who provided support and assurance when they felt vulnerable. Wishing him a long and prosperous life on the occasion of his birthday, Palani, representing the Handicrafts Association, emphasised that such benevolent acts of the MLA would never be forgotten.

A TRUE LEADER WHO EMPOWERS COMMON PEOPLE

Personal testimonies further highlight the MLA's inclusive leadership style. "I was encouraged by Jagan Mohan, who made me as an Agriculture Market Committee member. This gesture is a reflection of the MLA's faith in ordinary people, and his commitment to empowering us. Jagan Mohan is a true leader, who strives for the empowerment of common people," said Jayapalan, member of Agriculture Market Committee, Chittoor.

A HELPING HAND FOR THE POOR

Small business owners and local residents have also shared their appreciation. Jagan Mohan is known for his compassion towards the poor, and his readiness to provide financial assistance for the uplift of the downtrodden. D Vijaya Lakshmi of Vasanthapuram extended her birthday wishes to the MLA, acknowledging his consistent efforts to support those struggling to make ends meet.

A ROLE MODEL FOR FARMERS AND RURAL WORKERS

From rural areas, gratitude has been expressed for the MLA's initiatives to prevent distress migration. At a time when farmers were migrating from villages due to lack of rainfall and crop failure, he became a role model by creating employment opportunities, and instilling hope among small and marginal farmers. On the occasion of his birthday, K Murali Naidu of Kilaripalli conveyed his wishes, recognising the MLA's role in stabilising several rural livelihoods.

Taken together, these voices form a strong public opinion that portrays Jagan Mohan as a leader rooted in simplicity and empathy. Whether it is urban growth, agricultural welfare, panchayat support, women's empowerment, BC uplift, or aid to the poor, the consistent message is that he listens, understands, and responds. On his birthday, people from all walks of life have not only extended wishes but also reaffirmed their trust in his leadership, hoping that he will continue to serve Chittoor with the same dedication and commitment in the years to come.

