



THE Hans India



WOMENIA
Ramayana Kalpavrkam returns with a grand celebration of dance, music and devotion
The fourth edition of 'Ramayana Kalpavrkam,' presented by Shankarananda Kalakshetra and Natyarambha, featured a galaxy of performances, talks.

P8 EDIT
Bad governance leading to erosion of lakes and water bodies
Years back, every village and settlement had a lake—protected by a raised embankment, a katta. The lake was not merely a water body but a living institution. Its embankment was guarded by local deities.

P6 BUSINESS
Mkts rise over 1% as value buying spurs rebound on D-St
Stock markets rebounded on Monday with benchmark Sensex jumping by 943 points on value buying in blue-chip oil & gas, banking and auto shares after facing a massive drubbing on the Budget day.

P11 YOUNG HANS
Emerging roles in risk, finance, and technology: What students must learn today?
If you're a student or just starting your career, you may be wondering where the strongest long-term opportunities will be in the coming years.

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Mamata, along with 'SIR-affected' families, meets CEC

NEW DELHI: Wearing black shawls as a mark of protest, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee along with some "SIR-affected" families and party leaders on Monday met Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar here. Last week, CEC Kumar had given time to Banerjee, who has been demanding a halt to the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in poll-bound West Bengal, for a meeting on Monday. Banerjee, who reached the national capital on Sunday, was being accompanied by Trinamool Congress MPs Abhishek Banerjee and Kalyan Banerjee, who is also an advocate.

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Sports Ministry keen to revive Formula 1 in India



NEW DELHI: The Sports Ministry is keen to bring Formula 1 back to the Buddh International Circuit soon and has already initiated dialogues with the track authorities to revive the race last held in India in 2013. According to a ministry source, Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya has already visited the circuit in Greater Noida and held talks with officials from Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority, the state run body which took control of the facility from the owners – the now bankrupt Jaypee Group. Adani is in fray to buy the troubled Jaypee Group and once that happens, the whole process of trying to get the race back in India may gain momentum. What is clear for now is that the central government wants the high-profile sport to return to the country. The India round was held for three seasons from 2011 to 2013 before being dropped from the Formula 1 calendar due to tax and bureaucratic issues.



Iran President orders restart of nuclear talks with US



For the past 75 years, all budgets were life changing. They just didn't change mine

Maintaining law & order paramount for govt: CM

Naidu alleges YSRCP conspiracy to incite violence

Calls for restraint among Telugu Desam Party workers

HANS NEWS SERVICE
AMARAVATI

CHIEF Minister and TDP president N Chandrababu Naidu on Monday said maintaining law and order is paramount and that no violation will be tolerated under any circumstances, irrespective of political affiliation.

The Chief Minister's remarks come in the wake of high drama over the weekend, which witnessed the arrest of senior YSRCP leader Ambati Ramababu in Guntur and also an alleged attack against Opposition party leader Jogi Ramesh's house in Vijayawada.

"Maintaining law and order is paramount, and that



no violation will be tolerated under any circumstances, irrespective of political affiliation," Naidu said. The Chief Minister took note of the incident involving protests

held outside Ramesh's residence, following which the Ibrahimpatnam police registered a case on its own. Police have booked several TDP leaders from the Mylavaram

Assembly constituency in connection with the incident.

Naidu stated that the rule of law must prevail at all times and that political disagreements should be expressed only through democratic and constitutional means.

He also alleged that the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) was conspiring to incite violence and disturb law and order in Andhra Pradesh.

Addressing a teleconference with ministers and senior party leaders, the Chief Minister said that YSRCP leaders were resorting to provocative statements and abusive language out of frustration after losing power.

Continued on Page 7

RAHUL GANDHI VS RAJNATH SINGH IN LS

Massive showdown over ex-army chief's memoir

HANS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI

A major political row erupted on Monday as Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi sought to quote in the Lok Sabha from an unpublished "memoir" of former army chief M M Naravane on the 2020 India-China conflict to attack Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, evoking a backlash from BJP leaders who accused him of misleading the House and belittling the armed forces.

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla disallowed Gandhi from raising the issue, but he did not relent and several Opposition leaders also rallied behind him. The House was adjourned twice and later for the day amid uproar as heated



exchanges took place between the treasury and Opposition benches.

While Gandhi said the government is "afraid" of a line that he wants to quote from the book and asserted that he would state that line in the Lower House, the BJP alleged that the Congress leader undermined the dignity of Parliament and hurt the morale of the Indian soldiers with his false accusations, in defiance of Speaker Om Birla's ruling.

The ruling party's leaders, including ministers, asked Gandhi to stop "speaking the language of anti-India elements".

Speaking with reporters, Gandhi claimed that he was not being allowed to quote from Naravane's unpublished book in the Lok Sabha because it indicts Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh for "letting down" the army during the 2020 conflict with China.

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PARL BEGINS DEBATE ON PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

REPORT:
P7

ICC mulls suspending Pakistan as T20WC 'India boycott' row deepens

NEW DELHI/ISLAMABAD

HOURS after the Pakistan government announced that the cricket team of the country will not play against India in the upcoming T20 World Cup, the ICC has warned to reconsider the stance, making the board aware of the long-term implications they might face as a result of boycotting the high-profile fixture.

The ICC issued a warning that the boycott could lead to punitive sanctions, including its suspension. "The ICC hopes that the PCB will consider the



significant and long-term implications for cricket in its own country as this is likely to impact the global cricket ecosystem, which it is itself a member and beneficiary of," the global body said in a

statement.

Pakistan on Sunday announced a boycott of its high-profile men's T20 World Cup group league match against India. "The Government of the Islamic

Republic of Pakistan grants approval to the Pakistan Cricket Team to participate in the ICC World T20 2026, however, the Pakistan Cricket Team shall not take the field in the match scheduled on February 15 against India," the government posted on social media.

"While the ICC respects the roles of governments in matters of national policy, this decision is not in the interest of the global game or the welfare of fans worldwide, including millions in Pakistan," the ICC further stated.

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CM NAIDU LAUNCHES PILLOO AI

HANS NEWS SERVICE
AMARAVATI

CHIEF Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on Monday launched Pilloo AI, a voice-based billing and accounting platform aimed at empowering small and medium enterprises and local entrepreneurs across Andhra Pradesh.

The launch, held at the Secretariat, marked a major step in the government's push to integrate artificial intelligence into grassroots business operations and promote digital governance.

Continued on Page 7

Air India grounds flight after fuel switch moves from 'run' to 'cutoff'

HANS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI

AN Air India Boeing 787 Dreamliner was grounded after its left fuel control switch failed to stay in the 'run' position twice and moved to 'cutoff' during engine startup, an airline spokesperson said.

The flight AI 132 came from Heathrow to Bengaluru on Monday.

"We are aware that one of our pilots has reported a possible defect on the fuel control switch of a Boeing 787-8 aircraft," the Air India



spokesperson said.

"After receiving this initial information, we have grounded the said aircraft and are involving the OEM to get the pilot's concerns checked on a priority basis," the spokesperson said, referring to the original equipment manufacturer, ie, Boeing.

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MUSK, TRUMP, PRINCE ANDREW & BILL CLINTON

Epstein files reveal hidden ties

NEW YORK

A massive tranche of three million pages of previously sealed Jeffrey Epstein documents has brought elite figures back into the spotlight. Some of the people named always maintained that they barely knew him; many others stated that they were repulsed by him from the start.

The latest files, including emails, letters and travel records, revealed Epstein



kept close ties with Hollywood stars, politicians, and industry leaders, even after he had been convicted of sex crimes in 2008.

Elon Musk, Howard Lutnick, and Richard Branson are among those now under scrutiny.

Continued on Page 7

POLITICKLE by MANJUL



Revised IBC Bill in 2nd half of budget session: FM

NEW DELHI: The Union government is likely to bring in the revised Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) Amendment Bill when Parliament re-assembles for budget session after recess, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said on Monday, signalling progress on the long-pending overhaul of India's insolvency framework.

"The select committee has submitted its report, and it is expected to be taken up in Parliament in the latter half of the current session after the House reconvenes following the recess," Sitharaman told the media during a post-budget briefing.

The remarks indicate that the government is preparing to move ahead with the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Bill, 2025, after factoring in the recommendations of the parliamentary panel.

Guntur man bids Rs 2.08 cr for fancy vehicle number!

HANS NEWS SERVICE
AMARAVATI

THE craze for fancy vehicle registration numbers in the Telugu states has once again come to light, with a resident of Guntur setting a new national record by purchasing India's most expensive number plate for whopping Rs 2.08 crore.

Kiran Kolpakula of Guntur won the online auction of the ultra-rare VIP registration number 'DDC 0001' (also known as DDC 001) for Rs 2.08 crore in January. This is the highest amount ever paid for a vehicle registration number in India. The auction was conducted

Ultra-rare VIP registration number 'DDC 0001' auctioned on Big Boy Toyz platform



by the newly launched auction house platform of Big Boy Toyz (BBT) in its debut event.

The 'DDC 0001' number plate was previously owned by Big Boy Toyz founder Jatin Ahuja, which added to its exclusivity and market value. The plate is considered a rare and premium collectible among automobile and luxury asset enthusiasts.

The Rs 2.08-crore sale has surpassed all previous benchmarks for registration number auctions in the country. In 2025, the 'HR 88 B 8888' plate was auctioned for Rs 1.17 crore, but the

deal was later cancelled due to non-payment. The plate was eventually resold for Rs 26.7 lakh. In comparison, the successful sale of 'DDC 0001' has now become the highest confirmed transaction in this segment.

Experts said the record-breaking sale reflects the rising demand for premium registration numbers as status symbols and collectible assets. Such numbers are increasingly viewed as a mark of prestige among business owners and automobile enthusiasts. The latest auction is expected to further boost interest in luxury number plates and organized auction platforms across India.

Govt move to halt hike in land market value hailed

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA

Real Estate Developers' Associations of India (CREDAI), Andhra Pradesh has welcomed

THE Confederation of

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
SAMAGRA SHIKSHA**

Notification for Expression of Interest
(RFB No.SS/5/2026-GCDO, Dt.01-12-2026)

The State Project Director, Samagra Shiksha, Andhra Pradesh invited applications from the interested firms/agencies to participate in Request for Bid (RFB) for Procurement and Supply Sanitary Incinerator with Smoke Eliminator under Samagra Shiksha & PM SHRI Schemes for AY 2025-26. The details can be seen in the e-procurement portal at <https://tender.approcurement.gov.in> from 03.02.2026 by 11.00 AM Sd/- B. Srinivasa Rao, I.A.S., State Project Director, Samagra Shiksha

DIPR R.O.No.4786-PP/CL/ADVT/1/1/2021-22, Dt: 02.02.26

**CAN FIN HOMES LTD.**

Branch Address: 44-1/1, Gayatri Plaza, 1st Floor, Korripada Main Road, Beside Marinar Mahal Theater, Guntur-522007. Ph.No.0863-2333064, Mob. No. 7625079146 Email: guntur@canfinhomes.com, CIN : L35110KA1907PLC008693.


DEMAND NOTICE
under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of Can Fin Homes Ltd., under SARFAESI Act and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3, issued Demand Notice under Section 13(2) of the said Act, calling upon the Borrowers/guarantors listed hereunder (hereinafter referred to as the "said Borrowers"), to repay the amounts mentioned in the Notice, within 60 days from the date of receipt of Notice, as per details given below. The said Notices have been returned undelivered by the postal authorities/ have not been duly acknowledged by the borrowers. Hence the Company by way of abundant caution is effecting this publication of the demand notice (as per the provisions of Rule 3 (1)). The undersigned has, therefore, caused these Notices to be posted on the premises of the said Borrowers, as per the said Act. As security for due repayment of the loan, the following assets have been mortgaged to the Company by the respective parties as detailed below:

Sl. No.	Name of Borrowers/ Guarantors with Address	Amount claimed as per Demand Notice*	Description of the Secured Asset	Date of NPA
1	1. Shaik Abdul Gaffar (Borrower), (Represented of Late Shaik Abdul Sattar), Door No.4-127, Near YSR Statue, Phirangipuram-522529 & Door No.5-24, Muslim Bazar, Phirangipuram-522529 Guntur Dist.2. All Legal Heirs Of Late Shaik Abdul Sattar (Co-Borrower), Door No.4-127, Near YSR Statue, Phirangipuram-522529 & Door No.5-24, Muslim Bazar, Phirangipuram-522529 Guntur Dist.	Total Outstanding: Rs.17,32,833/- (Rupees Seventeen Lakhs Thirty Two Thousand and Eight Hundred Thirty Three Only) Demand Notice Dated: 02-02-2026	Schedule Of The Mortgaged Property: All that piece and parcel of RCC Building Measuring 96.2sq.Yds or 80.8.Sq.Mts Bearing D.No. 608/A1, Door No. 4-127 and situated in Phirangipuram, Phirangipuram Gram Panchayath, Phirangipuram Mandal, Guntur District. Bounded By: East : Property of Shaik Abdul Sattar, South: Shaik Hussain Property, West: Panchayat Bazar, North: Panchayat Bazar.	29-01-2026

*Payable with further interest at contractual rates as agreed from the date mentioned above till date of payment. You are hereby called upon to pay the above said amount with contracted rate of interest thereon within 60 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which the under signed will be constrained to initiate action under SARFAESI Act to enforce the said security. Further, the attention of borrowers/ guarantors is invited to provisions of Section 13 (8) of the Act, in respect of time available to them to redeem the secured assets.

Date: 02-02-2026, Place: Guntur Sd/- Authorised Officer, Can Fin Homes Ltd.

**Chola**
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CHOLAMANDALAM INVESTMENT AND FINANCE COMPANY LIMITED
Corporate Office: Chola Crest, Super B, C54 & C55, 4, Thiru Vi Ki Industriel Estate, Guindy, Chennai - 600032.

POSSESSION NOTICE [APPENDIX IV] [See rule 8 (1)]
Whereas the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of M/s. Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company Limited, under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002), and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notice dated mentioned below under Section 13(2) of the said Act calling upon you being the borrowers (names and addresses mentioned below) to repay the amount mentioned in the said notice and interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The Borrowers mentioned herein below having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers mentioned herein below and to the Public in General that the undersigned has taken Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on me under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of the Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. The Borrowers mentioned here in below in particular and the Public in General are hereby cautioned not to deal with said Property and any dealings with the Property will be subject to the charge of M/s. Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company Limited for an amount as mentioned herein under and interest 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.

Name and Address of the Borrower/s & Loan Account No.	Date of Demand Notice	Outstanding Amount	Description of the Immovable Property	Date of Possession
Loan A/c No. HL04RAH000065228 1. Mr/Mrs. Samudrala Sundhara Rao 2. Mr/Mrs. Venkata Lakshmi Rapolu All Are R/AI -> D. No. 19-11-666 Jattlavari Veedhi, W. G. Dist. Near Government College Jangareddygudem, Government College, J. R. Gudem, Andhra Pradesh - 534447. Also At: R. S. No. 89/1A, Jangareddygudem Gramam Taluku, Jangareddygudem Panchayathi, Jangareddygudem Sub Registrar, Jangareddygudem Mandalam, West Godavari District, Near Government College, J. R. Gudem - 534447	24.11.2025	Rs. 23,68,930/- (Rupees Twenty Three lakhs Sixty Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty Only) as on 24.11.2025	Eluru district, Jangareddygudem Mandalam, Jangareddygudem Sub-Registry, Jangareddygudem Municipality, Jangareddygudem revenue Village Taluak, bearing R.S. No. 89/1A, Door No. old: 2-429 and 2-430 and new Door No. is 19-1-665 boundaries for 221 Sq yards of land with constructed RCC building Bounded by: East: Road, South: House Moutapalli Bhadravathi, West: Site and Building of Manukunda Sujanamma to some extent and site of K. Narayana Ra of some extent. North: Building belongs to Tadiseti Buli Koti Malikarjuna Rao, With in the above boundaries exist an extent of 221 Sq.yds with all easementary rights thereon.	28.01.2026 (Possession)

Place : Eluru, Andhra Pradesh Date: 28.01.2026 Sd/- Authorised Officer For Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company Limited

**Indian Bank**

**APPENDIX- IV-A" [SEE PROVISIO TO RULE 8 (6)]
SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES**

KAKINADA BRANCH
37-1/7/2, Gold Market Centre, Main Road, Kakinada-533001
Mobile: 97050 21291 email: kakinada@indianbank.co.in

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 proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical/Constructive(Symbolic) (whichever is applicable) possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Indian Bank, **KAKINADA Branch**, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on **18.02.2026**, for recovery of **Rs.1,10,38,068/- (Rupees One Crore Ten Lakh Thirty Eight Thousand Sixty Eight Only)** as on 01.02.2026 due to the Indian Bank, KAKINADA Branch, Secured Creditor, from **Sri. Yarramsetti Veerabhadra Rao, S/o Veera Venkata Satyanarayana Swamy, and Sri.Gummalla Satyanarayana, S/o Subba Rao Dr.No.2-109, Kulla Village, K. Gangavaram (mandal), Pamaru mandalam, East Godavari Dist, Andhra Pradesh - 533305.** The specific details of the property intended to be brought to sale through e-auction mode are enumerated below.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTIES
Property 1: Plot no 38: East Godavari District Samalkota mandal Samalkota Sub-Registry, situated at Vettlapalem gram panchayath, vettlapalem gramam taluku S No 393 Ac 8.74 Cents S no 398/4 Ac1.98 cents, Survey no 402/1B Ac 0.79 Cents a total extent of 3 Survey no's Ac 11.51 cent converted into House plots under DTCP Plan given by Kakinada in C.No 10608/2013/R Reference NO 460/2013 Confirmed T L P No 37/2014 R. Approved By Kakinada Lay out plan in which plot no 38 in an extent of 183 Sq yds or 153.72 Sq mtrs and bounded as under : **East:** 50.00 feet : Plot no 37 Site, **West:** 50.00 feet : Plot no 39 Site, **North:** 33.00 feet : House of others, **South:** 33.00 feet : 33 Feet wide Road in layout.
Encumbrances on property if any: NIL, **Reserve Price :** Rs.11,53,000/-, **EMD:** 1,15,300/-, **Bid incremental amount:** Rs.10,000/-, **Date and time of e-auction:** 18.02.2026, 10.00 am to 4.00 pm, **Property ID No.:** IDIB06498695547A.
Property 2: Plot no 39: East Godavari District Samalkota mandal Samalkota Sub-Registry, situated at Vettlapalem gram panchayath, vettlapalem gramam taluku S No 393 Ac 8.74 Cents S no 398/4 Ac1.98 cents, Survey no 402/1B Ac 0.79 Cents a total extent of 3 Survey no's Ac 11.51 cent converted into House plots under DTCP Plan given by Kakinada in C.No 10608/2013/R Reference NO 460/2013 Confirmed T L P No 37/2014 R. Approved By Kakinada Lay out plan in which Plot no 39 an extent of 183 Sq yds or 153.72 Sq mtrs and bounded as under : **East:** 50.00 feet : Plot no 38 Site, **West:** 50.00 feet : Plot no 40 Site, **North:** 33.00 feet : House of others, **South:** 33.00 feet : 33 Feet wide Road in layout
Encumbrances on property if any: NIL, **Reserve Price :** Rs.11,53,000/-, **EMD:** 1,15,300/-, **Bid incremental amount:** Rs.10,000/-, **Date and time of e-auction:** 18.02.2026, 10.00 am to 4.00 pm, **Property ID No.:** IDIB06498695547B.
Property 3: Plot no 40: East Godavari District Samalkota mandal Samalkota Sub-Registry, situated at Vettlapalem gram panchayath, vettlapalem gramam taluku S No 393 Ac 8.74 Cents S no 398/4 Ac1.98 cents, Survey no 402/1B Ac 0.79 Cents a total extent of 3 Survey no's Ac 11.51 cent converted into House plots under DTCP Plan given by Kakinada in C.No 10608/2013/R Reference NO 460/2013 Confirmed T L P No 37/2014 R. Approved By Kakinada Lay out plan in which Plot no 40 an extent of 328 Sq yds or 275.52 Sq mtrs and bounded as under : **East:** 50.00 feet : Plot no 39 Site, **West :** 50.00 feet : 40 Feet wide Road in layout, **North :** 59.00 feet : House of others, **South :** 59.00 feet : 33 Feet wide Road in layout.
Encumbrances on property if any: NIL, **Reserve Price :** Rs.20,66,000/-, **EMD:** 2,06,600/-, **Bid incremental amount:** Rs.10,000/-, **Date and time of e-auction:** 18.02.2026, 10.00 am to 4.00 pm, **Property ID No.:** IDIB06498695547C.
Property 4: Plot no 78: East Godavari District Samalkota mandal Samalkota Sub-Registry, situated at Vettlapalem gram panchayath, vettlapalem gramam taluku S No 393 Ac 8.74 Cents S no 398/4 Ac1.98 cents, Survey no 402/1B Ac 0.79 Cents a total extent of 3 Survey no's Ac 11.51 cent converted into House plots under DTCP Plan given by Kakinada in C.No 10608/2013/R Reference NO 460/2013 Confirmed T L P No 37/2014 R. Approved By Kakinada Lay out plan in which Plot no 78 an extent of 194 Sq yds or 162.96 Sq mtrs and bounded as under : **East :** 50.00 feet : House of others, **West :** 50.00 feet : Plot no 79 Site, **North :** 35.00 feet : 40 Feet wide Road in layout, **South :** 35.00 feet : Plot no 82 Site.
Encumbrances on property if any: NIL, **Reserve Price :** Rs.12,20,000/-, **EMD:** 1,22,000/-, **Bid incremental amount:** Rs.10,000/-, **Date and time of e-auction:** 18.02.2026, 10.00 am to 4.00 pm, **Property ID No.:** IDIB06498695547D
Property 5: Plot no 79: East Godavari District Samalkota mandal Samalkota Sub-Registry, situated at Vettlapalem gram panchayath, vettlapalem gramam taluku S No 393 Ac 8.74 Cents S no 398/4 Ac1.98 cents, Survey no 402/1B Ac 0.79 Cents a total extent of 3 Survey no's Ac 11.51 cent converted into House plots under DTCP Plan given by Kakinada in C.No 10608/2013/R Reference NO 460/2013 Confirmed T L P No 37/2014 R. Approved By Kakinada Lay out plan in which Plot no 79 an extent of 217 Sq yds or 182.28 Sq mtrs and bounded as under : **East :** 33.06 feet : Plot no 78 Site, **West :** 33.06 feet : 33 Feet wide Road in layout, **North :** 58.00 feet : 40 Feet wide Road in layout, **South :** 58.00 feet : Plot no 80 Site.
Encumbrances on property if any: NIL, **Reserve Price :** Rs.13,67,000/-, **EMD:** 1,36,700/-, **Bid incremental amount:** Rs.10,000/-, **Date and time of e-auction:** 18.02.2026, 10.00 am to 4.00 pm, **Property ID No.:** IDIB06498695547E.
Property 6: Plot no 80: East Godavari District Samalkota mandal Samalkota Sub-Registry, situated at Vettlapalem gram panchayath, vettlapalem gramam taluku S No 393 Ac 8.74 Cents S no 398/4 Ac1.98 cents, Survey no 402/1B Ac 0.79 Cents a total extent of 3 Survey no's Ac 11.51 cent converted into House plots under DTCP Plan given by Kakinada in C.No 10608/2013/R Reference NO 460/2013 Confirmed T L P No 37/2014 R. Approved By Kakinada Lay out plan in which Plot no 80 an extent of 213 Sq yds or 178.92 Sq mtrs and bounded as under : **East :** 33.00 feet : Plot no 78,82 Site, **West :** 33.00 feet : 33 Feet wide Road in layout, **North :** 58.00 feet : Plot no 79 Site, **South :** 58.00 feet : Plot no 81 Site.
Encumbrances on property if any: NIL, **Reserve Price :** Rs.13,41,000/-, **EMD:** 1,34,100/-, **Bid incremental amount:** Rs.10,000/-, **Date and time of e-auction:** 18.02.2026, 10.00 am to 4.00 pm, **Property ID No.:** IDIB06498695547F.
Property 7: Plot no 81: East Godavari District Samalkota mandal Samalkota Sub-Registry, situated at Vettlapalem gram panchayath, vettlapalem gramam taluku S No 393 Ac 8.74 Cents S no 398/4 Ac1.98 cents, Survey no 402/1B Ac 0.79 Cents a total extent of 3 Survey no's Ac 11.51 cent converted into House plots under DTCP Plan given by Kakinada in C.No 10608/2013/R Reference NO 460/2013 Confirmed T L P No 37/2014 R. Approved By Kakinada Lay out plan in which Plot no 81, an extent of 217 Sq yds or 182.28Sq mtrs and bounded as under : **East :** 33.06 feet : Plot no 82 Site, **West :** 33.06 feet : 33 Feet wide Road in layout, **North :** 58.00 feet : Plot No.80, **South :** 58.00 feet : 33 Feet wide Road in layout.
Encumbrances on property if any: NIL, **Reserve Price :** Rs.13,67,000/-, **EMD:** 1,36,700/-, **Bid incremental amount:** Rs.10,000/-, **Date and time of e-auction:** 18.02.2026, 10.00 am to 4.00 pm, **Property ID No.:** IDIB06498695547G.
Property 8: Plot no 82: East Godavari District Samalkota mandal Samalkota Sub-Registry, situated at Vettlapalem gram panchayath, vettlapalem gramam taluku S No 393 Ac 8.74 Cents S no 398/4 Ac1.98 cents, Survey no 402/1B Ac 0.79 Cents a total extent of 3 Survey no's Ac 11.51 cent converted into House plots under DTCP Plan given by Kakinada in C.No 10608/2013/R Reference NO 460/2013 Confirmed T L P No 37/2014 R. Approved By Kakinada Lay out plan in which Plot no 82 an extent of 190 Sq yds or 159.6 Sq mtrs and bounded as under : **East :** 53.00 feet : House of others, **West :** 50.00 feet : Plot no 80, 81 Site, **North :** 35.00 feet : Plot no 78 Site, **South :** 33.00 feet : 33 Feet wide Road in layout.
Encumbrances on property if any: NIL, **Reserve Price :** Rs.11,97,000/-, **EMD:** 1,19,700/-, **Bid incremental amount:** Rs.10,000/-, **Date and time of e-auction:** 18.02.2026, 10.00 am to 4.00 pm, **Property ID No.:** IDIB06498695547H.
Property 9: Plot no 83: East Godavari District Samalkota mandal Samalkota Sub-Registry, situated at Vettlapalem gram panchayath, vettlapalem gramam taluku S No 393 Ac 8.74 Cents S no 398/4 Ac1.98 cents, Survey no 402/1B Ac 0.79 Cents a total extent of 3 Survey no's Ac 11.51 cent converted into House plots under DTCP Plan given by Kakinada in C.No 10608/2013/R Reference NO 460/2013 Confirmed T L P No 37/2014 R. Approved By Kakinada Lay out plan in which Plot no 83 an extent of 170 Sq yds or 142.8 Sq mtrs and bounded as under : **East :** 35.06 feet : House of others, **West :** 35.06 feet : Site in Plot no 84, **North :** 44.06 feet : 33 Feet wide Road in layout plots, **South :** 44.06 feet : Site in Plot no 85.
Encumbrances on property if any: NIL, **Reserve Price :** Rs.10,71,000/-, **EMD:** 1,07,100/-, **Bid incremental amount:** Rs.10,000/-, **Date and time of e-auction:** 18.02.2026, 10.00 am to 4.00 pm, **Property ID No.:** IDIB06498695547I.
Property 10: Plot no 84: East Godavari District Samalkota mandal Samalkota Sub-Registry, situated at Vettlapalem gram panchayath, vettlapalem gramam taluku S No 393 Ac 8.74 Cents S no 398/4 Ac1.98 cents, Survey no 402/1B Ac 0.79 Cents a total extent of 3 Survey no's Ac 11.51 cent converted into House plots under DTCP Plan given by Kakinada in C.No 10608/2013/R Reference NO 460/2013 Confirmed T L P No 37/2014 R. Approved By Kakinada Lay out plan in which Plot no 84 an extent of 225 Sq yds or 189 Sq mtrs and bounded as under : **East :** House of others, **West :** 33 Feet wide Road in layout plots, **North :** 33 Feet wide Road in layout plots, **South :** Site in Plot no 85.
Encumbrances on property if any: NIL, **Reserve Price :** Rs.14,17,000/-, **EMD:** 1,41,700/-, **Bid incremental amount:** Rs.10,000/-, **Date and time of e-auction:** 18.02.2026, 10.00 am to 4.00 pm, **Property ID No.:** IDIB06498695547J.
Bidders are advised to visit the website (<https://www.ebkray.in>) of our e auction service provider PSB Alliance Pvt. Ltd. to participate in online bid. For Technical Assistance Please call 8291220220. For Registration status and for EMD status please email to support.ebkray@psballiance.com.
For property details and photograph of the property and auction terms and conditions please visit: <https://www.ebkray.in> and for clarifications related to this portal, please contact PSB Alliance Pvt. Ltd, Contact No. 8291220220.
Bidders are advised to use Property ID Number mentioned above while searching for the property in the website with <https://www.ebkray.in>
Place: Kakinada. Date: 02.02.2026 Contact Person: 1. K SHANKARA RAO-9705021291, 2. D RAJESH -9908124506 Sd/- Authorised Officer, Indian Bank

Gunadala Matha Utsavams from Feb 9

Elaborate arrangements are being made for the 102nd annual Gunadala Lourdes Matha Maha Utsavams, scheduled to be held for three days

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA

VIJAYAWADA Catholic Diocese Bishop Rev Dr Telagathoti Joseph Raja Rao has said that elaborate arrangements are being made for the 102nd annual Gunadala Lourdes Matha Maha Utsavams, scheduled to be held for three days from February 9 to 11. He said that more than 10 lakh devotees from Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, and other states are expected to attend the annual festival. In view of the upcoming celebrations, Bishop Joseph Raja Rao, along with Monsignor Muvvala Prasad and other clergy, unveiled the festival poster at the Gunadala Social Service Centre in Vijayawada on Monday. Later, the bishop also laid foundation stones for new residential complexes near



Vijayawada Catholic Diocese Bishop Rev Dr Telagathoti Joseph Raja Rao, along with Monsignor Muvvala Prasad and festival committee members, releasing the poster for the 102nd Gunadala Lourdes Matha Utsavams in Vijayawada on Monday

the Centenary Church, intended for the benefit of priests and devotees visiting the shrine. Addressing a press conference, Bishop Raja Rao said that comprehensive arrangements are being put in place to ensure the smooth and orderly conduct of the three-day festival. He informed that several bishops from the Visakhapatnam Archdiocese, along with bishops from the dioceses of Nellore, Kadapa, Kurnool, Guntur, and others, would attend the celebrations as chief guests. Vicar General Meshampam Gabriel, Education Desk Director Father Kolakani Marianna, Social Service Centre Director Father Thota Sunil Raju, and others were present at the press meet.

Ambati shifted to central jail

HANS NEWS SERVICE
RAJAMAHENDRAVARAM


FORMER Minister and senior YSRCP leader Ambati Rambabu, who was arrested in Guntur over allegations of making inappropriate remarks against Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu, was shifted to the Rajahmundry Central Jail in the early hours of Monday. According to police sources, Rambabu was moved to the jail around 3 am under tight security. Special escort

vehicles were arranged to transport him safely, and elaborate security arrangements were put in place to prevent any untoward incidents. Anticipating possible protests by YSRCP supporters, police imposed stringent precautionary measures in and around the police station and jail premises. As a preventive step, former MLA Jakkampudi Raja and several other party leaders were placed under house arrest to avert any law & order issues. Reacting to the developments, Raja strongly criticised the ruling coalition government, alleging that it had "murdered democracy". He accused the government of violating fundamental rights and targeting opposition leaders through what he described as politically motivated actions. The situation in the region remained tense but under control, with police maintaining a strong presence to ensure peace and order.

Archery coaches' workshop begins

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA

ANDHRA Pradesh Archery Association (AAPA), under the aegis of the Archery Association of India (AAI) and with support from Olympic Gold Quest (OGQ), is organising a four-day South Zone Archery Coaches Workshop for Level 1 in Vijayawada. Archery men and women coaches from eight states are participating in this workshop. The inaugural programme was held on Monday at a hotel near Ramavareppadu Ring Road in the city. A total of 44 men and women archery coaches from Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karna



Andhra Pradesh Archery Association Chairman Cherukuri Satyanarayana addressing coaches at the inaugural of South Zone Archery Coaches Workshop in Vijayawada on Monday

Purendra appointed as NTR district DTC

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA

M Purendra, Deputy Transport Commissioner (IT), has been given Full Additional Charge (FAC) as Deputy Transport Commissioner (DTC) of NTR District. With this arrangement, Joint Transport Commissioner A Mohan, who was holding the post on an in-charge basis, has been relieved of the additional responsibilities. To this effect, the Transport, Roads and Buildings Department Special Chief Secretary MT Krishna Babu issued GO Rt No 51 on Monday. The orders were issued after careful examination of the propos

als submitted by the Transport Commissioner, Andhra Pradesh. Presently, Purendra is serving as Deputy Transport Commissioner (IT) in the office of the Transport Commissioner. The decision was taken in view of administrative requirements in NTR District to ensure the smooth functioning of the Transport Department. The government has directed the Transport Commissioner, Vijayawada, to take further necessary action in the matter. The move is expected to strengthen the administration of transport services in NTR District and improve enforcement and regulatory functions under the Transport Department.

TIGER TAKES SHELTER IN BANANA PLANTATION

• Forest officials inform that the big cat entered the area around midnight on Saturday, triggering fear among residents of nearby habitations

• Officers deployed trap cameras and drone surveillance and installed cages to capture the tiger

HANS NEWS SERVICE
RAJAMAHENDRAVARAM

PANIC gripped Thorredu and the surrounding villages in East Godavari district after a tiger entered the region via Eluru, reportedly taking shelter in a banana plantation at Thorredu village. Forest officials said the big cat entered the area around midnight on Saturday, triggering fear among residents of nearby habitations.

According to officials, the tiger attacked a cattle shed located beside the main road, killing two cows and a four-month-old calf. The carcasses were dragged into



The tiger's pugmarks near banana plantation at Thorredu of Rajamahendravaram Rural mandal

a nearby banana plantation, where the animal is believed to be resting. The incident came to light on Sunday morning, following which forest department officials rushed to the spot.

District Forest Officer V Prabhakara Rao, Range Officer N David and other officials inspected the area.

Even as officials and local leaders were present, reports emerged that the tiger fled deeper into the plantation, intensifying anxiety among villagers. Forest officials said the tiger is likely to remain inside the plantation for at least 48 hours, as it had fed sufficiently. They cautioned locals against cre-

ating disturbances, warning that the animal could turn aggressive if provoked.

To monitor its movement, the forest department deployed trap cameras and drone surveillance and installed cages to capture the tiger. A joint rapid response team comprising forest, police and revenue officials has been stationed in the area.

Speaking to 'The Hans India', DFO Prabhakara Rao said there were inputs suggesting that two male tigers had migrated from Chhat-tisgarh through Maharashtra forests. One is reportedly located in Vikarabad district of Telangana, while the other could be the animal sighted in East Godavari. He said the tiger was likely below three years of age and capable of covering 25 to 35 kilometres in a single night.

Rajahmundry MP Dag-gubati Purandeswari spoke to forest, revenue and police officials over the phone and instructed them to take immediate steps to safely relocate the tiger to its natural habitat. Rajamahendra-varam Rural MLA Gorantla

Buchaiah Chowdary, Rajanagaram MLA Bathula Balamakrishna and RUDA chairman BVR Chowdary visited the site and assured the affected farmer of prompt compensation.

As a precautionary measure, District School Education Officer K Vasudeva Rao announced a one-day holiday on Monday for all government and private schools in Seethanagaram, Korukonda and Rajah-mundry Rural mandals. He clarified that the decision was taken considering the possible movement of the tiger in these areas.

However, Regional Intermediate Education Officer I Sarada stated that Intermediate practical examinations on Monday were conducted as per schedule and that the holiday would not apply to these exams.

Officials advised parents to ensure children do not venture outdoors unnecessarily and urged residents to keep lights on near cattle sheds at night and avoid moving alone in vulnerable areas.

Call to work for a child marriage-free society

• NTR district collector G Lakshmisha launches a signature campaign against child marriages as part of a large-scale public awareness drive

• Urges all stakeholders to work with commitment to ensure a bright future for children

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA

CALLING for collective efforts to build a child marriage-free society, NTR district collector Dr G Lakshmisha urged all stakeholders to work with commitment to ensure a bright future for children.

He said transforming NTR district into a model district free from child marriages requires the active participation of every section of society. The collector on Monday flagged off the Vasavya Mahila Mandali (VMM) child marriage-free campaign chariot at the Collectorate in Vijayawada. He also launched a signature campaign against child marriages as part of a large-scale public awareness drive. Speaking on the occasion, Dr Lakshmisha appreciated Vasavya Mahila Mandali for taking up the initiative as part of its social responsibility. Emphasising adherence to laws and regulations, Dr Lakshmisha said society must raise its voice firmly against child marriages. He also suggested that the VMM team aim to collect signatures from over one lakh people through the campaign to further strengthen public participation and awareness. The Collector said the awareness chariot would tour both rural and urban areas of the district to educate people on the adverse effects of child marriages and the legal provisions in place to curb them. He informed



NTR district collector Dr G Lakshmisha flagging off the Vasavya Mahila Mandali's child marriage-free awareness campaign chariot at the Collectorate in Vijayawada on Monday

that the Child Helpline (1098) and Women Helpline (181) were available for reporting cases and seeking assistance, and urged citizens to make use of these services whenever necessary. Vasavya

Mahila Mandali President Dr B Keerthi, Project Director Ramanujaya, District Women and Child Welfare Officer Rukhsana Sultana Begum, DCPU member M Rajeswara Rao and others were present.

Budget boosts hopes of sandalwood farmers

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA

ALL India Sandalwood (Srigandham) Growers Federation national general secretary Thummala Murali Krishna has welcomed the announcement made by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in the Union Budget, assuring full support from the Central government for marketing sandalwood cultivated by farmers across the country.

Addressing a press conference at the Federation's office on Mahatma Gandhi Road in Vijayawada on Monday, Murali Krishna expressed happiness over the Centre's commitment to support sandalwood farmers, particularly in marketing their produce. He stated that keeping in view the challenges faced by sandalwood cultivators, the Union government had taken a positive step by addressing marketing issues



All India Sandalwood Growers Federation national general secretary Thummala Murali Krishna addressing the media in Vijayawada on Monday

in the Budget, as per the directions of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Recalling that Indian sandalwood once enjoyed huge global demand, Murali Krishna said the sector had fallen behind in recent years. He said the assurance given by the Centre to restore the glory of Indian

sandalwood and ensure justice to cultivators had boosted the confidence and morale of farmers.

Federation president K Amar Narayana, Vice-president Garapati Poornachandra Rao, member Kotapati Narasimha Rao, and others were present.

Amaravati Centralised Hackathon organised

HANS NEWS SERVICE
GUNTUR

AMARAVATI Centralised Hackathon-2026 was held grandly at Chalapathi Institute of Technology, Mothadaka on Monday organised by CSE-AI with FEBE. Leaders highlighted AI's industry relevance. The 24-hour event featured coding, innova-

tion challenges, DJ Night, Robo Race, and Tech Treasure Hunt, with enthusiastic multi-college participation, involving students from various colleges.

Chairman of the engineering college Dr YV Anjaneyulu, FEBE director Monica RK, founder Mahan, college principal Kolla Naga Srinivas were present.



Amaravati Centralised Hackathon-2026 held at Chalapathi Institute of Technology, Mothadaka on Monday. The college chairman Dr YV Anjaneyulu is also seen

Centre eases unmanufactured tobacco tax

HANS NEWS SERVICE
RAJAMAHENDRAVARAM

RAJAHMUNDRY MP Dag-gubati Purandeswari has drawn the attention of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the mounting distress among FCV tobacco farmers in the state following the proposed sharp increase in cigarette excise duty. In a detailed letter, she highlighted the dependence of thousands of farmers in the East Godavari region on FCV tobacco cultivation, carried on for decades in the absence of profitable alternative crops.

The MP referred to the notification issued on December 31, 2025, proposing a 73 per cent excise duty hike on cigarettes, effective February 1, 2026. She stated that the announcement caused anxiety among farmers, farm workers, women labourers and tribal communities in her constituency.

She argued that FCV tobacco used in cigarette manufacturing was being taxed disproportionately compared to bidis and chewing tobacco, even though several studies have found these products to be more harmful to health.

Purandeswari pointed out that cigarettes already attract far higher

taxes per kilogram than other tobacco products, and the proposed revision would widen this gap further. She warned that steep taxation would reduce demand and production, directly impacting farmers' incomes. As per industry estimates cited by her, growers could face a price drop of Rs 50 to Rs 70 per kg, amounting to a 20-25 per cent loss, making it difficult to recover cultivation costs.

She also raised concerns that excessive taxation would fuel the illegal and smuggled cigarette trade, which already accounts for about 26 per cent of the Indian market. Smuggled cigarettes, sold

at much lower prices, do not use Indian tobacco, resulting in livelihood losses for domestic farmers while benefiting illegal operators.

In a positive development, the Union Budget has addressed one key concern. As per Gazette Notification No 04/2026 issued on February 1, 2026, excise duty on unmanufactured tobacco that is unbranded and not packed for retail sale has been fixed at nil.

Welcoming the decision, Purandeswari said the clarification would provide much-needed relief to tobacco farmers and reinforce confidence in the agricultural sector. She expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman for their responsive and farmer-friendly approach.

Seer completes Alipiri 180tz –Tirumala Padayatra

• Chinna Venkanna Babu Swamiji, Peethadhipathi completed his 180th barefoot pilgrimage from Alipiri to the Tirumala shrine

• He has been involved to promote Sanatana Dharma through sustained padayatras and long-distance spiritual journeys

HANS NEWS SERVICE
RAJAMAHENDRAVARAM

CHINNA Venkanna Babu Swamiji, Peethadhipathi of the Sri Mahalakshmi Same-the Chinna Venkateswara Swamy Peetham at Gadala village on the Rajamahendravaram Airport Road, completed his 180th barefoot pilgrimage from Alipiri to the Tirumala shrine on Sunday.



Chinna Venkanna Babu Swamiji along with devotees at Dwaraka Tirumala temple

Swamiji recalled that his first foot pilgrimage from Alipiri to Tirumala was undertaken in 1993 along with his grandfather, the late Dantulururi Suryanarayana Raju, popularly known as Abbayi Raju, and Chavakula Srinivasa Rao. What began as an act of personal devotion later evolved into a lifelong spiritual discipline. From 2006 onwards, Swa-

miji has completed the Alipiri-Tirumala foot journey 180 times, a practice he said would continue in the years to come. His stated goal is to complete 365 such pilgrimages in his lifetime.

Swamiji was accompanied on the latest yatra by his 18-year-old daughter Poornima Raj, Pippala SGR Educational Institutions chairman G Sudheer Kumar

Raju, and other devotees. Throughout the journey, devotees joined in chanting the Lord's name, turning the trek into a collective act of faith.

Apart from the Tirumala pilgrimages, Chinna Venkanna Babu Swamiji has been actively involved in promoting Sanatana Dharma through sustained padayatras and long-distance

spiritual journeys. On as many as 20 occasions, he led groups of devotees on foot from Rajamahendravaram to Dwaraka Tirumala. Since 2001, he has also been undertaking a padayatra every Amavasya from Rajamahendravaram to the Mathrusri Gadi Bapanamma temple at Sitapalli of Alluri Sitarama Raju district where special Abhishekams and rituals are performed without fail.

His spiritual journey formally began in 2001 with a foot pilgrimage from Pedapuram Dargah Centre to the Sri Datta Kshetram at Pithapuram. In Tamil Nadu, Swamiji has completed 89 Giripradakshinas around Arunachaleswara at Tiruvannamalai since 2008, marking another significant chapter in his devotional pursuits.

At Daksharamam, Swamiji undertook the chal-

lenging darshan of the 121 Shiva temples known as the Bhimasabha cluster for three consecutive years within record timeframes. In 2015, the entire circuit was completed in 82 hours, followed by a faster 78-hour completion in 2016, and 72 hours in 2017, drawing the attention of devotees and spiritual observers alike.

Peetham representatives Matala Ramesh and Mahitosh said that for over two decades, the Chinna Venkanna Babu Peetham has played a key role in nurturing spiritual awareness among devotees through continuous padayatras and discipline-based devotional practices. They noted that Swamiji's journeys have become a source of inspiration for many, blending personal austerity with collective participation in faith-based traditions.

Hans India Classifieds CHANGE OF NAME I, JETTY YAMINI W/O PENDYALA PEDA SRINIVASA RAO, R/O 1-144, PAMIDIPADU AGRAHARAM, PALNADU - 522601 have changed my name from PENDYALA YAMINI to JETTY YAMINI W/O PENDYALA PEDA SRINIVASA RAO for all purposes. (TH_44949)		CHANGE OF NAME I, CHITTIPROLU CHANDRASEKHAR RAO (Old Name), S/o Rama Kotiah Chittiprolu, D.No.12-8-76A, Prakash Nagar, T.S. No. 17565, Opp. NTR Statue, Narasaraopet, Palnadu, Andhra Pradesh. 522601. I have changed my name as CHITTIPROLU CHANDRA SHEKHARAO (New Name). Here after my name is known as CHITTIPROLU CHANDRA SHEKHARAO (New Name). (TH_DHEERA)
CHANGE OF NAME I, KONDEPUDI CHITTIRAMESH C/o Raja Rao, D. No. 55-03-05/101 Lalitha Annapurma heights flat No.101, CTRI Road, Subbrahmnya Nagar, Rajamahendravaram, E.G.Dt. A.P. 533105. I have changed my Name from KONDEPUDI CHITTIRAMESH (Old Name) to KONDEPUDI CHITTI RAMESH (New Name). Henceforth I am being called as KONDEPUDI CHITTI RAMESH C/o Raja Rao, for all purposes. (TH_KKD)		CHANGE OF NAME I, KAMIREDDY VEERA VENKATA SANJEEVA REDDY, S/o KAMIREDDY RAMA KRISHNA, R/o Sri Dharmma Residency, Flot no-306, 3rd Floor, Kanuru, Penamallu Mandal, Vijayawada-520007, Andhra Pradesh. I have changed my name as SANJEEVA REDDY KAMIREDDY (New Name). Hereafter my name is known as SANJEEVA REDDY KAMIREDDY (New Name) (TH_DHEERA)
CHANGE OF NAME I, KUM.NEMANI CHITTEEMMA (old name) w/o Chilukuri Veera Venkata suryanarayana (Late) resident of D.No.2-46-15/41 E4, Triveni sangam Apartments, venkat Nagar,Kakinada Urban Mandal, Kakinada District, Andhra Pradesh- 533003. have changed my name after my marriage from NEMANI CHITTEEMMA (old name) to CHILUKURI RADHA (new name) vide affidavit dt.28.01.2026 Here after all my documents and correspondence will be continued with my new name CHILUKURI RADHA (TH_KKD)		CHANGE OF NAME I, BANDI MALLIKA DURGA PRASANNA D/o Bandi Dharmesh, B.S.C., M.A., Buddhist Nun and residing at H. No. 1-182/3 Sivalayam Veedhi, Dammennu, East Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh-534227, henceforth, I shall be known as VEN. CHANDAMALI for all purposes. BANDI MALLIKA DURGA PRASANNA (TH_SIVA PRASAD)
CHANGE OF NAME & D.O.B. I, SUJATHA, legally wedded wife of Ex No.2596814H Ex HAV, Late NALLAVULA SUBBA RAO, R/O H.No.5-145, Somaraju Palli Village & Post, Singarayakonda Mandal, Prakasam District, (A.P.) PIN-523101, have changed my Name from SUJATHA to NALLAVULA VENKATA SUJATHA and D.O.B. from 21.05.1978 to 01.02.1973 vide affidavit dated 30.01.2026 at Ongole (TH_BSR)		CHANGE OF NAME I, NAGANABOINA LAKSHMI PADMAJA W/o. Krishnamraju, Mysannagudem Village, Jangareddygudem Mandal, Eluru Dist, A.P. I have Changed my name from NAGANABOINA PADMAJA (Old name) to NAGANA BOINA LAKSHMI PADMAJA (New Name). Hence fourth I Will be Called as NAGANABOINA LAKSHMI PADMAJA. (TH_SIVA PRASAD)
CHANGE OF SURNAME I, PITCHUKA KIRAN KUMAR, (Old Name) S/o. PITCHUKA VITTALESWARA RAO, resident of D.No. A11, VIDYA NAGARA 2ND LANE, POLICE QUARTERS, Guntur District -522007, A.P, India Hence I have Changed My Surname to PICHUKA KIRAN KUMAR (New Name) hereafter My Surname is Known As (New Name) (TH_44949)		CHANGE OF NAME I, VATHSAVAYI SUMATHI, W/o Srinivasaraju, D.No. 104-4-256/2, Karthikeya Nagar, Morampudi, Rajahmundry Rural, E.G. District, A.P., Pin: 533107, I have changed my name from VATSAVAYI SUMATHI (Old Name) to VATHSAVAYI SUMATHI (New Name). Hence forth I am being called VATHSAVAYI SUMATHI, W/o. Srinivasaraju, for all purpose. (TH_KKD)
CHANGE OF NAME I, GUDALA GANDHI PUSHKARUDU, (Old Name) C/O:GUDALA SRI RAMA MURTHY, resident of D.No:57-1-28 KARANAM GARI BAZAAR SAI TOWERS PATAMATA VIJAYAWADA, N T R Dist 520010, A.P, India Hence I have Changed My Name to GUDALA GANDHI PUSHKARUDU (New Name) hereafter My Name is Known As GUDALA GANDHI PUSHKARUDU (New Name) (TH_44949)		CHANGE OF SURNAME I, NAMBURI AMARNADH, (OLD NAME) S/o KUTUMBHA RAO, R/o 11-29-5, AVULA VARI STREET, OPP SREENU HOTEL, VIJAYAWADA, NTR District Andhra Pradesh -520001, India Here by declare that I have changed my surname as NAMBURU AMARNADH (New Name), S/o KUTUMBHA RAO here after my name is known as NAMBURU AMARNADH (New Name) S/o KUTUMBHA RAO (TH_44949)
CHANGE OF NAME I, VENKATESWARLU MUNDIRINTI (Old Name) S/o. UPPARA MUNDIRINTI CHINNA NARASIAH, R/o. 3/2355-7, Shilpa Estate-3, Yemiganur Town & Mandal, Kurnool Dist, A.P, have changed my name as (New Name) UPPARA MUNDIRINTI VENKATESWARLU, S/o. UPPARA MUNDIRINTI CHINNA NARASIAH. Hereafter my name is known as (New Name) UPPARA MUNDIRINTI VENKATESWARLU, S/o. UPPARA MUNDIRINTI CHINNA NARASIAH. (TH_44949)		CHANGE OF SURNAME I, MADDASANI POORNACHANDU, (Old Name) C/O:NAGA PRASAD, resident of D.No:65-110, JANINITYAN-JAYA NAGAR, 3RD LINE SUDDAPALLI DONKA OLD GUNTUR, GUNTUR Dist-522001, A.P, India Hence I have Changed My Name to VIPPATAPU POORNA CHANDU (New Name) here after My Name is Known As VIPPATAPU POORNA CHANDU (New Name) (TH_44949)
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Int’l Fleet Review, Milan-2026 to be held in Vizag on Feb 18&19

- Ships from 19 nations, 4,000 delegates to participate
- President, Governor, Chief Minister, defence minister will attend the event
- State govt assures full cooperation to ensure the successful conduct of both events
- Chief of staff, vice admiral along with senior naval officers met CS Vijayanand



Chief of Staff, Eastern Naval Command, Vice-Admiral Sushil Menon, along with senior naval officers, meet chief secretary K Vijayanand to review preparations for the International Fleet Review, at the Secretariat on Monday

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA

THE International Fleet Review (IFR) will be held in Visakhapatnam on February 18, followed by Milan-2026 on February 19, with the participation of naval forces from several countries.

On Monday, Chief of Staff, Eastern Naval Command, Vice Admiral Sushil Menon (VSM), along with senior naval

officers, met chief secretary K Vijayanand at the AP Secretariat to review preparations for the events. During the meeting, Vice Admiral Menon informed that ships from 19 countries, including Sri Lanka and Iran, would take part in the IFR, along with nearly 4,000 delegates. He said three ships and about 150 delegates from the United States, Germany, and France would also participate. From India,

around 90 ships, 45 aircraft, and nearly 600 delegates are expected to take part. The events will be held along the Visakhapatnam coastline on February 18 and 19. President Droupadi Murmu, Governor Justice S Abdul Nazeer, and Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu will attend the International Fleet Review, while defence minister Rajnath Singh will participate in Milan-2026. The Chief Minister and

other dignitaries will also take part in the International City Parade. Chief secretary K Vijayanand assured full cooperation from the State government to ensure the successful conduct of both events. He instructed officials of various departments to make necessary arrangements, especially in view of the presence of VVIPs. He also directed them to ensure foolproof security and logistical

facilities. The President of India reviews the operational preparedness and capabilities of the Navy once during his tenure through the President's Fleet Review. In the International Fleet Review, warships from friendly and neighbouring countries also participate. Key warships and submarines take part in the programme. Milan is a multinational naval exercise aimed at strengthening mutual cooperation and enhancing maritime capabilities. Naval forces from various countries participate in demonstrations and joint activities. Cultural programmes by participating nations are also held as part of the event. Principal secretary, GAD, Shyamala Rao, protocol additional director Mohan Rao, special chief secretary Krishna Babu, and IG operations CH Srikanth participated.

Don't turn AP into a 'Ravana Kashtam': CPI to TDP and YSRCP

VIJAYAWADA :CPI state secretary Gujjula Eswaraiiah cautioned the ruling TDP and opposition YSRCP against dragging Andhra Pradesh into a climate of hatred, violence, and political vendetta. He urged both parties not to turn the state into a 'Ravana Kashtam' through their bitter rivalry. He asserted that the state does not belong to any individual or family but is the collective asset of six crore people. In a statement issued on Monday, Eswaraiiah alleged that both the TDP and YSRCP were indulging in mutual abuse, provocative statements, and attacks with the sole aim of diverting public attention from pressing public issues. He said the recent political developments were bringing disrepute to a state once ruled by great leaders and were creating a situation in which democracy itself appeared to be hanging its head in shame. Criticising the politicisation of sensitive spiritual issues such as the Tirupati laddu, he said such actions reflected a lack of maturity and responsibility on the part of political leaders. Instead of addressing people's concerns, both parties were resorting



G Eswaraiiah

to personal attacks to conceal their failures and anti-people policies, which he described as highly deplorable. Eswaraiiah expressed serious concern over attacks on houses and offices, prolonged detentions even in the presence of women, and the apparent inaction of the police. He said there was little difference between the previous YSRCP regime and the present TDP-led government in terms of governance style. He warned that political violence, irrespective of who was in power, would erode demo-

cratic values. The CPI leader stressed that the state is not a private estate or a rowdy arena, and demanded that both ruling and opposition parties focus on real issues such as unemployment, education, healthcare, agrarian distress, remunerative crop prices, labour rights, and overall development. He urged political parties to exercise restraint, uphold democratic decorum, and act responsibly, warning that people were closely watching their conduct and would respond at the appropriate time.

Fuel conservation drive SAKSHAM 2026 launched

- Fortnight-long campaign aims to spread awareness on efficient fuel use and sustainable energy practices
- Activities include cyclothons, walkathons, rallies, training for LPG staff, student interactions, emission checks and technical workshops
- Officials stress renewable fuels, electric vehicles, and reducing crude oil imports; students awarded for conservation-themed drawings



State level coordinator N Bhaskara Reddy addressing participants during the launch of SAKSHAM 2026 fuel conservation campaign at the Tummalapallivari Kshetrayya Kalakshetram in Vijayawada on Monday

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA

SAKSHAM 2026 (Sankrakshan Kshamta Mahotsav), the flagship fuel conservation campaign of the ministry of petroleum and natural gas, Government of India, was launched in Andhra Pradesh on Monday. The fortnight-long awareness campaign, which began on February 1, will conclude on February 15.

The state-level inauguration of SAKSHAM 2026 was held at Tummalapallivari Kshetrayya Kalakshetram in Vijayawada. The campaign was formally launched, and a fuel conservation pledge was administered by State Level Coordinator (SLC) for the oil industry, N Bhaskara Reddy, along with senior officials

from various Oil Marketing Companies. Addressing the gathering, Bhaskara Reddy said SAKSHAM aims to create widespread awareness among citizens on the importance of fuel conservation, efficient utilization of petroleum products, and sustainable energy practices. He added that the campaign would engage different segments of society through people-centric activities such as cyclothons, walkathons, CNG auto and car rallies, training programmes for LPG delivery personnel, group interactions with homemakers, students, and college youth, vehicle emission checks, and technical workshops on oil and gas conservation. T Bhaskara Rao, divisional LPD head of Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Vijayawada, stressed the need

to conserve petroleum products in view of rising demand due to the rapid increase in vehicles. C T Venugopala, BPCL, Vijayawada territory manager (LPG), advocated the use of renewable, clean, and green fuels and electric vehicles for transportation. GAIL DGM S K Tiwari called upon students to act as ambassadors of energy conservation, while Pankaj S Chaudhary, DGM (LPG), HPCL, highlighted the importance of fuel conservation for environmental protection and reducing India's dependence on crude oil imports. Prizes were distributed to school students who won drawing competitions on the conservation theme. A large number of students and stakeholders participated in the event. HPCL senior sales manager N Murali Krishna and other officials were also present.

Kondaveedu festival from Feb 7

HANS NEWS SERVICE
NARASARAOPET

GUNTUR district collector Krutika Shukla announced that the Kondaveedu Festival will be conducted with an estimated expenditure of Rs 1 crore. She convened a review meeting at the Collectorate regarding the Kondaveedu Festival scheduled to be held on February 7 and 8 in Narasaraopet on Sunday. Speaking at the meeting, she said the government has already approved the release of Rs 75 lakh for the festival. She informed that the inaugural event of the Kondaveedu Festival will be held on February 5 with a 2K run in

Chilakaluripet town. Various competitions will be organised on the Kondaveedu hill on February 7 and 8 for nearly 10,000 students, and prizes will be distributed to the winners. She stated that Heli rides, food stalls, and cultural programmes should be made special attractions of the festival. The cost of the Heli ride has been fixed at Rs 3,500 per person. She directed officials to conduct extensive publicity campaigns and ensure that all arrangements are completed in time. Joint Collector Sanjana Sinha, DFO Krishna Priya, and other district officials attended the meeting.

Two AP veterinarians bag national award

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA

TWO veterinary officers from Andhra Pradesh have been selected for the prestigious Dr C M Singh Sushrut Gaurav Ratna Samman 2025 national award by the Veterinary Association of India (VAI). The awardees are Dr Nallapati Jagat Srinivas, Deputy Director at Ongole

Veterinary Poly Clinic and Dr Madina Prasada Rao, Assistant Director in Visakhapatnam. Dr Damodar Naidu, state Director of Animal Husbandry, presented the award certificates at a ceremony attended by senior department officials. Both veterinarians have previously received numerous state and national honours for their service.



Ravuru joins BJP

HANS NEWS SERVICE
GUNTUR

RAVURU Lakshminarayana Sastry of Old Guntur in the East constituency joined the BJP along with his followers at BJP Guntur district office on Monday, in the presence of district president Cherukuri Tirupati Rao and BJP state chief official spokesperson Valluri Jayaprakash Narayana. He had earlier served as district vice-president of the Congress Party and as district president of the Home Guards Helpers Association. Tirupati Rao welcomed him into the party by draping the BJP scarf. Habibunissa from Nallapadu also joined the BJP, stating that she was inspired by the development and welfare programmes implemented by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Speaking on the occasion, Tirupati Rao called upon party workers to strengthen the party and take government welfare schemes to the people. Valluri Jayaprakash Narayana said the BJP is India's largest party and that the vision of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee is being realised under Modi's leadership. Ravuru Lakshminarayana Sastry said he joined the BJP impressed by NDA governance and pledged dedicated service.

CPM calls 'Chalo Delhi' on March 24, slams Centre's 'anti-people' policies

- Party to hold nationwide mobilisation from March 9–20 ahead of 'Chalo Delhi' protest, targeting what it calls anti-people laws and policies of the Centre
- Politburo member Raghavulu terms Union Budget 'accounting jugglery', flags cuts to welfare sectors, Polavaram funding drop, MGNREGS cost burden on states, and loan-driven Amaravati funding
- Questions NDA allies TDP and Jana Sena over Andhra Pradesh fund denial, criticises pro-corporate projects, and warns new Bills will hurt workers and farmers

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA

CPM politburo member B V Raghavulu announced that the party will stage a 'Chalo Delhi' protest on March 24, demanding withdrawal of what he termed the Centre's anti-people policies and laws. Ahead of this, a nationwide campaign from March 9 to

20 will be launched to mobilise public opinion. The announcement came during the CPM state committee's two-day meeting at MBVK here, attended by politburo members Raghavulu, U Vasuki and state secretary V Srinivasa Rao. Addressing the media, Raghavulu described the Union Budget as "deceptive ac-



CPM politburo members B V Raghavulu and U Vasuki, along with state secretary V Srinivasa Rao, participate in the two-day state committee meet at MBVK in Vijayawada on Monday

counting jugglery," alleging that allocations to key sectors and welfare schemes were slashed. He accused the Centre of manipulating figures by comparing allocations with revised expenditure estimates, creating an illusion

of higher spending. Citing examples, he noted that Polavaram project funding fell from over Rs 5,000 crore last year to Rs 3,320 crore, warning that completion could take decades. He also criticised replacing

Amaravati funds with loans, forcing dependence on borrowings. On MGNREGS, he said though Rs 95,000 crore was allocated, states must bear 40% of costs, calling it "fraudulent." Raghavulu alleged that de-

spite TDP and Jana Sena's alliance with the NDA, Andhra Pradesh continues to face injustice in fund allocation. He questioned CM Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan over their failure to secure resources. He further criticised industrial corridors and semiconductor projects as benefiting corporates rather than generating local employment. He warned that new Bills on labour, electricity, seeds, nuclear liability, and geo-spatial issues would harm workers and farmers. Condemning recent political violence, Raghavulu urged parties to end abusive language and attacks, stressing that democracy can only survive through constructive debate and public trust.

CM to address WUA presidents' meet on Feb 5

HANS NEWS SERVICE
GUNTUR

A conference of presidents of all Water Users' Associations in the state will be held on February 5. The conference is being organised under the theme "Our Water – Our Future: Role of Irrigation Associations." The conference, to be chaired by Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu, will take place at 12:30 PM at the Parade Grounds near the High Court in Amaravati. Presidents of irrigation associations from all districts across the state are expected to attend in large numbers, officials of the Water Resources Department said. District Collector A Tameem Ansariya, along with Joint Collector Ashutosh Srivastava and

Water Resources Department Chief Engineer B Rambabu, inspected the arrangements for the conference. Ansariya directed that all arrangements, including food facilities, drinking water, sanitation, and other amenities, be made meticulously. Guntur Revenue Divisional Officer K Srinivasa Rao, ASP ATV Ravi Kumar, DSP T Murali Krishna, Water Resources Department Superintending Engineer Venkata Ratnam, Rural Water Supply Superintending Engineer K Kalyana Chakravarthy, District Panchayat Officer BV Naga Sai Kumar, District Civil Supplies Officer P Komali Padma, Joint Director of Agriculture M Padmavathi, District Social Welfare Officer U Chennayya were present.

APSRTC to introduce 2,500 electric, CNG buses in five yrs

● Corporation's new VC&MD Krishna Babu says they will procure 1,050 electric buses under PM e-Bus scheme; focus will be on green mobility and fuel savings

● 'Stree Shakti' boosted ridership as women commuters rise to 67%, occupancy nears 90%

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA

ANDHRA Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation (APSRTC) new vice-chairman and managing director M T Krishna Babu on Monday unveiled a comprehensive plan to introduce electric buses across the state over the next five years. Under the PM e-Bus scheme, he said 1,050 electric buses would be inducted, while plans are in place to introduce another 1,450 electric and CNG buses in the coming days.

Krishna Babu took charge as VC & MD at the RTC headquarters in RTC House here following retirement of Ch Dwaraka Tirumala Rao whose three months service



APSRTC vice-chairman and managing director M T Krishna Babu taking charge at the RTC headquarters in Vijayawada on Monday. He later chaired a review meeting with senior officials

extension expired on January 31. Krishna Babu later conducted a review meeting with executive directors, heads of departments, and district public transport officers to assess the corporation's financial position, bus maintenance, passenger services, bus station amenities, and employee welfare.

Addressing officials, he said the induction of electric and CNG buses would play a crucial role in reducing fuel consumption in urban and inter-urban transport, controlling pollution, improving road safety, and promoting sustainable mobility. He noted that over the next five years, the shift to electric buses would not only save energy and reduce fuel costs, but also provide modern and comfortable public transport facilities while strengthening APSRTC's financial position.

Directing officials to im-

prove operational efficiency and passenger services, he reviewed the 'Stree Shakti' scheme launched by Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu. He said 23-25 lakh women passengers are availing free travel daily, with women commuters accounting for 65-67 per cent of total ridership. He said that bus occupancy has reached nearly 90 per cent, significantly contributing to APSRTC's financial stability.

Referring to an IVRS survey, Krishna Babu said around 80 per cent of passengers expressed satisfaction with RTC services, while 20% pointed out issues related to toilets and drinking water facilities at bus stations. He instructed officials to address these shortcomings immediately. The VC & MD also discussed commercial utilisation of vacant RTC lands and the expansion of cargo services,

which currently generate about Rs 210 crore annually, to further strengthen non-fare revenue.

Highlighting employee welfare, he said there are nearly five lakh government employees in the State and their role in service delivery is vital. He clarified that all government welfare schemes and facilities would be extended equally to public transport department (PTD) employees. He assured that the government is giving special priority to job security, improved working conditions, and the phased resolution of pending employee grievances.

Orders have been issued to provide alternative employment or Additional Monetary Benefits (AMB) to 682 PTD employees declared medically unfit after January 1, 2020. He said the measure would provide significant financial relief to the affected families.



Ambati remanded to 14 days' judicial custody amid political row

- YSRCP leader handed over to Rajahmundry central jail after a Guntur court remands him
- Multiple cases filed citing threats, abusive language and obstruction of police; 16 cases registered statewide
- High Court orders police protection for Rambabu's family after alleged attacks by TDP activists on his residence and office

HANS NEWS SERVICE
GUNTUR

YSRCP leader Ambati Rambabu was remanded to 14 days of judicial custody by Guntur special mobile court on Monday. Rambabu was arrested on Saturday in connection with a case registered at the Nallapadu police station over his derogatory remarks against Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu.

Police booked him under Sections 126(2) and 132 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita. Another case was registered under Sections 126(2), 196(1), 352, 351(2) and 292, citing threats, abusive language and derogatory remarks.

Police said Rambabu was taken to Rajahmundry Central Jail late on Sunday night and formally handed over to jail authorities in the early hours thereafter. According to police, the cases relate to incidents reported on Saturday at Chillies Centre in Gorantla, where Rambabu allegedly obstructed police personnel on traffic duty and was involved in a confrontation linked to the removal of a TDP banner near the NTR statue.

A separate case was registered based on a complaint by a local TDP leader, accusing Rambabu of "issuing threats, using abusive language and making derogatory remarks" against the Chief Minister during a press conference and later at the site, police said.

Police informed the court that 16 cases had been registered against Rambabu



across the state in connection with his remarks against the Chief Minister. Officials said his statements had triggered political debate and public unrest, leading to law and order concerns.

During the hearing, Rambabu alleged that police officials had harassed him. He also told the court that no case was registered despite alleged attacks by TDP activists on his office and damage to furniture.

Separately, Rambabu's wife filed a petition in the High Court seeking police protection, alleging attacks by TDP activists on their residence and office in Guntur city. She claimed that activists had also set fire to a car belonging to the family.

Following the High Court's directions, police pickets were set up at Rambabu's residence and office in Navabharat Nagar, Guntur, on Monday, and security measures were put in place for his family.

On the other hand, the YSRCP alleged that Rambabu was being "politically targeted" and claimed there was "a serious threat" to his life following the incidents.

BACKLASH AGAINST YSRCP LEADERS

Jagan accuses Naidu govt of anarchy, warns of public rebellion

- YSRCP chief blames the TDP-led govt for fostering violence, citing attacks on the houses of former ministers Ambati Rambabu and Jogi Ramesh
- Links the incidents to the Tirumala laddu ghee controversy, claiming central labs like NDDB and NDRI had exposed the govt's 'false allegations'
- Calling it 'jungle raj' and 'barbaric rule,' the former CM warns that public anger is mounting and such intimidation would ultimately 'burn down' the govt

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA

YSRCP president Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy launched a scathing attack on Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on Monday, accusing the government of encouraging violence and intimidation against opposition leaders.

Reacting to the recent attacks on the houses of former ministers Ambati Rambabu and Jogi Ramesh, Jagan alleged that the incidents reflected "anarchy and barbaric rule" in the state.

In a strongly worded post on social media platform X, Jagan said Naidu was under the illusion that such acts

would instil fear among political opponents. "You set fire to the houses of Ambati Rambabu and Jogi Ramesh and think you have created fear through these heinous acts. This is your delusion. Remember, Chandrababu, you have actually set fire to your own government," he said.

Jagan connected the incidents to the Tirumala laddu ghee controversy and recent reports by central agencies. He said laboratories such as the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) and the National Dairy Research Institute (NDRI) had exposed what he called the government's "false allegations".

"When Central govern-



ment laboratories proved your accusations wrong and people questioned your mistakes, you could not digest it. That frustration has now turned into violence," Jagan alleged. He claimed that instead of accepting facts, the ruling party was resorting to intimidation.

Describing the attacks as a dangerous sign for democracy, the YSRCP chief said the burning of opposition leaders' houses symbolised "jungle raj" in Andhra Pradesh. "The fire set to their houses reflects anarchy and barbaric governance. The flames lit against democracy will eventually burn down your own government," he warned. Jagan said public anger was steadily rising and

would soon erupt against the ruling dispensation. "In the coming days, the flames of people's anger will reduce your government to ashes," he said. Issuing a direct warning to Chief Minister Naidu, Jagan said history had repeatedly shown that governments which relied on force and intimidation never survived. "In a democracy, the hand that lights the fire of violence will inevitably get burned. Anarchic rule will come to an end. The jungle raj you created will be buried," he wrote. He also asserted that political power gained through fear would not last and that democratic resistance would ultimately prevail.

LADDU GHEE CASE

CBI chargesheet sparks fresh political row

- It finds Harsh Fresh Dairy supplied adulterated ghee to TTD as early as Fe 2019
- It's a proxy for Bhole Baba Dairy and the supply occurred during the TDP-led NDA government's tenure in the state
- Former TTD chairman Bhumana also accuses that dairies got repeated approvals under TDP rule

PRADEEP VENNELAKANTI
TIRUPATI

THE CBI chargesheet in the Tirupati ghee adulteration case has triggered a political storm in the state, with both the ruling and opposition parties trading charges and selectively citing portions of the document to back their claims.

Amid the political sparring, the chargesheet brings out a crucial finding: the supply of adulterated ghee to the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) began much earlier than previously believed. According to the investigation, Harsh Fresh Dairy — a proxy firm linked to Bhole Baba Dairy — supplied adulterated ghee to the Tirupati trust as early as February 2019, when the TDP-led NDA government was in power in the state.

This finding directly challenges the narrative that revisions to ghee procurement guidelines in February 2020 led to dubious dairies entering the TTD supply chain. The CBI investigation indicates that adulteration was taking place even when procurement norms were considered



stringent. As per the chargesheet filed by the CBI-led Special Investigation Team (SIT), Harsh Fresh Dairy Products Pvt Ltd was incorporated in 2012 and was run by Pomil Jain and Vipin Jain along with their spouses, who were also directors. Though based in Uttarakhand, the firm allegedly secured contracts by creating forged documents and fake inspection reports in collusion with external dairy experts and lower-level staff in the TTD procurement wing. Using this fabricated paper trail, the company obtained an FSSAI licence and won a ghee supply contract in February 2019 by emerging as the lowest bidder at Rs 291 per kg. The contract involved supplying 82,000 kg of ghee in tins. The investigation states that the company did not procure milk at all and instead supplied ghee adulterated with palm oil, palm kernel oil, and chemical additives.

The chargesheet also names Bareilly-based Premier Agri Foods Pvt Ltd, which allegedly supplied adulterated ghee to the TTD over several years. The firm is reported to have secured contracts since

2013, irrespective of changes in procurement guidelines or the government in power.

Even after Bhole Baba Dairy was disqualified during the YSRCP regime, the investigation found that adulterated ghee continued to be routed to the TTD through proxy firms. In 2023, despite tighter rules aimed at restricting supply to reputed companies, the dairy allegedly channelled ghee through Vyshnavi Dairy, AR Dairy, and Malganga by again manipulating inspections and internal processes.

The chargesheet further notes that four ghee tankers from AR Dairy, rejected by NDDB tests in mid-2024 for adulteration, were allegedly rerouted back to the TTD under a different company name and used in the preparation of Tirupati laddu prasadam. Meanwhile, speaking to the media on Monday, YSRCP leader and former TTD chairman Karunakar Reddy said the SIT report had clearly established that a few technical experts, continuing from the TDP government's tenure, colluded with ghee suppliers and indulged in corruption. He said Bhole Baba Dairy, earlier known as Harsh Fresh Dairy, supplied ghee to the TTD until 2018 and received technical approval for ghee supply during the tenure of Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu at a rate of Rs 291 per kg. According to the SIT findings, Bhole Baba Dairy is the prime accused in the adulteration case and had supplied ghee to the TTD even during the TDP regime. Bhumana also alleged that Premier Dairy, another key accused, was repeatedly granted approval to supply ghee during the same period.

Primary focus should be on financial success: Khushbu

RANI DEVALLA
VISAKHAPATNAM

THE primary focus should be on financial success to enable philanthropy and contribute to a sustainable India, alleviating poverty and improving lives, actress and Tamil Nadu BJP Vice President Khushbu Sundar emphasised.

Advocating an inclusive society built on secularism, harmony and unity at the Creative Economy Forum South organised in Visakhapatnam, Khushbu delivered a thought-provoking talk on the theme 'Money, Markets, and IP: Financing the Future of Films and Music'. Emphasising the importance of understanding the economy and personal growth, Khushbu said platforms like Creative Economy Forum (CEF) provide insightful ideas for growth and development of the creative domain.

Hosted by The Hans India and CEF in collaboration with HMTV, the CEF aimed at encouraging industry leaders and policymakers to

focus on the growing role of creative industries in India's economic growth. Moderated by founder of CEF Supriya Suri, the session on 'Money, Markets, and IP: Financing the Future of Films and Music' saw Kerala-based actress Cuckoo Parameswaran, filmmaker Satya Reddy and secretary of SIMCA Secretary Sridhar J Swaminathan sharing their thoughts on the theme.

Elaborating the theme, Khushbu said, "Global trade financing, institutional funding, private investments, smart cooperation models and new-age tools are needed to back talent. Films and music are assets that can be structured, valued and scaled." The maiden edition of Creative Economy Forum South brought leaders and entrepreneurs from diverse fields, shared insights into multiple themes and nudged the communities to explore new ideas by adopting innovative methods and unlearning redundant practices.

Creative Tech Revolution

Bringing experts from anima-



Actress and Tamil Nadu BJP Vice President Khushbu Sundar, founder of CEF Supriya Suri and Kerala-based actress Cuckoo Parameswaran walking the ramp at the CEF South organised in Visakhapatnam by The Hans India and CEF

tion, film production, Artificial Intelligence and digital media, the first session focused on 'Creative Tech Revolution: How AI, Gaming, Animation and Digital Media are Redefining Growth'.

As a session moderator-speaker, Professor and Director of The School of Core Engineering GITAM Dr. Pakki Bharani Chandra Kumar highlighted how technology is slowly but surely changing the way one creates or chooses stories.

During the session, Telugu Film Producers Council president KL Damodara Prasad expressed confidence that AI cannot take away human emotions in storytelling but it would certainly help ease lives of certain departments and save time. "Things get pretty fast now," he opined.

Echoing similar views, co-founder of LBS Studio and co-chair of Andhra Pradesh VFX Animation and Gaming Association Meghana



Creative Economy Forum Supriya Suri and managing director of Hyderabad Media House Private Limited K. Hanumantha Rao felicitating the speakers at the CEF South organised in Visakhapatnam by The Hans India and CEF

Tirumalasetty opined that AI made the pre-visualisation and VFX parts much effortless. "However, it cannot replace human intervention anywhere in near future," she opined.

Director of Vishal Peripherals Vikash Hisariya and founder Chief Executive Officer and VFX Supervisor Phantomfx Bejoy Aruptharaj shared their views on the theme.

Handlooms to High Streets

Centred on 'Handlooms to High Streets: Transforming Heritage

into Scalable Businesses', the following session threw insights into leveraging traditional crafts and design for modern markets. Moderated by product designer of Eco Friends Jameel Akula, executive director of FDDI-Hyderabad Narsimhugari Tej Lohit Reddy, founder of Sankalpa Art Village Chalapathi Rao shared insights into how labour-intensive Indian handloom sector has emerged into a sought-after and sustainable segment, experiencing a significant renaissance.

Culinary Crossing Borders

Speaking about 'culinary crossing borders' in the last session, food expert N Parthasarathy opined, "Food festivals, exhibitions, television shows, and digital platforms draw massive audiences and inspire curiosity, learning, and opportunity." Chairman of Pioneer Institute of Hotel Management chef Saka Sudha Kumar, corporate executive chef of GITAM Deemed to be University Agatamudi Rupeshwar Rao, co-founder of HETC Foods Pvt Ltd

Vavilala Srinivas and Sun International of Tourism and management Principal Rajeshwari laid emphasis on how the food industry is one of the largest employment generators globally and how it has evolved in creation of jobs. They spoke about how cuisines connect cultures and serve as an economic and cultural bridge across countries.

Envisioned as an effective platform to foster collaboration among government, industry and the creative community, placing Andhra Pradesh and Telangana as emerging hubs for creative and cultural enterprises of the country, the four sessions of the forum aided in exploring how creativity, technology and heritage can be transformed into scalable economic opportunities.

Featured by founder of the Creative Economy Forum Supriya Suri, the coveted event in the City of Destiny was held in the presence of managing director of Hyderabad Media House Private Limited K Hanumantha Rao, among others.

Interesting insights emerge on human lifespan

LIFE expectancy in India at the time of independence was approximately 30-32 years. This rather low figure was driven by widespread poverty, inadequate healthcare, malnutrition, and high infant/maternal mortality rates. Since 1947, life expectancy has more than doubled, rising to over 70 years in recent years. This is, by itself, considered to be a major milestone as it reflects an improved public health care in the country. With about 65 per cent of Indians currently under the age of 35 and the median age speculated to be around 29, lifespan is a constant subject of interest. With a senior citizen population of around 11 per cent of the total, many a time the statement ‘age is just a number’ is bandied about in social circles. It thus becomes interesting to know how a human being’s lifespan can be computed; some recent studies are helpful in this regard. Genetics may explain about half of a person’s lifespan, a study has suggested, pointing to a far more significant role of genetics than indications from earlier research. The findings, published in the journal Science, show that once mortality due to external factors such as accidents or infections are accounted for, “heritability of human life span due to intrinsic mortality is above 50 per cent”.

Researchers from Israel’s Weizmann Institute of Science and Karolinska Institutet in Sweden pointed out that understanding the heritability of human life span is central to ageing research, yet measuring genes’ influence on longevity remains a challenge. Earlier studies have estimated that life span may be 15-33 per cent heritable across varied populations, with a typical range of 20-25 per cent, they said. The researchers show that the estimates “are confounded by extrinsic mortality -- deaths caused by extrinsic factors such as accidents or infections”. While genes linked to lifespan have been identified, external environments like disease or living conditions can exert a powerful influence on how long one lives and often obscure or confound potential genetic effects, they said. “Extrinsic mortality systematically masked the genetic contribution to life span in traditional analyses,” the authors wrote. The team added that historical data from twin studies -- often explored for understanding how genes interact with environment and contribute to noticeable traits -- lack sufficient cause of death information to correct for extrinsic mortality.

“We use mathematical modeling and analyses of twin cohorts raised together and apart to correct for this factor, revealing that heritability of human life span due to intrinsic mortality is above 50 per cent,” they said. “Correcting for extrinsic mortality raises the estimate for the heritability of human life span in twin and sibling studies to (nearly) 55 per cent, more than twice previous estimates and in line with heritability of most human traits,” the team added. All the same, for humans around the world, it would be far more important to add life to years than add years to life as another popular saying goes. With quality of life under constant strain owing to prevailing socio-economic conditions, lifespan, whether inherited or lived

Bad governance leading to erosion of lakes and water bodies



PROF MADABHUSHI SRIDHAR ACHARYULU

YEARS back, every village and settlement had a lake—protected by a raised embankment, a katta. The lake was not merely a water body but a living institution. Its embankment was guarded by local deities—Katta Maisamma, Gandhi Katta Maisamma, Pochamma—symbols of collective memory and ecological discipline. The deity stood there as a reminder and a silent message—do not breach the bank, do not pollute the water and do not encroach upon the commons. Cut to the present times. At most places, the lake is gone. The embankment is gone. But the deity remains. Massive temples have replaced modest shrines. Expensive cars are driven in for rituals. Lemons are tied, pumpkins broken and garlands draped. There is a ticket for the vehicle and another for Ashtottara. Water is sprinkled to complete the ritual—often drawn not from the vanished lake, but from a purchased plastic “water bubble”.

Faith without water, development without life: Faith continues. Ecology does not. This is not a criticism of belief. Every society has its rituals. Even rockets sent into space are adorned with lemons, ginger,

and tamarind. Belief is not the problem. Selective belief is. We remember the deity but forget her purpose. We worship the guardian but destroy what she guarded.

Lakes turn drains; rivers become sewers:

Today though lakes exist, many of them have turned into drains. The Musi is no longer a river; it is an open sewer. Lake beds have been converted into schools, universities, hospitals, malls, and even government offices. Planning permissions were granted, layouts approved, foundations laid—often by the very State that is constitutionally bound to protect all natural resources.

We are now told not to drink water from our village lakes. We are told the wells are unsafe. That may be true—but it hides a deeper truth: the water did not become unfit by accident; it was made so by neglect, encroachment, and pollution. Real estate did not merely consume land. It consumed water, memory, and accountability.

From wells to water bubbles:

Every backyard once had a well. No one asked where the water came from—it was right there. Today, in apartments and gated colonies, no one asks about water sources. Buyers ask about parking, lifts, and amenities. Water is assumed. If there is a shortage, they say: ‘buy a water bubble’.

Plastic bottles have replaced public water systems. We buy packaged drinking water bottles oblivious of whether they are mineral water or ordinary tap water. We have even forgotten how to ask for pure water, because purity has been outsourced to a label.

This is not a consumer



When lakes disappear, and bottled water becomes the norm, it is not culture that has failed—it is constitutional governance that must be blamed. When citizens are forced to rely on plastic bottles instead of public water infrastructure, the State has abdicated its duty. When faith is commercialised, and ecology is ignored, governance loses moral legitimacy.

Supporting constitutional jurisprudence:

Beyond these, the Supreme Court has repeatedly emphasised in decisions such as M C Mehta vs Union of India and related environment cases that:

Protection of the environment, water, and air is integrated with the right to life under Article 21;

The State has constitutional duties under Article 48-A (environmental protection) and the public trust doctrine to preserve natural resources;

Sanitation and access to clean water are essential for human dignity.

Virender Gaur vs State of Haryana (1995):

The Supreme Court reiterated that: “Article 21... the protection and preservation of environment, ecological balance free from pollution of air and water, sanitation... are essential for enjoyment of life with human dignity.” (1995) 2 SCC 577. This decision emphatically placed water and sanitation within the ambit of Article 21 rights.

In a case of A P Pollution Control Board vs M V Nayudu

(1999), although primarily an environmental pollution and public trust doctrine case, the Court explicitly tied environmental protection to Article 21 and held that:

“Protection and preservation of environment, ecological balance free from pollution of air and water... are integral facets of the right to healthy life under Article 21.”

This reinforced that a hygienic environment and clean water are essential to life and dignity.

Hygiene: From discipline to convenience:

There was a time when the first act on returning home was washing one’s hands and feet. Earthen pots cooled water naturally. People drank without touching the vessel—the madi tradition—an act often dismissed as superstition, but deeply rooted in hygiene. Even hot coffee was sipped that way.

Today, we walk into homes with shoes on. We drink by putting bottles to our lips. Half-used plastic bottles are discarded. Caps are left open; water spills onto smooth floors, causing slips and broken bones. Dustbins fill with plastic and wastewater. This, we are told, is “modern civilisation.” What has changed is not merely the habit, but our relationship with water, waste, and responsibility.

Constitutional failure behind the cultural shift:

The Constitution of India does not speak the language of nostalgia. It speaks the language of duty.

Article 21 guarantees the right to life—not mere survival, but life with dignity. The Supreme Court has repeatedly held that this includes the right to clean drinking water, sanitation, and a healthy envi-

ronment. Article 47 directs the State to improve public health. Article 48A mandates environmental protection. Natural resources, including water bodies, are held by the State under the public trust doctrine—they are not commodities to be sold or sacrificed.

When lakes disappear, and bottled water becomes the norm, it is not culture that has failed—it is constitutional governance that has to be blamed.

When citizens are forced to rely on plastic bottles instead of public water infrastructure, the State has abdicated its duty. When lake beds are allotted for construction, the State has breached trust. When faith is commercialised, and ecology is ignored, governance loses moral legitimacy.

Faith cannot replace water: You can build a grand temple for Katta Maisamma. You can perform elaborate rituals. But if the lake she guarded is gone, the worship is hollow. Faith cannot recharge groundwater. Lemons cannot purify drains. Plastic bottles cannot substitute for living water bodies.

A civilisation that remembers its gods but forgets its lakes is not progressing—it is erasing its future.

The Constitution does not ask us to abandon belief. It asks the State to ensure that belief does not become an excuse for ecological destruction. It asks governance to protect the commons—water, land, air—so that culture, faith and life itself can survive.

Until lakes return, wells are revived, and water is treated as a right rather than a product, no amount of ritual will quench our collective thirst.

(The writer is Advisor, School of Law, Mahindra University, Hyderabad)

LETTERS

Duty exemption on cancer drugs is a life-saving move

IN a major initiative, the Union Budget 2026-27 has given Customs duty exemption on cancer medication drugs and brought down life-saving medications at affordable rates, which is a widely appreciable initiative. One must remember that cancer patients are increasing by over a million every year in India. Another good augury is the government’s proposal to establish over 200 cancer care centres across the nation. One fondly hopes that this will bring a huge relief to cancer-inflicted patients and their families from the middle- and low-income groups.

Saketh Sirasanagandla, Hyderabad

Middle class ignored, yet again

THE 2026-27 Union Budget ignores the middle class by retaining income-tax slabs and rates, while increasing securities transaction tax. The super rich are incentivised by write-offs of their loans and lower class is enjoying the benefit of freebies and free/subsidised housing. However, the middle class has to bear the brunt huge education costs, EMIs for essential consumer goods and rising house rents on the one side and loss of job security and rising unemployment or underemployment owing to technological progress and adverse changes in labour codes, on the other side.

P R Ravinder, Hyderabad

High-speed rail corridors must include Warangal

THE Union Budget 2026–27 has announced three high-speed rail corridors for Hyderabad connecting Pune, Bengaluru and Chennai, projecting them as “growth connectors.” However, the complete omission of Warangal—the second-largest city of Telangana and a major educational, industrial and cultural hub—is deeply disappointing and economically short-sighted. Equally concerning is the proposal to divert nearly half of the rail traffic through the Bibinagar–Nadikudi section. Instead of upgrading Kazipet into a modern transit hub, the current plan risks turning it into a congestion bottleneck. Warangal has been repeatedly assured of a railway manufacturing unit and redevelopment under the Amrit Bharat Stations Scheme. I urge the Ministry of Railways and the Telangana Government to re-examine the corridor alignments and include Warangal–Kazipet in the high-speed rail framework, ensuring that Telangana’s development is not confined to Hyderabad alone.

Vidyasagar Reddy Kethiri, Hanumakonda-506009

Oppn has chosen rhetoric over reason

THE Opposition’s criticism of the Union Budget 2026-27 appears less an exercise in economic scrutiny and more of a reflexive political ritual. Ignoring fiscal constraints, global uncertainty, and inflationary pressures, it has chosen rhetoric over reason. The budget’s calibrated focus on capital expenditure, infrastructure push, fiscal consolidation, and targeted welfare reflects pragmatic governance, not indifference. To dismiss these measures as “anti-people” without credible alternatives only exposes an unwillingness to engage with hard economic realities.

S Lakshmi, Hyderabad

Unbecoming of Cong, DMK and TMC

THE Congress, TMC and DMK have indulged in irresponsible fault-finding over the Union Budget, branding it with a variety of pejorative labels rather than engaging with its substance. Such rhetoric is uncalled for at a time when the economy demands constructive debate and policy seriousness. Instead of offering credible alternatives or acknowledging fiscal constraints, the Opposition has chosen theatrics over analysis. Budgetary scrutiny is vital in a democracy, but reducing a complex financial exercise to slogan-driven criticism only weakens parliamentary discourse and does little to advance national economic interests.

Sakunthala K R, Hyderabad

Should the Centre fund development projects in states?

THE Union Budget sets out how the Centre will spend money on national priorities like national highways, railway corridors, power grids, defence, and large infrastructure projects. States, on the other hand, prepare their own budgets to meet local needs like irrigation canals, hospitals, schools, and village roads. Transfers from the Union Budget to states happen in several ways. First, tax devolution: a constitutionally mandated share of central taxes recommended by the Finance Commission. Second, grants-in-aid: funds given to states to cover revenue deficits, disaster relief, or special needs. Third, centrally sponsored schemes: programmes like MGNREGA or PMAY, where both Centre and states share costs. Fourth, central sector schemes: fully funded by the Centre but implemented in states, such as PM-KISAN. Chief Ministers often criticize the Union Budget because it does not announce state-specific projects or increase their share of funds. They feel their states are ignored when allocations are shown only in aggregate. The Union Budget builds national infrastructure, while state budgets decide local development priorities.

Dr O Prasada Rao, Hyderabad

thehansreader@gmail.com

BENGALURU ONLINE

Govt changes timing of Urdu schools during Ramadan

BENGALURU: The Karnataka government has decided to change the school working hours for Urdu-medium primary, upper primary and high schools across the state during the month of Ramadan in the academic year 2025-26. State Home Minister G Parameshwara on Monday said calling the government’s move as appeasement of minorities was not right. The decision applies to all government, aided and unaided Urdu-medium schools and follows a review of existing orders and a representation submitted by the Karnataka State Primary School Education Association (R), Bengaluru, a government circular said.

Read more at <https://epaper.thehansindia.com>

Frequent conduct of tribal festivals can propel TG and AP economies

NOMULA SRINIVAS RAO

WHEN the deep forests of Tadvai in Mulugu district begin to reverberate with divine chants, the world witnesses a spectacle unlike any other. The Sammakka Saralamma Jatara, reverentially deemed as the ‘Kumbh Mela of the south,’ is not merely a religious congregation; it is a seismic cultural event.

For a brief, intense period of 10 to 12 days, the forest transforms into a sea of humanity. Over one crore pilgrims traverse difficult terrains, thousands of buses ply continuously, and tons of ‘bangaram’ (pure jaggery) are offered to the deities. The sheer scale of logistics, the transactional volume of offerings, and the mobilization of resources prove one thing undeniably: tribal culture has a magnetic pull that can generate massive economic activity.

However, a pertinent question arises. If a biennial or annual event can stimulate such colossal engagement, why restrict this potential to a single, massive calendar date?

There is a pressing need for the state governments of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh to transition from relying solely on “mega-events” to hosting regular, frequent tribal festivals. Such a shift could be the master key to unlocking rural entrepreneurship and revitaliz-

ing local economies in the tribal hinterlands.

Moving beyond the ‘boom and bust’ cycle:

Currently, the economic benefits of tribal festivals are concentrated in short, explosive bursts. During the Sammakka Saralamma Jatara, local traders, transporters, and artisans see a windfall. But once the deities return to the forest and the temporary shelters are dismantled, the economic silence returns.

By institutionalizing a calendar of frequent tribal festivals—perhaps monthly or quarterly circuits across districts like Adilabad, Bhadradi Kothagudem, Visakhapatnam, and East Godavari—the two Telugu states can create a sustainable economic ecosystem. Regular events would mean a steady stream of income for local populations rather than a once-a-year lottery. It transforms the narrative from “pilgrimage management” to “cultural economy management.”

Untapped potential of tribal entrepreneurship:

The primary beneficiary of frequent festivals would be the tribal entrepreneur. Our tribal belts are reservoirs of unique craftsmanship and organic produce that the urban market desperately craves but rarely accesses.

Handlooms and handicrafts:



Tribal festivals serve as the perfect open-air market for authentic goods. From the intricate Dokra metal crafts of Adilabad to the vibrant handlooms of the Koyas and Gonds, these products often languish due to a lack of market visibility. Regular festivals would provide a permanent platform for artisans to display and sell their work directly to consumers, eliminating middlemen. This encourages the younger generation of artisans to continue their hereditary crafts, viewing them as viable businesses rather than dying traditions.

Culinary entrepreneurship:

In an era where “organic” and “farm-to-table” are the buzzwords, tribal cuisine is the gold standard. The bamboo chicken of Araku or the millet-based rotis of Telangana’s tribes are delicacies that urban foodies travel miles to taste. Frequent festivals would allow local families to set

There is a pressing need for the state governments of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh to transition from relying solely on “mega-events” to hosting regular, frequent tribal festivals. Such a shift could be the master key to unlocking rural entrepreneurship and revitalizing local economies in the tribal hinterlands.

up food stalls regularly, turning home kitchens into micro-enterprises. This not only monetizes traditional knowledge but also preserves culinary heritage.

Tourism as a force multiplier:

The jatara proves that people are willing to travel for an experience. However, the modern tourist—especially the younger demographic—seeks “experien-

tial travel.” They want to witness the rhythmic beats of the Gussadi dance, understand the rituals of the Dhimsa, and immerse themselves in nature.

By organizing frequent cultural festivals, the Tourism Departments of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh can curate ‘tribal circuits’. These festivals can act as anchors for eco-tourism. When thousands of tourists visit a district for a weekend festival, the ripple effect is felt across the hospitality sector. Homestays, local guides, transport operators, and small shops all thrive. It encourages infrastructure development in remote areas, not just for the sake of construction, but to service a growing service economy.

Empowering women and youth:

The most significant impact of a localised festival economy is on women and youth. In the tribal context, women are often the custodians of agricultural produce and handicrafts. The sale of forest produce—honey, medicinal herbs, tamarind, and the famous ‘bangaram’ (jaggery)—is often managed by women.

Regular market-festivals give Self-Help Groups (SHGs) a consistent revenue channel. Instead of selling raw produce to middlemen at throwaway prices, they can package and brand their products for festival

visitors, capturing higher value. Similarly, tribal youth can be trained as cultural ambassadors, tour guides, and event managers, fostering a spirit of entrepreneurship that reduces migration to overcrowded cities.

The path ahead:

The government of Telangana state has already shown commendable dedication in organising the massive Sammakka Saralamma Jatara. The machinery is in place; the intent is visible. The next step is decentralisation and frequency.

We need not wait for the stars to align for a biennial Jatara to celebrate tribal culture. By creating a robust calendar of smaller, frequent festivals, we can turn every district into a cultural hub. This approach respects the sanctity of the massive annual pilgrimages while acknowledging that culture must be a living, breathing, and earning part of daily life.

Transitioning to frequent tribal festivals is not just about celebration; it is a strategic economic policy. It is about taking the spirit of the ‘bangaram’ offering—which symbolises wealth and purity—and ensuring that wealth flows back into the hands of the people, for whom the forest is their home.

(The writer is a former OSD to former Union Civil Aviation Minister)

CEF South-Creativity is the new economy

MSME Minister highlights AP's visionary growth model

VASU POTNURU
VISAKHAPATNAM



MSME Minister Kondapalli Srinivas along with Tamil Nadu BJP vice-president Khushbu Sundar, Creative Economy Forum South founder Supriya Suri, among others, at the first edition of the CEF South organised in Visakhapatnam

CREATIVITY today is not just an idea but a powerful economic driver capable of positioning regions on the global map. MSME Minister Kondapalli Srinivas underlined. Delivering his address at the concluding session of the first edition of Creative Economy Forum (CEF) South organised by The Hans India in collaboration with the CEF along with HMTV as the media partner in Visakhapatnam, the minister stressed the immense economic power of creativity and that innovative thinking has the potential to build strong and sustainable economies.

Underlining that India's strong democratic framework offers an unparalleled platform for talent to flourish, the minister said, "The state government's progressive journey, the minister attributed credit to Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu for his visionary leadership spanning over four decades. Between 1995 and 2004, the Chief Minister was among the top leaders in the country to foresee the future of Information Technology, laying a strong foundation through pioneering IT ini-

tiatives, modern agricultural practices, micro-education reforms, and reliable power supply for farming."

Highlighting Andhra Pradesh's future-ready governance, he stated that the government has rolled out 23 progressive policies covering key sectors such as Artificial Intelligence, advanced equipment manufacturing, aeronautics and space technology. Despite challenging circumstances, these reforms have helped the state attract substantial investments, with nearly 25 percent of India's total investments in the past year flowing into Andhra Pradesh, Kondapalli Srinivas stressed.

Talking about Visakhapatnam's growing role as a global hub for innovation and enterprise, the minister said, "Anything created in Visakhapatnam can now reach the world."After spending 17 years

in the IT sector, the Minister shared that he returned to his hometown to actively support government-led initiatives and contribute to educational institutions. The Minister further noted that the Chief Minister's commitment to transparent and efficient administration led to the adoption of real-time governance. Stressing the importance of ideas in entrepreneurship, the minister said that strong and original ideas naturally attract investment and sponsorship. With multiple funding mechanisms now available, he said, even innovators from remote areas have an opportunity to pitch their ideas. Appreciating The Hans India for organising the prestigious event in Visakhapatnam, the minister described the event as a true representation of South India's dynamic spirit, calling it highly inspiring and impactful.

ICC mulls suspending Pakistan as T20WC 'India boycott' row deepens

Continued from P1

Meanwhile, Pakistan captain Salman Ali Agha on Monday said the players will follow whatever instructions are given to them by the government or the cricket board with regards to boycotting the marquee T20 World Cup match against India on February 15 in Colombo. Salman told the media before leaving with the team from Lahore to Colombo that the players had been informed about the decision by the team manager on Sunday

immediately after the match against Australia. "We are players contracted to the Board and whatever decision our government and Board have taken all the players are on board with it," he said. Salman said that the T20 World Cup was not just about playing against India and the team was going to Sri Lanka with the aim to perform well and try to win all its matches against every side in the tournament. "We have three other group matches so we will try to win all of them and qualify for next round," he said.

Parl begins debate on President's Address

NEW DELHI

THE Rajya Sabha has taken up discussion on the motion of thanks on the President Droupadi Murmu's address to the joint sitting of both the Houses of Parliament.

A total of 16 hours has been allotted for the discussion. Moving the motion, Nominated Member C Sadanandan Master said, President Murmu in her address has articulated a clear and confident vision of India's journeys towards Viksit Bharat. He said, from day one, the NDA government has been very clear about social justice and poverty eradication.

The MP said, Viksit Bharat can be built only with the basic strategy Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas and Sabka Prayas. He said, Government was able to bring 25 crore people out of poverty in the last decade.

Seconding the motion, Dr Medha Vishram Kulkarni of BJP said, the President's address highlights India's continued progress. She said that India's economy remains very strong, with the growth

rate rising to 7.2 percent. Dr Kulkarni said that the GST revenue has increased, and over the past few years, three crore new taxpayers have been added.

Digvijay Singh of Congress alleged that the government is anti-farmer and anti-labour. He also alleged that employment is declining in the country and despite the government's promise, farmers' income has not been doubled so far.

Sagarika Ghose of TMC alleged that digital systems are enabling cyber fraud and data scams. She said the air pollution and water pollution are increasing and causing financial losses.

Sanjay Singh of AAP criticised the government for allocating less funds for health and agriculture sectors in the Union Budget. AIADMK's M Thambidurai expressed gratitude towards Prime Minister Narendra Modi for always highlighting Tamil culture and language.Sanjay Kumar Jha of JD(U), Tiruchi Siva of DMK, and Ram Gopal Yadav of Samajwadi Party also participated in the discussion, among others.

Air India grounds flight after fuel switch moves from 'run' to 'cutoff'

Continued from P1

Following the incident, a Boeing spokesperson confirmed they are in touch with Air India and are "supporting their review of this matter." Air India said it has informed the civil aviation regulator DGCA about the matter concerning the fuel switch. "At Air India, safety of our passengers and crew remains top priority," the spokesperson said. After an Air India Dreamliner crashed in Ahmedabad in June 2025, killing 260 people, the Tata-owned airline had checked the fuel control switches on all Boeing 787 aircraft in its fleet.

Epstein files reveal hidden ties

Continued from P1

The documents show Musk exchanging a handful of emails with Epstein over the years about potential travel or social events. One email even mentions a part of Epstein's private island. Last year, Musk claimed he never visited Epstein's island and even posted on social media that the serial sex offender tried to get him to go to his infamous place, but he refused. The files, though, suggest that in November 2012, Musk seemed curious about the island, sending Epstein an email asking, "What day/night will be the wildest party on your island?"

CM NAIDU LAUNCHES PILLOO AI

Continued from P1

Chief secretary Vijayanand, MLA Prathipati Pulla Rao, Muthavarapu Suresh, Ram Mohan Locharla, co-founder of Pilloo AI, and company investors attended the event.

Pilloo AI enables business owners to generate invoices, record transactions, access financial reports, and manage accounts through simple voice commands in their native language. The platform eliminates the need for accounting knowledge, complex software, or manual paperwork. Designed for speed and ease of use, the

app targets micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) that still depend on handwritten records or costly accounting systems. "Technology should simplify life, not complicate it," Naidu said at the launch. "Pilloo AI shows how digital tools can help small businesses manage finances easily, improve transparency, and strengthen Andhra Pradesh's vision of ease of doing business," he added.

During the event, the Chief Minister personally generated the first invoice on the platform using voice commands, demonstrating

how spoken instructions could instantly convert into business transactions.

Sai Praneeth G, founder of Pilloo AI, said the platform was created to remove fear and confusion around accounting. "Our aim is to help every entrepreneur run their business with confidence. Through conversational AI, we want small businesses to grow faster and participate in India's digital economy," he said.

Currently available in five Indian languages, the platform is designed to expand to more than 50 languages globally.

Maintaining law & order paramount for govt: CM

Continued from P1

"The YSRCP has been caught red-handed in the Tirumala laddu adulteration case, and the entire state is disgusted with that party. To divert attention from their misdeeds, they are hatching conspiracies. Our focus is on attracting investments and developing the state, which they cannot tolerate," he said.

Naidu stated that all those who had committed crimes would be punished legally. He urged TDP ministers and leaders to ensure that party workers exercised restraint and did not take the law into their own hands. "Party workers should not fall into the YSRCP's trap. If we do, there will be no difference between them and us. The YSRCP was built on violence, destruction, and corruption," he said.

He alleged that criminal politics was the YSRCP's ideology and that their tenure reflected illegal governance. "Rule of law has been re-

stored in the state after 2024. Our ideology is to serve and empower people. As their real nature is being exposed, they are resorting to abuses," he added. Meanwhile, Excise Minister Kollu Ravindra said that the attack on YSRCP leader Ambati Rambabu was a result of public anger against corruption. Speaking to the media, he said public opposition to the YSRCP was growing and accused the party of trying to incite caste and religious sentiments to divert attention. Rajahmundry BJP MP Dagubati Purandeswari strongly condemned the remarks made by Ambati Rambabu against the Chief Minister. Speaking to the media in Delhi, she said the comments were unacceptable in any civilized society and alleged that they insulted Naidu's mother. She said women would not tolerate such remarks and accused YSRCP chief YS Jagan Mohan Reddy and his associates of deliberately creating unrest in the state.

Massive showdown over ex-Army Chief's memoir

Continued from P1

"Naravane ji has written about the Prime Minister and Rajnath Singh ji clearly in his book, which has appeared in an article, and I am quoting from that article. They are scared because if it comes out, the reality of Narendra Modi ji and Rajnath Singh ji will be revealed. What happened to the 56-inch chest when China was before us and advancing?" Gandhi said. Congress and its leaders also shared on social

media excerpts from an article in a magazine that quoted Naravane's unpublished book.

Earlier, as Gandhi rose to speak on the Motion of Thanks to the President's Address, he said he would first like to respond to the charges made by the previous speaker, BJP MP Tejasvi Surya, against the Congress on nationalism and began quoting from what he said was the "memoir" of Naravane talking about the India-China conflict of 2020.

Iran Prez orders resumption of nuclear talks with US

TEHRAN: Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian on Monday ordered the start of nuclear talks with the United States, according to reports. "Iran and the United States will hold talks on the nuclear file," the reports said, without specifying the date. The move signals a de-escalation after Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei issued a stern warning on Sunday to the US, stating that if the latter starts a war, it will turn into a regional war.

3F INDUSTRIES LIMITED (Formerly Foods, Fats & Fertilizers Limited)				CIN: U24120AP1960PLC00088 Regd. Office : Tanuku Road, Tadepalligudem-534101, W.G.Dist., Andhra Pradesh			
CIRCULAR IN THE FORM OF ADVERTISEMENT INVITING DEPOSITS							
1. GENERAL INFORMATION 1. Name : 3F Industries Limited Address : Regd. Office : Tanuku Road, Tadepalligudem-534101, W.G. Dist., Andhra Pradesh. Website : www.fff.co.in Contact Details : Mr. S.B. Goenka, Chairman & Whole-time Director No.36, C.P. Rama Swamy Road, Alwarpet, Chennai-600 018. 2. Date of incorporation : 10th May 1960			3. Business carried on by the Company : Manufacture & Export of : Edible Oils, Hydrogenated vegetable oils, Vegetable fat seeds, Specialty Fats, De-oiled cakes, Stearic Acid, Fatty Acids, Import and Export of Agro Based Commodities, Oleo Chemicals, Glycerin, Power, Toiletory Soap & Cosmetic Products, Cattle feed, Industrial Choclates. Subsidiaries : 1. 3F Global (Singapore) Pte. Ltd., Singapore, 2. 3F Ghana Limited, Ghana, West Africa, 3. 3F Ghana Trading Limited, Ghana, 4. Viaton Energy Pvt. Ltd, India, 5. 3F Oil Palm Pvt. Ltd., India, 6. Chakranemi Infrastructure Private Limited, 7. 3F Ghana Oils & Fats Limited, 8. Krishna Exports Limited, 9. Natems Green Energy Pvt Ltd, 10. Shrishti International Pvt Ltd. Branches : Chennai, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Kakinada, Kolkata and Krishnapatnam.			4. Brief particulars of the management of the Company : The Company is managed by a Board of Directors comprising of 8 Directors and 2 Independent Directors. 5. Names, address, DIN & occupation of the Directors : Refer Annexure - A 6. Management's perception of risks factors : Refer Annexure - B 7. Details of default, including the amount involved in the repayment : (i) Statutory Dues : The Company has not defaulted on the repayment of any statutory dues. (ii) Debentures and interest thereon : Not Applicable. (iii) Loan from any bank or financial institution and interest thereon : The Company has not defaulted in the repayment of loan taken from any bank/financial institution and the intere accrued thereon.	
II. PARTICULARS OF THE DEPOSIT SCHEME :				ANNEXURE-D TERMS OF RAISING DEPOSITS - PUBLIC DEPOSIT SCHEMES			
S.No.		Particulars		Details		ANNEXURE-K : Standalone Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 31st March 2025.	
1.		Date of passing of Board Resolution		04.12.2025		PARTICULARS	
2.		Date of passing of resolution in the general meeting authorizing the invitation of such deposits		30.12.2025		31st March, 2025	
3.		Type of Deposits, (i.e.) Whether secured or unsecured		Unsecured Deposits		31st March, 2024	
4.		Amount which the Company can raise by way of Deposits as per the Act and the rules made there under		Refer Annexure-C		Rs. in Lakhs	
		Aggregate of deposits actually held on the last day of the immediately preceding financial year (i.e.) 31.03.2025 excluding deemed deposits of Rs.95.61 lakhs		Rs.9465.12 Lakhs		Profit before tax from continuing operations	
		Aggregate of deposits actually held on the last day/AGM while issue of the circular in the form of advertisement, (Excluding deemed Deposits)		Rs.10042.40 Lakhs (30.09.2025)		Adjustment for	
		Amount of deposit proposed to be raised		Rs.5657.60 Lakhs		Interest expense	
		Amount of deposit repayable within the next 12 months		Rs.4912.56 Lakhs (01.01.2025 - 30.09.25)		Interest income	
6.		Terms of raising of deposits - (i) Duration (ii) Rate of interest (iii) Mode of payment (iv) Mode of payment		Refer Annexure-D		Dividend income	
7.		Proposed time schedule mentioning the date of opening the scheme and the time period for which the circular or advertisement is valid.		Refer Annexure-E		(Gain)/Loss on Fair Valuation of Investments	
8.		Reasons or objects of raising the deposits		Refer Annexure-F		Provision for Loss Allowance	
		(i) Credit Rating obtained				Excess Provision Written Back	
		(ii) Name of the Credit Rating Agency				Amortisation of government grants	
		(iii) Rating obtained				Depreciation/amortization	
		(iv) Meaning of the rating obtained				Loss/profit on sale of fixed assets	
		(v) Date on which the rating was obtained				Assets Written off	
10.		Extent of Deposit Insurance: (i) Name of the insurance company (ii) Terms of the insurance coverage (iii) Duration of coverage (iv) Extent of coverage (v) Procedure for claim in case of default etc.		Not Required (Refer Annexure-H)		Bad Debts Written Off	
		Since, the Company is accepting only unsecured deposits, there is no necessity to create charge of securing such deposits.				Provision for doubtful debts	
		Members are interested in these deposits to the extent of their deposits which as on date stood at Rs.494.59 Lakhs				Profit on Cancellation of Leases	
						Effect of Exchange Rate Change	
						Remeasurement of defined benefit plans	
						Net gain/loss on financial assets	
						Operating profit before working capital changes	
						Movements in working capital :	
						Increase/[decrease] in trade payables	
						Increase/[decrease] in provisions	
						Increase/[decrease] in other liabilities (current)	
						Increase/[decrease] in other financial liabilities	
						Decrease/[increase] in trade receivables	
						Decrease/[increase] in inventories	
						Decrease/[increase] in loans and advances	
						Decrease/[increase] in other assets	
						Decrease/[increase] in other financial assets	
						Decrease/[increase] in other Bank Balances	
						Cash generated from/[used in] operations	
						Direct taxes paid [net of refunds]	
						Net cash flow from/[used in] operating activities (A)	
						Cash flows from Investing activities	
						Purchase of fixed assets, including intangible assets, CWIP and capital advances	
						Receipt of assets-related Government Grant	
						Proceeds from sale of fixed assets	
						Investment in Equity shares	
						Investment in Optionaly Convertible Non-Cumulative Preference shares	
						Proceeds from Sale of Investments	
						Loan given to Subsidiaries	
						Loan repaid by Subsidiaries	
						Dividend received	
						Interest received	
						Net cash flow from/[used in] operating activities (B)	
						Cash flows from Financing activities	
						Repayment of borrowings	
						Proceeds from borrowings	
						Principal repayment of Lease liabilities	
						Interest repayment of Lease liabilities	
						Net cash flow from/[used in] in financing activities (C)	
						Net increase/[decrease] in cash and cash equivalents (A+B+C)	
						Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	
						Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	
						Components of cash and equivalents	
						Balances with Banks :	
						On current accounts	
						Cheques/Drafts on hand	
						Deposits with original maturity of less than 3 months	
						Cash Credits with Debit Balance	
						Cash on hand	
						Total cash and cash equivalent	
						Place : Tadepalligudem	
						Date : 03.02.2026	
						By Order of the Board, For 3F Industries Limited,	
						S.B.GOENKA, Chairman & Whole-time Director,	



Shivaranjani Harish



Sujata & Preetisha

ANNA RAO GANGAVALLI

The fourth edition of 'Ramayana Kalpavrksham,' presented by Shankarananda Kalakshetra and Natyarambha, featured a galaxy of performances, talks, and interactive sessions. CCRT, Madhapur, was the venue for the three-day event (January 30th–February 1st, 2026). Always attended by an overflowing audience, the yearly event, conceived and curated by

Padma Shri Dr. Ananda Shankar Jayant, has become an eagerly awaited star attraction in the cultural landscape of Hyderabad. After the inauguration on the first day by Dr. Sandhya Purecha, Chairperson of the Sangeet Natak Akademi, the evening featured a poignant Odissi duet titled 'Seeta Haran', presented by Dr. Sujata Mohapatra and her daughter Preetisha. Sujata wore a green costume with blue borders, while Preetisha

Ramayana Kalpavrksham returns with a grand celebration of dance, music and devotion

The fourth edition of 'Ramayana Kalpavrksham,' presented by Shankarananda Kalakshetra and Natyarambha, celebrated India's epic heritage through a rich confluence of dance, music, and dialogue. Held at CCRT, Madhapur, the three-day festival offered audiences an immersive journey into the Ramayana through performances, talks, and interactive sessions. Conceived and curated by Padma Shri Dr. Ananda Shankar Jayant, the annual event continues to be a highlight of Hyderabad's cultural calendar



Ananda Shankar & Raghav Krishna



Rekha Achyutani

wore the same colours in reverse. Debiprasad Mishra's lighting effects created a tracery of lights moving in incandescent columns across the stage like glowing pillars, enveloping the artistes. The duo's synergy was in full play as they alternated in the role of Ravana, which was the highlighted sequence of the piece. As he abducts Sita, who is persuaded to step over the threshold of safety,

the valiantly loyal Jatayu tries to rescue her. After a striking duel, the great eagle is defeated. Bleeding and torn, Jatayu expires in Rama's lap. Exquisite abhinaya was displayed throughout. Next came Sandeep Narayan's Carnatic vocal concert, balancing classical rigour with contemporary sensibility and receiving exceptional audience recognition. Producing rapture, the



Carnatic Fusion

swara alaap of Kambhoji was melodiously interpreted. Immersive Rama rasa was fully appreciated in the various other compositions in different ragas and languages, some requested by aficionados of the exceedingly popular singer. Day two began at dawn with a deeply absorbing pravachanam on Sita Rama Kalyanam by the famous Chaganti Koteswara Rao. The divine marriage was described as the sacred union of Dharma and Shakti. He explained that Sita was central to the Avatar's unfolding to achieve the destruction of Ravana. A thought-provoking dialogue between Dr. Ananda Shankar and Raghava Krishna of BRHAT

explored the role of the arts in reclaiming India's civilisation in a contemporary context. Dharma, truth, and art are inseparable, and knowledge elevates consciousness. Dr. Mohan Raghavan examined the Ramayana experience with regard to technology, while critiquing colonial interpretations of Indic texts. Charusmitha Rao and Shivaranjani Harish presented 'Navarasa through the Ramayana', interspersing Bharatanatyam with design and storytelling. The evening was exciting with the mesmerising puppet-style dance drama 'The Ramayana' by Rangasri Little Ballet Theatre, Bhopal, where human puppets glided as though

controlled by unseen strings. Entertainingly vibrant folk music by Bhungar Khan and the Manganiyar group Dharohar from Barmer, Rajasthan, with fast pacing and beats, energised the spectators at the day's conclusion. The final day of the festival opened with Chaganti Koteswara Rao's discourse on Hanumat Darshanam. Hanuman's strength, devotion, and importance were extolled using the metaphor of the connecting knot of flowers in a garland, symbolising him as the link between Rama and Sita during and after their separation. Historian T. S. Krishnan delivered a talk drawing on his extensive research on South Indian temples, inscriptions,

and literature, reflecting on the importance of awareness in shaping narratives. Rekha Achyutani spoke about Dharmic parenting, noting that while modern education may lead to success, true happiness lies in Indian traditional approaches that nurture grounded and timeless Bharatiya values. An engaging and interactive quiz session followed, reinforcing key Ramayana themes. As evening approached, Shrinivasa Varakhedi, Vice-Chancellor of the Central Sanskrit University, delivered a scholarly address on the epic's ethical framework and its continued relevance today. The festival concluded exuberantly on a high note with a classical fusion concert led by music producer Mahesh Raghavan. Tradition was reimagined in Carnatic music tailored to contemporary tastes while staying rooted in heritage. The medley of blended vocals and instruments was a spectacular finale, heartily enjoyed by the huge audience, who expressed their admiration with tremendous applause. Also set up were a host of Kala Grama artisanal stalls with local merchandise, including a Ramayana Dolls display, which was eye-catching and thronged with customers.

Kalpana Iyer, the original 'Ramba Ho' girl, reveals she danced barefoot despite bleeding feet for the song

In an exclusive conversation, Bollywood veteran star Kalpana Iyer, the woman of the moment, opened up about the grit and physical toll behind her iconic dance performances. The actress' is currently stirring headlines, as a recent video of her dancing to her legendary number "Ramba Ho" at the age of 70 took the internet by storm. Talking to IANS, the actress recalled her early years in the industry as a dancer. Kalpana spoke candidly about dancing through pain, bruises, and bleeding feet, long before comfort and vanity became industry norms. "I started dancing at 17, and I have never complained. I have shared green rooms, danced barefoot with scraped and bloodied soles, during Ramba Ho and have even done Raja Hindustani



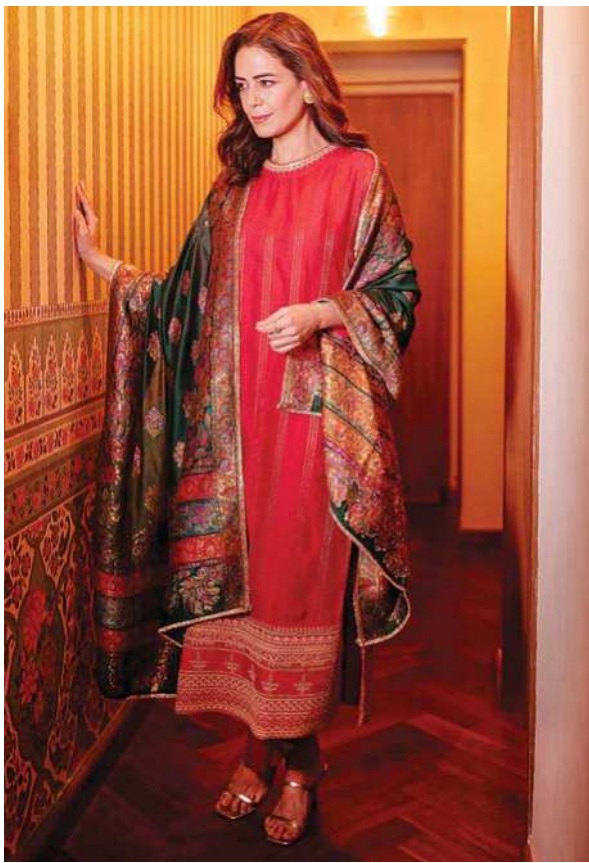
barefoot with injury. I didn't have time to complain; I just worked and kept moving focusing on the opportunities that came my way and was so grateful for it. Dance has brought me so much joy in my life," she said, reflecting on an era where perseverance mattered more than privileges. For Kalpana, in her own words, dance was never just a performance but a calling that demanded complete surrender, regardless of physical hardship.

Speaking about today's generation of performers, Kalpana was generous in her praise, stressing that comparisons between any eras of Bollywood is unfair. "These days, girls have to put in a lot more effort. We did too, I don't deny that, but today you can see the detailing and the investment producers make. The more effort you put in, the more is invested in you. They look beautiful, their clothes are gorgeous, and some of them dance exquisitely. Times have changed and I respect that completely. I have immense love for all these girls and I truly wish them well," she shared. Taking a trip down memory lane, Kalpana explained that it were her stark features and individuality that defined her success. She credited her slim frame, long legs, and expressive movement for

setting her apart in her time, while also acknowledging the role of camera work. From songs like 'Jab Chhaaye Mera Jaadu' and 'Hari Om Hari' to many hit movies, she described her journey as fulfilling and unique. Now open to a second innings, Kalpana said she is willing to explore any role, as long as it respects her age and comfort, adding that she is even open to playing a naani or daadi. The actress further also clarified a long-held myth about Ramba Ho shoot. Kalpana revealed that the song was not shot in Goa, as widely believed. "We had shot at Nataraj Studio in Mumbai. Prema and I danced in a dance studio, right in front of Ramanand Sagar's office," she said, offering a behind-the-scenes detail.

Mona Singh on mistakes: They are lessons that help you grow as a human being

Actress Mona Singh strongly believes that mistakes are an essential part of life and should be treated as lessons rather than burdens to carry forward. Sharing her thoughts, the actress said that when she makes a mistake, she prefers to reflect on it, learn from it, and move on, rather than feeling guilty or weighed down by it. According to her, that is the only way to truly move ahead in life. Asked whether she ponders over the mistakes she makes or has learnt to accept them and move on, Mona, who is all set to be seen in the second season of the Netflix series 'Kohrra', said: "That's the only way to go forward in life, I think — and not treat it as a mistake or feel guilty about it and carry that baggage. It's a lesson." Mona added that life constantly teaches people valuable lessons, often through the people who enter their lives. She said: "And I think that's what life does. It keeps teaching us those lessons. People come into our lives for a certain reason."



She shared that some relationships last, while others fade with time, but each one serves a purpose and leaves behind a learning experience. "Some stay, some go. But they always teach you a lesson. And I think that's very, very human. And that's the way forward, if you don't want to stay bitter and want to grow and evolve as a human being," said the actress. The new chapter of 'Kohrra' also stars Barun Sobti and Rannvijay Singha. The second season will stream on Netflix starting February 11. In the new season, Barun reprises his role as the sharp-witted investigator Amarpal Garundi, who teams up with a new character played by Mona to solve a complex, dark murder mystery of a woman. 'Kohrra' season 2 is scheduled to premiere on February 11. Created and written by Gunjit Chopra, Diggi Sisodia, and Sudip Sharma, Season 2 brings a fresh case and a new pairing, rooted once again in Punjab's bleak, wintry terrain where silence often speaks louder than a confession.

A Film Squad Production in association with Act Three, produced by Saurabh Malhotra, Sudip Sharma, Manuj Mittra, and Tina Tharwani, Season 2 also marks an important creative evolution for the series. Talking about Mona, she is widely recognised for playing the eponymous heroine in the soap opera 'Jassi Jaissi Koi Nahin'. The actress is also known for her work in 'Kya Huaa Tera Vaada', 'Pyaar Ko Ho Jaane Do', and 'Kavach... Kaali Shaktiyon Se'. She made her film debut with a supporting role in Rajkumar Hirani's comedy-drama '3 Idiots' in 2009.

CROSSWORD

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ACROSS

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- Capital of the Bahamas (6)
- Ten decibels ? (3)
- A day in Rome (4)
- Diminish (8)
- Change for Norma Jean (7)
- Worships (6)
- Receding (9)
- Bear lair (3)
- Vane directions ? (3)
- The unit of electrical
- resistance (3)
- Set right (9)
- Young ones of cows (6)
- Calls for (7)
- The rules of state etiquette (8)
- Take it easy (4)
- Resv. Bank of India (3)
- Mental health (6)
- Sumerian sun god (4)

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Solution to February 2

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

Emerging roles in risk, finance, and technology: What students must learn today?

WILLIAM MAY

If you're a student or just starting your career, you may be wondering where the strongest long-term opportunities will be in the coming years. One area that's becoming increasingly relevant is risk management. Hiring trends show strong momentum, with risk-specific roles among the fastest-growing in India and ranked among the top 25 job roles in LinkedIn's 2026 job trends report. What's more, demand for risk professionals is rising not only in traditional financial services, but also across emerging and fast-evolving sectors such as artificial intelligence (AI), sustainability, technology, and consulting. This broad-based demand highlights how risk management has moved from being a niche function to a core business capability.

This growth reflects the way business itself is changing. Market volatility, evolving regulations, climate-related disruptions, and the rapid adoption of artificial intelligence are reshaping how organizations make decisions—both in daily operations and long-term strategic planning. As a result, risk considerations now influence lending decisions, investment strategies, technology adoption, and enterprise-wide planning. Risk management has also become central to how



companies protect their assets, ensure regulatory compliance, and identify opportunities for sustainable growth. Together, these shifts are opening new and diverse career pathways in India and globally, offering students and early professionals meaningful opportunities for long-term professional success.

Opportunities across finance, AI, and sustainability

Financial innovation, digital lending platforms, and advanced technologies continue to increase exposure to financial, operational, technological, and sustainability-related risks. This environment is creating steady demand for pro-

fessionals who can assess risk, interpret data, and support decision-making across different functions within an organization. For instance, credit risk teams play a critical role in evaluating the financial strength of borrowers and counterparties in faster, more data-driven lending environments. Their work helps institutions manage defaults while expanding access to credit.

Market risk professionals, meanwhile, focus on how changes in interest rates, equity markets, foreign exchange movements, and commodity prices impact trading activities and investment portfolios. Their analysis supports institutions in managing vol-

atility and protecting capital. Liquidity, operational, and model risk teams ensure that organizations can meet financial obligations during periods of stress and that internal models, systems, and processes function as intended. Together, these roles form the backbone of modern financial risk management.

The wider use of AI and digital infrastructure has introduced additional challenges that go beyond traditional financial risk. Issues such as model bias, data quality, system transparency, cybersecurity threats, and data privacy concerns are becoming increasingly important. These risks have driven demand for profession-



als who can oversee responsible technology use, strengthen governance frameworks, and ensure compliance with emerging regulations. At the same time, climate change and sustainability pressures are influencing asset values, credit decisions, insurance models, and long-term corporate strategy. As a result, organizations are seeking risk professionals who can connect climate and environmental, social, and governance (ESG) data with financial analysis to support resilience and long-term value creation.

Emerging risk specializations and skills in demand

Employers are increas-

ingly focusing on specialized risk roles across finance, AI and data analytics, cybersecurity risk management, ESG and sustainability risk, and regulatory compliance. These areas reflect the growing complexity of global financial systems, digital platforms, and regulatory expectations. Roles such as credit risk analyst, operational risk manager, cybersecurity risk specialist, ESG risk analyst, and compliance specialist continue to see strong and sustained demand across industries.

At the same time, organizations are looking for professionals who combine technical expertise with practical, real-world skills. This includes the

ability to work with data and quantitative models, familiarity with regulatory frameworks, digital and AI literacy, awareness of cybersecurity risks, and the capability to communicate risk clearly to diverse stakeholders. Strong communication skills are particularly important, as risk professionals often need to translate complex analysis into actionable insights for senior management and business teams. Together, these capabilities support informed decision-making in fast-moving financial markets and evolving business environments.

Preparing for risk careers in a changing job market

For students and early

professionals, entry-level risk-related careers can offer both stability and attractive base salary potential relative to other sectors, depending on skills, location, and the organization. Over time, as professionals gain experience and develop specialized expertise, they can progress into higher-earning risk specialist or leadership roles, where annual total compensation can be significantly higher.

To build a strong foundation, students can consider pursuing dedicated, globally recognized certification and certificate programmes in risk management across areas such as finance, sustainability, and AI. These programmes help develop essential analytical, technical, and governance-related skills that are increasingly valued by employers. They are relevant across banking, asset management, consulting, technology firms, and real-economy organizations focused on navigating financial markets, sustainability challenges, and the growing use of Generative AI. By investing early in these skills, students can position themselves strongly for the evolving world of work and long-term career growth in risk management.

(The author is Managing Director, Global Head of Certifications and Educational Programs)

Students showcase next-gen space & robotics innovations

MIT inaugurated the International Rover Challenge (IRC) 2026 and the International Space Drone Challenge (ISDC) 2026. The events are being organised in collaboration with the Space Robotics Society (SPROS) and have drawn participation from young innovators across India and overseas.

The inauguration marked the beginning of a global convergence of student-led teams showcasing technological innovation, scientific curiosity, and collaborative problem-solving in the fields of space robotics and aerial systems. This year's editions feature 33 national and international rover teams and 22 drone teams, underscoring the growing global footprint of the two competitions.

Lt. Gen. (Dr.) M. D. Venkatesh, VSM (Retd.), Vice Chancellor of MAHE, presided over the ceremony as Chief Guest. Welcoming participants, he highlighted that platforms such as IRC and ISDC reflect MAHE's



philosophy of experiential learning, where classroom knowledge is translated into real-world engineering solutions.

He noted that such competitions foster perseverance, confidence, and innovation, while also contributing to technological advancement, nation-building, and economic growth.

Cdr. (Dr.) Anil Rana, Director, MIT, emphasised the vibrant culture of innovation on campus and reiterated the institute's commitment to holistic education beyond academ-

ics. He highlighted MIT's strong ecosystem of student engagement through 26 major project teams and over 70 technical and cultural clubs, along with experiential initiatives that build resilience and adaptability among students.

The event also acknowledged Sagar Dhaka, MIT alumnus (EEE, Class of 2019) and Founder of SPROS, for his leadership and continued association with his alma mater in promoting global student innovation in robotics and aerospace technologies.

Celebrating healers, leaders, and changemakers



National Women Physicians Day 2026 is a moment to recognise and celebrate the extraordinary contributions of women doctors who serve at the healthcare systems worldwide. Observed on February 3, the birthday of Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell—the first woman to receive a medical degree in the United States—this day honors both the pioneers who broke barriers and the present-day physicians who continue to redefine medicine through skill, compassion, and leadership. Women physicians play a vital role across every specialty, from primary care and pediatrics to surgery, research, public health, and medical education. Beyond clinical excellence, they are often at the

forefront of patient advocacy, community health initiatives, and innovation. Their work has been especially visible in recent years, as women doctors have led responses to public health crises, advanced medical research, and championed equitable access to care.

Despite these achievements, women physicians continue to face challenges, including gender bias, pay gaps, underrepresentation in leadership, and the pressure of balancing demanding careers with personal responsibilities. National Women Physicians Day is not only a celebration, but also a reminder of the need for continued progress toward equity, inclusion, and supportive work environments within healthcare.

Scientists develop single-unit device to capture, save solar energy

NEW DELHI

Indian scientists at the Department of Science and Technology (DST) have developed a solar-powered energy storage device that can both capture and store energy in a single unit, marking a major step towards clean, self-sustaining storage systems, an official statement said.

Unlike conventional solar systems that require separate units for energy harvesting and storage, the new technology can do both functions, reducing cost and energy losses during conversion, it said.

The statement from the Ministry of Science and Technology said the device known as photo-rechargeable supercapacitor was developed by researchers at the Centre for Nano and Soft Matter Sciences, Bengaluru under DST.

The new technology paves way for efficient, low cost, and eco-friendly power solutions for portable, wearable, and off grid technologies, it said.

Conventional hybrid systems relied on additional power management electronics to regulate voltage and current



mismatches between the energy harvester and the storage unit.

The resultant system complexity and device footprint was detrimental for miniaturised and autonomous devices, the statement said. The innovation used the help of binder-free use of nickel-cobalt oxide (NiCo2O4) nanowires, which have been uniformly grown on nickel foam using a simple in situ hydrothermal process.

"These nanowires, only a few nanometres in diameter and several micrometres long, form a highly porous and conductive 3D network that efficiently absorbs sunlight and stores electrical charge. This unique architecture allowed the material to act simultaneously as a solar energy harvester and a supercapacitor elec-

trode," the statement detailed. When tested for real-world applications, the device delivered a stable output voltage of 1.2 volts, maintained 88 per cent of its capacitance retention even after 1,000 photo-charging cycles.

Further, it operated efficiently under varying sunlight conditions—from low indoor illumination to intense sunlight. This stability indicates that the nanowire structure can endure both mechanical and electrochemical stress over extended periods of use, the statement noted.

The self-charging power system can function anywhere even in remote regions without access to an electrical grid and can substantially reduce dependence on fossil fuels and conventional batteries.

Nasr School hosts farewell for ISC batch

HYDERABAD

Nasr School hosted a farewell ceremony for the outgoing students of Classes X and XII of the ISC Batch of 2025–2026, celebrating the completion of an important chapter in their academic journey. The evening was a graceful blend of tradition, talent, emotion, and togetherness, reflecting the core values of the institution.

The programme began with a vibrant welcome that set an upbeat tone for the celebrations. One of the most awaited highlights was the Ramp Walk, where students from both classes took to the stage with remarkable confidence and elegance. Showcasing individuality, charm, and poise, the participants impressed the audience as the event progressed through multiple rounds. The final

round featured a Question-and-Answer segment, testing the finalists' clarity of thought, articulation, and presence of mind.

The event was judged by distinguished guests from the creative field. Lucky Lakshmi Naidu—model, actress, journalist, and NCC achiever—and Madhuri Atluri, renowned designer and Mrs. Hyderabad 2019, brought valuable insights and inspi-

ration through their experience and achievements. As a gesture of appreciation and sustainability, the guests were welcomed with saplings.

The cultural segment added colour and energy to the evening, with captivating dance performances and melodious songs presented by students of Classes IX and XI. A soulful trumpet performance and an energetic flash mob further elevated

the atmosphere, followed by a lively DJ session that allowed students to celebrate and create lasting memories.

The declaration of titles, recognising students for their confidence, stage presence, and unique personalities.

Principal Mir Mohiuddin Mohammed announced the winners and addressed the gathering, extending his blessings and best wishes to the outgoing batch.



- Sunil Gavaskar

Anahat wins maiden PSA Bronze-level title

The high court on December 16 last year rejected the bail pleas of eight accused, including Gaikwad, Sood and Mittal, in the case. (PTI)

(The author is a partner with "Wealocity Analytics", a SEBI registered Research Analyst firm and could be reached at info@wealocity-analytics.com)



Pan-India ‘Nagabandham’ teaser announced

A bhishek Nama's much-anticipated mythological action drama 'Nagabandham', starring Virat Karana, is generating strong buzz, with the first-look posters receiving an immense response. The makers have now locked the teaser release for February 15, the auspicious occasion of Maha Shivaratri.

The striking teaser poster features a majestic cobra coiled protectively around a hidden treasure inside an ancient temple, perfectly hinting at the film's mystical suspense and divine intrigue. This glimpse into the core narrative promises a thrilling exploration of the sacred 'Nagabandham' tradition, set against the backdrop of India's historic Vishnu temples.

Nabha Natesh and Iswarya Menon play the leading ladies, alongside powerhouse performers Jagapathi Babu, Jayaprakash, Murali Sharma, and B.S. Avinash in pivotal roles.

The film boasts strong technical support, with Soundar Rajan S handling cinematography, RC Pranav in charge of editing, and Ashok Kumar overseeing production design, ensuring a grand visual spectacle. Produced by Kishore Annapureddy and Nishitha Nagireddy, 'Nagabandham' is nearing the final phase of production and is gearing up for a massive Pan-India release in Telugu, Hindi, Tamil, Kannada, and Malayalam this summer.



Naveen Chandra praises ‘Honey’ at trailer launch

‘Honey’ is a psychological horror film written and directed by Karuna Kumar, starring Naveen Chandra and Divya Pillai in the lead roles. Produced by Ravi Peetla and Praveen Kumar Reddy under the banner of OVA Entertainments and presented by Shekhar Studios, the film blends psychological depth, social relevance, and horror elements. ‘Honey’ is set to release in theatres on February 6. The promotional content released so far has received a wonderful response, and the makers recently launched the trailer.

Speaking at the trailer launch event, hero Naveen Chandra said, “Hello everyone. I am very happy with the wonderful response to the trailer. I thoroughly enjoyed the filmmaking

process. This is a film that will grow through word of mouth. We have tried to make it within our budget while still delivering a different and unique experience to the audience in theatres.”

Director Karuna Kumar said, “This time too, I have made a new attempt. I originally wrote this story, titled ‘Darkness’, for literature. Our producers later decided to adapt it into a film. We see such incidents happening in places like Madanapalle and Old Basti, often within the same house. In ‘Honey’, we explore the life of a person searching for and achieving something called ‘Pilli Maya’. It is a story that unfolds within the mind, even when everything seems dark. The film was inspired by a real-life incident.”

Actor Raja Ravindra

shared, “Hello everyone. When the director narrated the story, I liked it but wondered how it would be executed. The film has been shot even more wonderfully than I expected. He also gave me an extraordinary and memorable character. Technically, the film is outstanding.”

Heroine Divi said, “Hello everyone. I always wanted to work with Karuna Kumar. I met him during the film ‘Palasa’, but it didn’t work out then. I immediately agreed when he called me for this project.”

Heroine Divya Pillai added, “Hello everyone. I was scared when the director narrated the story to me. It is very new and unique. I thank Karuna Kumar and Ravi for giving me this opportunity. I am very happy to work with Naveen again.”

‘One by Four’ emerges box-office winner



Tejas Gunjal Films and Rohit Gunjal Films have jointly produced the action crime drama ‘One by Four (One/4)’, starring Venkatesh Peddapalem, Aparna Mallick, and Heena Soni in the lead roles. The film is directed by Bahubali Palani K, who previously worked as an associate director on the blockbuster ‘Baahubali’. It is jointly produced by Ranjana Rajesh Gunjal and Rohit Ramdas Gunjal.

Recently released, ‘One by Four (One/4)’ has emerged as a successful film, receiving appreciation from audiences across all sections and performing well in theatres. To celebrate the success, the team held a success meet at the Hyderabad Film Chamber, where they shared their experiences and gratitude.

Director Bahubali Palani K said, “Audiences have made ‘One by Four (One/4)’ a blockbuster. Collections are strong in every theatre. Once again, viewers have proved that if the content is good, even a small film can achieve big success. Hero Venkatesh impressed everyone with his action sequences and performance. He has already done action films in Kannada, and I believe he

has a bright future in Telugu cinema as well. Our producers Ranjana and Rohit came from Mumbai with great passion for cinema and entered Tollywood with dedication. I hope they produce many more films. However, it is unfortunate that some actors who initially seek opportunities do not show up during promotions. They should at least support the film out of gratitude.”

Producer Ranjana Rajesh Gunjal said, “Our film ‘One by Four (One/4)’, which blends a strong message with entertainment, is being well received by audiences. The success is purely due to its solid content. The character ‘Pavitra’ is receiving special appreciation, and hero Venkatesh’s performance is widely praised. The film highlights the struggles a woman faces due to blackmail, making it a thought-provoking experience. We are deeply hurt that we did not receive promotional support from the heroines. Despite providing all facilities, they did not participate in promotions. Their absence caused losses to the film. We feel it is better to encourage and cast Telugu girls rather than depend on outsiders.”



Celebrities rally behind ‘Barabar Premistha’ release

The team of ‘Barabar Premistha’ held a grand pre-release event ahead of the film’s theatrical launch, with several prominent guests extending their support and wishing success for the youthful entertainer. Starring Attitude Star Chandra Hass in the lead, the film is directed by Sampath Rudra and presented by Kakarla Satyanarayana. It is produced by Geda Chandu, Gayatri Chinny, and AVR under the banners of CC Creations and AVR Movie Wonders. Miss India finalist Meghna Mukherjee plays the female lead, while Arjun Mahi, known for ‘Ishtamga’, appears as the antagonist. The film is all set for a grand release in theatres on February 6.

The pre-release event, held on Sunday (February 1), was attended by chief guests Jayanth C. Paranjee, JD Chakravarthy, and Aadi Saikumar, along with the film’s cast

and crew. The evening was filled with appreciation for the team’s efforts and confidence that the film would connect strongly with audiences.

Speaking at the event, Chandra Hass expressed gratitude for the support he has received. He said he has always admired filmmakers like Jayanth C. Paranjee and actors like Aadi Saikumar, whom he considers an inspiration. Thanking his father Prabhakar for constant encouragement, he added that the film has been made with complete sincerity. He promised that ‘Barabar Premistha’ would keep viewers engaged throughout with numerous twists and an engaging narrative. He also praised director Sampath Rudra for presenting him in a new and impactful way.

Aadi Saikumar extended his heartfelt wishes to Chandra Hass, recalling his association with Prabhakar during

‘Next Nuvvu’. He appreciated Chandra Hass’ dedication and hard work and said he hopes ‘Barabar Premistha’ becomes a major breakthrough in the young actor’s career. He urged audiences to watch the film in theatres and support the team.

Veteran director Jayanth C. Paranjee said the title ‘Barabar Premistha’ reflects confidence and attitude, perfectly matching Chandra Hass’ personality. He praised the film’s music, performances, and direction, expressing strong belief that it would emerge as a big hit.

JD Chakravarthy also conveyed his best wishes, applauding Prabhakar’s inspiring journey and encouraging audiences not to miss the film. Director Sampath Rudra shared that the film has a Telangana backdrop and a gripping climax that will leave a lasting impression. He thanked the producers and music director RR Dhruvan for their contributions.

Devotional drama ‘Dakshina Kaali’ releases worldwide

‘Dakshina Kaali’ is an upcoming devotional entertainer starring Subbu and Priyanka as the lead pair, while actress Archana will be seen in the role of the Goddess. The film is produced by Satyavani Meesala under the Srinidhi Creations banner, for which she has also provided the story. Directed by Thota Krishna, the movie is being made as a devotional drama with strong spiritual elements. The film is all set for a worldwide grand theatrical release on the 6th of this month in Telugu, Tamil, and Kannada.



Recently, the songs launch event of ‘Dakshina Kaali’ was held at the Hyderabad Film Chamber. Renowned director V. Samudra and producers Tummalapalli Rama Satyanarayana and Prasanna Kumar attended the event as chief guests. Speaking on the occasion, director V. Samudra said that the songs and trailer of ‘Dakshina Kaali’ were very impressive and reminded him of the film ‘Ammoru’. He expressed hope that actor Azad, who played the villain in the film, would gain recognition similar to Sonu Sood’s performance in ‘Arundhati’. He added that for producers who cannot afford Sonu Sood’s remuneration, Azad would be a strong alternative.

Producer Tummalapalli Rama Satyanarayana stated that new films must continue to enter the industry and expressed confidence that ‘Dakshina Kaali’ would definitely be a success after watching its content. He wished for the film to achieve grand success like ‘Ammoru’.

Producer Prasanna Kumar said that filmmaking is not just about words but requires immense effort and dedication. He appreciated the lady producer for making ‘Dakshina Kaali’ with great commitment and assured that their support would always remain with the film’s team. Director Thota Krishna said that ‘Dakshina Kaali’ has been made to showcase the divine power and greatness of the Goddess. He revealed that apart from directing the film, he also played an important role in it. He assured that the movie would entertain audiences with all the elements they expect. Producer Satyavani Meesala shared that the Goddess guided them from the beginning of production until release. She said the shooting was completed smoothly without any hurdles due to the Goddess’s blessings. She clarified that the film was not made for monetary gains but solely to portray the greatness and miracles of Goddess Dakshina Kaali. She also thanked seniors like V. Samudra, Prasanna Kumar, and Rama Satyanarayana for their encouragement and support.

‘Winter’ begins with traditional pooja ceremony

The film ‘Winter’, jointly produced by Crescent Cinemas and TSR Makers, was launched grandly with a traditional pooja ceremony.

‘Winter’ features Ram, Aadithya Suraj Singh, Kusuma Chandhaka, Shashikala, and Srijitaa Ghosh in the lead roles. The film is being produced by Riyaz Ahmed

and T. Srinivas Rao. Suresh Lankalapalli, who received critical acclaim for ‘Racharika’, is handling the story, screenplay, and direction for this project. With this film, Rizwan Ali will be introduced on screen as the antagonist. Notably, ‘Winter’ is based on real-life incidents that occurred in Kashmir.

The pooja ceremony

marking the commencement of the film was recently held in a grand manner, with the entire team in attendance. Rituals were performed seeking the film’s success and a smooth, obstacle-free production journey. Details regarding the remaining cast and technical crew will be announced soon.



‘Mr. Work From Home’ team creates buzz in Bheemili

The pre-release ceremony of ‘Mr. Work From Home’ was held at the Visakhapatnam Film Nagar Center in Bheemili Thimmapuram on Saturday. The film is being produced by Aravind and directed by Madhu, with Trigun playing the hero and Palayi Radha Krishna as the heroine.

Director Madhu said that the story of the film is centered on the use of new machinery in agriculture. The film focuses on the love and marriage of a young woman born into a rural farming family, while also delivering entertainment within a family setting.

Hero Trigun added that this film is very relevant for today’s generation and carries a message for future generations.

Producer Aravind stated that the film will be appreciated by audiences and praised director Madhu for crafting the story in a way that will resonate well with viewers. He also confirmed that the film is scheduled to release on February 13. The film team actively participated in the pre-release event, generating excitement among fans and the local community.

