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'TALKS GOING GOOD'

Trump hints at likely India visit next year

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CAPITAL CHAOS

ATC snag delays over 500 flights in Delhi

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150 YEARS OF VANDE MATARAM

Parts of song dropped, stoking Partition: Modi

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NEW GROUND

Breaking boundaries

More and more girls across the country are taking to cricket

GROUND ZERO » PAGE 9



FINAL T20I TODAY

Team India targets another series win

SPORT » PAGE 15

NEARBY



₹2.5 crore cash award, land, job for Shree Charani

AMARAVATI
Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu announced a cash award of ₹2.5 crore, 1,000 square yards of land and a Group-1 officer post for cricketer Shree Charani, a member of Indian women's cricket team that won the World Cup. » Page 6

TTD's Vaikunta Dwara Darshan tickets soon

TIRUMALA
The TTD on Friday said that the schedule for the release of Vaikunta Ekadasi Dwara Darshan tickets will be announced soon. » Page 6

Remove stray dogs from public places, orders SC

Court directs neutering and vaccination of dogs before relocating them to a shelter; it says public institutions must be secured to prevent entry of animals, orders removal of cattle from highways

Aaratrika Bhaumik
NEW DELHI

Expressing concern over the "disturbing increase" in dog-bite incidents across the country, the Supreme Court on Friday directed all the States and the Union Territories to "forthwith" remove stray dogs from educational institutions, hospitals, sports complexes, bus stands and depots, and railway stations, and relocate them "to a designated shelter". The dogs have to be sterilised and vaccinated in accordance with the Animal Birth Control (ABC) Rules, 2023 before relocation.

A Bench of Justices Vikram Nath, Sandeep Mehta, and N.V. Anjaria directed that stray canines removed from such premises shall not be released back into the same locality. "We have consciously directed the non-release of such stray dogs to the same location from which they were picked up, as permitting the same would frustrate the very effect of the directions issued to liberate such institutional areas from the presence of stray dogs," the Bench said.



Canine raid: The court directed that dogs removed from a place should not be released into the same locality. B. VELANKANNI RAJ

The directions were issued in the apex court's *suo motu* proceedings aimed at framing a national framework for stray dog management and ensuring compliance with existing statutory regulations.

Placing the responsibility of implementation on local bodies, the court directed the respective municipal authorities to ensure the immediate removal of stray dogs and to submit compliance reports within eight weeks, detailing the remedial measures undertaken to secure adherence to the court's directions.

'Frequent accidents'
Also, the Bench acknowledged that accidents involving cattle and stray animals on roads have become "alarmingly frequent". It directed the National Highways Authority of India, and transport and municipal authorities to ensure the removal of cattle and other stray animals from the highways.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 10

SC to hear on Nov. 11 pleas challenging legality of SIR

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday urgently listed on November 11 detailed arguments addressing the very legality of the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls. The Election Commission kicked off the exercise in Bihar on June 24 ahead of the ongoing State Assembly polls and, in the second phase, has planned to cover 51 crore voters in 12 States and Union Territories, including Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Kerala and Puducherry.

A Bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi fixed the case for 11.15 a.m. on November 11 after advocates Prashant Bhushan and Neha Rathi made an oral mentioning. The SIR case had been listed earlier on November 4.

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Hasina says mistakes were 'certainly made' by her security forces

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

Fifteen months after fleeing capital Dhaka in the midst of an uprising, Bangladesh's deposed Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has said that "mistakes" were "certainly made" by her security forces while responding to the "disordered situation".



Sheikh Hasina

'Made in good faith'
"Our security personnel on the ground were responding to fast-changing and violent circumstances. Mistakes were certainly made in the way some members of the security forces responded to the violence, but the decisions made by senior government officials were proportionate in nature, made in good faith and intended to minimise the loss of life," said Ms. Hasina in interview to *The Hindu* via email.

Ms. Hasina's response came as the International Crimes Tribunal (ICT) in Dhaka has been preparing to deliver a verdict on her and several top members of her deposed government. "A guilty verdict is pre-determined, and I will not be surprised when it comes," said Ms. Hasina, adding "I am not confident that the February 2026 elections will go ahead."

FULL INTERVIEW ON
» PAGE 10

No one in the country believes it was pilot's fault: SC on AI crash

Aaratrika Bhaumik
NEW DELHI

The court clarified that no official report had held the cockpit crew responsible for the June 12 tragedy

The Supreme Court on Friday orally observed that no fault could be ascribed to the pilot who was commanding the Air India Boeing 787 Dreamliner that crashed shortly after take-off from Ahmedabad on June 12, claiming over 250 lives, and clarified that no official report had held the cockpit crew responsible for the tragedy.

A Bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi said it was even willing to record this position formally as it took up for hearing a petition filed by Pushkar Raj Sabharwal, father of the late Captain Sumeet Sabharwal, seeking a judicially monitored investigation into the crash.

Appearing for the petitioner, senior advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan contended that the preliminary findings of the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) were "biased and incomplete" and appeared to attribute the cause of the crash to pilot error while overlooking possible technical and systemic failures that warranted an independent probe.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 10

Investment proposals worth ₹1.01 lakh crore get SIPB nod

The Hindu Bureau
VIJAYAWADA

The State Investment Promotion Board (SIPB) meeting, chaired by Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, on Friday, approved investment proposals worth ₹1,01,899 crore submitted by 26 industries, with a potential to generate 85,870 jobs in Andhra Pradesh.

With the latest approvals, the State's total investment inflows under the current government have reached ₹8,08,899 crore, with the potential to create employment opportunities for 7.05 lakh people, according to official data presented during the meeting.

Emphasising the need for swift execution of the projects, the Chief Minister said, "Ensure that all sanctioned industries are grounded as per schedule."



N. Chandrababu Naidu chairing the SIPB meeting at the Secretariat on Friday.

Underscoring the importance of maintaining an industrial land bank, Mr. Naidu advised the officials to encourage landowners willing to provide land for industrial use to facilitate rapid industrialisation.

He instructed them to develop 15 industrial zones for cluster-based industrial growth and fully leverage Central government incentives to attract and support new ventures.

Regional development
Outlining his broader vision for regional development, Mr. Naidu said Visakhapatnam should evolve into a Mega City by merging its surrounding areas up to Vizianagaram and Anakapalli.

Similarly, Amaravati and Tirupati would be developed as major hubs for tourism and IT. Several IT companies have evinced interest in investing in Visakhapatnam following the Google's announcement to set up an AI data centre there.

Mr Naidu said that three IAS officers would be appointed to oversee the development of the State's three economic corridors.

Kurnool bus fire: V. Kaveri owner arrested, granted bail

The Hindu Bureau
KURNOOL

The police on Friday arrested Vemuri Vinod Kumar, the owner of V. Kaveri private travel bus that went up in flames after colliding with a bike, claiming 19 lives last month.

However, Vinod Kumar, was granted bail by the court later in the day.

The private bus collided with a bike that was lying on the road after the rider skidded off and fell down on the National Highway -44 at Chinnatekur village of Kallur mandal in Kurnool district in the early hours of October 24.

The Ulindakonda police, which registered a case, named the bus driver, Miriyala Lakshmaiah, as the accused number 1 and the owner, Vinok Kumar as the accused number 2.

During the investigation, the police found several violations in the design of the vehicle and non-compliance with basic safety guidelines by the bus management.

Bus driver Lakshmaiah was arrested on October 28, while Vinod Kumar was arrested on Friday morning, a release by the Kurnool police said.

Vinod Kumar, was produced before the Judicial First Class Magistrate (JFCM), Special Mobile Court which granted him bail.

Pawan calls for alignment of rural roads with GeoSadak

The Hindu Bureau
VIJAYAWADA

Deputy Chief Minister K. Pawan Kalyan has asked the officials to expedite the process of linking all rural roads with GeoSadak, the online platform of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana that displays geospatial data related to village roads.

Aligning with the GeoSadak would help in real-time tracking of road conditions and undertake improvement measures, Mr. Pawan Kalyan said.

DETAILED REPORT ON
» PAGE 6

'T.N.'s vision for sustainability, inclusive economy will make blueprint for nation'

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

In 2047, when India marks its centenary year of Independence, Tamil Nadu's vision for sustainability and an inclusive economy will also become the blueprint for the nation, said Srivats Ram, former chairman of CII Tamil Nadu and managing director of Wheels India, in Chennai on Friday.

At the inauguration of the Sustainability Summit 2025 organised by *The Hindu*, in association with Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited (CPCL) and co-presented by Tamil Nadu Green Climate Company (TNGCC), he said the State has been at the forefront of renewable energy for many years. "At present, we are third in terms of the total renewable energy [capacity] in the country. The State is first in terms of wind capacity. It could continue to focus on this sector, and this will [benefit] the manufacturing ecosystem," he said.



H. Shankar, managing director, CPCL; N. Ravi, director, Kasturi and Sons Limited, and Srivats Ram, former chairman, CII, Tamil Nadu, inaugurate the Sustainability Summit 2025. R. RAGU

He said the southern States are advancing in tandem and are more progressive than the rest of the country. "We can make significant progress by working on sustainability and towards enabling future growth. Sustainability is a profitable venture, something that is not spoken about," he added.

H. Shankar, managing director, CPCL, said the company is 60 years old and has a proud legacy of being one of the foremost pioneers in the industry.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 10
RELATED REPORTS ON
» PAGES 4 & 5



INBRIEF



Socialism gaining appeal, imperialism losing grip: CPI(M)

The Communist Party of India-Marxist [CPI(M)] politburo member B.V. Raghavulu on Friday said imperialists, particularly the U.S., are fast losing their dominance and that socialism is witnessing a global resurgence. He was addressing a meeting organised by the CPI(M) in Vijayawada, marking the anniversary of the First Socialist Revolution. he said the recent U.S. elections, where socialist candidate Zohran Mamdani defeated Donald Trump-backed forces in New York, reflect the growing disillusionment with capitalism.

Spotlight

Read longform articles from our regional editions

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- **Karnataka:** Advantage private varsities: Policy loopholes lead to imbalance in engineering seats in Karnataka **newsth.live/privatevarsities**
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- **Telangana:** Telangana bus-lorry crash: When bad roads and bad judgment collide **newsth.live/buscrash**
- **Tamil Nadu:** A small plaque in Mylapore that keeps alive Rabindranath Tagore's first visit to Madras **newsth.live/tagore**

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50% of food samples taken from city hotels 'unsafe'

Of the 39 samples, 17 have been declared unsafe and three substandard; prosecution of accused under way; more raids to be conducted at eateries and bakeries, says food safety official

Rajulapudi Srinivas
VIJAYAWADA

About 50% of the food and beverages samples collected by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) from various hotels and restaurants in Vijayawada were found to be unsafe. Some 20 teams conducted surprise checks on biryani points, restaurants, bakeries, mandis and other establishments on August 19. They collected 39 samples and sent them to the State Food Laboratory in Nacharam.

After testing, the laboratory officials confirmed that 20 samples were substandard and unsafe for consumption.

"We have collected ice creams, cashew, vegetarian and non-vegetarian snacks, chicken fry, curd, ginger paste, chicken biryani, biscuits, mutton biryani and other samples, and sent them to the State Food Laboratory," said B. Srinivas, Assistant Food Controller, NTR and Krishna districts.



Food Safety Department officials having a look at the 'stale food products' seized from a restaurant during a raid in Vijayawada recently.

"Of the total, 17 samples were declared unsafe and three were substandard. Notices have been served to the establishment owners under Section 46 (4) of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006" Mr. Srinivas told *The Hindu* on Friday.

Of the 20 samples declared as adulterated, two food business operators (restaurant owners) challenged the result and went for an appeal to the Central Food Laboratory, Mysore, Mr. Srinivas said.

"Prosecution of the accused is under process. More raids would be conducted on the eateries, restaurants, hotels and bakeries and stern action will be taken as per law against those who sell adulterated food," the Assistant Food Controller warned.

Public having complaints on sale of substandard, sale or adulterated food items, may complain to the Food Safety Office, located at Old Government General Hospital (Old GGH) premises, Opposite Tummalapalli Kalakshetram, Hanumanpet, Vijayawada, Mr. Srinivas said.

Women urged to undergo free cancer screening at doorstep

Screening will be held in every village across the State for all individuals above 18 years of age

The Hindu Bureau
VIJAYAWADA

Commissioner, Department of Health and Family Welfare, G. Veerapandian on Friday urged women to make use of the free cancer screening tests being conducted by the government at their doorsteps.

Mr. Veerapandian, along with NTR District Collector G. Lakshmisha, launched the campaign titled "Invitation for Women's Special Cancer Screening" at the Collectorate on the occasion of National Cancer Awareness Day. The Commissioner said Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu had launched the fourth phase of NCD (Non-Communicable Diseases) screening on September 17, with focus on cancer screening.

He said based on the experiences and challenges faced during the third phase of the NCD screening, Minister for Health Satya Kumar Yadav had directed officials to prioritise cancer screening in the fourth phase. To spread awareness, a massive "Information, Education, and Communication (IEC)" campaign had been initiated, with posters and pamphlets distributed to all districts, he said.

Under this initiative, he said door-to-door screening will be conducted in every village across the State for all individuals above 18 years of age, covering non-communicable diseases like blood pressure (BP) and diabetes (blood sugar) free of cost.

The commissioner said special attention was being given to breast and cervical (uterine) cancer screening among women. Awareness programmes, screenings and timely reporting to the nearest medical officer were being ensured. Based on these reports, medical officers would arrange further diagnostic tests at designated times, he said.

He said nearly 20,000 healthcare personnel had already been given training in cancer-related screening and treatment.

'Business Line Campus Connect' programme launched



The Hindu Group Vice-President (Sales and Distribution) Sridhar Aranala interacting with students at Gayatri Vidya Parishad's Rushikonda Campus in Visakhapatnam on Friday. V. RAJU

The Hindu Bureau
VISAKHAPATNAM

The Hindu Group on Friday launched 'The Hindu Business Line Campus Connect', an educational enrichment programme for college students at Gayatri Vidya Parishad College for Degree and PG Courses at Rushikonda in Visakhapatnam, aiming to enhance students' learning, communication skills, career development and industry readiness.

. *The Hindu* Group Vice-President (Sales and Distribution) Sridhar Aranala conducted a guest lecture, engaging the students with thoughtful topics such as 'stress management' that would help shape their careers. Mr. Aranala also addressed issues like time management, conceptual learning gaps, focus and discipline, motivation and burnout. .

The Hindu Group A.P., Telangana and Odisha General Manager SDT Rao, explained that the *The Businessline* Campus Connect programme includes workshops, in which two guest lectures will be given, facilitating interaction with industry experts.

Secondly, the programme will include an intra-college business quiz, which will provide a platform for students to test their knowledge. Thirdly, the *The Hindu* group will provide *Business Line* newspaper, through which the reader will be updated on the latest business developments. Finally, students will get access to a wealth of resources, including case studies, insightful podcasts, weekly quizzes and other enriching content through the *Business Line* app.

4 juveniles among 5 held for 'robbing' man of ₹40,000

The Hindu Bureau
ELURU

The Denduluru police on Friday arrested five persons, including four minors, for allegedly robbing a man of ₹40,000. The accused followed him on October 28 night, beat him and robbed him of the cash near Gangannagudem in Eluru district, according to Superintendent of Police K. Pratap Shiva Kishore. A team B. Subramanyam and four juveniles in connection with the case.

In a separate case, the Nuzvid police on Friday arrested five persons for allegedly stealing 12 motorcycles in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. The police said they seized vehicles worth ₹9.08 lakh from them.

Plan on anvil to appoint mental health counsellors in all mandals: official

The Hindu Bureau
VIJAYAWADA

Samagra Shiksha Assistant State Project Director M.R. Prasanna Kumar on Friday said mental health and career counsellors are crucial in educational institutions because they provide holistic support for students' well-being and future success.

Participating in a 'Mental Health and Career Counsellors Training Programme' at Maris Stella College, he said mental health counsellors help students cope with stress, anxiety and depression, while career counsellors guide them in choosing a career path aligned with their interests.

He said there was a proposal to appoint mental health and career guidance counsellors in every mandal and urged the trained counsellors to further train teachers and students.

Timings
VIJAYAWADA

SATURDAY, NOV. 08		
RISE	06:08	SET 17:35
RISE	20:18	SET 09:00
SUNDAY, NOV. 09		
RISE	06:08	SET 17:34
RISE	21:24	SET 10:05
MONDAY, NOV. 10		
RISE	06:09	SET 17:34
RISE	22:28	SET 11:03

Vijayawada Weather	max	min
Machilipatnam	34	26
Guntur Town	33	24
Vijayawada City	32	25

Vijayawada City Today
34°C The weather will be warm. Night will be pleasant. Spell of light rain and thundershower to occur.

Vijayawada City Tomorrow
34°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be warm. Night will be pleasant. Chances of light rain and thundershower.

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THE HINDU
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SCR to run 60 Sabarimala specials to clear extra rush

The Hindu Bureau
VIJAYAWADA

To clear the extra rush of Sabarimala pilgrims, South Central Railway (SCR) will operate 60 pre-Sabarimala special services between various destinations.

Train No. 07101 Machilipatnam-Kollam, via Gudur-Renigunta-Gudur, will be operated on November 14, 21, 28, December 26 and January 2, 2026. Train No. 07102 Kollam-Machilipatnam will run on November 16, 23, 30, December 28 and January 4, 2026.

Special trains (07101 and 07102) will stop at Gudivada, Vijayawada, Tenali, Bapatla, Chirala, Ongole, Nellore, Gudur, Renigunta, Katpadi, Jolarpettai, Salem, Erode, Tiruppur, Podanur, Palakkad, Thrissur, Aluva, Ernakulam Town, Kottayam, Tiruvalla, Chengannur and Kayankulam stations in both the directions.

Train no. 07103 Machilipatnam-Kollam, via. Guntur-Nandyal-Kadapa-Renigunta, will be operated on December 5, 12, 19 and January 9 and 16, 2026, and train no. 07104 Kollam-Machilipatnam will be operated on December 7, 14, 21 and January 11 and 18.

he two trains (07103 and 07104) will halt at Pedana, Gudlavalleru, Gudivada, Vijayawada, Guntur, Narsaraopet, Donakonda, Markapur Road, Giddalur, Nandyal, Banaganapalle, Proddutur, Yerraguntla, Kadapa, Rajampet, Kodur, Renigunta, Katpadi, Jolarpettai, Salem, Erode, Tiruppur, Podanur, Palakkad, Thrissur, Aluva, Ernakulam Town, Kottayam, Tiruvalla, Chengannur and Kayankulam stations in both the directions.

Train no. 07105 Narsapur-Kollam, via. Vijayawada-Gudur-Renigunta, will be operated on November 16, 23, 30, December 7, 14, 21 and 28 and January 4, 11 and 18, and train no. 07106 Kollam-Narsapur will run on November 18, 25, December 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 and January 6, 13 and 20, said Vijayawada Division PRO Nusrat M. Mandrupkar in a release on Friday.

Bank of India
Relationship beyond banking

VIJAYAWADA BRANCH
Address: 27-21-39, Maa Nanna Nilayam, Kaleswara rao Road, Governorpet, Vijayawada - 520002 Ph: 0866-2573165

POSSESSION NOTICE Notice under Rule 8 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of **Bank of India**, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13 (12), read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated **29.08.2025** calling upon the borrowers **Mr. Thotakura Srinivasa Rajashekar & Mrs.Thotakura Sushmitha,** D.No.54-16-1/7C, Veterinary Colony, Road No.01, Gunadala Area, Vijayawada-520008 to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs.3,92,85,750.82** (Rupees three crores ninety two lakhs eighty five thousand seven hundred and fifty rupees and eighty two paisa) + Uncharged Interest from 30-07-2025 for Housing Loan within 60 (sixty) 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 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 Section 13 of Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002 on this the **03rd November 2025**

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 Bank of India for an amount of **Rs.3,92,85,750.82 +** Uncharged interest from **30-07-2025** + Incidental Charges thereon.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.

Description of the Immovable Property

EQM of all that Piece & Parcel of Residential Land and RCC roofed G+2 Floor Triplex building constructed thereon admeasuring an area of 450 Sq. yards or 376.256 Sq.mts situated at Municipal ward No.33, R.S.No.396/3A, D.No.54-16-1/7C, Veterinary Colony, Road No.01, Gunadala Area, Vijayawada-520008 owned by Mr. T Srininvasa Rajasekhar and Mrs. T Susmitha Jointly Boundaries of building are as follows: **East:** Plot No.26 Venkateswara Icon Apts. **South:** 60ft. Wide Municipal Corporation Road ,**West :** Property of Sabbineni Bhavani, **North** : Plot No.53, Property of Peddi Venkata Ratnam

Date:03-11-2025,Place:Vijayawada **Sd/- Authorised Officer,Bank of India.**

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank

REGIONAL OFFICE : GUNTUR
Opposite Vijayapuri 5th Lane, JKC College Road, GUNTUR-522006, A.P.

POSSESSION NOTICE
[SECTION 13(4)] (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the **Canara Bank** under Securitization And Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act 54 of 2002) (hereinafter referred to as "the Act") and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a **Demand Notice dated 25.08.2025** calling upon the **Borrower: Sri. Javvadi Srinivasa Rao, S/o Sambaiah,** D.No 6 111, Rajulaplem, Katevaram, Tenali, Andhra Pradesh - 522202. and **Co-Borrower: Smt. Javvadi Padma, W/o Srinivasa Rao,** D.No 6 111, Rajulaplem, Katevaram, Tenali, Andhra Pradesh - 522202 to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs. 30,66,679.45/- (Rupees Thirty Lakh Sixty Six Thousand Six Hundred Seventy Nine and Fourty Five Paisa Only)** 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 and the public in general, that the undersigned has taken **possession** of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him / her under Section13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 & 9 of the said Rule on this **05th day of November of the year 2025.**

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 the **Canara Bank, Tenali-II Branch** (Name of the Institution) for an amount of **Rs. 30,39,039.45/- (Rupees Thirty Lakh Thirty Nine Thousand Thirty Nine and Forty Five Paisa Only) as on 31.10.2025,** plus interest and cost thereon.

The borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of Section 13 (8) of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Description of the Immovable Property

Guntur District, Tenali Revenue District, Tenali West Sub District, Tenali Mandal, Kattevaram Gram Panchayat Area, Kattevaram Gram D.No. 6-156, S.No.285/1, With an extent of 71 Sq.Yards equivalent to 59.36 Sq.Mts Along with RCC Building in an Extent of 397 Sq.Feet With the following **Boundaries: East:** Kolluru Suresh Raju's Site 20-00 F, **South:** Pathalapalli Ratna kumari's Site 32-00 F, **West:** Panchayat Bazar, 20-00 F, **North:** Pusapati Venakat Rama Raju's Site 32-00 F.

Date : 05.11.2025 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Place: Guntur **Canara Bank**

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR,
TEXT BOOK PRODUCTION & MARKETING, BHUBANESWAR -751001.
Email- directortbpmodisha@gmail.com, Ph.0674-2380871

No. 7100 /TBPM, **TENDER NOTICE** **Date : 06/11/2025**

1. Description of tender : **National Tender for Printing and Binding of N.T. Books & Allied Books for the Academic Session : 2026-27.**
2. Date & Time of availability of bid document in the portal
   a) **Starting Date & Time : 07.11.2025, from 10.00 AM**
   b) **Closing Date & Time : 27.11.2025 up to 05.00 PM**
   c) **Date of opening of Technical Bid : 28.11.2025 at 11:30 AM**
3. Name and address of the O.I.T.: **O/o The Director, Text Book Production and Marketing, Unit-III, Kharavel Nagar, Bhubaneswar-1.**

Further details regarding downloading of bid documents, online participation can be seen from the e-procurement portal : **https://tendersodisha.gov.in** .

Any corrigendum, Addendum and cancellation require will be uploaded in the e-procurement portal only. The Director, TBPM reserves the right to accept or reject (Fully/Partly) tender without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/- Director,
n-191: **Text Book Production and Marketing, Bhubaneswar-1.**

Directorate of AYUSH Odisha, Bhubaneswar
Heads of Department Building, 3rd Floor, (Annex), Unit-5, Bhubaneswar-751001
Tel: 0674-2394577, Email: tenderayushodisha@gmail.com, Website:www.ayushodisha.nic.in

EOI Ref. No. : 10070 /DAYUSH, Dated : 07.11.2025

NOTICE INVITING EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Expression of Interest are invited from eligible AYUSH Approved Drugs Testing Laboratories under Rule 160-A to J of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules 1945 read with the Ministry of AYUSH letter no. T-14020/2/2022-DCC, dtd. 21.07.2022 for test/ analysis of AYUSH drugs (Ayurvedic & Homoeopathic) procured by the Directorate of AYUSH, Odisha as per the details mentioned below:

Sl.No.	Particulars	Details
1.	Name of the Work	Empanelment of Drug Testing Laboratories for testing of AYUSH Drugs.(Ayurvedic & Homoeopathic)
2.	Status of the Bidder	The Laboratory having valid **"Approval"** under Rule 160 (A to J) of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules-1945.
3.	Bid Processing Fees	Rs.1,050/-
4.	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Rs. 20,000/- (Refundable) in shape of Demand Draft to be paid in favour of the Director, AYUSH, Odisha, payable at Bhubaneswar.
5.	Performance Security	5% of the work order to be issued in shape of Demand Draft to be paid in favour of the Director, AYUSH, Odisha, payable at Bhubaneswar or irrevocable Bank Guarantee valid for 36 months.
6.	Publish of bid	**08.11.2025**
7.	Date and time of pre-bid meeting	**14.11.2025, 11.30 AM** Venue: Conference Hall of Directorate of AYUSH, Odisha, Bhubaneswar
8.	Due date of bid submission	Start Date: **15.11.2025** / End Date: **28.11.2025 by 5:00 PM**
9.	Mode of submission of bid	Through Courier/ Regd./Speed Post
10.	Date and time of Technical bid opening	**29.11.2025, 11:30 AM**
11.	Date of Opening of Price Bid	To be informed to the qualified bidders

The EOI document with all information relating to the bidding process including cost of bid document, EMDs, pre-qualification criteria and terms & conditions etc. are available in the website of Directorate of AYUSH, Odisha i.e. **www.ayushodisha.nic.in**. The prospective bidders are requested to visit the website of Directorate of AYUSH for downloading the aforesaid EOI documents as well as for any published notice/ corrigendum etc. against the EOI from time to time. The EOI Authority reserves the right to accept/ reject any part thereof or all the bids without assigning any reason thereof.

E: **Sd/- Anjana Panda, IAS, Director AYUSH**

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ISSN 0971 - 751X

VIJAYAWADA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

'E' Procurement Notice No.32/VMC/CDB/2025-26, Dt.07-11-2025

Roads, Drain, Culvert, Water supply, Motors, Repairs, (Total **63** works) - **Est. Amount. Rs.1024.70 Lakhs.**

All rights are reserved to the Commissioner to Cancel or Reject the tenders without assigning any reasons there of.

Further details and any corrigendum can be seen@ **www.tender.apeprocurement.gov.in.**

Sd/- COMMISSIONER

ANDHRA PRADESH INDUSTRIAL INFRASTRUCTURE CORPORATION LTD

(An Undertaking of A.P. Govt.)
O/o. Chief Engineer (North), APIIC Ltd., 9th Floor, APIIC Tower-1, Autonagar, IT Park, Mangalagiri, Guntur Dist.-522503, Web: www.apiic.in

'e' Procurement Notice

IOM NO. CE(N)/APIIC/ 'e' PROCUREMENT/2021-22, Dt: 29.10.2025

Sub :- APIIC - H.O - EW - CE(N) - Tenders - Invitation of Tenders on "e-Procurement" platform - Reg.

Ref:- Tender Notice No.79/CE(N)/APIIC/2025-26,Dated: 29.10.2025

Tender Notice No. 79: Laying of BT Road (including CD works and Retaining wall) at IT Hill No. 3, Madhurawada (V), Visakhapatnam District. Last date for submission of bids, Dated: **13.11.2025 up to 11.30 AM.** Last date for submission of Tender : **13.11.2025 at 1.00 PM.** Technical bid opening : **13.11.2025 at 1.00 PM.** The details of short tender notice and bid documents can be downloaded from **www.apeprocurement.gov.in** or **http://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in**

Sd/- CHIEF ENGINEER (North), APIIC Ltd., Mangalagiri

DIPR 4557PP/CL, Dt: 07/11/2025

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DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL VISAKHAPATNAM

Ground & 1st Floor, 31-31-21, Sai Baba Street, Narayana Bhawan, Dabagardens, Visakhapatnam-530020.

Case No.: OA 584/2025

Summons under sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Act, read with sub-rule (2A) of rule 5 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure) Rules, 1993.

State Bank of India, Chirala Main Branch, Chirala, Bapatla, Rep.by its Manager & authorised signatory ....Applicant

VS

M/s. Jai Industries, Rep. by its Prop: Yazala Anusha Ratna Keerthi, and another

To

1. M/s. Jai industries, Rep. by its Prop: Yazala Anusha Ratna Keerthi, D.No. 7-74, Vaddesangham, Kothapeta, Chirala, Andhra Pradesh-523157
Also at: D.No. 9-83, Godown No.01, Burlavaripalem, Chirala, Baptla, Andhra Pradesh- 523157.
2. Smt. Yazala Anusha Ratna Keerthi, D/o. Sri. Yazala Jayapal, D.No.7-74, Vaddesangham, Kothapeta, Chirala, Andhra Pradesh-523157. **....Defendants**

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANTS BY PAPER PUBLICATION

WHEREAS, O.A /584/2025 was listed before the Honourable Presiding Officer/Registrar on 17-11-2025.

WHEREAS this Hon'ble Tribunal is pleased to issue summons/ notice on the said Application under section 19(4) of the Act, (OA) filed against you for recovery of debts of **Rs.70,79,691.73ps** (application along with copies of documents etc. annexed).

In accordance with sub section (4) of section 19 of the Act, you, the defendants are directed as under:

(i) To show cause within thirty days of the service of summons as to why relief prayed for should not be granted.

(ii) To disclose particulars of properties or assets other than properties and assets specified by the applicant under serial number 3A of the original application;

You are restrained from dealing with or disposing of secured assets or such other assets and properties disclosed under serial number 3A of the original application, pending and disposal of the application for attachment of properties:

(iii) You shall not transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise, except in the ordinary course of his business any of the assets over which security interest is created and/ or other assets and properties specified or disclosed under serial number 3A of the original application without the prior approval of the Tribunal;

(iv) You shall be liable to account for the sale proceeds realized by sale of secured assets or other assets and properties in the ordinary course of business and deposit such sale proceeds in the account maintained with the bank or financial institutions holding security interest over such assets.

You are also directed to file the written statement with a copy thereof furnished to the application and to appear before Presiding Officer/Registrar on **17-11-2025** at **10:30 A.M.** failing which the application shall be heard and decided in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this the 15th day of October, 2025.

Sd/- Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal, Visakhapatnam.

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 : 07-11-2025**

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

Sl. No.	Name of Works	Estimated Cost ₹ (in Lakhs)	Period of completion	EMD(₹)
1	**NIT no:IPRC/CMG/TD/e-132/MW/CMP-04/2025-26**			
	Replacement of 1 MVA ,11kV DG set with 2 MVA, 11kV DG set at MRS substation (Phase-II) IPRC, Mahendragiri. (Electrical & Civil works)	302.90	09 (Nine months)	6,05,800
2	**NIT no:IPRC/CMG/TD/e-133/MW-09/2025-26**			
	Construction of Administrative Block/Transit Accommodation, Entrance Block and Yard Hydrant works at Space Science & Technology Park (SSTP), Kanyakumari.	635.24	12 (Twelve months)	12,70,500
3	**NIT no:IPRC/CMG/TD/e-138/MW/ELE-09/2025-26**			
	Electrical works for establishment of Substation for Space Science and Technology Park (SSTP) at Kanyakumari.	331.94	09 (Nine months)	6,63,900

Dates for Online Request : From 08-11-2025[1000 hours] To: 21-11-2025[2330 hours]

Due Time & Date of Submission : 02-12-2025[1400 hours]

For further details visit: www.isro.gov.in/tenders (or) www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO.

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

GROUP HEAD, CMG, IPRC.

APPOINTMENT

भारतीय समुद्री विश्वविद्यालय
INDIAN MARITIME UNIVERSITY

(A Central University under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Government of India)
Established by an Act of the Parliament in 2008

Advt. No. IMU-HQ/R/NT/2025/02 **Date: 08.11.2025**

Recruitment of Campus Director
(On Direct Recruitment / Deputation Basis)

Applications are invited from Indian Nationals for the post of Campus Director on Direct Recruitment / Deputation basis in IMU. Interested candidates may submit their applications online through the link available at ***https://www.imu.edu.in/imunew/recruitment***.

Name of the Post	No. of Posts	Category	Place of Posting	Pay Level (7th CPC pay matrix)
Campus Director	01	ST – 01	Mumbai Port	Level-14 [Academic] under 7th CPC plus Special Allowance of Rs. 6,750/- per month. Other benefits and allowances are as per IMU norms.

The Campus Director is the academic-cum-administrative head of the Campus. Apart from day-to-day administration and overall management of the Campus, the Campus Director is expected to:

- Provide leadership for long term development of the Campus in line with the Maritime India Vision 2030, Maritme Amrit Kaal Vision 2047, Vision of the University – IMU StARTS Plan 25 and NEP 2020.
- Contribute to create a thriving learning environment for students, faculty and staff. Strengthen academic, consulting and research activities in the Campus/University.
- Build and nurture alliances and partnerships with alumni and stakeholders in the maritime sector to enhance the academic standing of the University.

The vacancies stated above are tentative and are subject to change. IMU reserves the right not to fill up any of the posts advertised (or) cancel the recruitment at any stage.

Important dates:

Opening date for the submission of online application : 08.11.2025
Closing date for the submission of online application : 07.12.2025
Last date for receiving hard copies of the applications : 15.12.2025

Women candidates are encouraged to apply

For further details regarding the eligibility criteria: i.e., Age, Educational Qualifications, Experience, etc., please visit ***https://www.imu.edu.in/imunew/recruitment***

Sd/-
Registrar

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION MANAGEMENT (MANAGE)

(An Autonomous Organization of the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India)
Rajendranagar, Hyderabad - 500 030, Telangana, India.
Web: www.manage.gov.in Ph. No. 040-24594509

MANAGE-Centre for Innovation and Agripreneurship (CIA) invites applications from innovative Agri-startups, aspiring Agripreneurs, students and others for the following: RKVY-RAFTAAR Incubation and Mentorship Program for Agri-Startups, Pre-Incubation Mentoring for Idea-Stage Agri-Entrepreneurs and Digital marketing for agri-startups.

For details visit: https://www.manage.gov.in

Sd/-
DIRECTOR (Agricultural Extension)

Advt. No. 110/2025

Government of India
Public Enterprises Selection Board
invites applications for the post of
Chairman cum Managing Director
in
NLC India Limited

Last date for Submission of application by the applicant is by 15:00 hours on
27th November, 2025
Last date for forwarding of application by the Nodal officers to PESB is by 17:00 hours on
08th December, 2025
For details login to website
http://www.pesb.gov.in

BENGALURU SOUTH CITY CORPORATION

Office of the Executive Engineer, Padmanabhanagara Division, Opp. to Sagar Hospitals, Kumaraswamy Layout, Bengaluru-560078.

No: EE(PN)/TEND/11/2025-26 **Date: 07-11-2025**

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two Tender Document System) (Through GOK KPP Portal only)

The Executive Engineer, Padmanabhanagara Division, BSCC, Bengaluru invites tenders from eligible Contractors registered in Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) or equivalent registration with CPWD / KPWD / Railways / MES or any State Government Organizations for the Construction of work detailed below. **(Standard Tender Document - KW-4)**

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1	Resurfacing to Existing Asphalted Roads, Improvements to Drains, Footpath and Development of Parks in Padmanabhanagara Division, Bengaluru South City Corporation under Chief Minister's Infrastructure Development Program (CMIDP). (Comprising of 24 Works in G.O. Annexure-5 Sl.No. 07 to 30) PACKAGE No. CMIDP-PN-01. **Approximated Amount of Work (Rs. in Lakhs): 1895.00, EMD Amount (Rs. in Lakhs): 19.00 (Rs. 5.00 Lakhs through Online Payment & Rs. 14.00 Lakhs through BG)**

Calendar of Events: 1) The Tender Document can be Downloaded from the GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in 2)** Tender must be Submitted online through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal **on or before 16.00 Hours on 28-11-2025. 3)** Pre Bid Meeting will be held on **17-11-2025 at 15.00 Hours in the Office of the Chief Engineer, Jayanagar Zone (Zone-1), Bengaluru South City Corporation, 9th Main, 9th Cross, Jayanagar 2nd Block, Bengaluru - 560011. 4)** Technical Bids will be Opened on the Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in at the Office of the Executive Engineer, Padmanabhanagara Division on 29-11-2025 at 16.05 Hours.** Further details can be had from the above office.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Padmanabhanagara Division, BSCC.

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Kiran Ananth, Deputy Executive Director, CII, Godrej Green Business Centre, Shiva Nagendra, Department of Civil Engineering, IIT-Madras, Santosh Kumar Singh, Chief Sustainability Officer, L&T, and Sumitra Vasudevan, Associate Partner, APROBuild, in conversation with Geetha Srimathi, Senior Reporter, *The Hindu,* on Friday. B. VELANKANNI RAJ

'Adoption of clean tech needs skill development and societal engagement'

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Skill development and societal engagement are the need of the hour to address the gaps in adopting clean technologies, said panellists at a session organised as part of The Hindu Sustainability Summit 2025 held in the city on Friday.

Speaking at the session on 'Clean Tech for a Sustainable Tomorrow-Accelerating Innovation in Clean Technologies to Reduce Emissions and Energy Footprints', Shiva Nagendra, professor, Department of Civil Engineering, IIT-Madras, said the adoption of clean technology solutions is part of a transition towards achieving a low-carbon future and there is a need to keep pace with the current requirements.

Research institutions and industry should join hands to address these challenges.

As for innovations that could help in emission reduction, he highlighted the need for installing air purifier devices. Air quality monitoring stations could be designed to report pollution levels and control emissions. Such systems have been installed in various cities and they should be scaled up. He also pointed to automated road dust collectors as another solution.

Responding to a question on Confederation of Indian Industry's efforts to facilitate collaboration between start-ups with innovative clean tech solutions and industry, Kiran Ananth, Deputy Executive Director, CII-Godrej Green Business Centre, said there is a disconnect between industries and several start-ups offering innovative ideas. Many of the start-ups are not yet technologically ready for commercial deployment.

CII supported business acceleration at various levels, including financial assistance for start-ups' commercial deployment, through programmes like ASCEND. Nearly 10-15 start-ups are identified every year to make them commercially viable. While industries should understand start-ups and co-create, start-ups must also equip themselves for the industrial ecosystem, besides developing clean technology solutions, he said.

Panellists also noted that achieving the country's ambitious goal of net zero emissions by 2070 needs a change in mindset along with technological advances. While technologies are available, the scale of adoption varies across industries, and companies need solutions based on their operational requirements.

Panellists also noted that achieving the country's ambitious goal of net zero emissions by 2070 needs a change in mindset along with technological advances

Responding to a question on Larsen & Toubro's efforts to cut carbon footprint, Santhosh Kumar Singh, Chief Sustainability Officer, L&T, said decarbonisation was not a separate vertical and it was integrated into the company's projects.

Two-pronged approach

Noting that L&T followed a two-pronged approach and is prudent about its carbon footprints, he said the company's infrastructure and energy projects for clients, including solar power plants, are designed to reduce embodied carbon emissions. Besides the use of green materials, the company is exploring the use of geo-polymer and started constructing net zero buildings.

Elaborating on Building Information Modelling (BIM), Sumithra Vasudevan, Associate Partner, APROBUILD, said designs are modelled virtually by incorporating different systems. This helps to reduce design errors and eliminate the need for demolition or energy wastage during construction. The use of a BIM model ensures low-carbon designs and optimal material use. However, it is now primarily used in large-scale projects.

Geetha Srimathi, senior reporter, *The Hindu,* moderated the discussion.

The Hindu Sustainability Summit 2025

The summit is presented by Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited and co-presented by the Tamil Nadu Green Climate Company. The sustainability partner is Navin's. The associate partner is NLC India Limited, and the green partner is Larsen & Toubro. The television Partner is *Puthiya Thalaimurai*. While the industry partner is the Confederation of Indian Industry, the knowledge partner is the Sustainable Energy and Environment Council. The digital news partner is *The Federal.*

CPCL has reduced water footprint by more than 20% in two years, says MD

The company's entire water requirement is being fulfilled through desalination and sewage reclamation plants, he says at a fireside chat at The Hindu Sustainability Summit 2025; highlighting CPCL's retail business, he says the firm was one of the first to roll out BS-IV and BS-VI fuels





Eye on the future: H. Shankar, MD, CPCL, in conversation with N. Ravi Kumar, Senior Deputy Editor, *The Hindu*; and, right, a view of the audience at The Hindu Sustainability Summit 2025 on Friday. R. RAGU

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

The Chennai Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (CPCL) has reduced its water footprint by more than 20% over the past two years, in a "strong indicator of the efficiencies" built into its systems, said the company's Managing Director, H. Shankar.

"From the very beginning, we have been the only refinery that has not used any groundwater for our requirements," he said at a fireside chat with N. Ravi Kumar, Senior Deputy Editor, *The Hindu*, at The Hindu Sustainability Summit 2025. "Our entire water requirement is fulfilled through the desalination and sewage reclamation plants we have set up," he said, adding that "We are a zero freshwater-consuming refinery."

Highlighting the company's retail business, Mr. Shankar said, "Retail outlet is an interesting and challenging business; as of now, we have not been at the forefront of public interface. Retail brings us directly to the public." The CPCL has got 300 licences now, he said, adding that "We will start commissioning these facilities by the end of this year."

Giving an update on the Nagapattinam refinery, Mr. Shankar said the entire land parcel had been acquired. "We intend to build a refinery-cum-petrochemical complex there. There is a huge demand for petrochemicals in Tamil Nadu. There are very few players producing petrochemicals," he said.

He pointed out that the CPCL was one of the early birds to implement BS-IV (Bharat Stage 4) and BS-VI (Bharat Stage 6) grade fuels. "Our refinery rolled out these products way ahead of time," Mr. Shankar said, adding the firm had spent ₹8,000 crore-₹10,000 crore on quality improvement.

He also spoke about the measures that CPCL had been taking to manage natural disasters at the refineries. "We have seen umpteen disruptions – from the 2015 floods and Cyclone Vardah to several extreme weather events. In August 2024, for instance, a cloudburst in Manali brought 27 cm of rain in just two hours. Cloudbursts, once confined to hilly regions, have now become part of the broader pattern of unforeseen climatic conditions. Despite these challenges, we have managed to navigate each disturbance in a conditioned and systematic manner," he said.

"We have established our own SOPs to ensure that such situations can be contained within the refinery," he said, adding that internal processes were further strengthened, and through online monitoring and analysis, the firm had significantly enhanced its capabilities. To a query on the future, he said the CPCL was targeting ₹1 lakh crore in revenue within the next few years. "Our growth and journey should be balanced. We are exploring green hydrogen and sustainable aviation fuel, while also continuing to focus on conventional fuels," he said.



Timely appeal: From left, G. Ravikumar, Professor and Director, Centre for Water Resources, Anna University; P. Kannan, Director (Operations), CPCL; Gaurav Kumar, Executive Director, CMWSSB; and Navin Kumar, MD, Navin's, in conversation with K. Lakshmi, Deputy Editor, *The Hindu*. R. RAGU

'Water recycling through advanced technologies can help meet rising demand'

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

With Chennai's growing demand for water and rising stress on local sources, experts at a panel discussion on 'Water for Tomorrow- Sustainable Management and Industrial Responsibility' at The Hindu Sustainability Summit 2025 highlighted the need to recycle and reuse every drop through advanced treatment technologies, and for better integration between policy, industry, and research.

G. Ravikumar, Professor and Director of the Centre for Water Resources at Anna University, said that while civil engineers currently handle most of the water-related work in departments such as the Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (CMWSSB), the Water Resources Department (WRD), and the Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage (TWAD) Board, they often lack a deep understanding of hydrological systems. "Most civil engineering graduates study very little about water resources or environmental management," he said, proposing a dedicated undergraduate programme in Water Resources Engineering to build expertise.

Speaking from the industry's perspective, P. Kannan, Director (Operations), Chennai Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (CPCL), said industries are increasingly adopting technologies to reduce freshwater use and achieve zero liquid discharge. "Nearly half of the water used in refineries goes into cooling and generation processes. We treat and reuse most of this water within the plant itself, cutting down on fresh water consumption," he said. He added that closer collaboration between industry, government, and research institutions was needed to develop indigenous water treatment technologies.

Gaurav Kumar, Executive Director of the CMWSSB, explained that the city is advancing circular water use through its Tertiary Treatment Reverse Osmosis (TTRO) and Tertiary Treatment Ultra-Filtration (TTUF) plants. "Through these facilities, used and black water are thoroughly treated and reused or released into lakes for recharge," he said. He added that the board plans to invite school and college students to visit these plants to build awareness and encourage water conservation from a young age.

Navin Kumar, Managing Director of Navin's, said the real estate sector has steadily adopted water-efficient technologies, including grey-water recycling, rainwater harvesting, and low-flow fixtures.

Government incentives

"In commercial buildings, recycled water can meet up to 60% or 70% of the requirements," Mr. Navin said. He also urged the government to offer incentives such as temporary tax rebates for developers who construct certified green buildings.

Mr. Navin added that creating public awareness of water conservation cannot be a one-time exercise and long-term awareness campaigns and stronger citizen participation are key to building a circular water economy.

The session was moderated by K. Lakshmi, Deputy Editor, Reporting, *The Hindu*.

Experts bat for increasing carbon sequestration of soil, prioritising endemic trees

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

There is a need to increase carbon sequestration in the soil, which is 0.15% at present against the preferred figure of 2% to 5 %, Sultan Ahmed Ismail, Member, State Planning Commission, said at The Hindu Sustainability Summit 2025.

Mr. Ismail also called for more interaction among government departments. He was speaking at a panel discussion on 'Policy and Governance for Climate Action-How Regulation, Incentives, and Public-Private Collaboration Can Accelerate Sustainable Growth', moderated by Kunal Shankar, Deputy Business Editor, *The Hindu*.

The ecologist also called upon industries to grow endemic trees and not go in for varieties that grow fast. Trees help to increase earthworm populations and they nurture soil microbes.

Rohit Agrawala, Director (Finance), Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited, said his company believed that the planet, the people, and profits cannot be isolated. "A pioneer in water conservation, usage and treatment, we have created a sustainability index for our own processes. We have data on how our CSR activities impact the people. We also have a road map for achieving net zero and are committed to it. CPCL operates with zero freshwater drawal and runs Asia's first sewerage reclamation plant, along with a 5.8 MGD desalination unit ensuring circular water use."

"Extensive rainwater harvesting across 57 sites and storm-water pond augmentation to 79,500 KL have enhanced waterbed recharge and flood resilience, reinforcing CPCL's long-term water security vision. The refinery's clean energy transition includes RLNG, BS-VI fuels, and 17.6 MW of solar and wind power, with the upcoming 400 kV grid enabling 100 MW renewable import," he added.



Panellists at a session on 'Policy and Governance for Climate Action' held at The Hindu Sustainability Summit 2025. B. VELANKANNI RAJ

CPCL is among the few companies in the oil industry that voluntarily adopted integrated annual reporting with limited assurance and business responsibility and sustainability reporting (BRSR). This marks a significant milestone in our journey towards transparent and accountable environmental, social, and governance (ESG) disclosures. The integrated annual report highlights how CPCL creates value across financial, manufactured, intellectual, human, social, and natural capitals, while aligning each initiative with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. These assurance processes reflect our strong governance framework and reinforce stakeholder trust in CPCL's sustainability commitments, he added.

Jayanthi Raju Vadivelu, Consulting Director, Corporate Sustainability and Climate Change, ERM, said corporate governance begins at the top, where leadership sets the tone and vision, which is then translated into strategy and policies that are implemented through processes and procedures.

Taking priority

Environmental concerns have become a new priority as the climate change impact intensifies. Organisations must identify their ESG issues and use them as a foundation to attract finance for low-carbon technologies, not only for reporting. ESG disclosures and ratings increase transparency for stakeholders, but the true value lies in leveraging them to drive sustainable growth and transformative change, she added. Girish Palwe, Assistant Mission Director, Tamil Nadu Climate Change Mission, Department of Environment and Climate Change, said the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's Green Fellowship Programme, being implemented in all the districts in the State, was doing well. Phase-I has been completed. He added that policies will not work unless there is a bottom-first approach, and one solution for all issues will not work.

'Senna spectabilis removed from 1,963 hectares in Mudumalai Tiger Reserve'

The trees have been identified on a total of 2,448 hectares, and 80% of trees have been cleared, says T.N. Environment Secretary Supriya Sahu; the State has created 2,400 hectares of mangrove plantations in places such as Ennore and Adyar, and uses tech to reduce man-animal conflicts, she adds

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI



Ask the experts: A Q&A session in progress during the 'Greening Tamil Nadu-The State's Climate Action and Environmental Stewardship' fireside chat. R. RAGU



Supriya Sahu, Secretary, Environment, Climate Change and Forests, in conversation with Ramya Kannan, Chief of Bureau, *The Hindu*. R. RAGU

Supriya Sahu, Secretary, Environment, Climate Change and Forests, said on Friday that *Senna spectabilis*, a highly invasive tree, had been removed from 1,963 hectares of land in the Mudumalai Tiger Reserve with the help of locals.

These trees have been identified on a total of 2,448 hectares, and "we have removed 80% of them so far. They do not help in biodiversity and are not liked by animals either. The cut trees are being used for making paper as the Forest Department has tied up with the Tamil Nadu Newsprint and Papers Limited", she added.

Responding to a question on the challenges from invasive species in forests by *The Hindu*'s Chief of Bureau Ramya Kannan at a fireside chat on 'Greening Tamil Nadu-The State's Climate Action and Environmental Stewardship' at The Hindu Sustainability Summit 2025, Ms. Sahu said many of the projects the State was implementing were the 'firsts' in India. "The lessons that we learnt have... informed our work. Removal of invasive species was one of the major challenges faced by forest managers. They are really taking over the forests, not just here but elsewhere too."

Government's plan

Asked about the Tamil Nadu government's mangrove mission, she said mangroves are much better at anchoring carbon; they are a cradle of biodiversity; and are good bioshields against tsunami. She cited the examples of Muthupettai and Pichavaram where the mangroves had shielded the local communities from the tsunami.

"We worked with several national agencies to map mangrove locations. These are not just places where they currently exist but had existed earlier. We worked with local people, used data science and technology, and created around 2,400 hectares of new mangrove plantations in places such as Ennore and Adyar. Those new patches are coming up beautifully. We have created massive nurseries to grow the plants. One such facility is at Ennore, which has one lakh mangrove plants," she said.

Responding to a question on man-animal conflict, Ms. Sahu said the State had always followed a policy of co-existence and not of elimination. "There are strategies that can help us, and the use of technology is one of the most important things today."

"With the coming of artificial intelligence, we have set up AI cameras and watchtowers in Madukkarai where we have saved the lives of elephants. We are planning to augment it [the project] with drones in the near future. In Gudalur, we are setting up AI cameras in a different terrain. They will come into operation by the end of this," she added.

> With the coming of artificial intelligence, we have set up AI cameras and watchtowers in Madukkarai where we have saved the lives of elephants
>
> **SUPRIYA SAHU**
> Secretary, Environment, Climate Change and Forests

Ms. Sahu also said that ours is the only state in the country to use more than hundred anti-poaching watchers from amongst tribals, who are working continuously with communities and saving lives. Giving compensation to families of victims is also very important, which is why the Chief Minister M. K. Stalin has set up a corpus fund of ₹10 crore.

Stronger private finance and better datasets key to accelerating green transition in India: experts

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI



T. Vivekanandhan, Lead-ESG and Sustainable Finance, Samunnati Finance; Shravan Shankar, co-founder of Climake; and Gita Chengappa, General Manager of TREC-STEP, are in conversation with N. Ravikumar, Senior Deputy Editor, *The Hindu*, in Chennai on Friday. B. VELANKANNI RAJ

Climate finance experts underscored the need for innovative capital models, reliable data, and stronger private participation to accelerate India's green transition. They were speaking at a panel discussion on 'Financing the Green Transition: The Role of Sustainable Capital' at The Hindu Sustainability Summit 2025.

T. Vivekanandhan, Lead-ESG and Sustainable Finance, Samunnati Finance, said that while agriculture forms a significant part of India's economy, it often remains outside the mainstream green finance. "We focus exclusively on agricultural micro, small and medium enterprises and farmer-producer organisations, and a portion of our portfolio also includes direct farmer lending. The idea is to make agriculture part of the green finance conversation," he said, noting that the sector requires more targeted investment to build resilience and prepare it for climate challenges.

He explained how global investors and institutional funds are increasingly aligning with the UN Principles for Responsible Investment (UNPRI), channelling funds towards companies that demonstrate measurable environmental and social outcomes.

"Earlier, the classification of green finance was broad, but now with frameworks such as the EU's Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation, clearer definitions are emerging. This is helping to ensure accountability in what qualifies as a green investment," he said.

Shravan Shankar, co-founder of Climake, highlighted the need for blended finance and catalytic capital to bridge the funding gap between the public and private sectors. "Public capital has a market-making role – it can de-risk investments, offer guarantees, and create enabling conditions for private players to participate. But scaling from billions to trillions will require private capital to step in decisively," he said.

Green financing

Mr. Shankar pointed out that while India's green financing has grown substantially – with renewable energy, electric mobility, and energy transition sectors leading the way – other critical areas such as adaptation and resilience remain underfunded. "Climate finance today is flowing mostly to mitigation, not adaptation. Public capital must continue to drive climate resilience investments that do not yield direct financial returns but have deep social impact," he added.

> We focus exclusively on agricultural micro, small and medium enterprises and farmer-producer organisations, and a portion of our portfolio also includes direct farmer lending. The idea is to make agriculture part of the green finance conversation.
>
> **T. VIVEKANANDHAN,**
> Lead-ESG and Sustainable Finance, Samunnati Finance

Gita Chengappa, General Manager of TREC-STEP, said the earliest stages of climate innovation – from prototype to proof of concept – are the most financially vulnerable. "Traditional financiers are wary of early-stage climate innovations. Incubators have a crucial role in de-risking such ideas," she said.

Ms. Chengappa said her team is developing a climate tech finance incubator to offer timely, customised support for early-stage innovators. The initiative will also include a gender inclusion track, led by experts, to support women-led enterprises, recognising that while women often demonstrate strong resource management skills, they continue to face barriers to funds.

The panellists said the lack of reliable, granular datasets continues to constrain the scale and precision of climate-related investments. "Climate is local – conditions vary across districts and even blocks. Yet much of the available data is aggregated at the national or State level, which limits its usability for real-world risk modelling. Without localised data, investors and innovators struggle to design effective solutions," Mr. Vivekanandhan said.

The session was moderated by N. Ravi Kumar, Senior Deputy Editor, *The Hindu*.



Anita Shrivastava, Chief General Manager, IOCL, speaking at The Hindu Sustainability Summit 2025. B. VELANKANNI RAJ

'IOCL working towards sustainable aviation fuel, has made rapid strides in EV recharging'

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) is working rapidly towards sustainable aviation fuel (SAF), IOCL Chief General Manager Anita Shrivastava said.

"SAF has been on our agenda for a couple of years. At our Panipet refinery, co-processing has started for a 30 Kilo Tonnes Per Annum [facility], and this is the first Indian facility to receive the international sustainability certification," she said at a panel discussion at The Hindu Sustainability Summit 2025. The panel discussion, 'Energy Transition in India: The Road Ahead-How Oil and Gas, Renewables and Emerging Fuels Can Co-exist in the Journey towards Net Zero', was moderated by Kunal Shankar, Deputy Business Editor, *The Hindu*.

Ms. Shrivastava said, "Our R&D centres and other departments have brought in hydrogen in a big way. We have also worked on premier branded fuels which are loading carbon dioxide emissions. We have made rapid strides in electric vehicle recharging. We have more than 13,500 charging stations."

Becoming globally competitive

Ravi Ganapathy, Regional Director, ESG Solutions, GovEVA, pointed out that many of the companies do not realise that ESG could make them globally competitive. If they become proactive and start accounting for carbon emissions, water usage, waste, and governance aspects, it would be a great boost, he added.

Asked how could micro, small and medium units do the same, Mr. Ganapathy said, "If you start your ESG accounting early in your journey, you will start reaping the benefits early too. Now, ESG accounting is directly proportionate to the size of the organisation. So, for the MSMEs, it is not going to cost much at all. And scalability is even less expensive. Which businessman is going to say 'no' to logical cost-savings?"

> **Infrastructure is crucial. Storage will play a major role. We have to ramp up [energy] storage significantly, says Harish Pazhani, Senior Program Research Specialist, WRI India**

Shaivee Malik, Co-Founder and COO of Yotuh Energy, shared her views on the financing aspects and said, "When we are making some solutions that are battery-based, they do come with an initial higher cost. Even though the unit economics makes sense, the high capex becomes a barrier. When we are trying to reach it out to more customers, having much more ease on financing will make it more adaptable."

Harish Pazhani, Senior Program Research Specialist, WRI India, said India has surpassed 500 GW of total installed power capacity and the key notable point here is that close to 51% of it comes from non-fossil fuel sources which include hydro and nuclear. He underscored the importance of long-term planning and alternative mechanisms like energy efficiency.

"Infrastructure like storage is crucial. Storage will play a major role. We have to ramp up storage significantly," he said.



Anita Shrivastava, IOCL Chief General Manager, Shaivee Malik, Co-Founder and COO of Yotuh Energy, Harish Pazhani, Senior Program Research Specialist, WRI India, and Ravi Ganapathy, Regional Director, ESG Solutions, GovEVA, in conversation with Kunal Shankar, Deputy Business Editor, *The Hindu*. B. VELANKANNI RAJ

Govt. bonanza for Shree Charani

The Hindu Bureau
AMARAVATI

CM announces cash award of ₹2.5 crore, 1,000 square yards of land in Kadapa and Group-1 job in recognition of her stellar performance and contribution to India's historic World Cup victory



Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and HRD Minister N. Lokesh with Shree Charani (extreme left) and former cricketer Mithali Raj, in Amaravati on Friday. PTI

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Friday announced a grand reward for Telugu cricketer Shree Charani, a member of the Indian women's cricket team that recently won the World Cup. He declared a cash award of ₹2.5 crore, 1,000 square yards of land in Kadapa and a Group-1 officer post, in recognition of her stellar performance and contribution to India's historic victory.

Ms. Shree Charani called on Mr. Naidu and Minister for IT and HRD Nara Lokesh at the CM's Camp Office, where she was extended a warm welcome.

During the interaction, Ms. Shree Charani shared the joyful moments of the World Cup victory and expressed her gratitude to the Chief Minister and the State government for their support. Congratulating her, Mr. Naidu praised the Indian women's cricket team, stating that their victory had set a example for aspiring women athletes. He wished Ms. Shree Charani and the team greater success in future. Ms. Shree Charani presented Mr. Naidu a T-shirt signed by all members of the World Cup-winning Indian team. Former Indian women's cricket captain Mithali Raj was present. Earlier, at Gannavaram airport, the cricketer was given a grand reception by Ministers V. Anitha, S. Savitha, and G. Sandhya Rani, ACA president Kesineni Chinni, secretary Sana Satish, and SAAP Chairman A. Ravi Naidu.

A national inspiration



Schoolchildren rendering 'Vande Mataram' as part of the celebrations marking the 150th anniversary of the National Song, at AU English Medium High School, in Visakhapatnam on Friday. V. RAJU

Pawan calls for speedy alignment of rural roads with GeoSadak

The move will help in real-time tracking of road conditions, says the Deputy Chief Minister and directs officials to speed up works pertaining to 662 roads connecting 761 tribal hamlets

The Hindu Bureau
VIJAYAWADA



Deputy Chief Minister K. Pawan Kalyan chairing a review meeting on Palle Panduga-2.0 and Jal Jeevan Mission, at his camp office, near Mangalagiri, on Friday.

Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Panchayat Raj & Rural Development and Rural Water Supply, K. Pawan Kalyan has instructed the officials to expedite the process of linking all rural roads to GeoSadak, the online platform of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana that manages and displays geospatial data related to village roads.

Aligning with the GeoSadak would help in real-time tracking of road conditions and undertake improvement measures accordingly, Mr. Pawan Kalyan said and asked the officials to submit of an action plan in 48 hours.

Addressing a review meeting on the departments in his portfolio, at his camp office near Mangalagiri on Friday, Mr. Pawan Kalyan said linking the Adavi Thalli Bata scheme with the GeoSadak should be taken up as a pilot project and that the construction of 662 roads connecting 761 tribal villages should be carried out at a brisk pace.

A total of ₹1,158 crore has been mobilised for these works from Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM JANMAN), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employee Guarantee Scheme and the State's coffers to some extent.

Pointing out that the progress in the implementation of Adavi Thalli Bata was not up to the mark, he insisted that the challenges being faced in the Agency areas must be overcome with a proper plan.

He wanted any issues faced in its execution, especially in Alluri Sitharama Raju and Parvatipuram-Manyam districts, by duly consulting with the forest and other departments concerned.

Mr. Pawan Kalyan said the officials should ensure that quality standards were maintained in works being implemented under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) and told them to gear up for the launch of Palle Panduga 2.0 with the help of Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI) funds. He wanted the PR&RD Department officials to coordinate with the Finance Department for the speedy release of ₹2,123 crore of SASCI funds for launching the Palle Panduga 2.0.

The Deputy Chief Minister said that he would monitor the progress of JJM projects from the third week of November and make field visits after November 17 to inspect the ongoing works. Mr. Pawan Kalyan asked the officials that the Survey of Villages Abadi and Mapping with Improvised Technology in Village Areas (SVAMITVA) should be implemented properly as per the guidelines.

Ownership cards

One crore property ownership cards should be given by the end of March 2026, with the State government seal printed on them without fail.

Principal Secretary (PR & RD) Sashibhushan Kumar, Commissioner M.V.R. Krishna Teja, Survey Department Secretary R. Kurmanath and others were present.

INBRIEF

State best bet for investors, says Tourism Minister

Tourism Minister Kandula Durgesh on Friday said the future belonged to tourism. Speaking at a programme organised by the Indian High Commission, after conclusion of the World Travel Market exhibition, in London, he said the expo served as a platform to provide publicity for the State's tourism. Mr. Durgesh invited the delegates to A.P., informing them that the sector was given industry status and that a new tourism policy had been released. He invited the investors to invest in the tourism and hospitality sectors, and invited them to the Partnership Summit in Visakhapatnam on November 14 and 15.

Global MSME convention in Vizag on November 9, 10

The AP MSME Development Corporation is organising a Global MSME Export Development Convention-2025 in Visakhapatnam on November 9 and 10. It is part of the Reverse Buyer-Seller Meet initiative of the Central Government's Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) scheme. "The event is being held in collaboration with the India SME Forum," according to a release. Thirty-four international buyers from 16 countries are participating.

Registration is open online at: https://indiasmeforum.org/itd/rbsm-vizag-2025

TTD to soon announce release dates of Vaikunta Dwara Darshan tickets

The Hindu Bureau
TIRUMALA



We are committed to a fair and pilgrim-friendly system of token issuance for the 10-day festival commencing December 30, says Executive Officer Anil Kumar Singhal. FILE PHOTO

The Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) on Friday announced that the exact schedule for the release of Vaikunta Ekadasi Dwara Darshan tickets will be announced soon. The 10-day festival will be celebrated from December 30 to January 8. TTD Executive Officer Anil Kumar Singhal says the modalities for issuing both online and offline tickets are being finalised to ensure a transparent and seamless process.

"We are committed to a fair and pilgrim-friendly system of token issuance," Mr. Singhal said while anchoring the monthly 'Dial Your EO' public interaction programme.

Responding to suggestions on reducing advance booking timelines and change of timings of the issuance of SSD and SriVani tickets, Mr. Singhal emphasised that decisions were taken based on pilgrim feedback gathered through surveys, WhatsApp messages, emails, and letters.

"Over 70% of darshan slots are still being allocated to common devotees," he added, noting that a special committee had been constituted to streamline various darshan formats and ensure a hassle-free experience. He assured that the updates regarding the pending 2023 job notification would be released soon.

Anga Pradakshinam

In a major pilgrim-friendly initiative, the TTD announced that the online tokens for 'Anga Pradakshinam' would be made available to the devotees on first come, first served basis. Briefing the media, Mr. Singhal said the decision was taken in the larger interest of the devotees, and that would come into force from February. The existing system of issuing tokens under the 'lucky dip' format would permanently cease to exist since then.

Govt. is committed to welfare of farmers, says Naidu

The Hindu Bureau
VIJAYAWADA

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has asserted that the NDA government is committed to welfare of the farmers, and due priority has been given to ensure MSP to various crops.

Participating in the 125th birth anniversary celebrations of Acharya N.G. Ranga, at Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University at Lam in Guntur district on Friday, Mr. Naidu said the agriculture sector achieved a growth rate of 16.60% in GSDP between 2014-2019, and it dropped to 10% in 2019-24. The coalition government increased it to 15.45% in 2024-25. In spite of financial constraints, the government cleared dues to the farmers that were piled up during the YSRCP rule. In 2024-25, the government purchased 55.79 lakh MT of paddy for ₹12,857 crore.

Payments were made to the farmers' accounts within 24 hours. Also, a sum of ₹7,000 was given to each farmer under the Annadata Sukhibhava. Mr. Naidu said the government could mitigate the damages caused by Cyclone Montha to the farm sector with concerted efforts by the government machinery and by using advanced technologies. In 2014-19, a sum of ₹20,000 had been paid per hectare to farmers towards cyclone damages. It was reduced to ₹17,000 by the YSRCP government. Now it was increased to ₹25,000. The coalition government paid 95% of the crop insurance upon coming to power, he observed.

'Expedite energy efficiency programmes'

The Hindu Bureau
VIJAYAWADA

Managing Director of AP-Genco and CEO of AP State Energy Conservation Mission (AP-SECM) S. Nagalakshmi has directed the officials to expedite implementation of the ongoing Energy Efficiency (EE) and conservation programmes across the State.

Chairing a review meeting on the activities of SECM on Friday, she emphasised that EE was a crucial pillar of the State's energy transition strategy and instructed the team to focus on achieving tangible outcomes under key sectors such as buildings, industry, municipalities, agriculture, and transport with the support of the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE).

Ms. Nagalakshmi told the officials to ensure that all initiatives were aligned with the State Energy Efficiency Action Plan and Energy Conservation and Energy Efficiency Policy 2023-28. She called for strict compliance with the Energy Conservation Building Code (ECBC) in all the ULBs.

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PUBLIC NOTICE
PUBLIC NOTICE
This is a public notice by **Canara Bank Branch** in Powerpet, Eluru city, Eluru district, Eluru mandal.
Sri Nekkalapu Venkatesh Kumar Tilak, son of Nekkalapu Seshagiri Rao, resident of Murali Harmony Apartment Flat No.402, Eluru City, Shantinagar, 13th Road, Eluru District, has applied for a loan facility for a fish pond from Canara Bank branch, Powerpet, Eluru by stating that his maternal grand father **Kadiyala Venkata Subba Rao** purchased the schedule mentioned property from **Batchu Suvarna under a registered Sale deed dated 17-02-1974 vide Doct. No.759/74 and from Kadiyala Jawaharlal Nehru under Regd. Sale deed dated 13-08-1982 vide Doct.No.6442/82** that the said **Kadiyala Venkata Subba Rao executed a Regd. Will dated 23-06-1983 vide Doct.No.27/1983** bequeathing the schedule property to **Nekkalapu Radha Kumari** with life interest and vested reminder to him **(Nekkalapu Venkatesh Kumar Tilak)** that the death of **Venkata Subba Rao and Nekkalapu Radha Kumari, he (Nekkalapu Venkatesh Kumar Tilak)** became the absolute owner of schedule property that on **23-02-2013** and he was going to Chataparru village, the bag containing the above mentioned original Regd. Documents were lost and inspite of paper publication dated **28-02-2013** and despite police complaint to Eluru Rural Police, the said original documents have not been traced. The said **Nekkalapu Venkatesh Kumar Tilak** also stated that he has not availed any loan facility by depositing the above mentioned original documents that there are no leases or court cases or lawful or claims from anybody in respect of the said property or the said original documents.
Therefore, if any person or body has any claims over the schedule property or about original Regd. Document referred to above, they may inform the same to the bank with proper written evidence within one week from the date of the publication of this notice. Otherwise, the bank understood that no one has any claim or objections in relation to the schedule property or original documents and the bank consider the property free from litigation or claims and sanction the loan. It is hereby informed that any complaints received after one will not be taken into consideration by the bank.
SCHEDULED PROPERTY DETAILS
Currently, Eluru District, Eluru Municipal Corporation, Tangellamudi Panchayat, Tangellamudi Village, Door No.16B-16-4, R. S. No. 70, area 750.0 sq.m. the site, including its buildings, has **Boundaries : East:** Eluru-Chintalapudi Road, **South :** Property of Nekkalapu Madhusudhan Rao, **West:** Bellamkonda Narasaiah's property, **North:** Property of Gutta Satyanarayana.
Eluru, (T.V. Viswanadham)
Date: 08-11-2025 Advocate, Eluru.

INBRIEF

TTD accused of turning a blind eye to illegal hawkers

Leaders of the Tirumala Parirakshana Sainyam on Friday alleged that despite Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu's directions for an immediate action, the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) was yet to act tough and clear the illegal hawkers and unauthorised pavement dwellers in Tirumala. The organisation also accused the temple administration of allowing unauthorised traders to thrive at the cost of local residents' livelihoods and sanctity and security of the town. The organisation leader Kola Lakshmipathi alleged that over 500 non-local vendors had been doing business for the past several years without licence, hand-in-glove with the TTD staff. "While genuine local residents are struggling to survive, outsiders enjoying political patronage are minting fortunes. The Chief Minister's Office has issued written orders to the TTD Executive Officer to clear all illegal stalls and restore order, yet nothing has changed," he alleged, releasing a copy of the letter to the media.

Filmmakers booked in ganja case in Kerala

The Excise department has submitted the chargesheet in a case in which four people, including three Malayalam filmmakers, were arrested on charges of possessing ganja recently. The Excise Enforcement and Anti-Narcotic Special Squad, Ernakulam, filed the chargesheet against directors Khalid Rahman, Ashraf Hamsa, and Sameer Thahir and their friend Shalif Muhammad before the Judicial First Class Magistrate Court, Ernakulam, sources said.

Kerala cracks down on other State buses evading road tax

The Kerala Motor Vehicles Department (MVD) on Friday carried out a drive against private tourist buses from other States operating without paying State road tax here, officials said. As many as 28 buses were intercepted during the operation for violations, including non-payment of road tax, overspeeding, and use of banned air horns. Though such vehicles possess All India Permits, they are still required to pay State road tax when ferrying passengers within Kerala, they said. PTI

Farmer killed in tiger attack; safaris stopped in Bandipur

Karnataka Forest Minister suspends trekking activities in human-wildlife conflict zones; directs all available forest personnel be deployed to capture the tiger responsible for the repeated attacks

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

The continuing human-tiger conflict has left authorities at their wits' end, with another farmer killed in a tiger attack in Saragur taluk of Mysuru district in Karnataka, on Friday, the third such death.

In response, Karnataka Forest Minister Eshwar B. Khandre has ordered the immediate closure of safari operations in Nagarahole and Bandipur and suspended trekking activities in human-wildlife conflict zones. He directed to deploy all available forest personnel to capture the tiger responsible for the repeated attacks.



Three lives have been lost in tiger attacks along the fringes of the Nagarahole–Bandipur forests. FILE PHOTO

The latest incident took place at dawn at Hale Heggudilu village. Chowdaiah Naika, 35, had ventured into his field when he was dragged by a tiger, which left him dead.

The incident came to light when locals found a body in the elephant-proof trench abutting the forest and the village. It is speculated that the tiger, which was lurking nearby, attacked the farmer and dragged him to the trench where his body was found.

In a written directive to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wildlife Warden, Mr. Khandre expressed grief over the farmer's death.

Prabhakaran, Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bandipur Tiger Reserve, who confirmed the incident, said the village where the latest tiger attack took place, is at an aerial distance of 6 to 7 km from the previous site, Koodagi village, where Doddaningaiah lost his life in a tiger attack.

There have been four tiger attacks in Saragur-HD Kote belt in the last few weeks. Three farmers have lost their lives while one lost his vision.

BRS and BJP looted Telangana: Revanth

R. Ravikanth Reddy
HYDERABAD

Accusing the BRS and BJP of "stalling Hyderabad's growth and looting Telangana's resources," Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy appealed to the voters of Jubilee Hills to "vote after comparing the Congress' record of development with that of BRS and BJP."

Addressing a press meet on Friday, he said, "From 2004 to 2014, the Congress ruled both at the Centre and in the State. From 2014 to 2023, the BRS was in power here and the BJP at the Centre. Compare what each achieved and then decide your vote."

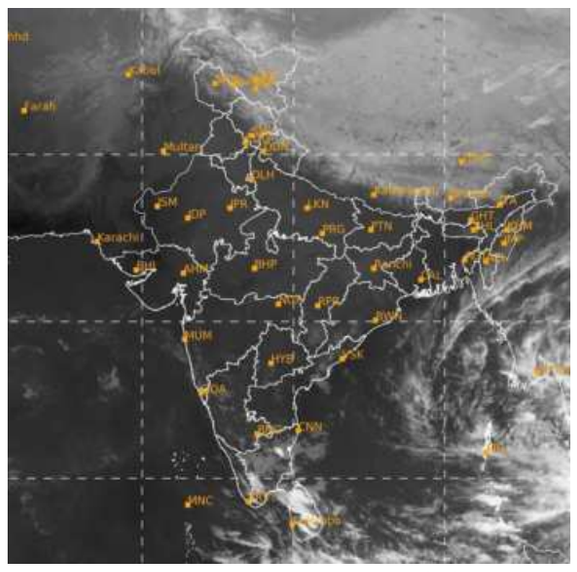
Listing out Congress's contribution to Hyderabad's transformation, he said, "International Airport, Metro Rail, Knowledge centres, IT expansion, pharma, all these developments began under the Congress regime. Hyderabad's revenue growth is based on Congress' long-term planning."

He accused Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy and BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao of derailing projects. "BRS, BJP stopped the Information Technology Investment Region project to Hyderabad," he said. "If both BJP and BRS had supported us, we could have expanded the Metro, brought Godavari waters, and cleaned the Musi river. Why are you obstructing Musi rejuvenation, Kishan Reddy?" he asked.

He said that the BRS will be defeated and the BJP will lose its deposit. He also asked BJP Ministers Mr. Kishan Reddy and Bandi Sanjay Kumar whether they were ready to take the challenge on retaining the deposit.Mr. Revanth Reddy also alleged that former CM "KCR wasted over ₹1 lakh crore on projects like Kaleshwaram and built Pragati Bhavan for himself and his family. He demolished the Secretariat just for his son's vaastu beliefs and built a new one. Did anyone get jobs because of it? ."

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 17.15 HRS)

Forecast for Saturday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala and Mahe. Thunderstorm accompanied with lightning likely at isolated places over Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala and Mahe

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	31.6	23.4	Kozhikode	—	33.0	23.6
Ahmedabad	—	30.8	17.0	Kurnool	—	34.2	24.0
Aizawl	3	29.0	18.7	Lucknow	—	29.3	13.8
Allahabad	—	29.5	13.9	Madurai	—	35.5	24.6
Bengaluru	—	28.8	20.7	Mangaluru	—	30.2	20.2
Bhopal	—	28.8	11.0	Mumbai	—	32.5	24.2
Bhubaneswar	—	32.3	19.8	Mysuru	—	30.0	18.8
Chandigarh	—	29.4	13.0	New Delhi	—	28.6	12.7
Chennai	—	32.2	24.6	Patna	—	29.5	20.8
Coimbatore	—	32.6	21.6	Port Blair	—	30.1	24.5
Dehradun	—	30.9	12.8	Puducherry	13	31.7	24.3
Gangtok	—	22.4	12.8	Pune	—	31.9	20.6
Goa	—	31.3	22.9	Raipur	—	31.5	19.2
Guwahati	—	30.6	21.9	Ranchi	—	27.8	17.4
Hubballi	—	28.0	21.0	Shillong	—	22.0	14.4
Hyderabad	—	30.7	20.1	Shimla	—	22.2	11.2
Imphal	—	29.8	20.3	Srinagar	—	17.5	0.2
Jaipur	—	29.3	13.0	Thiruvananthapuram	—	33.3	23.4
Kochi	—	30.2	24.6	Tiruchi	—	31.5	25.4
Kohima	12.5	19.8	16.2	Vijayawada	—	33.4	23.0
Kolkata	—	31.6	24.0	Visakhapatnam	—	32.0	25.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	8	31	17	86	213	
Bengaluru	8	25	36	60	178	
Chennai	4	38	—	65	298	
Delhi	44	115	105	352	328	
Hyderabad	10	35	31	119	141	
Kolkata	7	17	37	245	161	
Lucknow	10	55	49	186	163	
Mumbai	5	—	39	274	262	
Pune	7	67	71	134	152	
Visakhapatnam	13	72	20	156	164	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Delhi recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 322 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Shillong, Meghalaya recorded a healthy AQI score of 18

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

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

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

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

ODISHA STATE CIVIL SUPPLIES CORPORATION LTD.
(A Govt. of Odisha Undertaking)
REGISTERED OFFICE: C/2, NAYAPALLI, BHUBANESWAR-751012
CIN : U51211OR1980SGC000894
Tel No: 0674-2395391, Fax No-0674-2395291, Website: www.oscsc.in

Request for Proposal (RFP) for Empanelment of manufacturers to supply FORTIFIED RICE KERNEL (FRK) for the KMS 2025-26
File No. OSCSC -PROC-PROC-0042-2025

RFP Advt. No. 15524 /OSCSC, Date : 06/11/2025

Proposals are invited from interested bidders registered under the Companies Act-1956/ 2013 or any other legal entity registered in India and having valid registration certificate and eligibility as per the criteria given in the Request for Proposal (RFP) published in the official website **www.foododisha.in & www.oscsc.in & www.tenderodisha.gov.in** for **'Empanelment of Manufacturers to supply FORTIFIED RICE KERNEL (FRK) for the KMS 2025-26'** in the state of Odisha. The details of timetable of the RFP are as under.

Sl No	Event Description	Date
1	Publication of RFP in website	07 / 11 / 2025 at 18:00 Hours
2	Pre-Bid Meeting	17/ 11/ 2025 at 15:00 Hours at Office of OSCSC Ltd., C/2, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar-751012
3	Last Date and time for submission of Proposal	29/11/2025 at 17:00 Hours through online at www.tendersodisha.gov.in
4	Opening of Technical Proposal	01/12/2025 at 11:00 Hours at Office of OSCSC Ltd., C/ 2, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar-751012
5	Opening of Financial Bid	05/12/2025, 11:00 Hours Any Change to the aforementioned scheduled date, the same will be intimated through online and registered e-mail id for the technical qualified bidders.

Any amendment in the tender document due to decision in pre-bid meeting/extension of bid if any. shall be notified in the websites mentioned above. The proposals shall be submitted through online mode at **www.tendersodisha.gov.in.** The authority reserves the right to cancel any or the entire selection process without assigning any reason thereof.

Managing Director,
Odisha State Civil Supplies Corporation Limited

CAD-2236:

राजस्थान स्टेट सीड्स कार्पोरेशन लिमिटेड
पंत कृषि भवन, जगपुरा, जयपुर-302005, CIN-U75132RJ1978SGC001781, www.rajseeds.org
Phone no. 0141 2227514 E-mail:- rajseedsprod@gmail.com

F2(Gr-1)RSSC/Prod./OSP/2025-26/ Maize Tender/15183 Date :- 04/11/2025

NIB /2025-26/Prod-04

Rajasthan State Seeds Corporation Limited, Jaipur invites E-Procurement NIB from interested Seed Production Companies/ Organizers to produce certified seed of Hybrid Maize out of Rajasthan state during Rabi 2025-26 for kharif-2026.

Tender documents are available on website **https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in/ www.sppp. rajasthan.gov.in/www.rajseeds.org/ agriculture.rajasthan.gov.in.**

Last date and time of online submission of tender is 1.00 PM on 25.11.2025

UBN-SDS2526GLOB00029

Raj.Samwad/C/25/13380 Managing Director

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Advertisement No. 109/2025

Government of India
Public Enterprises Selection Board
invites applications for the post of

Director (Power)
in
NLC India Limited

Last date of submission of application by the applicant is by 15.00 Hours on
25th November, 2025

Last date of forwarding of applications by the Nodal Officers to PESB is by 17.00 Hours on
04th December, 2025

For details login to website **https://pesb.gov.in**

OFFICE OF RECOVERY OFFICER-I
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, MINISTRY OF FINANCE, DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES
31-31-21, Ground and 1st Floor, Narayana Bhavanam, Sai Baba Street, Dabagardens, Visakhapatnam-530020. Ph: 0891-2957044, E-mail: ro1.drt_vskp@outlook.com

PROCLAMATION OF SALE-cum-E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE
(See Rule 52(2) of the Second Schedule of the Income Tax Act, 1961)
R.P. No. 29 of 2020 in OA No. 547 of 2019

(1) Whereas a Recovery Certificate dated **04.11.2020** was issued by the Hon'ble Presiding Officer, Debts Recovery Tribunal, Visakhapatnam, under Sub-Section (22) of Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 in **O.A. No. 547/2019** between **Canara Bank, Venugopalnagar Branch, Guntur District Versus M/s Sree Subrahmanyeswara Enterprises and others** and forwarded the same for execution

(2) Whereas the execution proceedings were initiated in **R.P No. 29/2020** for recovery of **Rs. 53,85,679.97 Ps** (Rupees fifty three lakhs eighty five thousand six hundred seventy nine and ninety seven paisa only) covered by Recovery Certificate with interest, costs, etc. specified therein from the following Certificate Debtors:

(CD-1) M/s Sree Subrahmanyeswara Enterprises, Rep. by its Prop. Smt. Thunuguntla Rama Seetha, D No. 16-04-47-3/1, Yadav Street, Old Guntur, Guntur District-522001.
(CD-2) Smt. Thunuguntla Rama Seetha, W/o Sri. T Srinivasa Rao, D No. 16-04-47 3/1, Yadav Street, Old Guntur, Guntur District-522001.
(CD-3) Sri. Thunuguntla Srinivasa Rao, S/o T Subrahmanyam, D No. 16-04-47 3/1, Yadav Street, Old Guntur, Guntur District-522001.

(3) And whereas, the due is a sum of **Rs.1,76,03,336.02 Ps (interest calculated upto 17.10.2025) as on 17.10.2025** plus future interest, costs and expenses incurred/to be incurred in the Recovery Proceeding with till realization.

(4) Therefore, the undersigned ordered for Sale of the Schedule properties of Certificate Debtors mentioned hereunder in satisfaction of Recovery Certificate by adopting "online e Auction Sale" through the website https://www.bankeauctions.com of the Service Provider. The details of Date of Auction, last date for submission of Bid form, Reserve Price, Earnest Money Deposit, Bid Increase Amount and Time of Auction are mentioned hereunder against each item/schedule of property:

Last Date for Bids: 10.12.2025 (4.00 P.M) Date of Auction: 12.12.2025

Schedule / Item No.	Extent of the property	Reserve Price (in Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit (in Rs.)	Bid Increase Amount	Time of Auction *
Schedule Property "B"	Vacant Plot under Layout plan an extent of 205 Sq.yrds or 171.40 Sq.mtrs	Rs. 28,96,200/-	Rs. 2,89,620/-	Rs. 10,000/-	11.00 AM to 12.00 Noon

* Time of Auction - with an auto extension clause of 5 minutes each i.e. e-auction end time will be extended by 5 minutes each, if a bid is made before closure of the auction.

(5) At the sale, the public are invited to participate in "**online e-auction**" through the website https://www.bankeauctions.com of the service provider. The address details of Service Provider are: **M/s. C1 India Pvt. Ltd. Contact Person: Mr. Dharani Krishna, Contact No.9948182222, E-mail Id: andhra@c1india.com.**

(6) The intending participants/bidders are advised to go through the website https://www.bankeauctions.com for detailed terms and conditions of e-auction sale and are also required to contact the Service Provider for online registration, user ID, Password, help, procedure, online training about e-auction etc.,for submitting their Bid Forms and for taking part in e-auction sale proceedings.

(7) The intending participants shall deposit EMD amount by RTGS/NEFT/Funds Transfer to the credit of **Account No. 209272434, Name of the Account: "Canara bank, Venugopal Nagar Branch,** Guntur, Bank & Branch: Canara bank, Venugopal Nagar Branch, Guntur, **IFSC Code: CNRB0002642** and submit the Bid Forms online with requisite details viz. proof of deposit of EMD, PAN Card, Address & ID Proof on or before the last date mentioned in the above table, and also send hard copy of Bid Form duly filled in along with self-attested copies of above documents by Registered Post/Speed Post/ Courier to the undersigned so as to reach on or before **11.12.2025 by 4.00 PM.** Postal delays are not entertained.

(8) The intending participants are also advised to contact **Sri. Pallepogu Harish, Senior Manager (Contact No. 8331015718), E-mail: cb2642@canarabank.com** for queries, inspection of schedule properties, perusal of copies of title deeds and latest encumbrance certificates to exercise due diligence and satisfy themselves about the title of property under auction sale. Branch Head of the Bank will hand over the property and related title deed documents to the successful bidder in whose favour the Sale will be confirmed by the undersigned.

SPECIFICATION OF PROPERTIES

Schedule Property 'B': (Property covered by Sale Deed bearing Document No. 6313/2013 dated 04.12.2013 belonging to 3rd Defendant i.e. Sri. Thunuguntla Srinivasa Rao). All that Property is a **Plot No. 9 an extent of 205 Sq.yds or 171.40 sq.mtrs** in Door No. 82/ B1 out of Ac. 1.53 Cents which was developed as Plots as per Lay-out Plan in Pedakakani, Agathavarappadu Village and Grama Panchayati, SRO - Pedakakani, Guntur District and is **bounded by: East :** Boundary of Bush - 55 Feet, **South:** Boundary of land in D No. 82/B1 - 32 Ft, **West:** Boundary of 33 ft wide road - 30 ft., **North:** Boundary of plot No. 10 - 55 Ft.

(Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal at Visakhapatnam on the day 22nd October 2025)
Sd/- (Avasarala Anil) Recovery Officer
Debts Recovery Tribunal, Visakhapatnam

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
e-TENDER NOTIFICATION Ref : SS4/ 10562 /2025/Gunnies & cloth bags /RMD 4, Dated : 05.11.2025
JOINT DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE, RAMANATHAPURAM
TENDER NOTIFICATION

For and on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu, tenders in two bid systems are invited from the reputed Gunnies Suppliers towards the supply of **New Jute Gunnies for packing seeds for 36 Districts of the State of Tamil Nadu** during the year **2025-26**.

Table-1

Sl. No.	Name of the item	Quantity in numbers	Approximate value of Tender in Rupees	Earnest Money Deposit to be paid (in Rs.)
1	50 Kg Jute Gunnies	6,70,747	9,53,95,565 (Rupees Nine crore fifty three lakh ninety five thousand and five hundred and sixty five only)	9,53,956
2	35 kg Jute Gunnies	1,86,116		

E-tender should be submitted for the items mentioned above in Table along with specified Earnest Money Deposit paid through online mode.

The Tender document is available in the Government website **https://tntenders.gov.in.** The time schedule for opening of the tender and other critical dates of the tender are as follows:

Table-2

Publishing Date	:	07.11.2025, 04.00 PM
Document download Start Date	:	07.11.2025, 4.00 PM
Bid Submission Start Date	:	08.11.2025, 04.00 PM
Bid Submission Closing Date	:	24.11.2025, 04.00 PM
Bid Opening Date	:	25.11.2025, 04.00 PM

DIPR/ 6034 /TENDER/2025 **Joint Director of Agriculture, Ramanathapuram**

इंडियन बैंक Indian Bank
इलाहाबाद ALLAHABAD

MID CORPORATE BRANCH - GUNTUR
D.No. 10-1-1, 2nd floor, 1st Line, Sambasivapet, Naaz Centre
Guntur-522001. Tel No.0863-2222612 / 2222613
Email: MCB.GUNTUR@indianbank.co.in

APPENDIX- IV-A" [See provision to rule Rule 8(6) and/or 9 (1)
Sale notice for sale of immovable properties

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

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the **Borrower (s), Guarantor(s), Director(s), Mortgagor(s)** that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the **Constructive** possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **Indian Bank, MCB Guntur branch**, Secured Creditor, will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is"** on **29.11.2025** for recovery of **Rs 40,28,06,614/- (Rupees Forty Crores Twenty Eight Lakhs Six Thousand Six Hundred Fourteen Only)** (as on **06.11.2025**) due to the Indian Bank, MCB Guntur branch, Secured Creditor, from **1. M/s Ajanta Spintex Private Limited (Borrower cum Mortgagor) 2. Mr. Ippala Srikanth Reddy (Managing Director cum Guarantor) 3. Mr. Ippala Dana Reddy (Director cum Mortgagor cum Guarantor) 4. Mr. Devagiri Narapa Reddy (Director cum Mortgagor cum Guarantor) 5. Mr. Chirra Krishna Reddy (Director cum Mortgagor cum Guarantor) 6. Mr Ippala Sasikanth Reddy (Guarantor) 7. Mrs Ippala Pitchamma (Mortgagor cum Guarantor) 8. Mrs. Chirra Sirisha (Mortgagor cum Guarantor).**

The specific details of the property intended to be brought to sale through e-auction mode are enumerated below:

Detailed description of the Property

All that part and parcel of the land situated at Narasaraopet R.D. Narasaropet Sub-Dist. within the area of Ankireddypalem Grama Panchayath & Village D.No.781, an extant of Acre 9-23 Cents out of it Acre. 0-79.1/2 Cents in the Name of Ms. Chirra Sireesha, property is being bounded by:-**East:** Ac. 1-46.1/2 Cents land belongs to Sankati Narasamma,**South**: Land belongs to Vanukuri Naga Ratnam,**West:** Land belongs to Vippala Brahmmareddy,**North:** Circar Donka

Encumbrances on property	Known to the bank NIL
Reserve Price	Rs. 2,89,77,750.00 (Rupees Two Crores Eighty Nine Lakhs Seventy Seven Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty only)
EMD Amount	Rs. 28,97,775.00 (Rupees Twenty Eight Lakhs Ninety Seven Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy Five only)
Bid incremental amount	Rs. 1,00,000.00 (Rupees One Lakhs)
Date and time of e-auction	Date: 29.11.2025 Time: from 10.00 AM to 04.00 PM
Property ID No	IDIB6091765801B

Bidders are advised to visit the website (https://baanknet.com) of our e auction service provider PSB Alliance Pvt. Ltd to participate in online bid. For Technical Assistance Please call PSB Alliance Pvt. Ltd Helpdesk No. 8291220220, email ID:- support.baanknet@psballiance.com and other help line numbers available in service providers help desk. For Registration status with PSB Alliance Pvt. Ltd. and EMD status, please contact support.baanknet@psballiance.com.
For property details and photograph of the property and auction terms and conditions please visit: https://baanknet.com and for clarifications related to this portal, please contact Helpdesk No.8291220220
Bidders are advised to use Property ID Number mentioned above while searching for the property in the website with https://baanknet.com.
Contact Person: 1. B. Santosh kumar (Branch Manager) MB: 9666433321

Place :Guntur ,Date :07.11.2025 Sd/-Authorised Officer,Indian Bank

SANJAY GANDHI INSTITUTE OF TRAUMA AND ORTHOPAEDICS
(Government of Karnataka Autonomous Institute)
Byrasandra, Jayanagar East, Bengaluru - 560 011 Ph: 080-26564516, 26562500 Grams: SITO Fax: 26565222 E-mail: sitodirector@gmail.com
No. SGITO/e-Tender/ME/Sports Complex/09/2025-26 Date:.06.11.2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPP Portal only)

Sanjay Gandhi Institute of Trauma & Orthopaedics, Byrasandra, Jayanagar East, Bengaluru - 11 invites tender from the eligible tenderers through the KPP portal of GOK for The Following:-

MEDICAL EQUIPMENTS AND OTHER ITEMS

(1) The Tenderers can download the documents from: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/** on or after **08.11.2025** and the last date for submission of completed tenders through kpp portal is **24.11.2025** upto **4:00** PM.
(2) The Tender Accepting Authority reserves the right to accept / reject or cancel tender without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/-
Director
Tender Inviting Authority

DIPR/SI/3668/2025-26

Turnout bump

Voter awareness clearly surged following the SIR controversy

The first phase of Bihar's Assembly elections on Thursday witnessed a heartening democratic statistic – an impressive voter turnout across 121 constituencies. Provisional estimates have placed the figure at 64.69%, which may rise further as complete data emerge from all polling booths. These same constituencies have consistently recorded turnouts between 55.4% and 55.85% across the last four polls – Assembly and general elections. The nearly nine percentage point jump signals a reinvigorated engagement with the electoral process. The numbers reveal a more compelling story. Despite the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process reducing registered electors from 3.88 crore in the 2024 general election to 3.73 crore now, the actual voter count surged from 2.15 crore to a provisional 2.42 crore. Predictably, the ruling coalition has rushed to attribute the surge to popular welfare schemes, framing it as pro-incumbency sentiment, while the Opposition has interpreted it as anti-incumbency fervour and a hunger for change. However, drawing definitive conclusions from turnout figures alone would be premature.

Academic studies have shown that there has been little correlation between increased voter participation and anti- or pro-incumbency in Assembly elections. But disaggregated data could offer insights. A spike in women's participation might validate the impact of cash transfer schemes implemented on the eve of the elections by the Nitish Kumar-led government. Conversely, increased youth voting could reflect a yearning for change in a State where unemployment and large-scale migration remain persistent concerns. But the Election Commission of India (ECI) has not yet released gender-based turnout data, leaving such analysis in the realm of speculation. What seems indisputable is that the heightened discourse around the SIR process played a role. The Opposition's Voter Adhikar Yatra and sustained focus on voter roll issues appear to have sensitised citizens about the sanctity of their franchise. A day before polling, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, raised concerns about electoral roll discrepancies in Haryana, alleging inadequate action by the ECI. Bihar's first-phase turnout offers an instructive lesson: concerns about electoral processes are most effectively addressed not merely through criticism but by mobilising organisational machinery to educate and energise voters about registration and participation. The Congress and other Opposition parties would do well to channel their apprehensions about electoral integrity into systematic grassroots work that empowers citizens to claim their democratic rights – a strategy that could possibly yield tangible results at the ballot box while strengthening democratic institutions.

Shutdown showdown

Unbridled Trumpism has reduced any space for bipartisan cooperation

The U.S. federal government shutdown has entered its 39th day, making it the longest such closure in American history, with a sharp impact on nearly 1.4 million federal employees who have been furloughed without pay, not to mention countless more affected by the suspension of a range of public services. The latest blow to the American public came on the heels of an announcement that major U.S. airlines would be reducing flights at more than 40 airports this week owing to a shortfall in air traffic controllers, leading to a heightened threat to air safety. The shutdown has also crippled normal functions in food and nutrition benefits including food stamps for the poor, early learning programmes for low-income families, services related to the Internal Revenue Service, national parks and social services. At the heart of the debate that led to the congressional stalemate was the expiration of subsidies for health insurance premiums purchased via the Affordable Care Act marketplace. At this point there would appear to be a glimmer of hope for resolution of the partisan logjam as the Senate is expected to vote on an amended budget bill following Republicans presenting a fresh proposal, which includes a short-term stopgap funding measure. Also bundled is a potential one year of fiscal support for food assistance, veterans affairs and military construction.

However, the deeper malaise of bitter polarisation in the political discourse persists, even if painful shutdowns come and go. Mr. Trump certainly bettered his first term election victory when he galloped into the White House in 2024. Despite the "red shift" that handed him a win in every swing State last year, liberals and progressives have certainly not thrown in the towel; rather, they have regrouped to make a strong showing in the recent mayoral, gubernatorial and other State-level elections. At stake are the most poignant of policy issues impacting ordinary Americans, including jobs, tariffs and inflation, but also pressing questions on immigration, health care and education. While it is only to be expected that American society, known for fiercely guarding the rights guaranteed in the Constitution's First Amendment, will regularly and vociferously express divergent views on these critical subjects, the substantive core of good governance will be lost to many unless the spirit of bipartisanship flickers once again amidst the shambles of congressional dysfunction. In this context the debilitation wreaked by the ongoing shutdown only shows that there is a need for a new normal in U.S. politics, a humane, pragmatic middle path between unbridled Trumpism and the old world of progressive America.

Economics and a Mamdani model, Big Apple style



Chirantan Chatterjee

is Professor of Development Economics, Innovation and Global Health at U-Sussex

The year 2025 began with a new POTUS (President of the United States) and is ending with Zohran Mamdani as the incoming new Mayor of New York City (NYC). It is a curious twist of fortunes, but all this while welfarism keeps returning centre stage. Politicians of the left and the right reach for it when inequality widens or when growth feels exclusive. Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva in Brazil, the Keir Starmer government in the United Kingdom, and in India, various Chief Ministers have built on welfare-led politics. Now, the Big Apple will have its "Mamdani moment".

Mr. Mamdani will begin governing only from January 1, 2026, with an all-women Transition Team, but the headline promises – free buses, rent freezes, universal childcare – pose a basic question. What does sustainable welfarism look like in economies that still rely on markets to allocate most goods and services?

The two sides to welfare

The appeal is obvious. Welfare acts fast. It bypasses the slow grind of productivity reforms and delivers visible outcomes: children in school, workers in transit, families housed. Yet, there is a boundary condition that voters sense and economists formalise – quality often erodes, deadweight losses creep in with welfarism, and black markets flourish when prices are pushed below cost. Free buses without cost discipline can mean fewer buses or poorly maintained fleets. Rent freezes can protect tenants yet deter new construction, with "key money" resurfacing. Free childcare can expand access but strain quality if staffing and training are not funded.

Does this mean conventional economics is merely pinched lipped about compassion? Not quite. Incentives are not a moral preference; they describe behaviour. Set a price to zero, demand rises; if supply cannot scale, queues and side-payments follow. But economics also recognises distribution: policies aiding the worst-off can increase social welfare even with some inefficiency. Here, John Rawls matters – judge society by its least advantaged. If markets leave many out because they cannot pay (or sell) at the moment of need, the state can subsidise buyers and sellers to re-admit them on fair terms. It may well be what NYC voters are signalling.

So, should Rawls replace Pareto, or must a healthy polity oscillate? Economic and social history suggest the latter. Polanyi called it the "double movement": overreach by markets sparks social protection; ossified protections trigger liberalisation. Bismarckian social insurance yielded to later liberalisations; post-war welfare states met Thatcher-Reagan retrenchment; Latin America shifted from price controls to stabilisation and targeted transfers; India has toggled between public provisioning (Public Distribution System, the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act) and market-complementing reforms (Direct Benefit Transfer, Goods and Services Tax). Each swing overcorrected somewhere and taught lessons.

> An ideal Mamdani model is one that focuses on the architecture of inclusion, by making welfarism fiscally honest and micro-economically careful

The dangers lie at the extremes. A "Pareto trap" prizes efficiency while tolerating exclusion: clinics that are "efficiently" empty of the poor, and buses that are on time but not where workers live. A "Rawls trap" suppresses prices across the board, undermining supply incentives; quality falls, the middle class exits, and coalitions fray.

What could work as a model

The more useful question for a Mamdani model is not Rawls or Pareto, but how to build a thermostat between them – automatic stabilisers that lean Rawlsian under stress and lean Pareto as capacity grows. In short: make welfarism fiscally honest and micro-economically careful.

How can one do this? Some simple steps could be helpful. First, one may want to subsidise outcomes, not inputs, and cap fares selectively, contracting for on-time kilometres and peak seat availability, publish open data audits, and keep a modest price signal with transparent provider compensation. Examples to borrow from are the 2016 Bus Contracting Model in Singapore and France's Solidarité Transport discounts which protects access while preserving a non-zero fare. Second, one may want to replace blunt price controls with contingent buffers by using means-tested, automatic vouchers that scale in shocks, and pair them with zoning fast-tracks and tax incentives to expand supply and add sunset/trigger rules.

Finally, one may want to default to cash/e-vouchers that are backed by credible public options and hard quality budgets – fund staffing, accreditation and inspections. This way, services will not residualise, and public providers can set a quality floor that disciplines private prices. Other examples may be from Brazil's Bolsa Família (conditional cash transfers) and Kenya's Inua Jamii programme.

Where do mission-driven firms and socially minded entrepreneurs fit in this conversation? They are the connective tissue. If the state is Rawlsian and markets are Pareto, we need institutions that straddle both. A stakeholder-oriented bus operator can accept capped fares given long-term contracts, reciprocal data-sharing, and reputational gains. A childcare chain investing in staff development can align with public training subsidies. Indian health systems (Aravind Eye Care and L.V. Prasad Eye Institute) show how cross-subsidy models complemented with a "focused factories" orientation (in the McDonald's sense) can deliver scale and quality, with the paying rich underwriting the poor. These are not acts of charity but of business model design.

Fiscal honesty is the other pillar. Welfarism fails not just by mispricing, but by underfunding. If Mamdani-style promises are to endure – in NYC or anywhere, wrestling with inequality amid Artificial Intelligence-led churn – they must be transparently costed and paired with growth measures: productivity compacts with industry, regulatory simplification to lower supply costs, and public investment that expands capacity (depots, fleets, childcare centres, housing stock). Welfare that crowds in supply lasts longer than welfare that waits for supply to appear or crowds it out.

There is also a social and geopolitics of dignity. A Rawls-Pareto thermostat is not merely technical; it signals respect. Users should be treated as customers with recourse – working grievance redress, real-time service information, and independent audits in plain language. Suppliers should be partners with obligations – service standards, open books for subsidised lines, and penalties for gaming.

Programmed oscillation

Economic history does not force a choice between kindness and competence; it teaches sequencing. In shocks and downturns, lean Rawlsian: insure households against ruin, subsidise access, keep systems intact. As capacity catches up, lean Pareto: restore prices that ration sensibly, move to cash and vouchers, foster provider competition, and invest in productivity so that tomorrow's welfare is cheaper to deliver. The oscillation need not lurch; it can be programmed.

If the Mamdani model is to mean anything durable in 2026 and beyond, it should stand for welfarism disciplined by design: promise access, protect quality, pay for it honestly, and build bridges for mission-driven firms to co-produce public value. That is not an abandonment of markets or justice. It recognises that a society secure enough to take risks – and productive enough to finance fairness – needs both. May his team and others inspired by these ideas looking at the Big Apple, focus less on the romance of "free" and more on the architecture that makes inclusion work at scale.

A wider SIR has momentum but it is still a test case



Akshay Rout

is former Director General, Election Commission of India

The Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls has now rolled into another batch of States and Union Territories after creating a new electoral roll in Bihar, a State which is now in the midst of its elections. The Election Commission of India (ECI)-ordered SIR in nine States and three Union Territories, as part of a staggered pan-India exercise, began on November 4, 2025. Being held in Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat and the Union Territories of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep and Puducherry, this phase includes some States which go to the polls next year, but excludes Assam (also poll-going), where issues of citizenship are on a different legal track.

The post-enumeration draft roll will be released on December 9, while the final roll will be released on February 7, 2026. This is only the ninth SIR in India's 75-year-old electoral history and the first one after 21 years. In June 2025, the ECI had decided to commence intensive revision 'in the entire country', also confirming that the schedule for all States 'shall be issued separately' after dealing with the immediate demands of Bihar. The ECI has ordered the respective governments to provide the workforce for SIR operations and not shift any officials connected with SIR work.

No one size fits all

Under this SIR, 51 crore electors will be brought under intensive review – more than half the country's total electorate, spreading over 321 districts and 1,843 Assembly constituencies. It will involve 5.33 lakh polling stations and an equal number of Booth Level Officers (BLOs) and over 7.64 lakh booth level agents of political parties – a number which should see an upsurge as parties would be keen to safeguard their interests.

No two elections in India's long history of 18 national and over 400 Assembly elections were the same. This applies equally to the SIR in terms of upcoming challenges. The current ruling dispensations in Tamil Nadu and Kerala have taken a dim view of the SIR. The responses from West Bengal, with 7.7 crore electors, have been more combative; it is also a State with a large number of constituencies bordering Bangladesh, where the issues of infiltration and citizenship are in focus. Uttar Pradesh, with 15.44 crore electors, and social complexities will not be a cakewalk either. The burden of migrations that electoral roll managers faced in Bihar does not hold true in other States. The efficiency of past summary revisions could differ from State to State, determining the quantum of the task. A statutory process such as a SIR has a certain uncompromising standardisation, but procedures may still require local customisation.

> An electoral roll that has been intensely revised must be accepted, and political parties and the Election Commission should focus on upholding the trust of the Indian voter

A friendlier template

Bihar was a tough assignment being the first SIR exercise after two decades, and which saw protests and doubts. The foundational lines have been drawn now. Article 326 of the Constitution that defines an elector is getting highlighted as an equal truth as Article 324 in running elections. A SIR is legitimate but genuine electors need to be facilitated using a time frame that is adequate.

Transparency levels should satisfy citizen and political party. The clear order from the ECI, that "No document is to be collected from electors during the Enumeration Phase", should be a respite for millions of ordinary voters who are apprehensive the moment the word 'document' is mentioned. The draft roll will include all those whose signed enumeration forms, further rationalised and partly pre-filled, are received.

Only those electors whose names could not be matched/linked with previous SIR will be notified and heard before the registration official who decides on either inclusion or exclusion. Three visits to the house of each elector by the BLO is reassuring. The familiar Form 6 for new enrolment, Form 7 for deletion and Form 8 for correction will remain in place. Critics of the SIR have reasons to be satisfied with the modifications they could orchestrate; they should walk the next steps without grudge or imaginary fear.

Electoral roll management, largely a technical exercise, becomes cluttered when it becomes an echo chamber for issues such as infiltration or disenfranchisement that are hyped. The SIR is essentially a clean up exercise. The pan-India picture will hopefully not cause any shock this time. The bulk of exclusion will always come from death, absence, shifting or duplication. The SIR method is different but complementary to the ECI's innovative efforts in a mobilisation of voters for registration and turnout in recent years. Voter turnout in the first phase of the Bihar election has proved this. The Supreme Court of India and other stakeholders have been concerned that the right of any voter should not be denied while trimming the flab. Under the SIR, BLOs have been specially directed to have at least 30 blank forms to facilitate the enrolment of new voters.

An issue past debate

The SIR is a *fait accompli* and is past debate. An electoral roll that has been intensely revised is now a reality right up to polling day and the polling compartment. Political parties have changed their tune. From the 'Stop SIR' call, political parties are moving to make the best out of the exercise, even if they maintain their ideological opposition to it and still explore legal remedies. If parties in Tamil Nadu, Kerala and West Bengal have genuine fears about the exclusion of eligible people even as they go ahead with poll preparation, they need to act. They need to participate in the implementation of the SIR and make use of the decentralised structure of checks and balances and grievance mitigation.

More than the Supreme Court's sanction of the legitimacy of the SIR process, it is the 'zero appeals' in the Bihar process and field-level collaboration seen by party functionaries (notwithstanding political statements at the top) which will make election managers feel more confident in taking the SIR forward. When asked about possible resistance from States such as West Bengal, the Chief Election Commissioner, Gyanesh Kumar, pointed to the architecture of constitutional roles and duties and hoped for its seamless working.

While the fundamentals of the SIR have been validated, there will be hurdles in the execution in scale. It is here that the ECI will need to show skill and empathy. The ECI's legacy of competence demands that it should work continuously to uphold the trust of voters. It won the trial in Bihar and the new pan-India SIR will be another test case.

The views expressed are personal

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The lesson from NYC

When nearly everyone dismissed him as a dark horse, New York's Mayor(-elect), Zohran Mamdani, mounted a campaign that blended imagination with integrity — and won (Front page, November 6). His victory, grounded in empathy and pragmatic idealism, spoke directly to a world weary of right-wing populism. His politics was built around belonging, not bitterness. He talked of housing, wages, dignity — everyday concerns that unite rather than divide. His calm defiance showed that moral confidence and organisational depth can overcome the machinery of fear. For India's Opposition, his message is unmistakable. Protest alone cannot dislodge populism. Only a credible and hopeful story about the future can. Mr. Mamdani re-framed polarising debates into collective aspirations, turning fatigue into faith. Of course, New York is not India. Yet, the essentials travel well — authenticity, political imagination and the courage to build momentum rather than wait for it. Right-wing populism feeds on despair; it falters before hope that feels real. India's Opposition must craft its Mamdani moment — a politics of conviction and competence that reclaims the moral ground of democracy.

M. Jameel Ahmed,
Mysuru

Sulakshana Pandit

In the passing of Sulakshana Pandit, the film world has lost an actor who mesmerised millions with her mellifluous voice. It is unfortunate that the leading lady, of her time, faced hardships.

C.K. Prem Kumar,
Kalvakulam, Palakkad, Kerala

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

Breaking boundaries



Women cricketers practising at the Karnataka Institute of Cricket in Bengaluru. J. ALLEN EGENUSE

Over the last few years, more girls and women across India are playing cricket professionally, inspired by the tremendous growth of the game. India's victory in the ICC Women's World Cup in early November has inspired many more budding players. **Mehul Malpani, Amol Karhadkar, Y.B. Sarangi,** and **Suruchi Kumari** report on the changing reality of Indian women's cricket

After a day of training at the Sai Sports Academy in Madhya Pradesh's Chhatarpur town, Pinky Ahirwar, 18, starts walking her bicycle back with a group of girls and boys, all teens. The cycle belonged to her older brother who got it from the State government five years ago, after he finished Class 10. "I used to come for practice by a shared autorickshaw, which cost ₹40 daily. So, I got the bicycle fixed and saved that money to spend on my diet instead. That helps me in training," she says.

She has been training at the academy for about one and a half years. Her diet involves chana (chickpea) and banana – staple sources of protein and energy for young athletes training in rural northern India.

As Ahirwar's village, Dhidhonia, is about 35 kilometres from Chhatarpur, she stays in a rented room with her brother and sister, who are in college. Ahirwar, however, quit studies after school to focus on cricket training.

The academy in Chhatarpur, a small town in the poverty-ridden Bundelkhand region, is run by Rajeev Bilthare, who started it in 2013. He began training girls from 2016. It produced the pacer, Kranti Goud, who was part of the team that won the ICC Women's World Cup, 2025, on November 2. Goud, a 22-year-old tribal girl from a rural town about 85 km from Chhatarpur, was among the first batch of women cricketers at the academy when she joined in 2017. "Now at least 60 young players train at the academy, including about 20 girls," Bilthare says.

It is not just in Madhya Pradesh; girls and women across India are playing cricket professionally, inspired by the tremendous growth of the game. Before the World Cup, BCCI secretary Devajit Saikia had said, "This event will give more encouragement to our women and our girls to take up cricket in a more serious, competitive manner. And they will see a proper and secure future in their career."

In Haryana's Shri Ram Narain Cricket Club, coach Ashish Parmal says he got more than 30 calls from parents the day after the World Cup final, asking whether they could enrol their daughters. This was where national cricketer and India's highest scorer in the final match in the world cup, Shafali Verma, first trained.

In Chennai, Prithi Ashwin, who spearheads the Gen-Next Cricket Institute along with her husband, cricketer Ravichandran Ashwin, says the academy received 10 calls from parents asking about coaching during the World Cup.

Irfan Sait, Head Coach and Managing Director of the Karnataka Institute of Cricket (KIOC) in Bengaluru, who has been part of the State's cricketing ecosystem for over four decades, says there has been a "sea change" in women's cricket. Sait has trained many women players including Mamatha Maben, Nooshin Al Khadeer, Karuna Jain, who were all part of the national team.

Despite this, many coaches still measure a girl's ability against a boy's. At an academy in Bengaluru, one of them says, "When I coach a 19-year-old woman, I often evaluate her against the standard of a 16-year-old boy." Girls are also still a fraction of the players at academies. As Ashish Parmal, a BCCI Level A coach at an academy in Haryana, says, "We train 31 girls in Rohtak and 62 in the Gurgaon centre, both of which boast a collective strength of over 500 boys across Under-15, Under-19, Under-23 and Senior categories."

Fields of promise

Around 4 p.m., eight girls and at least 15 boys, from ages 8 to 22, gather at the academy in Chhatarpur. It is run out of a rented ground, converted from a field, with uneven grass in parts and trees along the sides.

> The same people who taunted my mother for 'wasting money on a boy's sport' later said I was an idol for their children
>
> **SONIA MENDHIYA**
> Cricketer from Haryana

There are four nets in a corner, one of them occupied by three girls. Other players are scattered across the ground, stretching or working on their batting stance or bowling action. A group of players, including three girls, is practising at the pitch.

Bharti Verma, 17, a medium pacer who attended a national-level under-17 camp, charges in to deliver a ball. Her shoes, with screw-on spikes, are worn out. Her father, a farmer, who sustains a family of six, bought them for her about two years ago for ₹1,500. Now, a basic pair would cost at least ₹2,000, she says.

Verma says her father has promised her a new pair. "I have been training here for five years and my parents have been supportive. Whenever I have asked them for cricketing gear, they have always managed to arrange it for me, even if it takes some time," she says, adding that she recently injured her ankle while playing in her regular shoes.

Sukhdeep Singh, 24, an assistant coach and a player, says it is tough to run an academy. He lists several infrastructural problems, like there being no covers to protect the pitches from the rain or dew. In the long list of don't-haves are washrooms and a dressing room. "Until a year ago, we were running the academy next to a private school so players could use the toilets there," he says. Now, players go to a house next to the ground.

Bilthare, who is also a sports officer at a local government college, says that there has been "absolutely no help" from the authorities. "I started a girls unit in 2016 with five girls, and ran camps across colleges and schools in the area to attract more girls for a year. I managed to put together a squad of about 20. I bought them two kit bags and began training them. It was the only one for a few years in the entire Sagar division," he says. He is hoping for a ground lease from the government.

Bilthare says, "Many players train here for free. Kranti was also enrolled for free when she first came. It is not possible to buy expensive equipment and invest in infrastructure with just fee income."



Girls practising at the Sai Sports Academy in Madhya Pradesh's Chhatarpur town. A.M. FARUQUI

"Some girls from here are playing at various levels – from the division to the State level. A girl is also playing a T20 tournament organised by the BCCI. Our players have talent to go further if they get the right support and resources," he adds.

Irrespective of the lack of resources or of being outnumbered by boys, girls continue to follow their passion. Vaishnavi Pal, 18, joined the academy on November 5. "I started playing with my brother and cousins in our colony, but the neighbours objected. So, we moved to a ground nearby. A local coach saw me and encouraged me to join his academy. I trained there for five years before coming here," says Pal.

A resident of Shivpuri district, Pal has come to stay at her aunt's place for better access to the club. Her mother recently won a three-year battle against cancer. "My parents asked me to focus on the game," she says.

Self-consciousness to self-confidence

At the Cricket Mantras Academy in Nahur, a Mumbai suburb, a group of girls pad up under the watchful eyes of coach Swapnil Pradhan. The crack of the ball meeting bat and the chatter of girls and boys fills the air.

Among the trainees is Diksha Pawar, 19, an offspinner who has represented Mumbai in the Under-19 team. Pawar says her journey began by chance. "When I was a child, I liked sports, mostly basketball," she says. "But my dad had enrolled my brother in a cricket academy. When I saw the boys play, I told him, 'I want to play too.' Soon, I joined the same academy. There were almost 100 boys; I was the only girl. At first, it felt strange. But over time, I got used to it. It became normal."

The early self-consciousness soon gave way to confidence. "I remember one match where I scored 20 runs and took two wickets against boys. That is when I felt I could belong; that I could play this game not as a girl, but as a cricketer," she says.

Pawar's idols include Deepti Sharma and Jemimah Rodrigues, who were both part of the winning World Cup team. Rodrigues is the daughter of Pawar's first coach. "Jemi used to practise in Bhandup [another suburb] back then. I was also practising there," she recalls. "She always pushed herself, no matter how things were going. She believed in herself. Her belief and optimism came through in her semifinal knock. That is what I want to learn from her."

For Arya Davane, 15, who has represented West Zone Under-17 and was selected for the BCCI off-season camp at the Centre of Excellence in Bengaluru, the journey began with defiance.

"In 2022, during a practice match against the boys, one of them said, 'She is a girl; she will get out soon,'" Davane recounts. "That hurt. I scored just 10 and got out early. But I told myself, 'I will show them that I'm just as capable'." Davane's role model is Australia's leg-spinner Alana King. "I saw her bowl during the World Cup. I hope to bowl like her someday," she says.

The coach, Pradhan, believes this new generation of girls is at a turning point. "When India won the Men's T20 World Cup in 2007 and the Indian Premier League began, Indian cricket exploded. Something similar is happening now – the Women's Premier League [that began in 2023] and the World Cup win are catalysts. There are plenty of opportunities and that is drawing more girls and parents towards the game. Soon, competition will rise, more teams will form, and the ecosystem will grow stronger."

Cricket Mantras runs a Gulf Oil-sponsored batch of 12 girls, including Pawar and Davane. "The structure is improving," Pradhan says. "But we need to make sure coaching, scouting, and exposure grow in tandem."

In Thane, north-east of Mumbai, coach Kiran Salgaonkar echoes that sentiment. Having mentored female cricketers for over 25 years at the Salgaonkar Cricket Academy, he says, "If match fees for women are still far below that of men, it is unjust. The girls put in the same amount of work and are just as dedicated. The rewards should be equal too."

While match fees are equal for both men and women at the international level, the annual retainers for women remain a tenth of what male players earn. At the domestic level, the disparity is sharper – a male cricketer can earn between ₹40,000 and ₹60,000 per match day, while a woman's earnings rarely cross ₹20,000. Over a full season, a man could earn ₹15 lakh; a woman, at best, ₹4 lakh.

Sources of motivation

In Kolkata, the Pal and Chatterjee Cricket Academy (PCCA), situated at Vivekananda Park in Sarat Bose Road area, is a prominent hub for women cricketers. Founded by cricketers Pankaj Pal and Utpal Chatterjee (not the former India player) in 2009 with just two boys, PCCA, which relies on tuition fees, corporate funding, and donations, began enrolling girls in 2014.

According to Pal, the number of girls stands at close to 100 now and around 30 of them have made it to different Bengal teams. Sukanya Parida, who trained here, has donned the India colours. The PCCA conducts matches involving mixed gender teams. "We give equal attention to both boys and girls, but for the girls, coaching is free," says Pal.

Adrija Sarkar, 14, an all-rounder, idolises former cricketer Jhulan Goswami. "My aspiration is to represent my country. Watching our women's team becoming the world champions has inspired me," she says.

Sarkar's mother Mousumi Deb Sarkar feels the inflow of money has made women's cricket a lucrative career option. "Being financially secure is important. Hearing that Richa Ghosh [a World Cup winner] is getting so many crores of rupees is a big motivation," she says.

Upasana Ghoshal doesn't have apprehensions about her five-year-old daughter Adrika's safety during practice sessions. She says she prepares her child to stay safe, telling her how to react to certain situations.

PCCA has several young and experienced coaches who focus on their trainees' basics. Pal remembers, "When we began girls' coaching in 2014, we found only a few players. Now, clubs conduct trials to select girls for admission."

Playing despite taunts

On Jhajjar Road in Rohtak district stands the 30-year-old Shri Ram Narain Cricket Club. Between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m., its indoor net practice arena gets filled with trainees wearing the academy' blue uniforms.

Among them is Sneha Jhakar, 18, a right-arm pace bowler. She says her brother was once an aspiring cricketer but because they didn't have money for both of them to play, he took a job and fought within their joint family to get her enrolled in this academy.

Across the ground, is Sonia Mendhiya, 21. Hailing from Bahmanwas village in Haryana, Mendhiya was the only girl who played gully cricket with boys from the age of 10, despite her mother's objections and neighbors' taunts.

"One of the boys told me about this academy, and I joined without thinking twice," she says. Two years ago, she played for the winning Indian U-19 Women's T20 World Cup team under Shafali's captaincy.

Though her village is only about 12 km from the academy, Mendhiya endured a long journey to train from the age of 14. After her father died early, her mother, an Anganwadi worker, raised four children alone. When Mendhiya joined the academy in 2018, the annual fee was ₹31,000; now it is ₹92,000. The academy waived her fee for the initial years and with training, Mendhiya soon started playing tournaments.

About five years ago, she spent her first match fees buying better quality bats for herself. Over the years, she has managed to pay her own academy fees, buy a scooter, and renovate her home. "The same people who taunted my mother for 'wasting money on a boy's sport' later said I was an idol for their children," she recalls.

But even after her success, the comments haven't stopped. "Now they don't taunt my game," she says. "They question why I wear shorts to the gym."

With no hostel at the academy and parents unwilling to let their daughters stay alone in rented accommodation, a few travel at least three hours every day to train here. Suman Sandhu, 21, comes from Karnal; Sneha Jakhar, 18, from Fatehpur; and Aishika Gautam, 16, from Hisar.

Sandhu earlier played cricket with her brother, who quit for higher studies. She had to wait for two years before getting her own cricket kit and moving to this academy for better facilities. "Parental support comes only after good performance," she says.

Despite Haryana's strides in women's education and sports, stereotypes hang heavy. Chahat Grewal, 13, admires T20 captain Harmanpreet Kaur. "People ask why we're learning boys' sport," she says. "Even on social media, one bad match and they tell you to go back to the kitchen. We don't get the same support unless we win medals or score runs."

However, women in Haryana have built resilience because of their successes in sport. Coaches say nearly every Haryana district now has 40-50 girls playing cricket. "District-level competitions by Haryana Cricket Association are for boys only," says coach Bijender Sharma. Girls need these matches too."

Sandhu remembers beginning training in Karnal at 19. She threatened to quit school if her parents didn't register her. "It worked," she says, laughing.

With inputs from Rishita Khanna in Bengaluru and Sanjana Ganesh in Chennai

From Page One

Remove stray dogs from public places, orders SC

The matter will be taken up again on January 13, 2026.

All local self-government institutions have been directed to ensure that the premises of such establishments are properly secured with fencing, boundary walls, and gates to prevent the ingress of stray animals.

This will be preceded by a survey conducted by State governments, to be completed within two weeks, identifying all government and private educational institutions from where stray canines have to be removed.

The Bench also mandated that each institution designate a nodal officer for upkeep and surveillance of each such premises. It has also ordered the conduct of regular inspections at least once every three months, to ensure that no stray canines exist within or in the immediate vicinity of such institutions.

SC to hear petitions on legality of SIR on Nov. 11

However, the two judges could not take it up on November 4 as they were part of a Constitution Bench hearing another case on that day.

Simultaneously, a separate mentioning was made in the morning before a Bench headed by Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai by advocate Vivek Singh appearing for Tamil Nadu's ruling party Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK), which has also challenged the SIR's constitutionality. The Chief Justice told Mr. Singh that the case would be listed for hearing on November 11. It is highly likely that the DMK petition, which is a fresh one, would also come up before Justice Kant's Bench, along with the other pending petitions in the case.

The DMK has described the SIR as a thinly-disguised, de facto National Register of Citizens (NRC) set to disenfranchise lakhs of voters and disrupt free and fair elections and democracy in the country, which are part of the basic structure of the Constitution.

No one believes it was pilot's fault, observes SC

Citing Rule 12 of the Aircraft (Investigation of Accidents and Incidents) Rules, 2017, Mr. Sankaranarayanan argued that the Centre was mandated to institute a formal investigation into the crash. "That has not been done. What we have instead is a preliminary investigation under Rule 9," he submitted.

Allaying the petitioner's concerns that his son was being unfairly blamed, the Bench said, "This is an extremely unfortunate accident. But you should not carry the burden that your son is being blamed. We can always clarify that nobody, and especially the pilot, can be blamed for the tragedy." The Bench further noted that the preliminary report drew no adverse inference against the pilot. "We have gone through the report. There is no insinuation against the pilot at all... It just records a cockpit recorder which says one pilot enquires of the other: 'Have you switched off the fuel switch?', and he says 'No'. So, there's no question of the report apportioning blame," Justice Bagchi remarked.

Tamil Nadu's 'vision for sustainability' lauded

CPCL has given priority to sustainability from its inception, Mr. Shankar said.

In 1969, when the first unit called 'refinery I' was commissioned, sustainability was given importance, and India's first sulphur recovery unit was built alongside that, he said.

"Thereafter, when the company progressed further and whenever capacities were added in the refinery, we always took care of the environment. At a time when renewable energy was not really talked about, we were the first to have a windmill farm in 2007. Whatever energy was generated through the windmill farm has been fed into our desalination plant in Kattupalli," he added.

He noted that CPCL's is the only refinery in Tamil Nadu that not only takes care of the energy needs of Chennai but also of the State. The entire aviation fleet is dependent on the Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) produced by CPCL, he added.

Suresh Nambath, Editor, *The Hindu*, said the summit was an opportunity to show collective commitment to a sustainable future and responsible use of resources. "At *The Hindu*, we firmly believe that journalism must go beyond reporting events to contributing to the public good by inspiring change. By bringing through voices from government, industry, academia, and civil society, we hope to build actionable partnerships," he said.

The Hindu Sustainability Summit 2025 is presented by CPCL and co-presented by TNGCC. The Sustainability Partner is Navin's and the Associate Partner is NLC India Limited. The Green Partner for the event is Larsen & Toubro and Television Partner *Puthiya Thalaimurai*. While the Industry Partner is Confederation of Indian Industry, the Knowledge Partner is the Sustainable Energy and Environment Council. The Digital News Partner for the event is *The Federal*.

'You cannot disenfranchise millions and say you are governing by consent'

Deposed Bangladesh PM says she is sceptical of the elections promised by the Yunus government; she promises a peaceful campaign and hopes the govt. will lift the ban on the Awami League, adding that Bangladesh-Pakistan ties should not be in disregard of 'most important relationship' with India

INTERVIEW

Sheikh Hasina

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

Bangladesh's deposed Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has spent the past 15 months in exile in India having fled her country on August 5, 2024. In this emailed interview, she speaks about the 2026 election, the trial in Bangladesh's International Crimes Tribunal, and the anti-uprising crackdown. Edited excerpts:

Do you think you could have dealt with the uprising differently?

Our security personnel on the ground were responding to fast-changing and violent circumstances. Mistakes were certainly made in the way some members of the security forces responded to the violence, but the decisions made by senior government officials were proportionate in nature, made in good faith and intended to minimise the loss of life.

Do you think the interim government will hold the polls in February 2026 as announced?

In 15 months of rule, the Yunus government has not held an election, despite calls from every corner of society and the international community. I am not confident that the February elections will go ahead. Even if the elections take place, they will not be legitimate if the Awami League remains banned from taking part. We are supported by tens of millions of Bangladeshis. You cannot disenfranchise millions of people and then claim you are governing by consent.

What are your plans if the ICT gives you a death sentence?

A guilty verdict is pre-determined, and I will not be surprised when it comes. But the ICT is a sham tribunal controlled by my political enemies, who are intent on destroying the Awami League as a political force. The call for a death sentence serves the same murderous aim.


AFP

I am not afraid to defend myself and my record in a fair and impartial court of law. That is why I have repeatedly challenged the Yunus regime to bring these charges before the ICC (International Criminal Court in The Hague). He won't do so, because there is no genuine evidence to support charges of crimes against humanity and he knows the ICC would acquit me. He also knows that the ICC would investigate the list of extra-judicial abuses against religious minorities and Awami League members that have happened under his rule.

In a recent interview you called on Awami League supporters to boycott the polls.

I have not called for a boycott. The point I was making was that millions of Awami League voters will not vote at all if they are denied the chance to support their preferred choice. This is simply an observation of the way Bangladeshi voters have tended to behave in previous elections when their party was not running. Bangladeshi voters are not interested in supporting second-choice candidates. And why should they? They deserve the opportunity to vote for politicians of their own choosing, rather than candidates foisted on them by the interim government.

We believe that the ban on the Awami League is damaging for all parties, as well as bad for the country, because it delegitimises government and governance in our country. We still hope that common sense may prevail and that this ban will be lifted. Whatever happens, our campaign will be peaceful. The last thing Bangladesh needs is yet more violent upheaval.

Why do you think the interim government has brought the July Charter and what is the aim of the planned referendum on the charter?

Bangladesh already has a Constitution, which has served it well for over 50 years. The country does not want or need a new charter. The charter does not reflect the voices of the people of Bangladesh. I am sceptical that the referendum will be democratic in nature.

Do you approve of the interim government normalising Bangladesh-Pakistan ties?

Of course, it makes sense to have a constructive relationship with Pakistan. But it must be measured and balanced, rather than pursued at headlong speed and with total disregard for our most important relationship, which is and always will be our relationship with India.

Did you resign before leaving and if yes, then did you submit your resignation letter to anyone in Dhaka?

I did not resign. I do not recognise, and have never recognised, the legitimacy of Dr. Yunus's so-called interim administration, which exists outside our constitution and has never been elected.

(Full interview at newsth.live/hasina)

Trump hints at possible India visit next year, calls Modi a 'great man'

Press Trust of India
NEW YORK/WASHINGTON

U.S. President Donald Trump said he could travel to India next year, emphasising that Prime Minister Narendra Modi "wants" him to visit while calling him a "great man" and a friend.

"He's a friend of mine, and we speak... He wants me to go there. We'll figure that out. I'll go. I will have a great trip there with Prime Minister Modi, he's a great man. And I'll be going," Mr. Trump said at the Oval Office on Thursday in response to a question.

When asked if he is planning to go to India next year, Mr. Trump said, "It could be, yeah."

Quad summit

India will host leaders from Australia, Japan, and the United States for the Quad summit in New Delhi after the 2024 summit was held in the U.S. However, the dates for the summit are yet to be announced.


Bonhomie: U.S. President Donald Trump with Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Washington in February this year. FILE PHOTO

Meanwhile, President Trump once again claimed that India has stopped buying from Russia.

"It's great, going good. He [PM Modi] stopped... Largely, he stopped buying oil from Russia," Mr. Trump said in response to a question on how talks with Mr. Modi and trade discussions with India were progressing.

Mr. Trump imposed 25% reciprocal tariffs and an additional 25% levies for New Delhi's purchases of Russian oil, bringing the total duties imposed on India to 50%. India had described the U.S. action as "unfair, unjustified and unreasonable".

Mr. Trump also reiterated his claim that he stopped the war between India and Pakistan in May using trade.

'Eight planes downed'

"Of the eight wars I ended, I would say five or six were ended because of tariffs. I'll give you an example. If you take a look at India and Pakistan, they started to fight, they are two nuclear nations... They were shooting each other. Eight planes were shot down. It was seven. Now it is eight, because the one that was sort of shot down is now abandoned."

"And I said, 'Listen, if you guys are going to fight, I'm gonna put tariffs on you'. And they both went, you know, they were not happy about that. And within 24 hours, I settled the war," Mr. Trump said.

India has consistently denied any third-party intervention.

Clandestine nuclear activities align with history of Pak.: MEA

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Pakistan's nuclear weapons research has been supported by "decades of smuggling" and opaque partnership, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said on Friday.

The Indian response came days after U.S. President Donald Trump cited reported nuclear testing by Pakistan and several other countries to justify his call for resumption of testing of U.S. nuclear arsenal.

"Clandestine and illegal nuclear activities are in keeping with Pakistan's history, that is centred around decades of smuggling, export control violations, secret partnerships, A.Q. Khan network and further proliferation," MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said.

"India has always drawn the attention of the international community to these aspects of Pakistan's records in this backdrop, we have taken note of President Trump's comment about Pakistan's nuclear testing," Mr. Jaiswal said.

Pak. rejects statement

Pakistan countered that India was distorting facts and misrepresenting Mr. Trump's remarks. Pakistan said it "had last conducted nuclear tests in 1998 and had been supporting UN resolutions seeking a comprehensive ban."

"The allegations are baseless, malicious, and part of India's disinformation campaign aimed at diverting attention from its own irresponsible conduct," the country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said in a statement.

SC pushes for reform of colonial-era property laws

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

Registration process varies across the country as land is a 'State subject' under the Constitution

The Supreme Court, in a judgment on Friday, said that buying and selling property in India are "traumatic" experiences, noting that property disputes account for 66% of civil litigation in the country.

The court directed the Law Commission of India to prepare a report on restructuring century-old colonial-era laws governing property transactions, including the Transfer of Property Act, 1882, the Registration Act, 1908, and the Stamp Act, 1899, to align them with modern technology.

"Property purchase has not been easy, it is not difficult to find people grudgingly telling us that it is in fact traumatic," Justice P.S. Narasimha said.

Justice Narasimha, sitting on the Bench with Justice Joymalya Bagchi, identified fake documentation, land encroachments, delayed verification processes, the role of "intermediaries" in property purchases, red tape at sub-registrar offices, and even the requirement of two witnesses for document verification as some of the factors delaying or hindering property transactions. Registration procedures also vary from State to State, as land is a "State subject" under the Constitution.

"The constitutionally protected right to own immovable property inherently includes the freedom to freely acquire, possess and dispose of it at will. The efficiency and transparency with which immovable property is bought and sold is demonstrative of a nation's institutional maturity," Justice Narasimha observed.

Adopt blockchain tech

The court asked the Centre to take the lead in adopting blockchain technology to make the property registration process transparent and easier.

"Blockchain technology is said to offer an alternative paradigm by encoding land titles, ownership histories, encumbrances, and by recording transfers on a distributed ledger in an immutable and time-stamped form," Justice Narasimha noted.

HAL inks $1-billion deal with GE Aerospace for 113 fighter jet engines

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) on Friday sealed a $1-billion deal with American defence major GE Aerospace to procure 113 jet engines for its Tejas light combat aircraft programme.

The firming up of the deal came notwithstanding a downturn in India-U.S. relations after the Trump administration slapped a 50% tariff on Indian goods.

Under the deal, the delivery of the F404-GE-IN20 engines will begin from 2027 and the supplies will have to be completed by 2032, officials said.

The size of the deal is learnt to be close to $1 billion (approximately ₹8,870 crore). HAL said it has entered into an agreement with General Electric Company to acquire the engines and support package for execution of 97 Light Combat Aircraft Mk1A programme.


The Tejas light combat aircraft.

The Defence Ministry in September had finalised a ₹62,370-crore deal with the state-owned aerospace major to procure 97 Tejas MK-1A light combat aircraft for the Indian Air Force.

HC gives split verdict on J&K MP's plea on travel costs

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Friday delivered a split verdict on a plea filed by jailed Jammu and Kashmir MP Abdul Rashid Sheikh, better known as Engineer Rashid, seeking modification of an order directing him to deposit approximately ₹4 lakh with jail authorities to attend Parliament while in custody.

While Justice Vivek Chaudhary rejected Mr. Rashid's plea, Justice Anup Jairam Bhambhani allowed it. "We have not been able to concur with each other. We have given two separate judgments. It will have to be placed before the Chief Justice for appropriate orders," the judges said.

BIHAR ASSEMBLY ELECTION

Ex-MP rejects allegations of double-voting

Former BJP Rajya Sabha member Rakesh Sinha on Friday dismissed as "politically motivated" the allegations that he had voted in both the Delhi Assembly election and the Bihar polls. "The Opposition is unable to understand the constitutional and EC guidelines. Anyone can get their name enrolled in the voters list by following the legal procedure. Earlier, my name was there in the Delhi voter rolls, but later I got enrolled in Bihar. I completed all legal steps of the process as required," he said.

He said the allegations reflected a lack of understanding of election laws and accused the Opposition of spreading misinformation. "The narrative being pushed by Congress and the Opposition is driven by political motives," he added. PTI



Rakesh Sinha

Migrants the 'X factor' in Bihar polls: Kishor

Jan Suraaj Party founder Prashant Kishor on Friday said that migrants from Bihar, who returned home for Chhath festivities and have not yet gone back to their places of work, are the "X factor" in the Assembly polls.

The former political strategist, whose fledgling party is said to have caught the imagination of "*pravasis*", according to various surveys and opinion polls, made the claim a day after the first phase of voting registered a record 64.66% turnout.

"There is a very strong yearning for change in Bihar, where the people have been caught in a political rut for about 30 years," said Mr. Kishor.

He claimed that the people now had a glimmer of hope with his one-year-old party emerging as an alternative that was viable. PTI



Some ground reports suggest a drubbing for the NDA. Fifteen Ministers went to polls, and 12 of them are losing. Both Deputy CMs are staring at a defeat

RAJEEV SHUKLA
Senior Congress leader

RJD candidate booked for misconduct

RJD candidate from Patna's Maner Assembly seat, Bhai Virendra, has been booked for allegedly threatening security personnel on election duty with consequences, the police said on Friday. A "case for the violation of the Model Code of Conduct and threatening an official" has been registered against the RJD leader. PTI



There have been instances of people coming out to vote for the incumbent. Same is happening here, where the trust in PM, CM remains rock solid

DHARMENDRA PRADHAN
Union Minister



On campaign: Rahul Gandhi being felicitated during a public rally in Banka district on Friday. PTI

BJP trying 'vote theft' strategy in Bihar too, says Rahul

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The BJP is attempting "vote theft" in Bihar after doing so in Haryana and other States, reiterated Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha and Congress leader Rahul Gandhi at two public meetings in Banka and Bhagalpur on Friday.

At the meetings, he renewed his charge that 25 lakh fake votes were cast in the 2024 Haryana Assembly election, which the BJP won. He had first levelled the allegations at a press conference on Wednesday.

Mr. Gandhi referred to media reports that purportedly showed some BJP leaders casting votes in the first phase of the Bihar Assembly election held on November 6, despite having already voted in other places such as Delhi. He claimed that the deletion of voters belonging to Dalit, backward class, and minority communities was part of a deliberate strategy.

"After stealing elections in Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Haryana, the BJP is now attempting the same in Bihar," Mr. Gandhi said.

He accused the BJP of adopting vote theft as a political strategy and said the Election Commission appeared complicit in it. "But they do not know the people of Bihar. The people here are aware and vigilant. They will not allow their votes to be stolen," he said.

'Shift in policy'

Describing the alleged electoral manipulation as an attack on the Constitution, Mr. Gandhi said the BJP's objective was to capture power and transfer national wealth to a few industrialists. He criticised Union Home Minister Amit Shah for claiming that Bihar lacked land for industrial development, pointing out that the State government had allotted land to the Adani Group at ₹1 per acre. "While land is being given away to billionaires, the youth of Bihar are being forced to migrate and work as labourers," he said.

Mr. Gandhi also reiterated that Bihar had been reduced to a "feeder State", sending workforce across the country. He promised that the *Mahagatbandhan* (Grand Alliance) government would bring about a shift in the policy. "We will make Bihar a manufacturing hub. Products will proudly carry the label 'Made in Bihar'," he said.

Aimed at blunting the criticism of Yadav domination in an RJD-led government, Mr. Gandhi reiterated that the Grand Alliance government would be inclusive, representing all sections of society. "Every voice will be heard," he said.

Failed promises

Meanwhile, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Friday accused the BJP of failing to fulfil its promises in Bihar, asserting that if voted to power, the INDIA bloc government would implement whatever it had promised in its manifesto.

Addressing poll rallies in Rohtas and Gaya Ji, Mr. Kharge alleged, "Modi does not hesitate to lie; his friend Amit Shah is also like him." He also accused the BJP of misleading the people, claiming that the party had failed to deliver on commitments such as providing ₹2 crore annually to farmers and one crore houses for the poor.

Mr. Kharge said that when the Prime Minister experiences the "stick of the people's vote", he will "get a lesson not to claim credit for everything".

(With inputs from PTI)

Record voter turnout shows people's trust in Nitish-led NDA, say Modi, Shah

Prime Minister and Home Minister lay stress on NDA's development record, while accusing RJD and Congress of dynastic politics; PM Modi says the first phase of voting signals the rejection of 'jungle raj'; Shah cautions voters against disruption of stability and claims the INDIA bloc lacks leadership

Amit Bhelari
PURNIA

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday said the record voter turnout in the first phase of the Bihar Assembly election reflected the people's trust in the Nitish Kumar-led National Democratic Alliance government. Bihar witnessed its highest turnout of 64.66% in the first phase of polls for 121 Assembly seats on Thursday.

At election rallies across the State, both leaders also attacked the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) and the Congress, alleging that the two parties were not worried about the people of Bihar and were more concerned about their own family members.

"First phase of polling was completed yesterday, and the people of Bihar had broken all previous records. This shows the people have supported the campaign for the NDA government's return," Mr. Modi said while addressing a rally in Aurangabad in the Magadh region, where the NDA had won only six out of 26 seats in the 2020 election.

"It is clear from the first phase of voting that people of Bihar do not want to let 'jungle raj' return at any cost. The youth of Bihar did not vote for the false promises of the RJD, but for the honest intentions of the NDA," he said.

Keeping the promises

Mr. Modi said he always did what he said, such as the construction of the Ram Temple in Ayodhya, the abrogation of Article 370, revenge for the Pahalgam attack in the form of Operation Sindoor, and the implementation of the 'One Rank, One Pension' scheme for the brave soldiers who defend the country.

Mr. Modi alleged that the Congress and the RJD would betray anyone for the sake of power.

The Prime Minister claimed the RJD had insulted the Congress and given the party seats it had not been able to win for the past 35 to 40 years.

At another rally in Bhabua in Shahabad region, where the NDA won two out of 22 seats in the last election, he referred to RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav as the "prince of jungle raj" and called his poll promises "big lies".

"These people don't respect anyone except their own family. The Congress ended Babasaheb Ambedkar's politics because Babasaheb's stature was higher than that of the Congress's royal family. They couldn't tolerate Babu Jagjivan Ramji either, and they did the same with Sitaram Kesriji. Insulting the veteran leaders of Bihar has been the real game of the royal family's politics," Mr. Modi alleged.



Loud cheers: People taking part in a public rally by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Aurangabad on Friday. Voting for the final phase of Bihar polls will take place on November 11. ANI

Shah cautions voters

Mr. Shah addressed a rally in Jamui, where he cautioned people that even a slight deviation from the lotus or the arrow symbols would lead to the return of the 'jungle raj'.

In the first phase of the election, the RJD-Congress alliance had been wiped out, he claimed.

He added that in the very first phase, people had made it clear that the "jungle raj may want to return in disguise, by changing its clothes and its face, but they would not let it happen". Mr. Shah asserted that there was a time when districts like Jamui, Aurangabad, and Gaya Ji were deeply affected by Maoism, but with the efforts of the Prime Minister, Maoism had been eliminated.

"The Choramara village on the Munger-Jamui border has become Maoist-free after 25 years. During the Lalu Prasad-Rabri Devi rule, when a wedding procession took place, some men would arrive with guns for extortion. Kidnappings for ransom and massacres occurred," Mr. Shah said.

Mr. Shah claimed that the INDIA bloc was scattered and asserted that they neither had a leader nor a policy, and were also contesting elections against each other, while the NDA had joined hands like the five Pandavas under the leadership of Mr. Modi and Mr. Kumar.

"They engage in corruption; we engage in development. Lalu*ji* wants to make his son the Chief Minister, and Sonia Gandhi*ji* wants to make her son the Prime Minister. But listen to my words, Rahul won't become the Prime Minister and Tejashwi won't be able to become the Chief Minister either," Mr. Shah said at a rally in Pirpainti.

He also held a roadshow in Purnia in support of BJP candidate Vijay Khemka.

Nadda addresses rallies

BJP national president J.P. Nadda also addressed public meetings in Govindganj and Kalyanpur seats. Mr. Nadda said the enthusiasm of the people had given him the confidence that they had decided to form the NDA government.

"This election is not just about the BJP-NDA winning, it is about moving from the lantern era to the LED era," Mr. Nadda said.

Post-poll security



Under guard: CRPF personnel stand guard outside the strong room at the A.N. College in Patna, where the EVMs have been kept after the first phase of polling on Thursday. PTI

Tej Pratap Yadav's airport meet with BJP MP sparks speculation

Press Trust of India
PATNA

Janshakti Janata Dal founder Tej Pratap Yadav and BJP MP Ravi Kishan were seen together at the Patna airport on Friday, raising eyebrows amid the Assembly election.

As they came out of the airport chatting cordially, they were mobbed by journalists who wondered whether the camaraderie was a sign of a new equation.

Mr. Tej Pratap, former RJD leader and son of party supremo Lalu Prasad, had until recently been a vehement critic of the BJP-RSS.

The two landed at the airport after a day of campaigning. While Mr. Tej Pratap, who was expelled from the RJD by his father, was canvassing in Gaya, Mr. Kishan addressed rallies in East Champaran and West Champaran.

To a pointed query as to whether he could side with the BJP, the Hasanpur MLA, who is trying his luck from the previous seat of Mahua said: "I will be with anyone who removes unemployment."

Asked whether "something [Tej Pratap's induction into BJP] is possible", Mr. Kishan said: "Anything can happen".

59% unrecognised parties didn't reveal finances, says report

Association for Democratic Reforms reviews 275 political parties; 113 contested in 2020 Bihar polls

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

More than half of the registered unrecognised political parties associated with Bihar have failed to make their mandatory financial disclosures public for 2023-24, according to poll rights body Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR).

According to an ADR report, the NGO has reviewed 275 such parties – 184 registered in Bihar and 91 in other States – and found that 163 of those, or 59.27%, have neither uploaded their audit reports nor statements of donations above ₹20,000 on the websites of State chief electoral officer or the Election Commission (EC).

Of these, 113 contested the previous Bihar Assembly polls in 2020.

The report showed only 67 parties made both audit and contribution reports publicly available for 2023-24, collectively declaring an income of ₹85.56 crore, expenditure of ₹71.49 crore and donations worth ₹71.73 crore.

The Samata Party, registered in Delhi, reported the highest income at ₹53.13 crore, followed by the Socialist Unity Centre of India (Communist) at ₹9.59 crore.

The ADR's assessment also captured recent EC action that de-listed 32 parties in August and September for issues including inactivity and non-compliance.

Among the de-listed parties, the highest income was declared by the Rashtriya Sarvodaya Party of Bihar (registered in January 2014) with ₹10.66 crore over five years, peaking at ₹4.26 crore in financial year 2021-22. According to available information, it did not contest elections.

The report said 28 registered unrecognised political parties (RUPPs) registered in Bihar did not contest any election, based on available information. Their combined five-year income is ₹152.545 lakh (₹1.52 crore), from FY 2019-20 to FY 2023-24.

The highest five-year income of ₹82.39 lakh was declared by the Mithilawadi Party (registered in September 2020).

Nitish Kumar lauds voters for record turnout

Press Trust of India
PATNA

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Friday congratulated electors for the record 64.66% voter turnout in the first phase of the Assembly election and urged people to exercise their franchise with the same enthusiasm in the second round of polling on November 11.

Polling was held in 121 Assembly seats, with Muzaffarpur district recording a maximum turnout of 70.96% followed by Samastipur district with 70.63%. The State has a total of 243 constituencies.

In a post on X, the Chief Minister said: "Heartfelt thanks to the people of Bihar for the record voting in the first phase. Bihar has made unprecedented progress in the past year. Now, it is time to include Bihar in the category of the most developed States. In democracy, voting is not only our right but also our duty."

Mr. Kumar appealed to the people of Bihar to "vote with the same enthusiasm in the second phase on November 11, so that Bihar progresses further". "Let there be respect for all, development for all," he further said.

INBRIEF



ED arrests third accused in 'bogus' bank guarantees case

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has made the third arrest in connection with the alleged submission of bogus bank guarantees of over ₹68 crore, their fake endorsements, and Structured Financial Messaging System confirmations by a Reliance Power Limited subsidiary to the Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited (SECI). The bogus bank guarantees were submitted allegedly by Reliance NU BESS Limited in an SECI tender, the agency said. The arrested accused has been identified as Amar Nath Dutta, a resident of Kolkata. The ED said he allegedly played an active role along with the other accused persons in providing fake bank guarantees.

Army detains Bangladeshi labourer at military station

The Indian Army has apprehended a Bangladeshi national employed as a civilian labourer at the Bengdubi military station near Siliguri in north Bengal, officials said on Friday. A senior military official stated that, as per established procedure, all individuals entering the military station are required to undergo security checks. On Thursday, civilian workers engaged by a contractor for construction activities inside the station were subjected to verification. "During the reverification drive, the individual aroused suspicion. On further scrutiny, he was found to be carrying identity documents issued by the Bangladesh government," the official said.

HC tells Google to take down deepfake videos of journalist

The Delhi High Court on Friday ordered Google to take down two YouTube channels hosting and circulating deepfake and fabricated videos impersonating journalist Rajat Sharma. The court also directed Mr. Sharma and Google to have a meeting where the journalist can bring to Google's attention the deepfake content. Mr. Sharma's lawsuit alleges that the firms were perpetuating gross misinformation bearing his distorted images or voice and other personality traits. The court granted liberty to Mr. Sharma to approach Google regarding other false or fake videos uploaded against him and ordered Google to take them down within 48 hours.

Mob attacks BSF vehicle in Tripura, two jawans injured

Two personnel were injured when a mob attacked a vehicle of the Border Security Force (BSF) at Bishalgarh in Sepahijala district, 23 km south of Agartala, on Friday. The vehicle was severely damaged in the incident. The incident occurred in the New Market area of Bishalgarh town. The police said people got angry after the BSF vehicle hit a private car which subsequently collided with an e-rickshaw. The injured jawans were admitted to the hospital and later discharged after treatment. The police said they have launched an investigation and the attackers are being identified with the help of CCTV footage. No arrests have been made so far.

PM says *Vande Mataram* was fragmented in 1937

Congress adopted a truncated version as the National Song in 1937; 'crucial verses' were dropped, says Modi, arguing that the 'same divisive thinking remains a challenge for the country today'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Opening a new front against the Congress, Prime Minister Narendra Modi asserted on Friday that "crucial" verses of *Vande Mataram* were removed in 1937, fragmenting the song, and sowing the seeds of the country's partition.

In 1937, the Congress adopted a truncated version of *Vande Mataram* as the country's National Song, dropping four of the original six stanzas, he said.

"The spirit of *Vande Mataram* illuminated the entire nation during the freedom struggle. But unfortunately, in 1937, crucial verses of *Vande Mataram*, a part of its soul, were severed. *Vande Mataram* was broken, it was torn into pieces. This division of *Vande Mataram* also sowed the seeds of division of the country" the PM said.

Speaking at an event to celebrate 150 years of the National Song, Mr. Modi said that today's generation must understand this history, "because that same divisive thinking remains a challenge for the country even today".



Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Gajendra Singh Shekhawat at the release of commemorative coins on Friday. ANI

Truncated version

Vande Mataram was written by Bankimchandra Chattopadhyay on November 7, 1875. It was first published in the literary journal *Bangadarshan* as part of his novel *Anandamath*. A truncated version of *Vande Mataram*, keeping only the first two of the original six stanzas, was chosen as the National Song in 1937 by the Congress on the recommendations of a committee. On 24 January 1950, the Constituent Assembly adopted it as the Republic of India's National Song.

"When Bankim Babu composed *Vande Mataram*, India had gone far away from its golden era. Foreign invaders, their attacks, plundering, exploitative policies of the British, at that time our country was groaning in the clutches of poverty and hunger. Even then, in those dire circumstances, Bankim Babu called for a prosperous India. Because he believed that no matter how difficult the situation, India could revive its golden era. And so, he called out, *Vande Mataram*," the PM said. "And hence, in that period of slavery, *Vande Mataram* became the proclamation of this resolution, and that proclamation was of India's independence," he added.

Mr. Modi said that *Vande Mataram* was relevant in every era of the country's history.

The Prime Minister released a commemorative stamp and coin on the occasion.

Communal agenda

The BJP also jumped into the debate, with BJP spokesperson C.R. Kesavan alleging that the Congress, "brazenly pandering to its communal agenda under the presidentship of Jawaharlal Nehru, adopted only a truncated *Vande Mataram* as the party's National Song in its 1937 Faizpur Session".

"Netaji Subhas [Chandra] Bose had strongly advocated for the full original version of *Vande Mataram*. On October 20, 1937, Nehru wrote to Netaji Bose claiming that the background of *Vande Mataram* was likely to irritate Muslims," Mr. Kesavan said in a post on X.

Congress has been a proud flag bearer of National Song: Kharge

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge took aim at the BJP and the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) on the 150th anniversary of the National Song, saying it was "deeply ironic that the self-proclaimed guardians of nationalism – the RSS and the BJP – have never sung *Vande Mataram* or our National Anthem *Jana Gana Mana* in their *shakhas* or offices".

"Instead, they continue to sing *Namaste Sada Vatsale*, a song glorifying their organisations, not the nation. Since its founding in 1925, the RSS has avoided *Vande Mataram*... Not once in its texts or literature does the song find mention," Mr. Kharge said in a statement.

Describing it as "the eternal song of our motherland", Mr. Kharge recalled that the Congress had been the "proud flag bearer" of *Vande Mataram*.

He said it was first sung publicly at the 1896 Congress session in Calcutta under the leadership of Rahmatullah Sayani, with Rabindranath Tagore lending his voice.

"That moment infused new life into the freedom struggle," the Congress chief said, adding, "From 1896 to the present day, every Congress meeting, big or small, from a Plenary Session or a Block Level meeting, we have sung *Vande Mataram* with pride and patriotism as a tribute to the people of India".

'PM must apologise'

Congress general secretary (communications) Jairam Ramesh said Prime Minister Narendra Modi should apologise. "It is a shameful statement from a man whose lies and distortions have no limits. The people of India demand an unconditional apology," he said.

He shared an extract from Sabyasachi Bhattacharya's biography, which details the events before the Congress Working Committee resolution adopting *Vande Mataram* as the National Song. "Three days before the meeting, on October 26, 1937, Tagore wrote to Nehru on this issue. It was the Gurudev himself who suggested that the first two stanzas of the song be adopted. His letter in fact profoundly influenced the Resolution in its entirety. The Prime Minister is now accusing the Gurudev of harbouring a 'divisive ideology'," Mr. Ramesh wrote.

Maharashtra sends proposal to relocate leopards to Vantara

Snehal Mutha
MUMBAI

The Maharashtra government has proposed to relocate 50 leopards to Vantara, the animal rehabilitation centre in Jamnagar, Gujarat, owned by the Ambani Group. A proposal seeking approval has been submitted to the Central Zoo Authority (CZA) as of November 6, Chief Conservator of Forests Jitendra Ramgaonkar has confirmed.

"The proposal to transfer is made only for those leopards who have been in rescue centres for years in the State. The space will be made for the newly rescued animals," Mr. Ramgaonkar said.

He added that other measures to address human-leopard conflict are being implemented at the district level, and proposals for birth-control measures have been sent to the Centre.

Human-leopard conflict

Incidents of human-leopard conflict have been rising in western Maharashtra.

On November 2, a 13-year-old boy was killed in Pune district's Shirur region, the third such death since October 12. The series of leopard attacks has triggered panic and public anger in the Junnar, Shirur, Ambegaon and Khed taluks of the district, where the leopard population has increased sharply.

"We are in talks with the Central government seeking permissions for sterilisation as the population is on the rise and putting down man-eater leopards as required," Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis said.

ATC system glitch at Delhi fixed; snag had delayed over 500 flights

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

A day-long glitch in the Air Traffic Control (ATC) system at the Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGI) in Delhi resulted in significant delays for over 500 flights arriving and departing from the national capital, triggering a cascading impact that disrupted air traffic across the country on Friday.

Between 5 a.m. and 8 p.m., over 383 departures and 163 arrivals at IGI were delayed for more than 45 minutes, according to flight tracking website flightradar24.

The airport handles an average of 63 aircraft movements (landings and departures) per hour, adding up to around 1,500 movements a day.

The Airports Authority of India (AAI) that manages air traffic across the country said in a post on X that there was a "technical issue in the Automatic Message Switching System (AMSS), which supports Air Traffic Control data". The AMSS system contains flight plans as well as weather data. The AMSS system has been procured from Spanish company Indra, according to sources.



People waiting outside the arrivals' gate at the Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport in New Delhi on Friday. PTI

As a result, Air Traffic Controllers were processing flight plans manually by collecting details such as call sign, flight route, departure and destination from pilots over radio telephony.

Later in the evening, the Ministry of Civil Aviation said that the system glitch was fixed but a large backlog of flights meant that it would take some time for normalcy to return.

While the glitch primarily impacted departures from the airport in the morning hours, flights arriving into the city also started seeing delays later due to the lack of parking space occupied by departing aircraft. The disruption further caused a ripple effect across airports, as several aircraft departing from Delhi failed to reach their destinations on time, in turn delaying subsequent departures from those airports. A government official dismissed speculation that the issue was due to a cyber attack, adding that the glitch occurred when an update to the AMSS was being carried out.

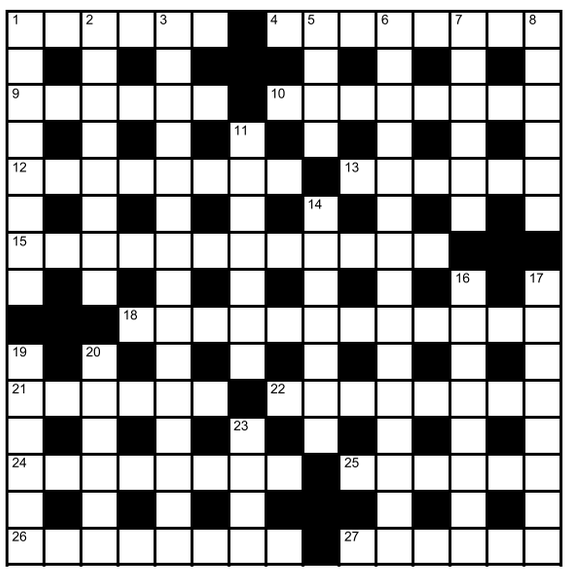
With Delhi-Mumbai being the busiest route in the country, at least 121 departures and arrivals at Mumbai airport were delayed by over 45 minutes till 8 p.m. The data is based on information from flightradar-.com.

TH CROSSWORD + 14634

(set by Pixie Dust)

Solve this puzzle online and access more puzzles at *https://crossword.thehindu.com*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Archimedes is terrified to expose axe (6)
4 Spooner's ask - "Trap martial artist in opener!" (8)
9 Heh! Tee shirt has round bubble (6)
10 Father Weasley for one, perhaps meant to ignore European figurehead (5,3)
12 One who lived in a shoe perhaps, so frail and mellow - so calm, a superhuman ultimately! (3,5)
13 Sigh! Need no closers to become a party to an agreement (6)
15 Daily I stroke my...? (3,4,5)
18 Let chaps get played again and again in race? (12)
21 Cause some declare as ongoing (6)
22 Elephant-like animal stood shaking, trapped by mortal (8)
24 Bet this multi-tongued criminal got potbelly! (8)
25 Intended fund, not new (6)
26 Limb to cover top of neck and subsequently stretch (8)
27 Husband away following weekend, essentially (3,3)

Down

1 Ignore Princess Sierra and English Nobleman (8)
2 Give up cats and dogs? (upset and depressed) (4-4)
3 Group of swimmers say, terribly hot, fought in camp (6,2,7)
5 Raag created in historical city (4)
6 Broadcast eccentric kind of exploitation (10,5)
7 First of all, King in mirror observes no outer wrap (6)
8 Pulled American curtly with date (6)
11 Hot associate, (native of East London) rejects company vehicle (7)
14 First couple's cover? (3,4)
16 Cool Japanese dumpling and Spanish dance (8)
17 Modify and control outlet (8)
19 Drive regularly in part of Puebla (6)
20 Summon famous firstborn guarding abridgment of will? (4,2)
23 Press announced, it's a deal! (4)

SUDOKU

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

No.SS6694 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

Solution to previous puzzle

M	A	R	T	I	N		S	U	R	P	R	I	S	E
	N		R		A		N		E		A		H	
B	A	S	I	L	I	C	A		T	E	N	D	O	N
	G		C		L		K		R		C		R	
P	R	O	O	F	S		E	P	I	T	H	E	T	S
	A		L				I		E				E	
A	M	M	O		B	E	N	E	V	O	L	E	N	T
			U		L		T		E		I			
S	K	I	R	M	I	S	H	E	S		V	A	S	T
	A				N		E				E		O	
U	N	D	E	R	D	O	G		R	E	S	U	L	T
	N		U		S		R		U		T		D	
G	A	L	L	O	P		A	M	B	R	O	S	I	A
	D		E		O		S		I		C		E	
N	A	R	R	A	T	E	S		A	N	K	A	R	A

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

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

FAITH

The sacred rhythm of time

Life is a mixed world of dualities – good and evil, wealth and poverty, knowledge and ignorance, pleasure and pain, joy and sorrow, etc.

The Hindu calendar also reflects natural dualities. A month is divided into two fortnights: Sukla Paksha, the bright fortnight, and Krishna Paksha, the dark. Similarly, a year is divided into two periods: Uttarayanam and Dakshinayanam. Uttarayanam extends from the Tamil month of Thai to Aani (mid-January to mid-July), while Dakshinayanam spans from Adi to Margazhi (mid-July to mid-January). Uttarayanam is regarded as a highly auspicious time, symbolising the sun's northward journey and associated with spiritual advancement and positive growth.

In line with these divisions, a day is split into three parts – morning, afternoon, and evening – as explained in a discourse by Lanka Sri. Jeyaraj. Each period is influenced by one of the three gunas or qualities of nature. The morning is associated with "Sattvika qualities" – purity, calmness, and clarity. The afternoon is dominated by "Rajasa qualities", which represent passion. The evening reflects "Tamasa qualities", symbolising inertia, withdrawal, and rest. The meeting points between the parts of the day are known as 'Sandhi'. There are three Sandhis in a day: the end of morning and the beginning of afternoon, the end of afternoon and the beginning of evening, and the end of evening and the beginning of the next morning. Many traditions regard the transitional "Sandhi period" as an ideal time for meditation, worship, and inner reflection. It is believed that those who pray early in the morning receive blessings and strength that support them through the day.

INBRIEF



Tesla shareholders approve $878-bn pay plan for Musk

Tesla CEO ElonMusk scored a resounding victory as shareholders approved a pay package of as much as $878 billion over the next decade, endorsing his vision of morphing the EV maker into an AI and robotics juggernaut. Tesla shares rose about 1% in after-hours trading. The proposal was approved with over 75% support. Mr. Musk took to the stage in Austin, Texas, along with dancing robots. "We are about to embark upon a whole new book," he said. REUTERS

Swiggy's board approves upto ₹10,000 cr fundraise via QIP

Swiggy on Friday said its board has approved the raising of funds up to ₹10,000 crore in one or more tranches through the Qualified Institutional Placement (QIP) route or any other permitted modes, as it seeks to bolster growth capital in a competitive environment. In a filing, Swiggy informed its board of directors has "approved the raising of funds by way of QIP or any other permitted modes ... for an aggregate amount of upto ₹10,000 crore." PTI

Bajaj Auto Q2 net rises 53% to ₹2,122 crore on higher sales

Bajaj Auto Ltd. for the second quarter ended September 30 reported a 53% year-on-year growth in consolidated net profit to ₹2,122 crore. Total revenue from operations grew 20% to ₹16,311 crore. On a standalone basis, net profit grew 24% to ₹2,480 crore while turnover climbed 13% to ₹15,291 crore. During the quarter, the company reported 6% jump in vehicle wholesales to 12,94,120 units.

Oct. auto retail sales surge 41% on 2Ws, CVs, PVs: FADA data

Reforms, festivities and rural resurgence came together to deliver record-breaking results, says FADA chief C.S. Vigneshwar

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Overall automobile retail sales in October rose 40.5% year-on-year, hitting an all-time high, as per data released by the Federation of Automobile Dealers Association (FADA).

Two-wheeler sales rose 51.76% 31.5 lakh units, PVs 11.35% to 5.57 lakh units, three-wheelers 5.4% and CVs 17.7%.

Tractor offtake climed 14.2% and construction equipment segment 30.5%, as per FADA data. The all-time record high sales was on account of reduction in GST rates effected since September 22.

"October'25 will be remembered as a landmark month for India's auto retail, where reforms, festivities and rural resurgence came together to deliver record-breaking results," said C. S. Vigneshwar, president, FADA.

"After an almost quiet September for first 21 days due to the GST 2.0 transition, October witnessed a swift rebound," he added.

"The lowering of small-car GST rates [to 18%] made vehicle ownership more attainable, especially for the cost-sensitive, first-time buyer. "This affordability boost timed perfectly with the festive season and turned sentiment into action," he said.



Gain speed: After an almost quiet September for the first 21 days due to GST 2.0 transition, October witnessed a swift rebound. PTI

'Boost financial sector reforms to secure $30 trillion economy goal'

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

The World Bank, in its latest Financial Sector Assessment (FSA) report, has stated India achieving its vision to become a $30 trillion economy by 2047 would require further impetus to financial sector reforms to boost private capital mobilisation.

The FSA report highlighted India's financial system had become more resilient, diversified and inclusive since the release of the last Financial Sector Assessment Program (FSAP) published in 2017.

Indian banks far more mature than a decade ago: Malhotra

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

'Owing to a series of regulatory measures aimed at 'recognition, resolution and recapitalisation' of the banking system, Indian banks today are far more mature than they were a decade ago, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Sanjay Malhotra said.

He said credit and deposits had expanded almost three times. Capital buffers strengthened too – CRAR rose from 13.5% as on March 31, 2015 to 17.5% as on March 31, 2025 with CET-1 increasing from 10.43% to 14.73% during the same period.

"Asset quality also improved. GNPA and NNPA reduced to 2.3% and 0.5% in March 2025 after rising to highs of 11.2% and 5.96% respectively in March 2018. Profitability of banks has enhanced significantly," he said at a SBI event.

"Between FY2017-18 and FY2024-25, Return on Assets increased from -0.24% to 1.37%, and Return on Equity from -2% to 14%. Regulation cannot ignore this performance, these changed realities.



Sanjay Malhotra

'Banks now stronger'

"This evolution implies prudential rule books too should evolve in a calibrated manner as banks are now stronger and supervision more alert even as alternative risk-bearing pillars have deepened and market-based risk transfer mechanisms have become more effective," he said.

He said regulatory measures such as Asset Quality Review (AQR) initiated in 2015 and Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) framework had been balanced and appropriate.

Acquisition finance

Commenting on acquisition finance, he said "it is acknowledged as an integral element of an evolved financial system, that helps in better allocation of financial resources.

"Recognising its need, non-bank players such as NBFCs and bond markets are already allowed to provide such funding. Removal of the restriction on banks will benefit the real economy," he emphasised.

"The proposed guardrails like limiting bank funding to 70% of deal value, limits on debt to equity ratio, aggregate exposure limits relative to Tier-1 capital, and eligibility criteria will contain concentration and credit risks, thereby ensuring safety while allowing banks and their stakeholders to reap benefits of additional business," the Governor said.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	FRIDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	83,216	-0.11
US Dollar	88.65	-0.02
Gold	1,24,600	-0.08
Brent oil	63.57	0.52

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2369.40	55.10
Adani Ports	1448.30	11.50
Apollo Hosp	7642.00	-140.00
Asian Paints	2613.80	10.90
Axis Bank	1222.80	-5.70
Bajaj Auto	8721.50	1.00
Bajaj Finserv	2102.10	38.90
Bajaj Finance	1066.60	24.70
Bharat Elec	414.25	5.45
Bharti Airtel	2001.20	-93.70
Cipla	1505.70	4.20
Coal India	376.00	2.85
Dr Reddys Lab	1205.40	0.20
Tata Motors CV	260.75	0.00
Eicher Motors	6886.00	79.50
Eternal Ltd.	306.10	0.45
Grasim Ind	2724.60	24.50
HCL Tech	1512.40	-14.00
HDFC Bank	982.30	-2.35
HDFC Life	749.25	13.20
Hindalco	790.40	2.00
Hind Unilever	2414.00	-22.00
ICICI Bank	1343.00	22.60
IntGlobeAvi	5583.50	-109.50
Infosys	1476.80	10.10
ITC	404.05	-3.45
Jio Financial Services Ltd.	299.30	1.20
JSW Steel	1171.70	2.90
Kotak Bank	2088.30	5.10
L&T	3882.50	0.90
M&M	3690.20	71.70
Maruti Suzuki	15479.00	27.00
Max Healthcare	1135.30	9.90
NestleIndia	1262.70	-3.40
NTPC	326.10	-0.55
ONGC	252.20	0.70
PowerGrid Corp	272.00	1.80
Reliance Ind	1478.00	-18.10
SBI Life	1998.90	28.10
State Bank	955.85	-4.90
Shriram Finance Ltd.	816.35	23.85
Sun Pharma	1691.40	5.50
TataConsumerProduct	1167.20	-23.20
Tata Steel	181.37	4.10
TCS	2991.80	-19.10
Tech Mahindra	1386.70	-26.90
Titan	3769.30	-5.10
Tata Motors PV	405.70	-2.15
Trent Ltd.	4627.30	-51.90
UltraTech Cement	11849.00	-61.00
Wipro	236.49	-3.56

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on November 07

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	88.50	88.83
Euro	102.29	102.69
British Pound	116.08	116.54
Japanese Yen (100)	57.81	58.04
Chinese Yuan	12.43	12.48
Swiss Franc	109.80	110.27
Singapore Dollar	67.93	68.21
Canadian Dollar	62.70	62.96
Malaysian Ringitt	21.17	21.30
Australian Dollar	57.35	57.57

Source:Indian Bank

'IPO market robust but needs investor boost'

Ashokamithran T.
MUMBAI

The primary markets are healthy and investor confidence is high compared with the situation five years ago but there is more scope to increase its popularity among investors, said Tuhin Kanta Pandey, Chairperson, Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).

"The health of our primary market remains robust. In FY25, ₹4.6 trillion was raised through the equity market. In current financial year, the equity market has raised ₹2 trillion already. Unique investors have crossed 135 million, up from just 38 million in FY19, indicating confidence in markets," Mr. Pandey said speaking at an event here.

However, he said, despite the increasing number of unique investors, markets as an investment avenue has not improved.

"Our investor survey shows while 63% households are aware of securities products, only 9.5% have invested. Moreover, 80% households remain risk averse."

VST Tillers stops U.S. exports on high tariffs

Mini Tejaswi
BENGALURU

VST Tillers Tractors (VST) said it suspended exports to the U.S following the imposition of 50% rise in tariffs by the Donald Trump administration.

Antony Cherukara, CEO, VST Tillers Tractors told *The Hindu*, "We have stopped our exports of drivetrains to the U.S market as it is not feasible under a 50% tariff regime. High tariffs have made exports to the country quite unviable for Indian manufacturers."

VST, in 2022, had entered into a master supply agreement with California-based Monarch Tractor to supply integrated gear train and drivetrain systems along with front and rear axle assemblies for Monarch's electric, autonomous/ driverless tractor, claimed to be the world's first. The drivetrain system includes the clutch, transmission, and driveshaft, which transmit power from the engine to the wheels through axles. However, the new tariff structure rendered the partnership commercially unviable for VST.

Kalyan Jewellers Q2 net doubles to ₹260 crore

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Kalyan Jewellers India Ltd. on Friday reported a two-fold jump in its consolidated net profit to ₹260.51 crore in the September quarter on higher income.

Total income grew to ₹7,907.44 crore during the July-September quarter of the 2025-26 financial year from ₹6,091.47 crore in the corresponding period of the preceding year.

MAHATRANSCO
Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co. Ltd.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER CPD/131 - 2025 - 26

Tenders are invited through e-Tendering in SRM Two Bid system from the registered vendors for Supply of following:

Tender No. & Description of Material	Estimated Amount (in Rs.in Lakhs) / Tender Fee (in Rs.)	Due Date & Time (Hrs.) Submission & Opening of Tender
SP/T-67/1125_TKC1 **RFx 7000038111 (3rd Call)** for Work of Replacement of old existing 0.4 Deer ACSR conductor by equivalent HPC (High Performance Conductor) along with suitable hardware, accessories, porcelain long rod insulator and equipment for 220 kV GCR (Eklahare) - Babhaleswar Ckt-I (line length : 83.57 Km) & Ckt-II (line length :83.57 Km) & along with End Bay work at 220 kV GCR S/S & 400 kV Babhaleswar S/S under EHV O&M Circle, Nashik (3rd call).	Rs.20001.71 Lakhs (Incl.GST) Rs.16950.60 Lakhs (Excl.GST) / Rs. 25,000 + GST	26.11.2025 18:00 / 26.11.2025 18.05

Contact Person: Office of the Executive Engineer (Gr-TKC1) Tel. No. 022-69852717
Email: 1) C.E. (CPA) 2) E.E. (Group-TKC1), CPA, C.O. MSETCL, 1st Floor, Prakashgad Building, Bandra (E), Mumbai
Email id: cecpa@mahatransco.in, secpa@gmail.com, eepc@mahatransco.in, eetkc1cpa@mahatransco.in
For further details visit our website **http://www.srmetender.mahatransco.in**
Any further amendments will be published on the MSETCL website **www.mahatransco.in**.
So bidders are requested to check the website.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer (P&C)

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियंता सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग वृत्त-दौसा (राज.)
क्रमांक फा./निविदा/2025-26/3539 दिनांक :- 27-10-2025
निविदा संशोधन (Corrigendum) NIT No. 10/2025-26
इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक डी-3091-3104 दिनांक 03.10.2025 से जारी निविदा सूचना संख्या 10/2025-26 जिला दौसा में परिवर्तित बजट वर्ष 2025-26 के अन्तर्गत संभाग टोंक के अधीन वृत्त दौसा में मिसिंग लिंक / नॉन पेचेबल के कुल 03 निर्माण कार्य हेतु समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित निविदा में कार्यालय के नाम में निम्नानुसार संशोधन किया जाता है जिन्हें वेबसाईट http://www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in & "http://www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in" पर देखा जा सकता है।
पूर्व प्रकाशित आर.ओ.न. DIPR/C/14991/2025/Date 10.10.2025

विवरण	पूर्व में प्रकाशित कार्यालय का नाम	संशोधित कार्यालय का नाम
समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित निविदा आमंत्रित कर्ता कार्यालय का नाम	OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING CHIEF ENGINEER PWD CIRCLE DAUSA	OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER PWD CIRCLE DAUSA

निविदा की शेष शर्तें यथावत् रहेगी।
NIB CODE :- PWD2526A3698 UBN NO.:-PWD2526WLOB13926
NIB CODE :- PWD2526A3711 UBN NO.:-PWD2526WSOB13971
NIB CODE :- PWD2526A3710 UBN NO.:- PWD2526WSOB13970
(एम.एल. मीना)
DIPR/C/15930/2025 अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, सा.नि.वि. वृत दौसा

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियंता सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग वृत्त-दौसा (राज.)
क्रमांक: फा./निविदा/2025-26/3590 दिनांक :- 29/10/2025
निविदा संशोधन (Corrigendum)
NIT No. 10/2025-26
इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक डी-3091-3104 दिनांक 03.10.2025 से जारी निविदा सूचना संख्या 10/2025-26 जिला दौसा में परिवर्तित बजट वर्ष 2025-26 के अन्तर्गत संभाग टोंक के अधीन वृत दौसा में मिसिंग लिंक/नॉन पेचेबल के कुल 03 निर्माण कार्य के पेकेजो के अन्तर्गत वर्णित तिथियों में अपरिहार्य कारणों से निम्नानुसार संशोधन किया जाता है जिन्हें वेबसाईट http://www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in & "http://www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है।
पूर्व प्रकाशित आर.ओ. न. DIPR/C/14991/2025/Date 10.10.2025

विवरण	पूर्व में प्रकाशन की तिथियां	संशोधित तिथियां
निविदा आवेदन / डाउनलोड करने की तारीख	दिनांक 08.10.2025 प्रातः 11.00 बजे से दिनांक 29.10.2025 सायं 6:00 बजे तक	दिनांक 08.10.2025 प्रातः 11.00 बजे से दिनांक 13.11.2025 सायं 6:00 बजे तक
ऑनलाईन निविदा जमा/अपलोड कराने की तारीख	दिनांक 08.10.2025 प्रातः 11.00 बजे से दिनांक 29.10.2025 सायं 6:00 बजे तक	दिनांक 08.10.2025 प्रातः 11.00 बजे से दिनांक 13.11.2025 सायं 6:00 बजे तक
ऑन लाईन निविदा खोलने की तारीख	दिनांक 30.10.2025 को दोपहर 12:00 बजे कार्यालय अति. मुख्य अभियन्ता सा.नि.वि. सम्भाग टोंक	दिनांक 14.11.2025 को दोपहर 02:00 बजे कार्यालय अति. मुख्य अभियन्ता सा.नि.वि. सम्भाग टोंक

निविदा की शेष शर्तें यथावत् रहेगी।
NIB CODE:-PWD2526A3698 UBN NO.:PWD2526WLOB13926
NIB CODE:- PWD2526A3711 UBN NO.: PWD2526WSOB13971
NIB CODE:-PWD2526A3710 UBN NO.: PWD2526WSOB13970
DIPR/C/16027/2025 (एम.एल.मीना), अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, सा.नि.वि. वृत दौसा

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, NIMBAHERA DIST.- CHITTAURGARH
S.No./MCN/Nirman/25-26/4632 Date : 27/10/2025
Notice Inviting Bid
Bids for different works Nit No. 22 /2025-26 of Municipal Council Nimbahera are invited from interested bidders upto date 17-11-2025 on 18:00 Hours. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (**http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in**, **http://sppp.raj.nic.in**) of the state govt.
UBN No.– DLB2526WSRC22745
Commissioner, Municipal Council Nimbahera
Raj.Samwad/C/25/13164

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, वृत्त- धौलपुर
क्रमांक: 2858-70 दिनांक :- 24.10.2025
निविदा सूचना संख्या : 09/2025-26
राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से जिला धौलपुर में वर्ष 2025-26 में क्षतिग्रस्त कार्यों की स्थाई मरम्मत हेतु धौलपुर के अंतर्गत वृत धौलपुर के अधीन खण्ड धौलपुर, बाड़ी, बसेड़ी एवं राजाखेड़ा के तहत् सड़क कार्य एवं विश्नौदा- धौलपुर हवाई पट्टी के मरम्मत रख-रखाव एवं उन्नयन कार्य (दोष निवारण अवधि 5 वर्ष सहित) उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग में पंजीकृत संवेदकों एवं राज्य सरकार/ केन्द्रीय सरकार के अधिकृत संगठनों/ केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग/ डाक एवं दूर संचार विभाग/ रेलवे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत संवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के विभिन्न सक्षम श्रेणी के संवेदकों के समकक्ष हो, से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई-प्रोक्यूरमेंट प्रक्रिया हेतु ऑन लाईन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा से संबंधित समस्त विवरण वेबसाईट "www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in" एवं "www.sppp.raj.nic.in" पर देखा जा सकता है। इच्छुक संवेदकों को अपने डिजिटल हस्ताक्षर के माध्यम से वेबसाईट "www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in" पर रजिस्टर करवाना आवश्यक है।

S. N.	Package No.	NIB No.	UBN No.
1	RJ-13-01/Permanent Restoration/2025-26 under Division Dholpur	PWD2526A3986	PWD2526 WSOB15371
2	RJ-13-02/Permanent Restoration/2025-26 under Division Dholpur	PWD2526A3986	PWD2526 WSOB15372
3	RJ-13-03/Permanent Restoration/2025-26 under Division Baseri	PWD2526A3986	PWD2526 WSOB15373
4	RJ-13-04/Permanent Restoration/2025-26 under Division Baseri	PWD2526A3986	PWD2526 WSOB15374
5	RJ-13-05/Permanent Restoration/2025-26 under Division Rajakhera	PWD2526A3986	PWD2526 WSOB15375
6	RJ-13-06/Permanent Restoration/2025-26 under Division Rajakhera	PWD2526A3986	PWD2526 WSOB15376
7	RJ-13-07/Permanent Restoration/2025-26 under Division Bari	PWD2526A3986	PWD2526 WSOB15377
8	RJ-13-08/Permanent Restoration/2025-26 under Division Bari	PWD2526A3986	PWD2526 WSOB15378
9	विश्नौदा- धौलपुर हवाई पट्टी के मरम्मत, रख-रखाव एवं उन्नयन कार्य	PWD2526A3986	PWD2526 WSOB15379

DIPR/C/16193/25 अधीक्षण अभियन्ता सा.नि.वि. वृत्त धौलपुर

KARNATAKA SOAPS & DETERGENTS LIMITED(KSDL)
An ISO-9001:2015 & 14001:2015 Company
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
No.27, Industrial Suburb, Bengaluru-Pune Highway, Malleshwaram (West), Bengaluru–560055.
Date: 07.11.2025

Tender Notification for "Selection of Transaction Advisor (TA) for the development of land parcels located inside the premises of Mysore Sandal Soap Factory, Malleshwaram (West), Bengaluru on PPP Mode"

Through GoK e-Procurement Platform (https://kppp.Karnataka.gov.in)

Karnataka Soaps and Detergents Limited (KSDL), Government of Karnataka (GOK) invites tender (two cover system) through e-Procurement platform from the eligible Companies by themselves for Selection of Transaction Advisor for development of land parcels located inside the premises of Mysore Sandal Soap Factory, Malleshwaram (West), Bengaluru on PPP Mode.

The Tender Document may be accessed from e-Procurement portal of the Government of Karnataka (**https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**).

Important Dates: Tender documents can be downloaded from: **06.11.2025 onwards.** Pre-Bid Meeting is **on 12.11.2025 at 11:30 A.M,** last date of submission of tender is **on 27.11.2025 up to 5:30 P.M.**

Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours or website (**www.mysoresandal.org**). Any further changes pertaining to this tender will be uploaded in e- Procurement platform only.

Contact: Assistant Executive Engineer (AEE), KSDL Mobile No: +91-9845850200; E-mail: civilmysoresandal@gmail.com

Sd/- Managing Director,
Karnataka Soaps & Detergents Ltd.

KERALA MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LTD
(DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE, GOVT. OF KERALA)
H.O. : Thycaud, Thiruvananthapuram-14, (Telephone No. 0471-2945600),
E-mail : edrugs.kmscl@kerala.gov.in,
website : www.kmscl.kerala.gov.in, CIN No. U24233KL2007SGC021616
No.KMSCL/DRG/ED/33/2025 Date : 06.11.2025
E- TENDER NOTICE
Online bids are invited for the procurement of Drug for Rare Diseases for Department of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of Kerala vide e-tender no KMSCL/ ED/RD-SAT/RC/2025/026 dated: 06.11.2025.

Sl. No.	Name of Item	Tender Qty.	Last Date & time of Uploading of tender	Date & time of Technical Bid opening
1.	**RECOMBINANT HUMAN GROWTH HORMONE** For injection (1mg), (injectable pen with the needle).	72,000 I.U.	20.11.2025 5.00 pm.	22.11.2025 11.00 am.

Tender document can be downloaded from the website **www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**.
(Sd/-) MANAGING DIRECTOR (Tender Inviting Authority)

कार्यालय नगरपालिका वैर (भरतपुर) राज0
Mail-id : weir.jaipur1907@gmail.com, Land lineNo: 05643 299366
क्रमांक न.पा.वैर/2025–26/2095 दिनांक 03.11.2025
पुन:ऑनलाईन निविदा सूचना सं. 04/2025–26
मुख्यमंत्री बजट घोषणा के अन्तर्गत निम्न कार्य के लिए नगर पालिका वैर में उपयुक्त श्रेणी एवं अन्य विभागों में एए श्रेणी (योग्यताआनुसार) में पंजीकृत संवेदकों से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई–प्रोक्योरमेंट प्रक्रिया से वेबसाईट **http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** पर ऑनलाईन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा में सफल संवेदकों को राजस्थान राजपत्र में प्रकाशित Finance (G&T) Department के Notification दिनांक 22.10.2021 में वर्णित Transparency in Public Procurement Rules 2013 के Rule 15 A के अनुसार अतिरिक्त पी.एस. राशि जमा करानी होगी। आर.पी.डब्ल्यू.ए. 100 की समस्त शर्ते लागू होगी। निविदा का **http://sppp.raj.nic.in** Portal पर अवलोकन कर सकते है।

कार्यो की संख्या	01
कार्य की अनुमानित लागत (लाखों में)	1524.95 लाख
ऑनलाईन निविदा विक्रय/डाउनलोड/अपलोड करने की तिथी	दिनांक 04.11.2025 सांय 06:00 बजे से दिनांक 24.11.2025 को सांय 06:00 बजे तक।
प्रीबिड मीटिंग की तिथि	दिनांक 17.11.2025 को प्रातः 11:30 बजे नगर पालिका वैर।
भौतिक दस्तावेज नगर पालिका वैर में जमा करने की तिथी	दिनांक 25.11.2025 को प्रातः 10 बजे से दोपहर 03:00 बजे तक निर्माण शाखा नगर पालिका वैर में ऑफलाईन बी.जी. जमा करवाई जावेगी।
ऑनलाईन निविदा तकनीकी बिड खोलने की तिथि	दिनांक 26.11.2025 को सांय 04 बजे तकनीकी बिड खोलने के उपरांत निविदा में सफल संवेदकों को सूचित कर दिया जावेगा।
ऑनलाईन निविदा वित्तीय बिड खोलने की तिथि	तकनीकी रूप से पात्र संवेदक को बाद में सूचित किया जाएगा

UBN & DLB2526WLRC23178
राज.संवाद/सी/25/13275
अधिशाषी अधिकारी नगरपालिका वैर, भरतपुर

RAMALLAH

Israel kills 2 West Bank teenagers accused of throwing firebombs



AFP

The Israeli military said on Friday it had killed two suspects it said threw Molotov cocktails in the occupied West Bank village of Judeira overnight. The Palestinian Health Ministry identified the dead as two 16-year-old boys. In a statement, the Ministry added that the Israeli army had retrieved the two teenagers' bodies. AFP

WASHINGTON

U.S. accuses Iran of plotting to kill Israeli ambassador in Mexico



The United States and Israel on Friday accused Iran of plotting to assassinate Israel's ambassador to Mexico, in what would be the latest attempt to take the two countries' conflict to another region. Israel said that Mexican authorities intervened to stop the attempt to kill the ambassador, Einat Kranz-Neiger. AFP

ANKARA

Afghan peace talks deadlocked despite mediation, says Pakistan



Peace talks in Istanbul between Pakistan and Afghanistan were at a deadlock on Friday. In a statement thanking Turkiye and Qatar for mediating the talks, Pakistan's Information Minister Attaullah Tarar said that the Afghan Taliban has failed to meet pledges it made about curbing terrorism under a 2021 Doha peace accord. AP

COLOMBO

Sri Lanka set to regain economic output lost to crisis: Dissanayake



REUTERS

Sri Lanka has nearly completed its debt restructuring process and is set to regain the economic output it lost to the 2022 financial crisis, President Anura Kumara Dissanayake said on Friday as he presented the Budget for 2026. Mr. Dissanayake told lawmakers that Sri Lanka's economy was now stable. REUTERS

China launches new aircraft carrier *Fujian* as it seeks to project power

The carrier skips past the steam catapult technology used on most American carriers to employ an electromagnetic launch system found only on the latest U.S. Navy Ford-class series; the new system allows for more precise control over speed

Associated Press
BANGKOK

China has commissioned its latest aircraft carrier after extensive sea trials, state media reported on Friday, adding a ship that experts say will help what is already the world's largest navy expand its power farther beyond its own waters.

The official *Xinhua* news agency said the *Fujian* had been commissioned on Wednesday at a naval base on southern China's Hainan island in a ceremony attended by President Xi Jinping.

The *Fujian* is China's third carrier and the first that it both designed and built itself. It is perhaps the most visible example so far of Mr. Xi's massive military overhaul and expansion that aims to have a modernised force by 2035 and one that is "world class" by mid century.



Naval strength: China's third aircraft carrier, *Fujian*, at a port in Sanya city in southern China's Hainan Province on Wednesday. AP

For China's navy, one goal is to dominate the near waters of the South China Sea, East China Sea and Yellow Sea around the so-called First Island Chain, which runs south through Japan, Taiwan and the Philippines. But deeper into the Pacific, it also wants to be able to contest control of the Second Island Chain, where the U.S. has important military facilities on Guam and elsewhere, said Greg Poling, director of the Asia Maritime Transparency Initiative at the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

China's first aircraft carrier, the *Liaoning*, was Soviet-made and its second, the *Shandong*, was built in China but based on the Soviet model. Both use older-style ski-jump type systems to help planes take flight.

The *Fujian* skips past the steam catapult technology used on most American carriers to employ an electromagnetic launch system found only on the latest U.S. Navy Ford-class carriers. The system causes less stress to the aircraft and the ship, allows for more precise control over speed and can launch a wider range of aircraft than the steam system.

Numerically it only has three carriers compared to the U.S. Navy's 11, and while China's carriers are all conventionally powered, the U.S.'s are all nuclear powered – they can operate almost indefinitely without being refuelled, increasing their range.

Trump says he expects global force in Gaza 'soon'

Agence France-Presse
WASHINGTON

President Donald Trump said on Thursday he expects a U.S.-coordinated international stabilisation force to be on the ground in Gaza "very soon," following two years of war in the territory between Israel and Hamas.

The multinational force – likely to include troops from Egypt, Qatar, Turkiye and the UAE – is part of Mr. Trump's post-war governance plan for Gaza.

The plan helped lead to a fragile ceasefire between Israel and the Palestinian militant group on October 10, but the humanitarian crisis in Gaza has not abated.

"It's going to be very soon. And Gaza is working out very well," Mr. Trump said at a White House function with Central Asian leaders.



Donald Trump

"You haven't been hearing too much about problems, and I'll tell you, we've had countries that have volunteered if there's a problem with Hamas."

The force is supposed to train and support vetted Palestinian police in the Gaza Strip, with backing from Egypt and Jordan.

It also will be tasked with securing border areas and preventing weapons smuggling to Hamas, which triggered the conflict with its October 7, 2023 attack on Israel.

Separately, Mr. Trump also said that Iran has asked for heavy U.S. sanctions against Tehran to be lifted – and that he is open to having a discussion about it.

"Frankly, Iran has been asking if the sanctions could be lifted. Iran has got very heavy U.S. sanctions, and it makes it really hard," Mr. Trump said during a dinner with Central Asian leaders. "I'm open to hearing that, and we'll see what happens, but I would be open to it."

Western countries, including the U.S., have long accused Iran of seeking to acquire atomic weapons, while Iran insists its nuclear programme is for peaceful purposes.

Flight cancellations in U.S. up as airlines comply with order

Associated Press
WASHINGTON

U.S. airlines began cancelling hundreds of flights on Thursday due to the Federal Aviation Administration's order to reduce traffic at the country's busiest airports starting on Friday because of the government shutdown.

More than 790 planned Friday flights were cut from airline schedules, according to FlightAware, a website that tracks flight disruptions. That number, already four times higher than Thursday's daily total, was likely to keep climbing.

'Maintain safety'

The FAA said in the order that the reductions will start on Friday at 4% and ramp up to 10% by November 14.

The decision to reduce service at "high-volume" markets is meant to maintain travel safety as air traffic controllers exhibit signs of strain during the shutdown.

U.S. military plans to establish presence at an airbase in Damascus, say sources

Reuters
AMMAN/DAMASCUS

The United States is preparing to establish a military presence at an airbase in Damascus to help enable a security pact that Washington is brokering between Syria and Israel, six sources familiar with the matter told *Reuters*.

The U.S. plans for the presence in the Syrian capital, which have not previously been reported, would be a sign of Syria's strategic realignment with the U.S. following the fall last year of long-time leader Bashar al-Assad, an ally of Iran.

The base sits at the gateway to parts of southern Syria that are expected to make up a demilitarised zone as part of a non-aggression pact between Israel and Syria. That deal is being mediated by U.S. President Donald Trump's administration.

Mr. Trump will meet Syrian President Ahmed al-Sharaa, also known as Abu Mohammad al-Jolani, at the White House on Monday, the first such visit by a Syrian head of state.

Reuters spoke to six sources familiar with preparations at the base, including two Western officials and a Syrian defence official, who confirmed the U.S. was planning to use the base to help monitor a potential Israel-Syria agreement.



Ahmed al-Sharaa

A Western military official said the Pentagon had accelerated its plans over the last two months with several reconnaissance missions to the base. Those missions concluded the base's long runway was ready for immediate use.

Two Syrian military sources said the technical talks have been focused on the use of the base for logistics, surveillance, refuelling and humanitarian operations, while Syria would retain full sovereignty over the facility.

Blasts shake mosque in Indonesian school, injure over 50 people

Associated Press
JAKARTA

Multiple explosions shook a mosque at a high school during Friday prayers in Jakarta, Indonesia's capital, injuring at least 55 people, mostly students. Police tried to dissuade speculation that the blasts were a terror attack and said they were investigating.

Witnesses told local television stations that they heard at least two loud blasts around midday, from inside and outside the mosque, just as the sermon had started at the mosque at SMA 27, a state high school within a navy compound in Jakarta's northern Kelapa Gading neighbourhood.

Most of the victims suffered minor to severe injuries from glass shards and burns.

The cause of the explosions was not immediately known but they came from near the mosque's loudspeaker, according to Jakarta Police Chief Asep Edi Suheri.

Sport

Centenary celebrations of Indian hockey tees off in grand fashion

Uthra Ganesan
NEW DELHI

The centenary celebrations of Indian hockey kicked off at the Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium early on Friday morning and was mirrored across the country with Hockey India, Sports Authority of India and the Sports Ministry coming together to mark the landmark occasion.

The celebrations marked a century of sporting excellence, pride, and unity, honouring the journey of Indian hockey from its beginnings in 1925 through the low points and resurgence in the modern era.

With both the men's and women's national teams in attendance along with their coaches, a 30-minute exhibition match between the Sports Minister's XI led by Mansukh Mandaviya and Hockey India XI led by Hockey India president and former captain Dilip Tirkey set the ball rolling-.More fun than competition, the match saw SM XI win 3-1.



Landmark occasion: Sports Minister Mandaviya, TN Deputy CM Udhayanidhi, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Rijiju and others at the event on Friday. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

"The sport has seen many phases, and it was through hockey at the Olympics that we showed the world what India can achieve in sports. The government will continue to support our players and the sport in every possible way," Mandaviya said.

" Today is a tribute to those who laid the foundation for Indian hockey and to every player who has brought glory to the nation," Tirkey said.



Recognition: Hockey India also felicitated some of the game's legends, including Gurbux Singh. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

The FIH was represented by its president Tayyab Ikram. "Over the past century, India has not only excelled in the sport but has profoundly shaped its spirit, style, and global identity."

Hockey India also felicitated some of the game's legends for their contributions to the sport, including Gurbux Singh, Harbinder Singh, Ajit Pal Singh, Ashok Kumar, B.P. Govinda, Aslam Sher Khan, Zafar Iqbal, Brigadier Harcharan Singh, Vineet Kumar, Romeo James, Asunta Lakra and Subhadra Pradhan among others.

A commemorative book titled *100 Years of Indian Hockey* on the journey through the ages was also unveiled along with a specially-curated photo exhibition providing a visual glimpse into Indian hockey's evolution through archival photographs, Olympic moments, and memorabilia from the 1928 Amsterdam Olympics to the present day. There was also a performance by singer and composer Siddharth Mahadevan.

The celebrations also had the FIH Men's Junior World Cup 2025 trophy on display as it began its 20-city nationwide tour that would culminate in Chennai at the end of this month to coincide with the beginning of the tournament.

Others present included the Minister of Parliamentary and Minority Affairs Kiren Rijiju, Tamil Nadu Deputy Chief Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin and several former India players across generations.

Rybakina outlasts Pegula, reaches final

WTA FINALS

Agence France-Presse
RIYADH

Elena Rybakina beat Jessica Pegula 4-6, 6-4, 6-3 for her 10th straight win to reach the championship match at the WTA Finals in Riyadh for the first time. The Kazakh fired 15 aces and won 73% of her first-serve points on her way to a hard-fought win.

The 26-year-old Rybakina awaits top seed Aryna Sabalenka or Amanda Anisimova in the final, with a shot at clinching her biggest title since 2022 Wimbledon, along with a record $5.23 million.

LEARNING CURVE

Don't let boundary size dictate shot selection, reckons Axar



AP

India all-rounder Axar Patel says he has learnt from his "past mistake" of letting the size of boundaries dictate his shot-selection. "I have felt in the past that if I think about the size of the boundary and don't hit towards those sides, they become predetermined shots, and because of that, we make mistakes," Axar told *bcci.tv*.

AVAILABLE

Dhoni will play in IPL 2026, confirms Super Kings CEO



FILE PHOTO: M. VEDHAN

Chennai Super Kings CEO Kasi Viswanathan confirmed on Friday that M.S. Dhoni will play for the franchise in the IPL 2026 season. Putting speculations about Dhoni's IPL retirement to rest, Viswanathan said: "MS has told us that he will be available for the next season."

WORTH THE WAIT

I have my own medal now, says injured opener Pratika Rawal



AFP

I have my own medal now. One of the support staff had lent me theirs temporarily because mine hadn't reached on time. (ICC chief) Jay (Shah) sir has sent me a medal, someone told me. It will take some time but will come to me — injured India opener Pratika Rawal, who missed the knockout phase of the World Cup.

INTO THE ELITE LIST

Raahul wins ASEAN championship, becomes India's 91st Grandmaster



FILE PHOTO

Chennai's V.S. Raahul became India's 91st Grandmaster by winning the sixth ASEAN individual chess championship at Ozamiz City, the Philippines, on Friday, with a round to spare. The 22-year-old beat Indonesia's Fabian Glen Mariano in the eighth and penultimate round to claim the title. He is a former Asian junior champion.

Arjun outclasses Vokhidov; Pranav posts impressive win

Top seed Gukesh draws first game of third round against German Svane; Praggnanandhaa also splits the point; Harikrishna scores over Dardha while Narayanan holds China's Yangyi

CHESS WORLD CUP

P.K. Ajith Kumar
ARPORA (GOA)



Flying start: Arjun needed just 30 moves to beat Vokhidov. P.K. AJITH KUMAR

If there is a prize for the best start to the chess World Cup, Arjun Erigaisi should win it. The second seed posted his third win on the trot, to move a step closer to the fourth round.

He took just 30 moves to beat Shamiddin Vokhidov of Uzbekistan in the first game of the third round at Resort Rio here on Friday. All he now needs is a draw in the second game to win this match.

Things haven't gone as perfectly so far for the fellow-Indians seeded on either side of him -- D. Gukesh and R. Praggnanandhaa, who both drew. The top-seeded Gukesh was held by Germany's Frederik Svane, while Praggnanandhaa split the point with Robert Hovhannisyan of Armenia.

There were also wins for the impressive V. Pranav, the reigning World junior champion, and P. Harikrishna, a former World junior champion; they scored over Titas Stremavicius of Lithuania and Daniel Dardha of Belgium, respectively. M. Pranesh also did well to draw with the sixth-seeded German Vincent Keymer, who is, in fact, the new World No. 4.

S.L. Narayanan too took half-a-point from a much stronger opponent -- Yu Yangyi of China.

The day's biggest upset was authored by Mexico's Jose Martinez Alcantara, who, with black pieces, beat Nodirbek Abdusattorov, the eighth seed from Uzbekistan.

On the second board, Arjun once again displayed his excellent preparation in the Queen's Gambit Declined Semi-Tarrasch game. Vokhidov made things easier for White with some dubious moves. The Uzbek's decision to take his rival's pawn, on the 22nd move, with the knight was, as Arjun would say, "was just suicide."

Right after that blunder, Vokhidov's king faced a check with Arjun's castling. There was only one way the game could have gone from there on.

Important results (third round): Frederik Svane (Ger) drew with D. Gukesh; Arjun Erigaisi bt Shamsiddin Vokhidov (Uzb); Robert Hovhannisyan (Arm) drew with R. Praggnanandhaa; Anish Giri (Ned) drew with Alexander Donchenko (Ger); V. Pranav bt Titas Stremavicius (Ltu); Vincent Keymer (Ger) drew with M. Pranesh; Benjamin Gledura (Hun) drew with Wei Yi (Chn); Nodirbek Abdusattorov (Uzb) lost to Jose Martinez Alcantara (Mex).

Nils Grandelius (Swe) drew with Shakhriyar Mamedyarov (Aze); Lorenzo Lodici (Ita) drew with Michael Adams (Eng).

Vladilsav Artemiev (Rus) drew with Maxime Vachier-Lagrave (Fra); Diptayan Ghosh drew with Gabriel Sargissian (Arm); Jeffrey Xiong (USA) lost to Le Quang Liem (Vie); Richard Rapport (Hun) drew with Yagiz Erdogmus (Tur); Salem Saleh (UAE) lost to Levon Aronian (USA); Javokhir Sindarov (Uzb) drew with Nikolas Theodorou (Gre); Sam Shankland (USA) drew with Vidit Gujrathi; S.L. Narayanan drew with Yu Yangyi (Chn); Vladimir Fedoseev (Slo) lost to Radoslaw Wjtaszek (Pol); Karthik Venkataraman drew with Bogdan-Daniel Deac (Rou).

P. Harikrishna bt Daniel Dardha (Bel); Peter Leko (Hun) bt Kirill Alekseenko (Rus).

Suryakumar's men eye series win

INDIA IN AUSTRALIA

Press Trust of India
BRISBANE



All-round show: Dube has been in fine form for the Men in Blue. AFP

On the cusp of another overseas series win, India will look to overcome batting inconsistencies and finish the tour of Australia with authority when the two sides clash in the fifth and final T20I here on Saturday.

With an unassailable 2-1 lead in the series, India has extended its 17-year streak of not losing a T20I series against Australia Down Under, and Suryakumar Yadav & Co. will look to finish strongly in this one too.

The focus will be on Shubman Gill and skipper Suryakumar's batting, while Australia will look to counter India's spin challenge.

The Men in Blue showed better tactical awareness in the previous match, adjusting to a tricky Carrara pitch.

For vice-captain Gill, it has been seven innings without a fifty, though his 46 in the fourth T20I was a sign of his returning form.

Gill has not quite displayed the fluent touch that has defined his batting in recent years. He looked composed in the last match before being undone by a slower ball.

Tilak Varma is yet to find his rhythm, managing scores of zero, 29, and five in his last three outings.

The pressure will also be on wicketkeeper-batter Jitesh Sharma, who has featured ahead of Sanju Samson in the last two games but is yet to make a substantial impact.

India's lower-order has also chipped in effectively, with Axar Patel smashing an 11-ball 21 in the previous match.

The presence of all-rounders at No. 7 and No. 8 has given the team valuable flexibility and depth.

In the bowling department, Arshdeep Singh has once again proved his worth for India, picking up four wickets and forming an effective new-ball pairing with Jasprit Bumrah.

The spin trio of Varun Chakaravarthy, Axar and Washington Sundar has been a major strength for India despite the absence of Kuldeep Yadav. Both Shivam Dube and Washington have been instrumental with bat and ball.

For Australia, the fourth T20I once again exposed its weakness against quality spin. Varun, Axar, and Washington combined to take six wickets in under 10 overs at the Carrara Oval.

The home team's batting has been heavily reliant on skipper Mitchell Marsh, Marcus Stoinis, and Tim David.

The absence of Travis Head hurt their chances in the last game, as they failed to chase down a modest 168.

Nathan Ellis and Adam Zampa have shouldered much of the bowling responsibility, but Ben Dwarshuis went wicketless in the last match.

The hosts might consider handing a debut to Mahli Beardman in the final game.

The teams (from): Australia: Mitchell Marsh (Capt.), Matthew Short, Josh Inglis (wk), Josh Philippe (wk), Mitchell Owen, Glenn Maxwell, Matt Kuhnemann, Adam Zampa, Mahli Beardman, Ben Dwarshuis, Xavier Bartlett, Nathan Ellis and Marcus Stoinis.
India: Suryakumar Yadav (Capt.), Abhishek Sharma, Shubman Gill, Tilak Varma, Nitish Kumar, Shivam Dube, Axar Patel, Jitesh Sharma (wk), Varun Chakaravarthy, Jasprit Bumrah, Arshdeep Singh, Harshit Rana, Sanju Samson (wk), Rinku Singh and Washington Sundar.
Match starts at 1.45 p.m. IST.

Setback for AIFF as ISL tender draws a blank

Amitabha Das Sharma
KOLKATA

The All India Football Federation's (AIFF) efforts at finding a commercial partner to run the Indian Super League (ISL) hit a wall as the deadline for the submission of 'request for proposal' (RFP) ended on Friday without any bidder expressing interest in the national federation's offer.

This puts the future of the country's top league under a cloud as the AIFF will have to think of a way to find an investor to finance the tournament and its associated functions once its contract with the existing commercial rights holder, Reliance subsidiary Football Sports Development Limited, ends this December.

After receiving a go-ahead from the Supreme Court, which approved a new constitution in September, the AIFF floated the tender midway in October seeking a commercial partner for the next 15 years. Some entities had showed interest initially and put out a host of queries which were replied to by the AIFF.

Ackerman saves the day for visitors against a formidable bowling attack

INDIA-A VS SA-A

N. Sudarshan
BENGALURU



Captain's knock: Ackerman's century ensured that South Africa-A could live to fight another day. K. MURALI KUMAR

On an otherwise bountiful harvest day for the bowlers, South Africa-A captain Marques Ackerman came up with a belligerent century (134, 118b, 17x4, 5x6) to partially stem India-A's ascent at the BCCI Centre of Excellence near here on Friday.

In reply to the hosts' 255, the visitors made 221 on day two, with Ackerman notching up his 13th First Class hundred. But even his best efforts couldn't stop India-A from gaining a 34-run lead as the home bowlers made full use of the grassy surface and moderately misty conditions early on, and shared the spoils among themselves like non-fussy siblings from a well-parented house.

Bowlers' day out

Prasidh Krishna dismissed three batters, followed by Mohammed Siraj and Akash Deep with two each, and Kuldeep Yadav and Harsh Dubey one apiece. And by stumps, India-A had reached 78 for three – 112 runs in the green – with Kuldeep (zero batting) keeping K.L. Rahul (26 batting) company.

Abhimanyu Easwaran ended up with a pair, while B. Sai Sudharsan and Devdutt Padikkal fell after promising starts, for 23 and 24 respectively.

In the morning, Akash drew first blood, sending Lesego Senokwane's stumps for a short vacation. Siraj trapped Zubayr Hamza in front before Akash snared the big scalp of Temba Bavuma, caught down the leg-side for a first-ball duck. The South Africa National team skipper appeared disappointed with the umpire's decision but he had no recourse.

From 12 for three, Jordan Hermann (23, 73b, 5x4) and Ackerman steadied the ship and took their side to 76 at lunch only for Prasidh to strike twice in the first over after the break, excising Hermann and Connor Esterhuizen.

Shifting gears

Perhaps sensing that he will soon run out of partners, Ackerman changed gears. At one stage, he was 69 from 84 balls. His next 65 took just 34 balls, with the catalyst being one Siraj over where he plundered 24 runs, with two gorgeous cover drives and a six each over third-man and fine-leg standing out.

The 29-year-old was the ninth man out, adjudged caught behind while trying a reverse sweep. Ackerman seemed unhappy to be given out, but he had ensured that South Africa-A could live to fight another day.

The scores: India-A 255 in 77.1 overs & 78/3 in 24 overs vs. South Africa-A 221 in 47.3 overs (Marques Ackerman 134).

Chhetri passes the baton to Williams in India rebuild

Neeladri Bhattacharjee
MARGAO

India has been on the lookout for inside forwards since goals dried up from Sunil Chhetri in open play. Earlier this year, a suggestion arrived from Chhetri himself, one that paved the way for Ryan Williams, an Australian international, switching allegiance to India – a first of its kind.

"During the national camp in May 2025 in Kolkata, Sunil Chhetri told me that Ryan was interested in getting the Indian passport and that he had submitted his details to the relevant government authorities in Bengaluru," Kalyan Chaubey, the president of All India Football Federation (AIFF), told the *The Hindu*.

Williams will be added to the list of India probables for the AFC Asian Cup third round (away) qualifier against Bangladesh on Nov. 18. After a No Objection Certificate from Football Australia, he could don India colours in Dhaka.

"The whole process usually takes a lot of time, sometimes years, as multiple agencies are involved and the clearance of Ministries (Home Ministry and Ministry of External Affairs) are required," Chaubey explained.

"But it was completed in just seven months, and I'm thankful to the Sports Minister, Mansukh Mandaviya, for ensuring the process."

But India's probables list will have one name missing: Chhetri, who called time on his international career for the second time. Williams' inclusion thus does more than fill a roster spot; it marks the passing of the torch. And in the shadow of his departure, Chhetri was among the ones who lit the flame.

ICC UPDATES

Women's ODI World Cup to feature 10 teams

DUBAI: The ICC on Friday announced that the next edition of the Women's ODI World Cup in 2029 will feature 10 teams, expanding from the existing eight-team format. The ICC Board approved an increase of nearly 10% in distribution for funds to its associate members for the year 2026.
The ICC received its first update on 'Project USA', which was launched following the suspension of USA Cricket and in line with the ICC's directive that the commercial and development interests of players in the US national teams should not be negatively impacted by the suspension of the board due to non-compliance.
The project is focused on building an optimised runway to Cricket's inclusion in the LA 2028 Olympics.
Cricket will also be included in the scheduled list of sports for the 2027 African Games in Cairo and the 2027 PanAm Games in the Peruvian capital Lima.
The Board also ratified the appointment of a number of members of the ICC Women's Cricket Committee: Ashley de Silva, Mithali Raj, Amol Muzumdar, Ben Sawyer, Charlotte Edwards, and Sala Stella Siale-Vaea.

INBRIEF



Goldberg named as Soorma Hockey Club's head coach

Olympian Philippe Goldberg of Belgium has been appointed as the head coach of Soorma Hockey Club ahead of the second season of Hockey India League, the club said on Friday. Joining Goldberg in the revamped coaching setup is Olympian Ignacio Ricardo Bergner of Argentina, who takes on the role of analytical coach. The club's current head coach, Jeroen Baart, will transition into an advisory role. The club will kick off its 2026 campaign against defending champion Shrachi Rarh Bengal Tigers on January 4 in Chennai.

Hussain beats Wienold, advances to final stage

Hussain Khan of India advanced to the final stage of the IBSF World Snooker Championships in Doha late on Wednesday. Hussain staged a comeback to put it past Germany's Richard Wienold 4-3 [31-101, 67-2, 30-69, 15-77(76), 62-26, 62-37, 84-72] in the pre-quarterfinals.

Rathika Seelan makes it to NSW Open squash semifinals

India's Rathika Suthanthira Seelan progressed to the semifinals of the NSW Open squash tournament with an 11-8, 11-7, 11-4 win over local challenger Karen Bloom in Sydney on Friday. Fifth seed Veer Chotrani defeated Egypt's Mohamed Sharaf 11-7, 10-12, 11-5, 11-8 in the round of 16 at the St. James Expression Open, a $32,000 PSA Copper event, in Springfield.

LIVE TELECAST

Ranji Trophy: Star Sports Khel & JioHotstar, 9.30 a.m.

Australia vs India: 5th T20I, Star Sports 1 & JioHotstar, 1.45 p.m.

Chess: World Cup FIDE YouTube Channel, 3 p.m.

Premier League: SS SELECT 1 & JioHotstar, 6, 8.30, 11 p.m. & 1.30 a.m. (Sunday)

LaLiga: FanCode, 6.30, 8.45 & 11 p.m.

Serie A: DAZN, 7.30, 10.30 p.m. & 1.15 a.m. (Sunday)

Formula One: Sao Paulo GP (Sprint Race), F1 TV, F1 TV Pro & FanCode, 7.30 p.m. ; Qualifying, 11.30 p.m.

Bundesliga: Sony Sports Ten 2 & LIV, 8 & 11 p.m.

NZ vs WI: 3rd T20I, Sony Sports Ten 1 & LIV, 5.45 a.m. (Sunday)

Desperate Tamil Nadu needs a victory against a buoyant Andhra side

The return of Jagadeesan and fellow opener Sachin will be a big boost for the visitor; home captain Bhui says team in a better space after Odisha win

RANJI TROPHY

S. Prasanna Venkatesan
VISAKHAPATNAM

As a battling Tamil Nadu takes on an upbeat Andhra in an Elite Group-A fixture in the fourth round of the Ranji Trophy at the ACA-VDCA Stadium from Saturday, it will be bolstered by the return from injury of its seasoned opener and wicket-keeper N. Jagadeesan, felt coach Senthilnathan and captain Sai Kishore on Friday.

Also referring to opener B. Sachin's return from chickenpox, Senthilnathan said: "Jaggi (Jagadeesan) has come in, Sachin has come in. So, probably, this could give us a little bit of a boost for the batting."

Jagadeesan and Sachin have replaced S.R. Athish and M. Shahrukh Khan, and left-arm spinner P. Vidyuth and pacer P. Saravana Kumar have replaced D.T. Chandrasekar and Lokesh Raj in the squad from the last match against Vidarbha. Tamil Nadu lost by an innings to Jharkhand, managed to eke out a first-innings lead versus Nagaland, and escaped with a draw after conceding the first-innings advantage to Vidarbha.



Talking cricket: Left-arm spinners Saurabh and Sai Kishore greet each other. K.R. DEEPAK

Senthilnathan emphasised the need to play fearless and positive cricket.

"We are in that kind of situation, where we have to fire. Sometimes when your cards are low, things could change - we can bat and bowl without any fear. We can definitely look at being positive, because that's the only way left for us," he said.

Andhra captain Ricky Bhui mentioned that the comprehensive win against Odisha in the last match has put his team "in a better space," giving it "confidence and momentum."

Shaik Rasheed and Srikar Bharat have been among the runs, while spin-bowling all-rounder Saurabh Kumar came up with an all-round performance against Odisha.

But coach Gary Stead said that his team is wary of Tamil Nadu. "I think we're treading in the right direction, which has been positive. Tamil Nadu will be another step up, though. I think they've got some very good players and maybe haven't hit their straps yet," he said.

RANJI SCHEDULE - ROUND 4

Elite: Group A: Uttar Pradesh vs Nagaland (Kanpur), Andhra vs Tamil Nadu (Visakhapatnam), Vidarbha vs Odisha (Nagpur), Baroda vs Jharkhand (Vadodara).
Group B: Maharashtra vs Karnataka (Pune), Goa vs Madhya Pradesh (Porvorim), Chandigarh vs Punjab (Chandigarh), Kerala vs Saurashtra (Thiruvananthapuram).
Group C: Railways vs Bengal (Surat), Haryana vs Uttarakhand (Lahli), Gujarat vs Services (Nadiad), Tripura vs Assam (Agartala).
Group D: Delhi vs Jammu & Kashmir (Delhi), Hyderabad vs Rajasthan (Hyderabad), Chhattisgarh vs Pondicherry (Raipur), Mumbai vs Himachal Pradesh (Mumbai).
Plate: Sikkim vs Bihar (Rangpo), Mizoram vs Manipur (Anand), Arunachal Pradesh vs Meghalaya (Surat).

NZ announces squad for WI ODIs

ANI
WELLINGTON

New Zealand unveiled its squad for the three-match ODI home series against West Indies on Friday. Former skipper Kane Williamson failed to find a place in the squad to be led by in-form all-rounder Mitchell Santner.

The squad: Mitchell Santner (Capt.), Michael Bracewell, Mark Chapman, Devon Conway, Jacob Duffy, Zak Foulkes, Matt Henry, Kyle Jamieson, Tom Latham, Daryl Mitchell, Rachin Ravindra, Nathan Smith, Blair Tickner and Will Young.

ODI series schedule: 1: Christchurch, Nov. 16; **2:** Napier, Nov. 19; **3:** Hamilton, Nov. 22.

Beighton Cup begins today; to be played at new stadium

HOCKEY

Y.B. Sarangi
KOLKATA

The Beighton Cup has got a new home as its 126th edition will start at the newly built Vivekananda Hockey Stadium, situated adjacent to the iconic football stadium in Salt Lake, here on Saturday.

The world's oldest hockey tournament, featuring 21 teams – including top departmental sides such as defending champion Indian Navy, last year's runner-up Indian Oil, Bharat Petroleum and Punjab National Bank – will be played at the Vivekananda Stadium and Dumurjala ground, Howrah.



All set: The Vivekananda Hockey Stadium in Kolkata will host the event. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The semifinals will be played on November 15 followed by the final on November 16. The champion team will earn ₹10 lakh, while the runner-up will take home ₹5 lakh.

The tournament will be streamed live on SSEN app.

A day after its virtual inauguration by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, West Bengal Sports Minister Aroop Biswas and Fire and Emergency Services Minister and Hockey Bengal (HB) president Sujit Bose on Friday took a tour of the first full-fledged hockey stadium, featuring one concrete stand and three grass hills, in the state.

"The stadium, built at a cost of more than ₹20.53 crore, has all modern facilities. It's a proud moment. We want to produce more Olympians," said Biswas.

Bose urged hockey lovers to throng the stadium. "It's free, there is no gate fee for the tournament," said Bose, promising to start a women's league sooner than later.

Both ministers expressed hope to conduct international matches at the new venue in the future.

Celebrating Indian hockey's 100-year-old journey, HB organised matches in 20 districts.



Why shape-shifter Ravindra Jadeja is a rare breed of all-rounder

The 36-year-old is set to become only the fourth cricketer to score more than 4,000 runs and claim more than 300 wickets in Tests. But as eye-catching as his numbers are, what defines him is his ability to toggle between bat-dominant and ball-dominant roles based on the conditions



GETTY IMAGES

Vivek Krishnan

"If it's a batting-friendly pitch, I become a batter. If it's a bowler-friendly pitch, I become a bowler. It is simple."

When Ravindra Jadeja was asked to shed light on his sustained all-round excellence during India's second Test against West Indies in New Delhi last month, a throwaway response that evoked chuckles from the press pack was all that came by. It seems to be intrinsic to his nature to not harp on his skills, preferring instead to let his runs, wickets and catches do the talking.

Uncommon flexibility

Even then, the light-hearted reply begs the question: how many actually have the ability with both bat and ball to switch their primary skill based on the vagaries of the 22-yard strip?

On a track conducive to run-making, he is perfectly capable of batting in the top six and peeling off a century. And on a spin-friendly surface, he is equally adept at weaving a web and producing a five-wicket haul. Add his sharp ground fielding and safe catching to the mix, along with his athleticism, endurance and explosive burst of speed, and he clearly belongs to an exotic breed even within the category of all-rounders.

The wide-ranging attributes have helped him scale exemplary numbers in Tests: 3,990 runs, 338 wickets and 49 catches in 87 matches. As and when he crosses the 4,000-run mark, he will join a select gathering of all-rounders – Kapil Dev, Ian Botham and Daniel Vettori – to have scored these many runs and claimed 300-plus scalps in the classical format. With a two-Test series against South Africa beginning November 14 in Kolkata, the landmark is imminent.

Yet, as eye-catching as these figures are, it seems reductive to view the 36-year-old's career purely through the prism of numbers. For as long as he has been around – his Test career will complete 13 years in December – he has been defined by his proclivity to seamlessly slot into different boxes, like water taking the shape of its container, rather than by any conscious pursuit of personal milestones.

"I won't lie that I don't think of personal milestones at all. It seems like it will feel good when such things happen. But once it happens, it feels the same as earlier. There is nothing new," Jadeja explained in the press conference in October. "More than my own milestones... if I perform, does it make the team win? Are my runs and wickets having an impact on the team? Right now, my mindset has become like that. That's more important. If you score runs and take wickets and the team loses, it has no relevance."

That Jadeja, famously dubbed 'rockstar' in the infancy of his career by Shane Warne, has reached this sweet spot is a reflection of the maturity he has gained over time. Though his slim, supple frame continues to glide across the turf like it did in the reckless rush of youth, having not gained a visible shred of fat in all these years, he is now the oldest member of the Indian team.

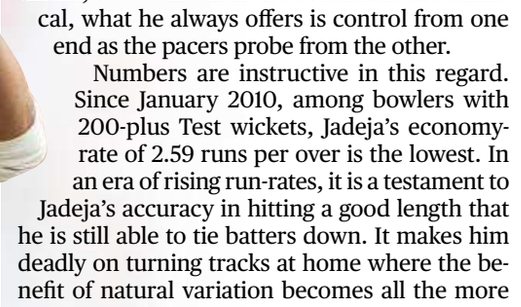
In a year that has witnessed the retirements of Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma from Tests – his old spin partner R. Ashwin also exited the stage last December – the all-rounder from Jamnagar, set to turn 37 on December 6, is remarkably enjoying his most prolific period with the bat. In eight Tests in 2025, he has scored 659 runs – more than in any other year – at an average of 82.37.

Putting it together

Akin to the ripening of a fruit, Jadeja took time to fuse all the ingredients as a batter at the highest level. Though the raw material was always there – three triple tons in First Class cricket by the time he turned out in Test whites – it was only towards the latter part of 2016, more than three years after making his debut, that Jadeja began to pull his weight with the willow. His batting has scaled up substantially since 2018, producing 2,814 runs in 52 Tests at an average of 44.66. All of his six Test hundreds have come in this period.

> If it's a batting-friendly pitch, I become a batter. If it's a bowler-friendly pitch, I become a bowler

> More than my own milestones... if I perform, does it make the team win? Are my runs and wickets having an impact on the team? That's more important



He was at his apogee in England this year. In a largely parched summer that facilitated a spree of runs, Jadeja duly filled his boots with 516 runs in 10 innings at 86. It included a streak of four successive half-centuries and was followed by a ton that contributed to India saving the Test in Manchester on the final day. A simple technique, devoid of exaggerated trigger movements, and a steely temperament were the driving forces in this purple patch.

The tour of the Old Blighty, however, wasn't rewarding with the ball for Jadeja for obvious reasons. There are limitations that the left-arm spinner has as a wicket-taker outside the subcontinent, but even when the conditions are inimical, what he always offers is control from one end as the pacers probe from the other.

Numbers are instructive in this regard. Since January 2010, among bowlers with 200-plus Test wickets, Jadeja's economy-rate of 2.59 runs per over is the lowest. In an era of rising run-rates, it is a testament to Jadeja's accuracy in hitting a good length that he is still able to tie batters down. It makes him deadly on turning tracks at home where the benefit of natural variation becomes all the more pronounced, for even the bowler doesn't always know whether the ball is going to grip and spin or skid into the pads after pitching.

The modus operandi has yielded majestic results, his 338 scalps in the format being the fifth-highest by an Indian behind Anil Kumble, Ashwin, Kapil and Harbhajan Singh.

In the broad spectrum of skills he brings to the table, there is also his contribution to India's white-ball teams. His last act in T20Is before retiring along with Rohit and Kohli was lifting the T20 World Cup in the Caribbean last year. In ODIs, he hasn't played since winning the Champions Trophy in March. Strangely, despite his illustrious career, Jadeja hasn't necessarily got his due from the public at large. Even when he was left out of India's ODI squad for the recent series against Australia, although chief selector Ajit Agarkar stated that it had no bearing on the medium-term, it was no more than a footnote.

Legacy vs. popular memory

It is perhaps because, notwithstanding all the runs, wickets and catches in numerous victories for India, he isn't associated with a singular defining moment of glory that lives on in popular memory. While he won Chennai Super Kings its fifth IPL title in 2023 by hitting a six and four off the last two deliveries in a cliffhanger, he has had some 'so near and yet so far' heartbreaks on national duty. The 2019 World Cup semifinal against New Zealand and the Lord's Test this year spring to mind. But in the grand scheme of things, this shouldn't matter. Because whenever Jadeja hangs up his boots and reflects on whether his runs and wickets had an impact on the Indian team, the answer will be a resounding yes.

STACKING UP

ATP Men's Top 15

#	Player	Age	Points	Events
1	Jannik Sinner	24	11,500	18
2	Carlos Alcaraz	22	11,250	19
3	Alexander Zverev	28	5,560	24
4	Taylor Fritz	28	4,735	23
5	Novak Djokovic	38	4,580	19
6	Ben Shelton	23	3,970	22
7	Alex de Minaur	26	3,935	23
8	Felix Auger-Aliassime	25	3,845	27
9	Lorenzo Musetti	23	3,685	21
10	Casper Ruud	26	3,235	23
11	Jack Draper	23	2,990	17
12	Daniil Medvedev	29	2,960	25
13	Alexander Bublik	28	2,870	28
14	A. Davidovich Fokina	26	2,635	26
15	Holger Rune	22	2,590	21

Top Indians ▶



Sumit Nagal
Rank 276 ▲ 4 spots



Aryan Shah
Rank 385 ▲ 3 spots

WTA Women's Top 15

#	Player	Age	Points	Events
1	Aryna Sabalenka	27	9,870	20
2	Iga Swiatek	24	8,195	20
3	Coco Gauff	21	6,563	20
4	Amanda Anisimova	24	5,887	22
5	Jessica Pegula	31	5,183	22
6	Elena Rybakina	26	4,350	22
7	Madison Keys	30	4,335	21
8	Jasmine Paolini	29	4,325	19
9	Mirra Andreeva	18	4,319	19
10	Ekaterina Alexandrova	30	3,375	27
11	Belinda Bencic	28	3,168	23
12	Clara Tauson	22	2,770	23
13	Linda Noskova	20	2,641	25
14	Elina Svitolina	31	2,595	20
15	Emma Navarro	24	2,515	25

Top Indians ▶



Sahaja Yamalapalli
Rank 310 ▲ 34 spots



Shrivalli Bhamidipaty
Rank 383 ▲ 51 spots

English Premier League Standings

#	Team	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	Arsenal	10	8	1	1	18	3	15	25
2	Man. City	10	6	1	3	20	8	12	19
3	Liverpool	10	6	0	4	18	14	4	18
4	Sunderland	10	5	3	2	12	8	4	18
5	Bournemouth	10	5	3	2	17	14	3	18
6	Tottenham	10	5	2	3	17	8	9	17
7	Chelsea	10	5	2	3	18	11	7	17
8	Man. United	10	5	2	3	17	16	1	17
9	Crystal Palace	10	4	4	2	14	9	5	16
10	Brighton	10	4	3	3	17	15	2	15
11	Aston Villa	10	4	3	3	9	10	-1	15
12	Brentford	10	4	1	5	14	16	-2	13
13	Newcastle	10	3	3	4	10	11	-1	12
14	Everton	10	3	3	4	10	13	-3	12
15	Fulham	10	3	2	5	12	14	-2	11
16	Leeds United	10	3	2	5	9	17	-8	11
17	Burnley	10	3	1	6	12	19	-7	10
18	West Ham	10	2	1	7	10	21	-11	7
19	N. Forest	10	1	3	6	7	19	-12	6
20	Wolves	10	0	2	8	7	22	-15	2

Italian Serie A Standings

#	Team	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	Napoli	10	7	1	2	16	8	8	22
2	Inter Milan	10	7	0	3	24	12	12	21
3	AC Milan	10	6	3	1	15	7	8	21
4	Roma	10	7	0	3	10	5	5	21
5	Bologna	10	5	3	2	16	8	8	18
6	Juventus	10	5	3	2	14	10	4	18
7	Como	10	4	5	1	12	6	6	17
8	Lazio	10	4	3	3	13	7	6	15
9	Udinese	10	4	3	3	12	15	-3	15
10	Cremonese	10	3	5	2	12	12	0	14
11	Atalanta	10	2	7	1	13	8	5	13
12	Sassuolo	10	4	1	5	11	12	-1	13
13	Torino	10	3	4	3	10	16	-6	13
14	Cagliari	10	2	3	5	9	14	-5	9
15	Lecce	10	2	3	5	8	14	-6	9
16	Parma	10	1	4	5	5	12	-7	7
17	Pisa	10	0	6	4	7	14	-7	6
18	Genoa	10	1	3	6	6	14	-8	6
19	Verona	10	0	5	5	6	16	-10	5
20	Fiorentina	10	0	4	6	7	16	-9	4

Spanish LaLiga Standings

#	Team	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	Real Madrid	11	10	0	1	26	10	16	30
2	Barcelona	11	8	1	2	28	13	15	25
3	Villarreal	11	7	2	2	22	10	12	23
4	Atletico Madrid	11	6	4	1	21	10	11	22
5	Real Betis	11	5	4	2	18	12	6	19
6	Espanyol	11	5	3	3	15	13	2	18
7	Getafe	11	5	2	4	12	13	-1	17
8	Alaves	11	4	3	4	11	10	1	15
9	Elche	11	3	5	3	12	13	-1	14
10	Rayo Vallecano	11	4	2	5	12	14	-2	14
11	Athletic Club	11	4	2	5	11	13	-2	14
12	Celta Vigo	11	2	7	2	13	14	-1	13
13	Sevilla	11	4	1	6	17	19	-2	13
14	Real Sociedad	11	3	3	5	13	16	-3	12
15	Osasuna	11	3	2	6	9	12	-3	11
16	Levante	11	2	3	6	15	20	-5	9
17	Real Mallorca	11	2	3	6	11	18	-7	9
18	Valencia	11	2	3	6	10	20	-10	9
19	Real Oviedo	11	2	2	7	7	19	-12	8
20	Girona	11	1	4	6	10	24	-14	7

German Bundesliga Standings

#	Team	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	Bayern	9	9	0	0	33	4	29	27
2	RB Leipzig	9	7	1	1	19	10	9	22
3	Dortmund	9	6	2	1	15	6	9	20
4	Stuttgart	9	6	0	3	14	10	4	18
5	Leverkusen	9	5	2	2	18	14	4	17
6	Hoffenheim	9	5	1	3	18	15	3	16
7	Cologne	9	4	2	3	16	12	4	14
8	E. Frankfurt	9	4	2	3	22	19	3	14
9	Werder Bremen	9	3	3	3	13	17	-4	12
10	Union Berlin	9	3	2	4	11	15	-4	11
11	SC Freiburg	9	2	4	3	11	13	-2	10
12	Wolfsburg	9	2	2	5	11	16	-5	8
13	Hamburg	9	2	2	5	8	15	-7	8
14	FC Augsburg	9	2	1	6	12	21	-9	7
15	St Pauli	9	2	1	6	8	18	-10	7
16	M'gladbach	9	1	3	5	10	18	-8	6
17	Mainz	9	1	2	6	10	17	-7	5
18	Heidenheim	9	1	2	6	8	17	-9	5

Test Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Joe Root	908	932
2	Harry Brook	868	898
3	Kane Williamson	850	919
4	Steve Smith	816	947
5	Yashasvi Jaiswal	791	858
6	Kamindu Mendis	781	784
7	Temba Bavuma	774	806
8	Rishabh Pant	753	801
9	Daryl Mitchell	748	804
10	Ben Duckett	747	787

Test Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Jasprit Bumrah	882	908
2	Matt Henry	846	846
3	Noman Ali	843	853
4	Pat Cummins	838	914
5	Kagiso Rabada	823	902
6	Josh Hazlewood	815	864
7	Scott Boland	784	784
8	Nathan Lyon	769	812
9	Mitchell Starc	766	807
9	Gus Atkinson	766	766

ODI Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Rohit Sharma	781	882
2	Ibrahim Zadran	764	764
3	Daryl Mitchell	746	751
4	Shubman Gill	745	847
5	Babar Azam	728	898
6	Virat Kohli	725	909
7	Charith Asalanka	716	725
8	Harry Tector	708	767
9	Shreyas Iyer	700	710
10	Shai Hope	690	802

ODI Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Rashid Khan	710	799
2	Keshav Maharaj	673	741
3	Jofra Archer	670	654
4	Maheesh Theekshana	659	686
5	Bernard Scholtz	645	648
6	Kuldeep Yadav	634	761
7	Mitchell Santner	631	657
8	Josh Hazlewood	628	727
9	Matt Henry	615	691
10	Wanindu Hasaranga	607	619

T20I Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Abhishek Sharma	925	931
2	Phil Salt	849	881
3	Tilak Varma	788	845
4	Pathum Nissanka	779	779
5	Jos Buttler	770	794
6	Travis Head	727	885
7	Tim Seifert	718	727
8	Suryakumar Yadav	696	912
9	Kusal Perera	692	786
10	Mitchell Marsh	685	694

T20I Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Varun Chakaravarthy	799	803
2	Akeal Hosein	726	726
3	Rashid Khan	701	828
4	Wanindu Hasaranga	687	809
5	Adil Rashid	686	747
6	Nuwan Thushara	676	714
7	Adam Zampa	670	746
8	Abrar Ahmed	667	703
9	Jacob Duffy	663	750
10	Josh Hazlewood	659	808

PHOTO: FIDE



Don't regret not winning the World title; amazed I'm still in the top-100

Grandmaster Michael Adams opens up in this conversation about what keeps him hooked to chess in his 50s, how the game has changed for strong young players, why Viswanathan Anand was a difficult opponent and how he looks back at his shot at championship glory in 2004

INTERVIEW

Michael Adams

P.K. Ajith Kumar

Michael Adams is 53 – almost 54, he stresses – but continues to be a formidable presence in front of a chessboard. He is ranked 90 in the world in what is a very competitive, global sport that is getting increasingly younger. In 2023, the English Grandmaster won a strong London Chess Classic, which featured current World champion D. Gukesh. That year, he also won the World senior (above 50) title, which should, of course, come as no surprise.

When Adams, the former World No. 4 who came close to winning the FIDE World Championship in 2004, got an opportunity to play at the ongoing World Cup in Goa, he gladly took it. He sat down for an exclusive interview with *The Hindu* at Resort Rio in the North Goan village of Arpora after scoring a comfortable first-round victory. Excerpts:

> I don't think the guys who are now like 30 or so will necessarily go to 40 and play. Chess is a lot more intensive, with computer preparation. It is a lot more difficult. It is a lot more work

What keeps you going?

Well, I don't know. This is a good question. I am not entirely sure, actually. I think it was partly [due to] the pandemic when everything shut down. And I was kind of near the end of my playing career, but not completely there. So it was a bit frustrating to have this kind of time out then. To the extent that I decided I wanted to play a lot and do a few more years.

It was partly I wanted to be ready for the European Team Championship, which actually didn't go that well for me personally, anyway. So I thought it was better to try and play a lot of games. Also, now there is a bit more chess activity in England. So I like very much that I can play events in England. I often play in Cambridge, the English Championship, British Championship, London Chess Classic. I have a few events in England and maybe a few elsewhere.

Sometimes I play the senior events as well, because I like the guy organising it, or I am quite friendly with some of the other guys on the team. So it is a bit of a social thing and it adds up to a lot of games. But it is not going to go on forever.

One of your contemporaries is here as FIDE's deputy president, while you are here as a competitor. Did you have a chat with Viswanathan Anand?

I only chatted with him briefly. Of course, Vishy can still play anytime he wants to. The guy is amazing. I think people will only understand how incredible his strength is maybe in years to come. His level was amazing. But even more recently, when he was playing with the absolute top guys, he just plays and it is just like normal for him. There are some older guys here, like Vasyl Ivanchuk. He is still playing a lot. He is a really great player. I don't really consider myself in the same kind of league. Also, there is Boris Gelfand, who continues to play. The guy challenged for the World Championship, an amazing player and he was just playing in the Grand Swiss recently. There is also Alexei Shirov, who too played very well at Grand Swiss.

I don't think the guys who are now like 30 or so, I don't think they will necessarily go to 40 and play. Chess is a lot more intensive, with computer preparation. It is a lot more difficult. It is a lot more work. And the intensity of the work is very high now for the strong young players. They work so hard, and from such a young age, whereas it is a bit more different for guys in their 50s, because we didn't really have that computer preparation for a long time.

What made you play this World Cup?

I guess it will almost certainly be my last World Cup. But, never say never. It was really just a question of if I wanted to try one more time. There were a couple of guys who would normally be selected for England – David Howell and Gawain Jones. And they chose not to play. And then I was asked, and I thought, why not? I thought Delhi would be the venue, and it was one direct flight. And then later on, it was Goa, and I was not so happy.

You played the World Championship in Delhi in 2000, it was also a knockout format like this. You had a fine tournament until you ran into Anand in the semifinals.

I have some nice memories from Delhi, nevertheless. I won many matches; I beat some very strong players. It was disappointing to end the tournament like that after playing so well, but I had a lot of respect for Vishy; he was always a very difficult opponent for me as well.

> I think Vishy's influence on the young Indian players is remarkable: not only the amazing way they play, but also the attitude and the kind of modesty, the politeness, just the way they behave



[After the classical matches were tied], I had some chances in the first rapid game. The win I missed in the sixth game, I just simply didn't have much time. And I was checking that I was making a draw. It just didn't occur to me to really look to play for a win. But I don't regret that I didn't win the World title. I achieved so much more than I expected. I am still ranked in the top 100 players at the age of 54. To me, this is amazing, because when I was maybe 37, I was thinking, well, I'm not sure I have that many years left, really. I was thinking maybe five years, maybe a little bit more.

Well, at the start, I had an awful score; in the first 10 games, I was scoring hardly at all. It got better later and stabilised the score. And I think Vishy's influence on the young Indian players is remarkable: not only the amazing way they play, but also the attitude and the kind of modesty, the politeness, just the way they behave is just, really, you can see that it is the standards he has set. They really follow his standards.

Your thoughts on Daniel Naroditsky's tragic death?

I don't even know what even happened, actually, but this was very sad and just totally shocking and horrible. We have to have strict rules that you can't make accusations against people publicly. There has to be some punishment every time this happens.

I don't think it is normal in cheating that some people were cheating online and their identities are not revealed.

There is so much publicity for this cheating. And I think it is very bad for chess because the story should be that 99.99% of players are very honest in a game where everyone has the capacity to cheat. And yet there is such a big fuss. We don't worry enough about the rights of people who play honestly.

How do you look back at the 2004 World Championship final match with Rustam Kasimdzhanov, probably your best chance to win the title?

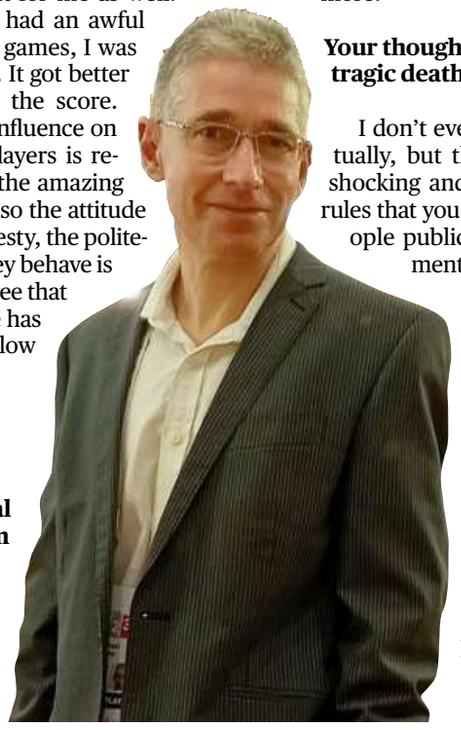


PHOTO: P.K. AJITH KUMAR

GAME THEORY

Finals bosses: best closers in men's tennis

With the 2025 ATP Finals, starring the world's top eight singles players and doubles teams, beginning in Turin on Sunday, we list the most frequent winners in the prestigious season-ending tournament. John McEnroe, with 10 titles combined (3 singles, 7 doubles), is the most successful player at the event; Novak Djokovic has claimed the most singles crowns.

MOST SINGLES TITLES

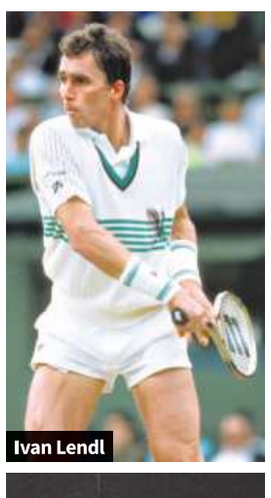
Player	Titles	Editions
Novak Djokovic	7	2008, 12–15, 22–23
Roger Federer	6	2003–04, 06–07, 10–11
Ivan Lendl	5	1981–82, 85–87
Pete Sampras	5	1991, 94, 96–97, 99
Ilie Nastase	4	1971–73, 75
John McEnroe	3	1978, 83–84
Boris Becker	3	1988, 92, 95
Bjorn Borg	2	1979–80
Lleyton Hewitt	2	2001–02
Alexander Zverev	2	2018, 21

MOST DOUBLES TITLES

Player	Titles	Editions
John McEnroe	7	1978–84
Peter Fleming	7	1978–84
Mike Bryan	5	2003–04, 09, 14, 18
Daniel Nestor	4	2007–08, 10–11
Bob Bryan	4	2003–04, 09, 14
Anders Jarryd	3	1985–86, 91
Rick Leach	3	1988, 97, 2001



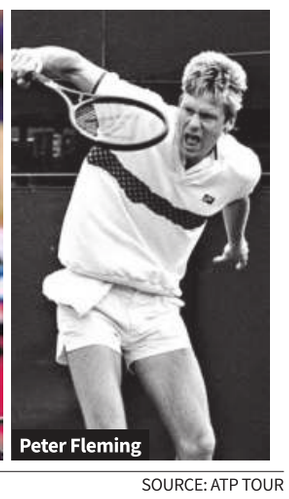
Roger Federer



Ivan Lendl



Pete Sampras



Peter Fleming



John McEnroe



Novak Djokovic

SOURCE: ATP TOUR

PICTURE THIS



Hook, line & sinker

Angling enthusiasts participate in a fishing competition at the International Round Pond in Suqian, China, in this photograph.

Fishing tournaments are organised competitive events held on or around defined bodies of water, including oceans, rivers, lakes, even ice-covered ponds.

The contestants are judged on the basis of total weight, total length or longest fish of a given species within a stipulated time period.

The question of whether fishing really is a sport continues to pique minds. Its proponents say the combination of skill, physical exertion (when 'wrestling' a big fish), and structured competition meets the criteria that define a sport. But it's not an answer that convinces everyone.

Since large fishing tournaments have the potential to impact the environment and fish stocks, standards for competitive events have been developed. The practice of 'catch and release', in which the fish is unhooked and returned alive to the water, is one such standard.

But unless the technique is performed with great care, it doesn't really serve the purpose it is intended to.