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# THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

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## Border sentinels ahead of the Amarnath Yatra

Women personnel of the Border Security Force keep vigil near the India-Pakistan border ahead of the annual Amarnath Yatra that begins on July 3, in Jammu on Tuesday. Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said security preparations for the pilgrimage are complete | P11

## GRAND FINALE ROYAL ARE THE KINGS



Royal Challengers Bengaluru team with the trophy after winning the 18th edition of the IPL in Ahmedabad on Tuesday | P11 | P13

● Opposition parties write to Modi ● Govt not keen since Monsoon session is weeks away

### Cricketing analogy to explain victory

Using a cricketing metaphor to draw a clear distinction between initial setbacks and the overall outcome of Operation Sindoor, Chief of Defence Staff Gen Anil Chauhan said, "Suppose you go into a cricket test match and you win by an innings, then there is no question of wickets and balls etc."

Professional militaries are not affected by temporary losses | P9



## 16 parties press PM to call spl session of Parliament

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

STEPPING up pressure on the Modi government on the demand for a Special Session of Parliament in the wake of Operation Sindoor, leaders of 16 Opposition parties, including Rahul Gandhi, Akhilesh Yadav and Abhishek Banerjee wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the issue.

Senior opposition leaders, who held a meeting in the capital said the session was needed to discuss a series of events, including the Pahalgam attack, followed by Operation Sindoor, US President Donald Trump's claim of brokering a ceasefire between India and Pakistan, and the death of civilians in

border areas in Pakistan shelling. The letter was released after the meeting.

Opposition leaders said they stood with the government after the Pahalgam attack, and through Op Sindoor, adding that their demand for a special session must be met.

"There are serious questions facing the nation about the terror attack, killing of civilians in Poonch, Uri and Rajouri, the ceasefire announcements, and the implications on national security and foreign policy. We have supported the government's efforts to engage with the international community on India's position. The government has briefed foreign

nations and the media, but not Parliament, keeping the people of India and their elected representatives in the dark," said the letter. However, according to sources, the government is not keen on holding a special session as the Monsoon session is scheduled for the second week of July.

TMC's Derek O'Brien said the decision to make a joint effort to demand a special session was made by the presidents of the respective parties, and not just the Parliamentary Party leaders.

However, the Aam Aadmi Party wrote a separate letter to the PM raising the same demand.



## 'Thug Life' won't be released in K'taka on June 5, may lose ₹30cr

A SHARADHAA/ AKSHAY KUMAR @ Bengaluru

KAMAL Haasan's *Thug Life*, caught in a controversy over the actor's comment on the Kannada language, will not be released in Karnataka on June 5, the scheduled date for the release of the movie across the country, its producers informed the Karnataka High Court on Tuesday.

According to some industry experts, the film may lose at least ₹30 crore if it fails to get released in Karnataka.

Kamal has refused to apologise, saying his comment "said out of genuine affection for the legendary Rajkumar's family, especially Shiva Rajkumar, has been misunderstood and taken out of context."

When a petition filed by the film's production house, Raaj Kamal Films International, seeking police protection for the



### Actor hails Kannada, refuses to apologise

In a letter to the Karnataka Film Chamber of Commerce, which has refused to release the film in Karnataka, Haasan said, "There is no dispute or debate about the rich legacy of the Kannada language." However, he did not apologise for his remarks | P7

movie in Karnataka, came up for hearing before Justice Nagaprasanna on Tuesday, counsel for the petitioner said that there was no malice and an apology was not warranted.

The petitioner submitted that the screening of the movie would not be insisted upon in Karnataka until the issue gets resolved through dialogue. The court then posted the case to June 10 for further hearing. P7

### EXPRESS READ

#### HC upholds TN norms for online real money games

Chennai: The Madras High Court on Tuesday upheld TN's regulations that impose limitations, including night ban and compulsory Aadhaar-based registration of KYC, for playing online real money games such as rummy and poker | P4

#### V-C hiring: TN moves SC against HC's stay order

Chennai: Tamil Nadu government has filed a petition in the Supreme Court against the May 21 order of the Madras High Court staying the operation of nine Acts dealing with the appointment of vice-chancellors in state-run universities in Tamil Nadu | P6

### JUDUM CASE

## Parliament's laws out of contempt ambit: SC

SUCHITRA KALYAN MOHANTY @ New Delhi

THE Supreme Court has rejected a 2012 contempt plea filed by sociologist and former Delhi University professor Nandini Sundar and others, who claimed that the enactment of the Chhattisgarh Auxiliary Armed Police Force Act, 2011 to curb Maoist activity was in contempt of the court's landmark verdict against vigilante group Salwa Judum that year.

"Every State Legislature has plenary powers to pass an enactment and so long as the said enactment has not been declared to be *ultra vires* the Constitution or, in any way, null and void by a Constitutional Court, the said enactment would have the force of law," a two-judge bench comprising justices B V Nagarathna and Satish Chandra Sharma said.

Sundar had alleged failure of the Chhattisgarh government to comply with the Supreme Court's directions in 2011 to stop support to vigilante groups like Salwa Judum and arming tribals in the name of special police officers (SPO) in the fight against Maoists.

However, the bench observed that it was the duty of the state government and the Centre to take adequate steps for restoration of peace and rehabilitation of the residents who have been affected by violence from whatever quarter.



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B.Sc. - Multimedia (VFX/ SFX/ Gaming)

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## 2 lynched over cattle theft, 6 held

Brothers beaten to death in a farm in Sivaganga, murder case registered against suspects

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Sivaganga

TWO siblings were beaten to death by a group of villagers allegedly for stealing goats and chicken at Alagamangiri village around 2 am on Tuesday. So far, six persons have been arrested in this connection.

The deceased have been identified as S Manikandan (31) and his brother S Sivashankaran (24) alias Vigneshwaran from V Kallampatti village. The Mathagupatti police said both were having a few theft cases pending against them. The incident happened at a farm owned by P Subbu (52).



S Manikandan and S Sivashankaran

Sources said a few villagers who were on the search for a missing jallikattu bull found the duo in possession of a few stolen goats and chicken.

After getting an alert, more villagers joined and thrashed the brothers using wooden sticks. The police personnel

who reached the spot took the two to Government Sivaganga Medical College Hospital for treatment.

The doctors at the hospital declared Sivashankaran was brought dead. Manikandan succumbed to his injuries a few minutes later. Their bodies were sent for postmortem. Superintendent of police Ashish Rawat inspected the spot at night.

A police officer said 10 more people are being investigated, and the total number of arrests could go up. The arrested persons have been identified as S Thirupathi (45), A Somaraj (31), R Prabu (30), V Deepak (19), S Vigneshwaran (31) and R Dinsh (31), all from Alagamangiri. A case has been registered under 103(1) (punishment for murder) of the BNS. Further probe is on.

10 more people are being investigated and the total number of arrests could go up. A case has been registered under Section 103(1) of BNS

— Police



Health officials sealing the dental clinic in Vaniyambadi on Tuesday | EXPRESS

## Two years after death of 8 patients, dental clinic in Vaniyambadi sealed

DHEEPTHI OJ @ Tirupattur

A private dental clinic in Vaniyambadi was shut down on Tuesday, as its explanation on the death of eight of its patients in 2023 was found to be "unsatisfactory". The show-cause notice seeking the explanation on the deaths due to neuromyeloidosis - a bacterial infection affecting the brain - was sent by joint director of Health and Rural Health Services, V Gana Meenakshi.

Speaking to *TNIE*, Meenakshi said the notice was issued to the clinic's dentist S Arivarasan and that she became aware of the issue only recently, after the matter was reported in the media.

The issue resurfaced in the media recently after a study - jointly conducted by CMC Vellore, ICMR-NIE, and the Tamil Nadu Directorate of Public Health - was published in the medical journal *The Lancet*.

As per an official communication, the then JD K Marimuthu had given the clinic a clean chit and had even recommended to remove a seal. The clinic was sealed following public outcry at that time. It was later reopened in another building under a new name, a few metres away from the earlier one. It, however, remains unclear as to how the clinic was allowed to function in the intervening period. Senior state-level health department of-

officials and Tirupattur Collector K Sivasoundaravalli could not be reached for a comment.

The *Lancet* study identified 21 cases of neuromyeloidosis in TN between July 2022 and April 2023. Most of the cases were from Tirupattur, and a few were from Ranipet, Tiruvannamalai, and Krishnagiri districts. Ten of the patients had undergone procedures at the Vaniyambadi clinic, and among them, eight had died within 17 days of getting infected.

The bacteria responsible for neuromyeloidosis, *Burkholderia pseudomallei*, was found in a saline bottle at the clinic.

Highlighting poor hygiene practices at the clinic, the study noted, "Normal saline supplied in sterile 500 ml plastic bottles was used for wound irrigation during surgical procedures as well as for dilution of the local anaesthetic used for infiltration. These bottles were opened using a non-sterile periosteal elevator (a dental surgical instrument), loosely resealed, and reused over subsequent days until they were empty."

The study directly links 10 neuromyeloidosis cases in Tirupattur to the clinic. Sources said one infected patient remains unidentified, and another, a resident of New Town, is bedridden. Although her family said the infection has subsided, she has not regained mobility.

## Bills cleared, TN a step closer to nominate PwDs to civic bodies

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

THE state government will soon frame rules for nominating persons with disabilities (PwDs) to all local bodies since the Tamil Nadu Urban Local Bodies (Amendment) Act, 1998, and the Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Amendment) Act, 1994 became laws after Governor RN Ravi gave assent to the two Bills. The Bills were published in the state gazette on Monday.

When contacted, a senior official told *TNIE* that the government would soon begin the process of drafting rules in consultation with legal experts. "It usually takes some time, but the government will take prompt action in this regard," the official said.

The legislation paves the way for the nomination of around 14,000 PwDs to urban and rural local bodies, ensuring their voices are heard in local governance and enabling them to take up leadership roles.

A total of 650 PwDs will be nominated to urban local bodies. Similarly, 12,913 PwDs will be nominated to village panchayats, 388 to panchayat unions, and 37 to district panchayats.

Chief Minister MK Stalin had introduced the two Bills in the Assembly on April 16. They were passed on April 29.

### Corrigendum

In the article, "Meet Mangayarkarasi, the 'Florence Nightingale' from Virudhunagar", published in the edition dated June 3, 2025, it was erroneously mentioned that Arlappatti PHC handled 40 deliveries a month and received the ISO certification. It was Kunnur PHC that handled 40 deliveries, including C-sections. The error is regretted.



PLAY CATCH WITH THE SUN

Undeterred by the sweltering heat, a group of boys enjoys a game of cricket on the Marina in Chennai on Tuesday | P JAWAHAR

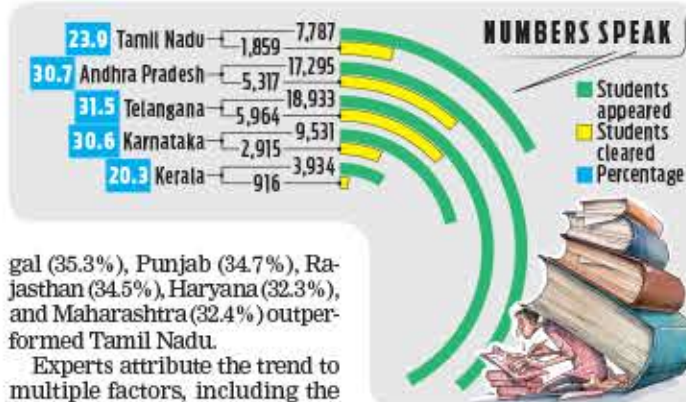
## TN lags behind southern neighbours in JEE Advanced pass percentage

SUBASHINI VIJAYAKUMAR @ Chennai

DESPITE being part of the southern region known for strong performance in JEE Advanced, Tamil Nadu continues to trail behind with only 23.9% of candidates who appeared from the state clearing the exam this year.

Of the 7,787 students from Tamil Nadu who appeared, only 1,859 qualified - a lower success rate compared to Telangana (5,964), Andhra Pradesh (5,317), and Karnataka (2,915), all of which recorded a pass percentage above 30%. Across the country, of the 1,80,422 candidates who appeared for the exam, 54,378 cleared it, showing that Tamil Nadu's pass percentage is also below the national average of 30.1%. Kerala performed marginally lower than Tamil Nadu with 23.3%, while Bihar recorded 20.6%. When compared to other states and union territories from which at least 1,000 students appeared for the exam, Tamil Nadu ranks third from the bottom above Kerala and Bihar.

However, in absolute numbers, a few more students from Bihar (1,876) cleared the examination. Many states including West Ben-



gal (35.3%), Punjab (34.7%), Rajasthan (34.5%), Haryana (32.3%), and Maharashtra (32.4%) outperformed Tamil Nadu.

Experts attribute the trend to multiple factors, including the dominance of the state board curriculum, broader access to higher education within Tamil Nadu, and a general lack of awareness about the exam. They also note that the number of candidates appearing for and clearing the exam has remained largely stagnant over the years.

Though the state government has revised the school syllabus to align better with national-level entrance exams, experts say it is unclear whether teachers and students have effectively adapted to the changes.

"JEE preparation requires in-depth understanding of concepts. Apart from Chennai and Coimbatore, even cities like Madurai lack quality coaching cen-

tres. In contrast, states like Andhra Pradesh and Telangana begin coaching early, giving students an edge," said B Pavan Kumar, a Physics professor and IIT-JEE coach. S Vasuki Vinodhini, CMD of Kurukshetra IAS Academy, added that many students prefer top government and private engineering colleges within Tamil Nadu, which offer strong placements and research opportunities. She said the government is now working to increase awareness and support for government school students, particularly in rural areas, to improve participation and success in national entrance exams.

## ₹10L to kin of braveheart who saved two boys from drowning

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kanniyakumari

CHIEF Minister M K Stalin on Tuesday announced ₹10 lakh solatium under the CM public relief fund to the family members of the 60-year-old man who had sacrificed his life to save two boys from drowning in the Thamarabarani river near Kuzhithurai.

In a press note, Stalin commended the courage and immense sacrifice of the man - M Peter Johnson from Vilavancode taluk in Kanniyakumari - and expressed condolences to Peter's family members and relatives. On June 1, Mano (17) and Akilesh (12) from Mathilagam and Nallur accidentally fell into the river while walking on a small bridge built on the Kuzhithurai check dam. Peter, who was taking a bath nearby, jumped into the river and helped the boys reach the riverbank. However, he was swept away by the strong currents and drowned.

## 12 firms file applications for small hydel projects

S GURUVANMIKANATHAN @ Chennai

A couple of months after the Tamil Nadu Green Energy Corporation Limited (TNGECL) invited applications to develop Small Hydel Projects (SHPs) in the state, the agency has so far received 12 proposals from private developers, officials said. The capacities of each of these SHPs, which can be set up across canal systems, rivers and streams without having to build any structures for storing the water, can range from 100 kilowatts (KW) to 10 megawatts (MW), with each unit in an SHP



Hydroelectric power plant located in Koneripatti of Erode district | FILE PIC

not exceeding 5 MW.

TNGECL managing director Dr Anesh Sekhar told *TNIE* that the government is encouraging private participation in SHPs to boost renewable energy production. "Of the 12 proposals, five are currently under

evaluation. However, no project has been finalised yet. Approvals will be granted after detailed evaluation and site inspections," he said.

While TNGECL has not completed any SHPs so far, a 20 MW project is nearing completion in Namakkal district. "Most of the work is over and the plant will begin power generation soon," Sekhar added.

Tamil Nadu had released a policy for SHP late last year. "Based on the policy, we are now processing applications. Private firms with access to water sources can apply to set up these plants," another senior

official said. He said the firms can generate power for their own use (captive use), sell it to third parties within the state, or supply to distribution companies to help meet the Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) targets set by the Tamil Nadu Electricity Regulatory Commission (TNERC). While the RPO set for 2024-25 was 29%, Tamil Nadu managed only around 26%. The state has an installed hydropower capacity of 2,321.90 MW, but SHPs have so far received limited focus. In contrast, neighbouring Karnataka is actively promoting such projects, the official added.

## Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

04<sup>th</sup> June: The Sun's neat relationship with Jupiter represents hope and optimism, not to mention independence and surprises. So, you can look forward both to a pleasant few days, and a twelve-month period when you will be seeing and experiencing the world in entirely new ways.

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

This is a day for diplomacy, for sharing your feelings, plans and any good fortune with partners. This doesn't just mean spreading your net to include close friends, but also paying attention to people, perhaps at work, who could do some emotional support.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

'Keep busy and stay active' should be your motto over the next two days. The Moon's angle to your sign is one of those which may not bring drama, but can push you step by step to a new and much more successful state of being. You might even hear something that makes you sit up and take notice of an old friend.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

You may go through the day with a spring in your step, young at heart and confident that it is indeed possible to shun off most cares and woes. It might be difficult to alter the attitudes of a lifetime, but you really should give it your best shot.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

It's time to consider exactly what to do about putting a deep-seated ambition into practice. There's no need for action just yet, but it will do you good to sort your ideas out and check the facts. And then you need to reassess a loved one who is feeling especially insecure.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

It's decision time, but the choices you'll make will probably be quite unimportant. You can therefore afford to take it easy, just as long, that is, as your communication skills are functioning on top form. What I mean is, you need to keep family members informed of your movements.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sept 23)

You should pay very careful attention to the financial situation. On a purely mundane level it's a fine day for picking up bargains, but what could be more significant is what other people decide about your monetary future - and that may be out of your hands.

LIBRA (Sept 24 - Oct 23)

The Moon's now aligned with your sign, so you can finally afford to dictate the pace. Your actions will be determined by your rapidly changing moods, so other people may be bewildered or perplexed when you alter your ideas. Perhaps they should be more flexible!

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 22)

You have learned a lot more about self-preservation lately, probably due to Saturn's slow transit through your chart. A momentary lack of confidence will be overcome with renewed effort and determination. And if you do face insurmountable obstacles, it might be time to pause for breath.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23 - Dec 22)

You will finally convince other people that you do need their help and support. At work you may concentrate on the long-term picture, and don't let trivial details obscure your vision. And you should get on with practical improvements at home - after a momentary lapse.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

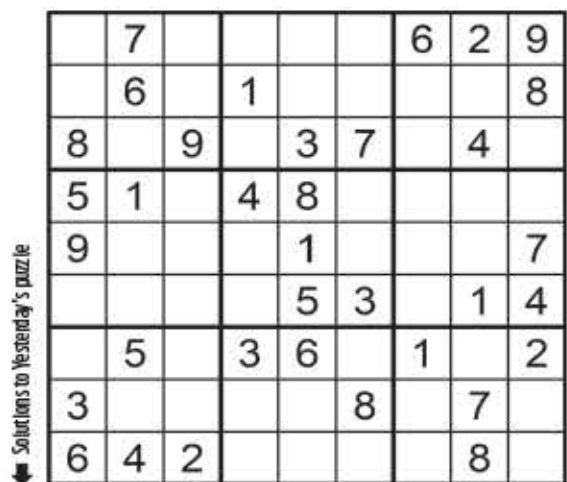
Your main line of contention relates to career or professional interests, but with the Moon so active you can probably make a success out of playing the diplomat. Realise that it is less important to push your own interests than to get other people to agree.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

Long-distance developments seem to be the most important, and it's a suitable moment to get in touch with family members overseas. The legal situation may also need some attention, so check up on your rights. But that also means you have to be aware of your responsibilities.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

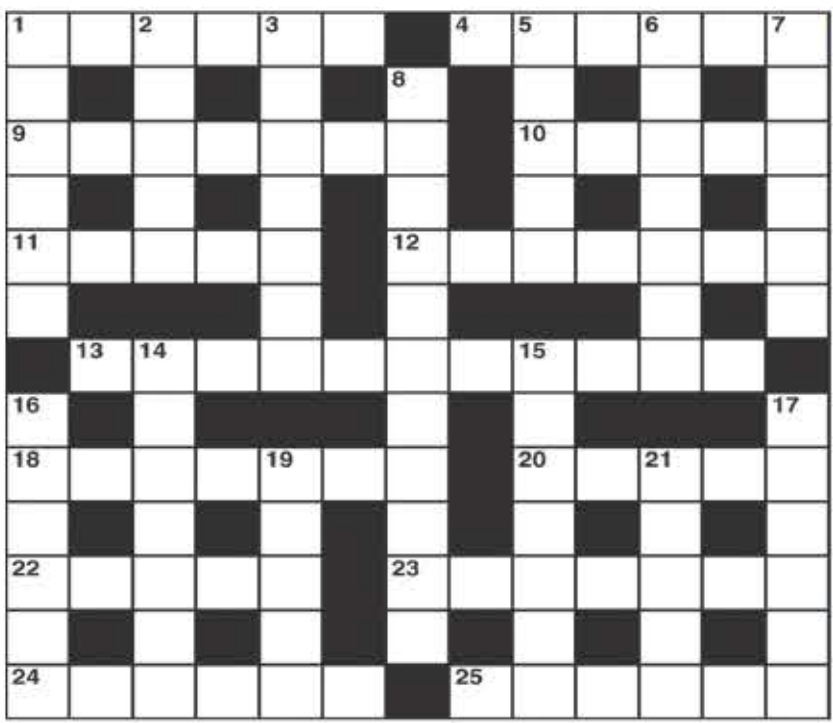
Nobody seems to be able to lighten your burden at the moment. With Mars so active, only you can take the necessary steps to secure an independent future, and that means not relying excessively on partners for emotional support. Stand on your own two feet and your confidence will climb sharply.



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Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3x3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



### CROSS WORD

#### ACROSS

- Girl bathed in trouble and out of breath (6)
- An old fool (6)
- Decide to show determination (7)
- Having a setback about work, drinks heavily (5)
- Cast worth going out to see (5)
- I'm old-fashioned; there's no getting away from it (7)
- The kind of habits soldiers get into (11)
- Doctor Roy, he's going on foot (7)
- Amusing article about a lawyer in modern times (5)
- Very close to being drunk? (5)
- A group of musicians performing in desert (7)
- April's turned out to be springlike (6)
- A man in supreme command (6)

#### YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Cowdy, 5 Sable, 8 Portable radio, 9 Dried, 10 Gbills, 11 Regard, 12 Right, 15 Storage, 17 Anno, 19 Double meaning, 20 Envy, 21 Desires.

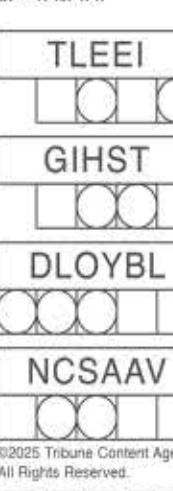
#### DOWN

- Show displeasure at beer being split (6)
- A revolting individual seen in flight (5)
- Strike about silly flaw revealed by fool (7)
- Having a setback about work, drinks heavily (5)
- Staff of office? (7)
- It's reddish-brown but not orange (6)
- Fellow expected to come up with the goods (11)
- A ship for example having first-rate missile (7)
- Look again for signs of upward career (7)
- They require taking snap decisions (6)
- A child of the pen (6)
- One of a crowd of actors-mover (5)
- US city to avoid (5)

Down: 1 Cupid, 2 Workingtonke, 3 Leavies, 4 Palmer, 5 Sash, 6 Building genius, 7 Endure, 11 Bedlam, 13 Leaque, 14 Beamed, 16 Alloy, 18 Angus.

### JUMBLE

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK



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Yesterday's Jumbles: WAVER, RAZOR, THRIVE, DRENCH. Answer: The pole vaulter's attempt was going to end when it was - OVER WITH.





# Quality, Skills, Careers

## UP Charts the Future of Education

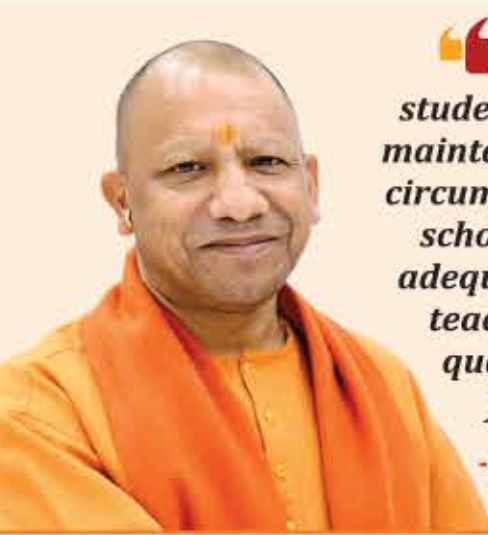
With Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath at the helm, Uttar Pradesh is ushering in a new era of education that combines academic excellence, skill development, and career readiness. With a strong focus on raising educational standards, expanding vocational training and facilitating employment opportunities, the government is empowering the youth to meet the demands of a changing world.

### Transforming Education, Empowering Futures

Under the leadership of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, Uttar Pradesh has embarked on a mission to redefine basic education. A substantial Rs. 3,300 crore investment is driving structural upgrades, digital empowerment and policy innovation across the state's school ecosystem.

- The government is ensuring adequate teacher availability in every school to maintain an optimal teacher-student ratio for quality learning outcomes.
- Inauguration of buildings at 139 Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas and foundation stones laid for 43 CM Model Composite Schools and 66 Mukhyamantri Abhyudaya Composite Schools.
- Smart classes launched in 7,409 schools, ICT labs in 5,258.
- Over 51,600 tablets distributed to teachers, and digital libraries established in 503 PM SHRI schools.
- The Nipun Plus App launched for smart assessments from Class 3 to 12, while an Educational Broadcast Studio was inaugurated at the State Educational Technical Institute.





*The teacher-student ratio will be maintained under all circumstances. Every school will have an adequate number of teachers to ensure quality education for every child.*

**- Yogi Adityanath, Chief Minister, U.P.**

### Transforming UP into a Skilled Manpower Powerhouse

Under the visionary leadership of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, Uttar Pradesh is rapidly transforming into a national hub for youth employment and skill development. Through large-scale training, industry tie-ups, and modern infrastructure, the state is unlocking new job opportunities for lakhs of young aspirants.

- The Yogi government has established 2,800 training centers across Uttar Pradesh to equip ITI and Polytechnic graduates with industry-relevant skills, fostering a workforce ready to meet modern employment demands.
- Under Mission Rozgar Yojana, over 5.66 lakh youth have secured employment—showcasing UP's rapid rise as a skilled workforce hub.
- The state has signed MoUs with 24 top industrial houses and 8 placement agencies, ensuring direct job placements for trained youth.
- Cities like Noida, Greater Noida, Ghaziabad, Lucknow, Kanpur, and Varanasi are emerging as employment magnets due to booming IT, electronics, and manufacturing sectors.
- Through the Uttar Pradesh Skill Development Mission, over 14.13 lakh youth aged up to 35 years have received free, job-oriented training.

### New Hub for Higher Education

- **Establishment of 8 New State Universities:** With this, all 18 administrative divisions of Uttar Pradesh now have a government university.
- **Encouraging Renowned Institutions:** 28 Letters of Intent have been issued to nationally and internationally reputed institutions to establish private universities; out of these, 18 universities are operational.
- **India's First Off-Campus University:** Established in Noida, marking a historic milestone in higher education.
- **Expansion of Government Colleges:** Target has been set to operationalize 71 newly constructed government degree colleges in the academic year 2025-26.
- **Uttar Pradesh Higher Education Promotion Policy 2024:** Implemented to encourage the establishment of universities in underserved districts.
- **Special Incentives for World-Class Institutions:** Foreign universities and Indian universities ranked in the top 50 of the NIRF rankings are eligible for benefits under the incentive policy to establish Multidisciplinary Education and Research Universities (MERUs).
- **Major Amendments to the Uttar Pradesh Private University Act:** Significant legal reforms made to facilitate and strengthen private sector participation in higher education.

- Each assembly segment to get a CM Composite School—an all-in-one education hub from pre-primary to Class 12 with labs, stadiums, and modern facilities.
- Teachers urged to enroll every child aged 5-14, integrate cleanliness campaigns, and create welcoming school environments for all.



### Summer Camp 2025: A Big Leap by UP Govt for Young Minds

Summer Camp 2025, launched by the Uttar Pradesh Government, is empowering students through fun-filled, skill-based learning. Designed for holistic development, the camp blends creativity, technology, culture, and environmental awareness.

- Over 45,600 upper primary and composite schools (Classes 6-8) witnessed an enthusiastic launch of Summer Camp 2025, offering a vibrant mix of learning and fun.
- In the camp engaging sessions like 'I am a Star', storytelling, yoga, music, and health talks infused confidence, creativity, and wellness among children.
- Upcoming sessions include hands-on digital literacy, AI tools, and app development, ensuring students are future-ready with essential 21st-century skills.
- From folk dances to clay modeling, and kabaddi to cricket-children are exploring India's rich cultural heritage and sporting spirit, instilling discipline, teamwork, and artistic expression.
- Workshops on gardening, water conservation, and eco-awareness are nurturing environmentally responsible young citizens.



*Our government has made another big decision to make school education more accessible by announcing the opening of 85 new Kendriya Vidyalayas across the country. This initiative will benefit countless students and generate numerous new employment opportunities.*

**- Narendra Modi, Prime Minister**

### CM Abhyudaya Yojana

- Free quality coaching centres established in every division.
- Coaching provided for major national and state-level competitive exams.
- Classes conducted both online and offline with experienced subject experts and civil servants as mentors.
- Abhyudaya Yojana has provided free coaching to over 82,000 candidates since 2021.
- Under this scheme, 23 candidates successfully cleared the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) examinations.
- 95 candidates succeeded in the Uttar Pradesh Public Service Commission (UPPSC) exams.
- 173 students enrolled in the program, cleared the Uttar Pradesh Police Constable Recruitment written examination.



**Universities:**  
**22 State Universities, 1 Deemed University, 1 Open University and 47 Private Universities**

**Colleges:**  
**171 Government Colleges, 331 Aided Colleges and 7,372 Self-Financed Colleges**

**Enrollment:**  
**Over 52.50 lakh students are currently enrolled in higher education across the state**

### Empowering Through Touch

Uttar Pradesh is redefining inclusive education for the visually impaired. By modernizing Braille presses and promoting digital accessibility, the state is unlocking new academic horizons for Divyang students under the leadership of CM Yogi Adityanath.

- State government operates 5 Braille presses under the Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities Department, providing textbooks in Braille for all subjects up to high school.
- The Government Braille Press, Lucknow, received the National Award in 2019 for its exceptional contribution—making UP a national leader in accessible education.
- With a focus on digital Braille content, the government is preparing visually impaired students to access world-class education and stay ahead in the digital age.
- Scholarships, hostel facilities, and vocational training under CM Yogi's leadership are empowering Divyang students with skills and self-confidence to lead independent lives.

### Empowering Educators, Enriching Education

- To create 2,556 new posts in newly established government colleges work is currently under process.
- Recruitment process completed for 801 lecturers in govt. colleges.
- Posting process completed for 120 lecturers and the selection process initiated for 562 more lecturer posts.
- Recruitment of 2,002 lecturers completed in aided (grant-in-aid) colleges.
- Recruitment process initiated for 227 grade-III posts in aided colleges, which has been pending since 2012.
- 158 teaching positions filled in minority colleges.
- Newly established private universities are creating abundant employment opportunities.
- Promotion process completed for 270 professors and 240 associate professors in government colleges.
- In aided colleges, promotions completed for 2,407 professors and 205 associate professors.
- Recruitment process initiated for 4 registrar posts and 38 assistant registrar posts in state universities.

Education is every child's right, Double engine government



# Court upholds state government's regulations on real money games

'Right to conduct trade under Article 19 cannot be used to deter right to life under Article 21'

R SIVAKUMAR @Chennai

IN a shot in the arm to the Tamil Nadu government in its efforts to regulate online real money games (RMGs) in order to protect the state's youth from falling prey eyeing big stakes, the Madras High Court has refused to declare ultra vires TN's recent regulations on the RMGs, including a night ban and compulsory Aadhaar-based registration of Know Your Client (KYC). The court held that such games are subject to regulation when it affects the public health resulting in serious social repercussions.

A division bench of justices S M Subramaniam and K Rajasekar passed the orders on Tuesday while dismissing the petitions filed by the online gaming platforms which prayed for declaring Section 5 r/w 14 of the TN Prohibition of Online Gaming and Regulation of Online Games Act, 2022, along with TN Online Gaming Authority (Real Money Games) Regulations, 2025, ultra vires.

"This court is of the view that any online games or online entertainment is subject to regulation when it affects the health of people at large. The focal test is that the ill-effects of such online activity must be directly linked to public health and must result in serious social repercussions if left unregulated. Any such online entertainment/game/trade then shall be subjected to regula-

## CPM hails verdict, seeks ban on online gambling

Chennai: The state committee of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) has welcomed the Madras High Court's verdict upholding the government's authority to regulate online gambling, including games like rummy. The party reiterated its long-standing demand for a complete ban on online gambling, citing the social and economic harm it causes. In a statement, CPM state secretary P Shanmugam said online gambling has driven several youths to suicide and pushed many poor and middle-income families into financial ruin. Referring to the 2022 Tamil Nadu Prohibition of Online Gambling and Regulation of Online Games Act, the CPM noted the 'prolonged delay' by the governor to give assent to the bill and praised the court for asserting the state's regulatory powers. Meanwhile, TMC(M) president G K Vasan also urged the state and central governments to impose a total ban on online gambling. ENS

tion," the bench said.

It held the right to conduct trade enshrined in Article 19 (1) (g), being a fundamental right, cannot be used to deter the people's right to life under Article 21.

The petitions were filed by online gaming platforms including Play Games 24x7 Private Limited, Head Digital Works Private Limited and Jungle Games India Private Limited.

These companies had challenged the TN Online Gaming Activity (Real Money Games) Regulations, 2025. The main contentions are against the ban on under 18 minors from playing the games, mandatory KYC registration with Aadhaar



EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

number, playing RMG during blank hours — from 12 am to 5 am — and the compulsory pop-up caution alerts for every 30 minutes after the initial one hour and setting time-bound monetary limits. They also stated the state's Act and regulations were repugnant with the Information Technology Act of the centre.

Pointing to the reports on the negative effects of online RMGs

on the physical, mental and financial aspects of a player who in essence is not playing with another human but a pre-programmed computer, the bench held that it would be only fair to ensure the right to life under Article 21 of the player is protected which also encompasses his right to health.

Referring to the Supreme Court's order in the Puttasamy case regarding the right to privacy, the bench noted, the right to privacy carries with it its own limitations and cannot be claimed as an absolute right. When put on a scale, a compelling public interest outweighs the right to privacy.

Upholding the state's right to bring in such regulations, the bench said the state reserves its right to legislate matters related to public health and more specifically the state government's competence to legislate on online RMGs remain undeterred by virtue of Entry 6 and 26 in List II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution.

Advocate General P S Ramani, Additional Advocate General Amit Anand Tiwari and advocate B Arvind Srevasa represented the state government and Additional Solicitor General (ASG) A R L Sundaresan appeared for the centre.

# Stalin inaugurates Semmozhi expo on Karuna's birth anniv

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Chennai

CHIEF Minister M K Stalin on Tuesday inaugurated the Tamil Semmozhi exhibition as part of the Semmozhi Naal celebrations. The birth anniversary of former Chief Minister M Karunanidhi, June 3, is being celebrated as Semmozhi Naal.

The exhibition, which is on at Kalavanan Arangam, showcases a rare collection of photographs of Karunanidhi, old editions of classical Tamil works, palm-leaf manuscripts giving details about the evolution of Tamil language, literature and civilisation through artefacts showing the antiquity of Tamil civilisation.

An official release said the exhibition has been extended till June 9 so that the public and students from schools and colleges could view it free of cost. The exhibition features include the history of classical Tamil, scripts from the Indus valley and Tamil Nadu symbols, Sangam-era inscriptions, pottery with Tamil inscriptions, details of Thiruvalluvar's copper plates, hero stone inscription from Keezh Makkuttoo, Kalaignar Karuvoolam with digital interactive features, a list of nationalised works of Karunanidhi, etc.

As part of the Semmozhi



Stalin released a book on the DMK's achievements over the past four years on Tuesday. Copies were received by VCK chief Thirumavalavan and others | P JAWAHAR

Naal celebrations, the government will also be organising literary competitions, including oratorical contests, contests on writing poetry, quiz programmes, moral storytelling events, etc.

Stalin presented the Kalaignar Karunanidhi Classical Tamil Award for 2025 to Tamil scholar Dr Thayammal Aravanan. The award carried ₹10 lakh and a citation. The CM also released two new books published by the Central Classical Tamil Institute. Tamil scholars M Chakkaravarthi, R Mohanasundaram, Bhanumathi alias Aathira Mulla, A Idayageetham Ramanujam, and N Sundari were also given enhanced financial aid.

The chief minister also released a compilation of the achievements of the DMK government in the past four years.

Copies of the work were received by VCK president Thol Thirumavalavan, MDMK general secretary Vaiko, CPI state secretary R Mutharasan, IUML president K M Khader Mohideen and TNCC president K Selvaperunthagan. The compilation also has articles written by senior journalists and experts in various fields.

The chief minister, in a post on his X handle, said Semmozhi Naal is being celebrated to remember the leader who was instrumental in securing the classical status to the Tamil language and the one who led Tamil Nadu for five decades as a pioneering state of the country. Deputy Chief Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin, in his X post, recalled the achievements of Karunanidhi during his tenure as the chief minister of the state.

## There won't be hike in govt bus fares, announces transport min

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Aranyal

MINISTER for Transport and Electricity S S Sivasankar on Tuesday said there will be no increase in government bus fares in the state.

Speaking to reporters, the minister said, "In the past few days, news about a possible hike in bus fare has been widely circulated in some media and social media platforms. This is not true."

Stating that the government has nothing to do with the fare hike request, Sivasankar said Chief Minister M K Stalin has clearly stated on several occasions that there will be no hike in government bus fares.

"Despite financial constraints in the transport sector, the government did not raise fares. Now, even though global fuel prices have come down, the union government has not reduced petrol and diesel prices. Yet, the state does not want to pass on the burden to the people," Sivasankar added.

## S Rly scraps plan to cut sleeper rakes in trains

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Chennai

FOLLOWING stiff opposition from passengers and several political parties, Southern Railway on Tuesday scrapped its proposal to reduce the number of sleeper coaches on the Chennai-Tirunelveli Nellore Express and the Chennai Egmore-Sengottai Podhigai Express.

However, the revised coach compositions for other trains, including the Chennai-Coimbatore Cheran Express and Chennai-Mettupalayam Nilgiris Express, will proceed as planned.

An order from the transportation branch of the Madurai railway division confirmed that the existing coach configurations for the Nellore and Podhigai Express trains — comprising 8 sleeper coaches, 5 AC three-tier coaches, 2 AC two-tier coaches, and 1 first-class AC coach — will remain unchanged.

The earlier proposal had suggested reducing sleeper coaches from 8 to 7 and increasing the number of AC three-tier coaches from 5 to 6, which stands cancelled, revealed the order issued by the Senior Divisional Operational Manager of the Madurai division.

On Tuesday, **TNIE** published a report highlighting how the proposed change would have reduced the availability of sleeper class berths while increasing the number of higher-fare AC berths.

Earlier in the day PMK president Anbumani Ramadoss had strongly criticised the railways' decision to reduce the number of sleeper coaches.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Chennai

THE Madras HC on Tuesday reserved orders on the petitions filed by the candidates appearing for the NEET-UG examination at three centres in the city and its suburbs seeking retest as they were allegedly affected by the power outage caused by sudden storm and heavy rains.

Justice C Kumarappan, before whom the petitions came up for hearing, refused to extend the interim stay, granted already by the court, on the release of the results. As a result, there is no legal bar on publishing the results which was scheduled for June 14.

The petitions were filed by some of the candidates who appeared for the examination at the Kendriya Vidyalaya at Avadi, Government Higher Secondary School in Kundrathur and Padma Seshadri School in KK Nagar.

Additional Solicitor General (ASG) ARL Sundaresan, appearing for the Centre, filed a report on behalf of the National Testing Agency (NTA),

saying inquiries revealed that a brief power outage was caused by sudden natural storm and rain in the respective places, but the power supply was restored quickly.

During this period, there was sufficient natural daylight in the classrooms; no contemporaneous complaint or representation was raised by any of the candidates including the petitioners regarding lighting or adverse conditions. Neither the centre superintendent nor any observers or invigilators recommended for compensatory time or reported any procedural irregularity; the examination was conducted strictly as per the NTA protocols, the ASG stated.

He also informed the court that an independent committee of statisticians was constituted to carry out an analysis of the performance of the centre and the students. The committee found no abnormal variation or decline in the number of attempted questions that would suggest disruption or disadvantage.

## RS seat row: Cong asks DMDK to join INDIA

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Chennai

TAMIL NADU Congress Committee (TNCC) president K Selvaperunthagan on Tuesday invited Desiya Murpokku Dravida Kazhagam (DMDK) to join the INDIA bloc led by the DMK in Tamil Nadu.

This has come amid signs of discontent brewing in the DMDK camp over being 'sidelined' by the AIADMK, especially in the recent Rajya Sabha seat allocation.

DMDK general secretary Premalatha Vijayakant recently expressed disappointment over the AIADMK's alleged failure to honour a 'pre-poll assurance' to allot a Rajya Sabha seat to her party. The DMDK was part of the AIADMK-led alliance during the 2024 Lok Sabha election.

Responding to a query on Premalatha's public gratitude to the DMK for passing a condolence resolution in honour of DMDK founder Vijayakant at its recent general council meeting, Selvaperunthagan said, "This is my personal opinion, but I believe DMDK should

## POLITICAL SIGNALLING

"This is my personal opinion, but I believe the DMDK should align with the INDIA bloc under DMK's leadership. We welcome them wholeheartedly," TNCC chief Selvaperunthagan said on Tuesday. The invitation is seen as a political signal at a time when the DMDK is reassessing its future. Premalatha also paid tribute to M Karunanidhi on his birth anniversary

align with the INDIA bloc under DMK's leadership. We welcome them wholeheartedly."

The TNCC chief's invitation is seen as a political signal at a time when the DMDK is reassessing its future. It may be noted that Premalatha also paid tribute to DMK patriarch M Karunanidhi on his 102<sup>nd</sup> birth anniversary. Recalling Karunanidhi's contributions to Tamil Nadu and the Tamil language, she also remembered his personal relationship with Vijayakant, saying, "Kalaignar graciously presided over our wedding. The bond between him and Captain was deep and unforgettable."



## TNHB must bear additional 5% GST cost, can't ask flat buyers to foot bill

R SIVAKUMAR @Chennai

THE Madras High Court has ruled that the Tamil Nadu Housing Board (TNHB) is not entitled to collect additional GST from flat purchasers after collecting the full flat cost, which is inclusive of the GST amount, as per the advertisements released during the time of entering into the agreement.

The ruling was given by Justice D Bharatha Chakravarthy while allowing a batch of petitions challenging the notices issued to purchasers by the TNHB in 2024, forcing them to pay an additional GST of 5% of the total sale price of the flats. He ordered the board to execute the sale deed in favour of the petitioners who have paid the full cost calculated as per the advertisement rate and refund the additional 5% to those who have already paid that within eight weeks.

The purchasers who moved the court are those who bought 102 High Income Group (HIG) flats in Nandanam division of TNHB and 72 such flats in Anna Nagar division. They contended that in 2021, the



FILE PIC

### 'Just a drop in profit'

The judge, in his order, said, "Already, 9% of the sale consideration is added as profit (of the board); therefore, even if there is any GST that is left out, that will only reduce the profit of TNHB to 4%."

rate was fixed at ₹9,892 per square foot inclusive of GST in Nandanam and ₹10,500 per square foot in Anna Nagar as per the advertisements and display boards in the site, but they were later forced to pay the additional GST before executing the sale deed.

TNHB's counsel submitted that the cost per square foot included the 12% GST

when contracts for construction were awarded and therefore, the advertisement reflected it.

However, the GST authorities later demanded an additional 5% GST from TNHB for its various projects, including the two covered in this case. The notice demanded TNHB to pay a total ₹101 crore. He said a writ petition against this demand notice is pending in the HC.

The judge, in his order on Tuesday, reasoned that the TNHB cannot force the purchasers to foot the additional GST and it has to instead pay from its own accounts.

"Firstly, it can be seen that the tax liability now sought to be collected is 5% of the sale consideration. Already, 9% of the sale consideration is added as profit (of the board); therefore, even if there is any GST that is left out, that will only reduce the profit of TNHB to 4%. Thus, the argument relating to overriding public interest to wriggle out of the contractual obligation cannot be countenanced," Justice Bharatha Chakravarthy said in the order.



# TN seeks consultants for Knowledge Tower

The tower, set to come up on 12.65 acres in Tiruvallur, is envisioned as a hub for high-value knowledge industries

C SHIVAKUMAR @Chennai

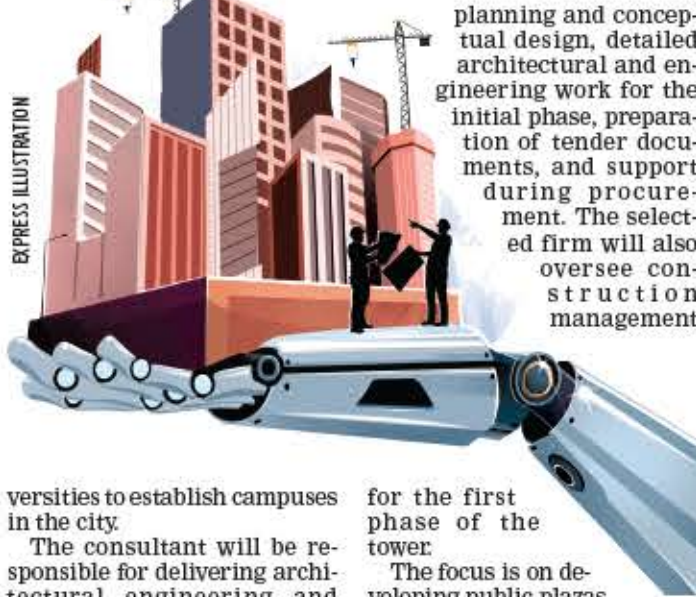
THE Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation Ltd (TIDCO) has invited consultancy proposals for the design and execution of a new "Knowledge Tower," a flagship infrastructure initiative that will anchor the upcoming Tamil Nadu Knowledge City in Tiruvallur, just north of Chennai.

Spread on 12.65-acre within Phase 1 of the Knowledge City project, the proposed tower is envisioned as a hub for high-value knowledge industries, offering built-up space for research institutions, technology firms, and innovation-driven enterprises.

TIDCO has been tasked by the government with end-to-end responsibility for its planning and execution, including associated infrastructure. The development is expected

to unfold in phases, with the initial stage comprising a minimum built-up area of one lakh square feet. Further expansion will be aligned with emerging demand and long-term strategic goals, suggesting a flexible, demand-responsive approach to growth.

The project is being developed in line with a broader master plan and Techno-Economic Feasibility Report (TEFR) for the Tamil Nadu Knowledge City, prepared by CBRE South Asia. The appointed consultant will be required to align their architectural and engineering proposals with these foundational documents to ensure design consistency and adherence to the overall vision for the site. The master plan for the Knowledge City has been completed, and the state government is currently in discussion with several national and international uni-



versities to establish campuses in the city.

The consultant will be responsible for delivering architectural, engineering, and project management services across the lifecycle of the project.

This includes the master

planning and conceptual design, detailed architectural and engineering work for the initial phase, preparation of tender documents, and support during procurement. The selected firm will also oversee construction management

for the first phase of the tower.

The focus is on developing public plazas, ramps, open areas, bus shelters, common parking spaces, vehicular drop-offs, and other elements which will be devel-

## PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- Project spread across

# 12.65 acres

- One lakh square feet built-up area in initial stage
- Will offer built-up space for research institutions, technology firms, and innovation-driven enterprises

## PARK TO INCLUDE

- Plazas
- Ramps
- Open areas
- Bus shelters
- Parking

oped or proposed in Phase 1. A pre-bid meeting will be held on June 11 and the last date for proposals is July 4.



## 'PAW'SOME BOND

A boy remains absorbed in his mobile phone, while his loyal pup waits patiently on the grass, at a park in Chennai on Tuesday | P RAVIKUMAR

# V'puram boy, girl who eloped to city, found dead in house

MOHAMED SALAHUDEEN @Chennai

TWO 19-year-old students, who were studying at a college in Villupuram, were found dead in a house they had moved-in together in Perambur 10 days back. The girl's body was found with injuries and the boy appeared to have died by suicide. The ICF police have registered a case of unnatural death under section 194 of BNSS and are probing the cause of death.

The deceased were identified as S Akash and T Abinaya, both belonging to the same caste from Kannaram-pattu village in Villupuram district.

They were in the third-year of computer science course at the Arignar Anna Arts and Science College, and had come to Chennai under the pretext of finding work during semester holidays.

The families of both the victims reportedly did not know

that they had gone to Chennai together. One of the neighbours in Perambur told *TNIE* that the two rented the place on May 26 with the help of a friend who was familiar in the neighbourhood. "They told us that they got married after leaving their home since they were facing issues from their families," the neighbour said.

Another neighbour said she checked the place since there was no activity since Monday morning. After discovering the two were dead, the neighbours alerted the police. The police sent the bodies for post-mortem to Kilpauk Medical College Hospital.

Abinaya's family members, who were at the hospital, alleged the boy may have killed the girl inadvertently during a fight and later killed himself. They refuted claims that they had created any issues and said they were unaware of the two being in a relationship.

They told us that they got married after leaving their home since they were facing issues from their families

Neighbour

## EXPRESS READ

### Auto driver attacked by Rottweilers in Chennai

Chennai: An auto driver, Muthu(45), sustained injuries to both hands after being attacked by two Rottweiler dogs on Periyapalayathamman Koll Street in Moolakothalam on Tuesday. He is under treatment at the Government Stanley Medical College Hospital. The dogs belong to Mahendran, a resident who owns five dogs. On Tuesday, Mahendran's sons took four Rottweilers for walking without muzzle. Muthu, who was waiting on the roadside for rides, was attacked by two of the dogs. Washermenpet police registered a case against Mahendran. An FIR has been filed under three sections. TNIE's attempts to contact corporation officials to verify whether Mahendran had obtained a pet licence or got his dogs vaccinated were not answered. ENS

### Two arrested with 15,000 foreign cigarette packs

Chennai: Triplicane police have arrested two persons and seized smuggled tobacco products, including imported cigarettes and banned electronic cigarettes. Based on a tip-off, police carried out a search near a mansion and found the goods, including 15,000 packs of illegally imported cigarettes, and arrested two persons. The men have been identified as Abdul Rawab (35) and Mohammed Ashwar (39), both from Ramanaathapuram district. They were sent to judicial custody. ENS

# Chennai cyber crime police bust two online job scams, arrest three men

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Chennai

CHENNAI city police's cyber crime units have arrested three suspects in two on-line part-time job scams.

The victims were initially told to share YouTube videos or give good review on Google, send a screen shot of the completed task to a dedicated group and claim a small sum of money. They were then lured into the investment scams promising higher returns.

According to sources, the North Zone Cyber Crime unit arrested S Veeraraghavan (39), a resident of Thirunindravur, following a complaint from K Mohanpriya (27) of New Washermanpet.

The woman allegedly lost over ₹4.5 lakh after being lured into the scam. Encouraged by initial success, she had transferred ₹4.5 lakh to the accused through a total of 49 transactions.

When she was allegedly asked to pay more money to "withdraw" her profits, she got

suspicious and filed a police complaint. Police traced the beneficiary account and arrested Veeraraghavan.

In another incident which was reported by the West Zone Cyber Crime unit, V Nagananthini (27) of Virugambakkam, lost ₹3.61 lakh in a similar fashion. Based on her complaint, Chennai police arrested P Selvam (28) and S Saravanan (29), both of whom hail from Tiruvannamalai.

All the three accused were produced before a magistrate and remanded to judicial custody.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform general public that an Environmental Clearance has been accorded by State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), for the proposed construction of Basement + Stilt (Parking) + 1st floor to 19th floor of Residential Building "JAINS ANUSHREE" comprised in S.No. 113/2A & 130/2 situated at Egattur Village, Thirunorur Taluk, Chengalpattu District, Tamil Nadu by M/s. Jain Housing LLP, under project category "B2" and Schedule S.No. 8(a) under the Environment Impact Assessment Notification 2006. The Copies of the said clearance available in Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) and also can be seen in the below website: [http://environmentclearance.nic.in/statedecord.aspx?state\\_Name=Tamil%20Nadu](http://environmentclearance.nic.in/statedecord.aspx?state_Name=Tamil%20Nadu) (L.No: SEIAA-TNF.No.10552/02038 (a)/EC.No:1026/2024, dated 02.04.2024)

Date: 04.06.2025  
Place: Chennai

JAIN HOUSING LLP  
98/99, Habibullah Road,  
T.Nagar, Chennai - 600017

## WANTED

Electronics Technology Parks-Kerala (Technopark), an autonomous organization fully owned by the Government of Kerala, invites applications from eligible candidates for the following posts:

- Chief Security Officer
- Junior Engineer (MEP)

Interested candidates may visit Technopark website <https://www.technopark.in/careers> for more details and submit online application along with copies of Certificates and testimonials on or before 5 pm, 20/06/2025. Only online applications will be accepted.

Chief Executive Officer  
Park Centre, Technopark Campus, Karyavattom P.O  
Thiruvananthapuram - 695 581, Phone: 0471-2700222

D3/432/2025/1&PRD

## NOTICE OF AUCTION FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY OF

### M/S ASHOK MAGNETICS LIMITED-UNDER LIQUIDATION

In furtherance of liquidation proceedings of Ashok Magnetics Limited (commenced vide NCLT order in MA/163/IB/2018 dated 09.11.2018), inter alia, appointing the undersigned as a Liquidator. The Liquidator, in terms of section on 35(1)(f) of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 read with Regulations 33 of the IBB (Liquidation Process) Regulations, 2017, is conducting sale by public e-auction on 04.07.2025 at 11 AM of the immovable property of the company in terms of the provisions of the Code/Regulation on "as is where is and whatever there is and no complaint" basis.

### Property offered for sale

Property situated At Gopalapuram, Chennai being Basement, Ground Floor and Northern part of First Floor, AML Tower, New Door No.9, 6th Street, Gopalapuram, Chennai - 600 086 of app. total built up area of 8830 sq.ft with app. undivided land of 6402.50 sq.ft. out of 12805.05 sq.ft.

### Bidders may note that:

- The property is presently mortgaged to M/s Religare Finvest Limited a Non Banking Finance Company registered with Reserve Bank of India with Chennai office at No.14/FFA, 1st Floor, 4th Avenue, Ashok Nagar, Chennai - 600083 and they have set out that they will stand outside liquidation.
- The property is being auctioned as per terms of directions in order dated 11.03.2025 of the Hon'ble National Company Law Tribunal Court I Chennai in IA/30/Diss/2024 in CP/551/IB/2017
- The original documents of the property are held by the mortgagee M/s Religare Finvest Limited
- The said mortgagee has stated that it is contesting the order dated 11.03.2025 of the NCLT Chennai and has intimated Liquidator that it has filed appeal at the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal Southern Region Chennai against the said order
- As neither the documents of Property deed copies of the same are with the Liquidator nor inspection of such documents can be permitted.
- Liquidator can hand over documents of title to successful bidder only, once Application filed by him before NCLT Chennai for directions to Mortgagee to hand over the documents is ordered and complied with by the Mortgagee.

Reserve Price: Rs.9,35,50,000/- (Rupees Nine Crore thirty five lacs and fifty thousand only)

EMD : 10% of Reserve Price is Rs.93.55 lacs (Rupees Ninety three lacs and fifty five thousand only)

For detailed terms and conditions of the EOI, visit <https://www.banksauctionwizard.com>

Chennai: 28.05.2025

Venkataramanarao Nagarajan  
Liquidator of Ashok Magnetics Limited

## HIGH ENERGY MATERIALS RESEARCH LABORATORY DRDO, MINISTRY OF DEFENCE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, SUTARWADI, PUNE- 411 021. Tel: 020 - 2591 2241, Fax: 020-2586 9661, E-mail: mmd.hemrl@gov.in

### EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Annexure-A

EOI No. HEMRL/25EOI002/RF/LP Date: 16/05/2025  
HEMRL, Pune an armament laboratory under Defence Research and Development Organization, invites Expression of Interest from reputed Manufacturing firms for following stores.

Sl. No.	EOI Number	DESCRIPTION OF ITEMS	QTY
1	HEMRL/25EOI002/RF/LP	Braiding of Circular Miniature Detonating Cord	300 mtr Per Year (for 05 years)

### GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

The reputed manufacturing firms who are interested may send their EOIs through DEFPROC Portal ([www.defproc.gov.in](http://www.defproc.gov.in)) on or before 08/07/2025 by 11.00 hrs. The offers against the EOI will be opened on 09/07/2025 at 11.30 hrs.

The proposals in response to this EOI will be evaluated based on a Preliminary Evaluation carried out by HEMRL as per the technical specification. The Final Evaluation will be based on the project specific criteria. The vendors are expected to submit all the mandatory information as per HEMRL requirement. The actual execution of the contract will be based on the technical specifications and all the other terms and conditions evolved through this EOI.

Offline applications will not be accepted. The Director, HEMRL reserves the right to reject any or all the EOIs without assigning any reasons whatsoever and his decision in this regard will be final. The details on the specification, scope of work, terms and conditions and the evaluation criteria are available on DEFPROC portal.

Sd/-

Scientist 'F'

For Director, HEMRL

Contact No.: Tel No. 91 20 25912241

Fax No. 91 20 25869661

CBC 10301/11/0026/2526

## AMBATTUR BRANCH Seven Star Complex, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 119 MTH Road, Ambattur-600053 Phone: 044-23454228/229/230

### POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Bank of Baroda under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice dated 06.03.2025 calling upon the Borrower Shri Devanandhan N K and Mrs. Saritha S K to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs. 26,43,144.65** (Rupees Twenty Six Lakh Forty Three Thousand One Hundred Forty Four and Sixty Five paise only) together with further interest thereon at the contractual rate plus costs, charges and expenses till date of payment within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower and the Public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub-section (4) of section 13 of the Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002 on this the 3rd day of June of the year 2025.

The Borrower/Guarantors/Mortgagors in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of Bank of Baroda for an amount of **Rs. 27,96,226.92** (Rupees Twenty Seven lakh Ninety Six Thousand Two Hundred Twenty Six and Ninety Two paise only) as on **03.06.2025** and further interest thereon at the contractual rate plus costs, charges and expenses till date of payment.

The Borrower's attention is invited to provision of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

### Description of the Immovable Property

All that Piece and parcel of property with 477sq.ft of undivided share out of land measuring an extent of 2556 sq.ft. together with Flat bearing Flat No F-2 in First floor, in the building with an area of 889 Sq. Ft. (including common area) together with one car park marked as car parking to Flat no F-2 bearing Plot No E. a layout approved by the corporation of Chennai vide Sub-division Planning permit No. SD/WDC07/00270/2012, situated at 16 Feet private passage connecting to T.S.No.143 in Block No. 5 of ward C of Menambur Village in Ambattur Taluk, Tiruvallur District and the land bounded on the North by: Land and Building comprised in Survey No.8, South by: 16 Feet Private Passage, exclusively formed as access only to the plot Nos. A to H, East by: Plot No F belonging to Mr. Nandagopal, West by: Land comprised in Survey 7/1A.

Place : Ambattur, Date : 03.06.2025 (AUTHORIZED OFFICER) BANK OF BARODA

## South East Central Railway e-Tender

Sri. No. (1) E-Tender No. DRM-ENG-BSP-T-56-2025-26, Date: 27.05.2025

Work: Supply, delivery and stacking of 101,000 Cum 50mm gauge machine crushed track ballast as per Railway's specification at Hingir (HGR) Depot from outside Railway land and loading into Railway wagons under the jurisdiction of ADEN/Brajrajnagar of Bilaspur Division, Tender value (In Rs.): 16,68,50,000/-, EMD (In Rs.): 10,84,300/-, Completion Period: 10 Months, Start date of Submission of Tender: From 06.06.2025, Last date of Submission of Tender: Upto 11.00 hrs. on: 20.06.2025 The complete information of above e-Tender Notices is available over websites: <https://www.irps.gov.in> Bids other than e-bids shall not be accepted against above tenders.

Div. Railway Manager (Eng)/BSP  
CPRI/UPRI/2 S.E.C. Railway/BSP

South East Central Railway @Secol

DR. RAM MANOHAR LOHIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES  
VIBHUTI KHAND, GOMTI NAGAR, LUCKNOW- 226 010 (UP)  
Ph. No. : 0522-6662000, 6662011, 6662120  
Website :- [www.drmlims.ac.in](http://www.drmlims.ac.in)

Advertisement No.-779/DrRMLIMS/Estb-2/2025 Dated: 03.06.2025

Walk - In Interview

for

Appointment of Medical Physicist on Contractual Basis

Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Institute of Medical Sciences, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow invites eligible Indian citizens from all categories for appointment on contractual basis to the posts of Medical Physicist in Radiation Oncology Department. For detailed information, application form, Schedule of the Walk-in Interviews, and subsequent updates, kindly visit the Institute website- [www.drmlims.ac.in](http://www.drmlims.ac.in). The completed Application Form along with relevant certificates should reach the Institute on or before the last date ie 24.06.2025 till 05.00 pm

Director

भारत सरकार/Government of India  
अंतरिक्ष विभाग/Department of Space  
भारतीय अंतरिक्ष अनुसंधान संगठन/Indian Space Research Organisation  
इसरो/ISRO विक्रम साराभाई अंतरिक्ष केंद्र/VIKRAM SARABHAI SPACE CENTRE  
तिरुवनन्तपुरम/Thiruvananthapuram-695022

शुद्धिपत्र दिनांक 04.06.2025  
CORRIGENDUM DATED 04.06.2025

यह स्नातकोत्तर अभ्यापक (पद सं.1523) को 01 रिक्ति, प्राथमिक अभ्यापक (पद सं.1524) को 01 रिक्ति और उप अधिकारी (पद सं.1525) को 01 रिक्ति को मर्जी के लिए दिनांक 27.03.2025 को प्रकाशित वीएसएससी विज्ञापन सं. 331 के संदर्भ में है। उपरोक्त विज्ञापन में आशिक संशोधन किए गए हैं जो सविस्तर वीएसएससी वेबसाइट के कैरियर्स पृष्ठ में दिया गया है। ऑन-लाइन आवेदन प्रस्तुत करने के लिए वेबसाइट को पुनः सक्षम किया गया है तथा सुधार किए गए प्रतियोगिता के अनुसार पाठ्यक्रम अपना आवेदन दिनांक 04.06.2025 से दिनांक 18.06.2025 तक ऑन-लाइन प्रस्तुत करें। तथ्याि, जो अभ्यर्थी शुद्धिपत्र जारी करने से पहले आवेदन प्रस्तुत कर चुके हैं, यदि वे सुधार किए गए प्रतियोगिता के अनुसार पाठ्यक्रम जानें हैं तो, उन्हें फिर से आवेदन करने की आवश्यकता नहीं है। जो अभ्यर्थी शुद्धिपत्र जारी होने से पहले आवेदन प्रस्तुत कर चुके हैं और प्रतियोगिता में सुधार के कारण अयोग्य हो गए हैं, उन अभ्यर्थियों का आवेदन शुद्धिपूर्णता वापस कर दिया जाएगा। यह भी नोट किया जाए कि आवृ सीमा निर्धारित करने के लिए महत्वपूर्ण तिथि दिनांक 09.04.2025 है और अनिवार्य चोयता प्राप्त करने की तिथि दिनांक 18.06.2025 होगी।

This refers to VSSC Advertisement No. 331 published on 27.03.2025 for recruitment of 01 vacancy of Post Graduate Teacher (Post No. 1523), 01 vacancy of Primary Teacher (Post No.1524) and 01 vacancy of Sub-Officer (Post No. 1525). There are partial modifications to the above mentioned Advertisement which is detailed in the Careers page of VSSC website. The website has been re-enabled for submission of online applications and eligible candidates as per the revised norms may submit their application online from 04.06.2025 to 18.06.2025. However, those candidates who have already submitted application prior to issue of corrigendum need not apply again, if they are found eligible as per the revised norms. The application fee of those candidates who have already submitted application prior to issue of corrigendum and became ineligible due to revision of norms, will be refunded in full. It may also be noted that the crucial date for determining the age limit is 09.04.2025 and that of acquiring essential qualifications will be 18.06.2025.



COIR BOARD



MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL & MEDIUM ENTERPRISES  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA



75 Years of Constitution

## APPLICATIONS INVITED FOR COIR TRAINING COURSE AT FOUR DIFFERENT CENTRES OF THE BOARD

Six Months Certificate Course of Artisan in Coir Technology: NSQF Level 3.  
(6 months + 1 month internship) (July to December 2025)

Last date of receipt of Application **19.06.2025**

- Age : between 18 to 50 years.
- Candidates sponsored by the Coir factory/ Coir Co-op. societies as per the R & L Rules 1958 are given preference.
- 20% seats are reserved for SC/ST candidates.

Free hostel facilities available in following Centres  
1. Bhubaneswar, 2.Thanjavur, 3. Alappuzha (only for ladies)

Application form can be downloaded from website of Coir Board [www.coirboard.gov.in](http://www.coirboard.gov.in)

NOTE: All communications will be made through email only.

CBC 25131/12/0006/2526

Selected trainees will be eligible for a stipend of **Rs. 3000/-** per month.

An amount of Rs. 500/- per month will be reimbursed to the eligible candidates staying outside (male candidates at Alappuzha and all candidates at Rajahmundry)

Kochi  
29.05.2025

S/d  
Secretary, Coir Board



Covid+ve 69-yr woman  
with comorbidities dies

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

A 69-year-old woman with comorbidities, who tested positive for Covid-19, died at a private hospital in Chennai on Sunday. The deceased was a resident of Sowcarpet, and was suffering from cervical cancer. She was admitted to the ICU of a private hospital at Chetpet. Sources said she also had type 2 diabetes mellitus and Parkinson's disease. This is the third death of a Covid positive person in the state, after the recent spike in the number of cases.

According to the Union Health Ministry's data, the state has 215 active cases as on Tuesday, and 26 people tested positive in the last 24 hours. The Directorate of Public Health and Preventive Medicine in Tamil Nadu had recently issued instructions to all the district health officers, city health officers, and municipal health officers to step up disease surveillance and encourage people to wear face masks in crowded places to reduce respiratory transmission. Health minister Ma Subramanian also requested people not to panic as no new variant is in circulation in the state.

Appointment of V-Cs in state univs: TN  
moves SC against HC order staying 9 lawsSUCHITRA KALYAN MOHANTY  
@ New Delhi

THE Tamil Nadu government has filed a Special Leave Petition (SLP) before the Supreme Court's vacation bench, challenging the May 21 order of a vacation bench of the Madras High Court that stayed the operation of nine Acts dealing with the appointment of vice-chancellors (V-Cs) of state-run universities in Tamil Nadu. The HC had passed the order based on a writ petition filed by an advocate belonging to a political party.

The SLP alleged that the HC bench showed "undue haste" and gave "extraneous reasons" for its findings to order the stay.

These nine Acts were part of the 10 bills that were notified after the SC granted them "deemed assent" in its April verdict in the



case filed by Tamil Nadu government against Governor RN Ravi for delay in deciding on bills. Though the SC's summer vacation is till July 13 and the vacation bench is conducting restricted hearing on important matters, sources in the SC registry said the SLP would be taken up for hearing within this week. "The matter is very sensitive in nature. So it will come up for hearing in a day or two," a registry official told *TNIE*.

The writ petition, on which the HC bench had ordered the

stay, challenged the nine Acts that transferred the powers to appoint V-Cs from the governor to the state government on the ground that they violated UGC regulations 2018.

The SLP questioned the presumption of unconstitutionality of the Acts by the HC bench and said that the Acts did not suffer from repugnancy since the UGC regulations are not binding on Tamil Nadu.

Citing the SC judgment in Health for Millions vs Union of India and Others in 2014, which said that courts should be slow in passing interim orders in matters challenging constitutionality of provisions, the SLP said the HC order "has the effect of granting final relief at interim stage".

It said the HC vacation bench had entertained the writ petition

in violation of a Madras High Court notification directing that only "very urgent matters" be listed before the vacation court. The order was passed without granting reasonable opportunity to the state government to defend its case, the SLP said.

Contending that the writ petitioner did not say why he did not approach the regular bench, the SLP said, "Thus, it is a textbook case of forum shopping."

It further said the Madras High Court bench while dictating the order muted the court's mic for "unknown reasons" and no one could hear the order being passed. It added that the HC's order was "rife with personal attacks" on senior counsel P Wilson, who appeared for the Tamil Nadu government, "which ought not to be part of a judicial pronouncement".

EXPRESS READ  
Woman run over by speeding BMW  
in Triplicane dies, driver arrested

Chennai: A 35-year-old woman was run over by a speeding BMW in Triplicane on Tuesday, according to police. Police are investigating if the driver was under the influence of alcohol. Valar, the victim, was a resident of Narasimman Koil street in Washermanpet. She was rescued by locals and taken to a nearby hospital where she was declared dead on arrival. Anna Square Traffic Investigation Wing (TIW) personnel have apprehended the driver. ENS

Road cave-in at Arumbakkam leads  
to congestion on EVR Periyar Salai

Chennai: A portion of the road at Thiruvudhali Anman Koll in Arumbakkam caved in, leading to traffic congestion on EVR Periyar Salai on Tuesday evening. Officials suspect leakage from the underground sewage pipeline to be the reason for the cave-in. The portion of the street has been temporarily barricaded and officials said that repair works will be completed within a day. Only on May 18, the driver and four others of a family in a car, were trapped in a sinkhole on the connecting road between Thiruvannamiyur and Taramani. This was also caused by a leakage in an underground sewage pipeline. ENS

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA,**  
**DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES**  
**OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER,**  
**CENTRAL IRRIGATION CIRCLE, BHUBANESWAR**

A-248  
e-mail ID :- secic\_dowr@yahoo.com 'e' Procurement Notice No. ACECIC-03 / 2025-26

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Name of Work	Cost of Work (Rs. in Lakhs)	Bid Security (Rs.) EMD	Cost of Bid Documents (Rs.)	Class of Contractor	Bid documents available online for bidding From To	Date of Opening of Technical Bid	Period of completion of work
ACE, CI, Bhubaneswar	PRD-01/2025-26	Protection to Scoured Bank on NSDR Embankment from RD 24.30 Km to 24.80 Km	462.57	46250/- (On Line)	10000/- (On Line)	"A" Class	05.06.2025 10:00 Hours	19.06.2025 11:00 Hours	11 (Eleven) Calendar Month
	PRD-02/2025-26	Protection to Scoured Bank on NSDR Embankment from RD 41.00 Km to 41.50 Km	465.38	465400/- (On Line)	10000/- (On Line)	"A" Class	05.06.2025 10:00 Hours	19.06.2025 11:00 Hours	11 (Eleven) Calendar Month

Further details conditions can be seen from Govt. website [www.tenderorissa.gov.in](http://www.tenderorissa.gov.in)  
Sd/- Additional Chief Engineer, Central Irrigation Circle

**बैंक ऑफ बड़ोदा Bank of Baroda**  
Regional Office Stressed Asset Recovery Branch (ROSARB),  
Chennai Rural Region, No: 123, Mezzanine Floor,  
Dugur Towers, RL Road, Egmore, Chennai-600008.  
Phone: 044-28885428, E-mail: [sarcmr@bankofbaroda.com](mailto:sarcmr@bankofbaroda.com); Web: [www.bankofbaroda.com](http://www.bankofbaroda.com)

**SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES**

APPENDIX- IV-A (See proviso to Rule 6 (2) & (6))  
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 6 (2) & (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s), Mortgagor (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Bank of Baroda, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" basis for recovery of dues in below mentioned accounts. The details of Borrowers/Mortgagor/Guarantor/Secured Asset/s/Dues/Reserve Price/Auction date & Time, EMD and Bid Increase Amount are mentioned below -

**SI.No.1: NAME & ADDRESS OF BORROWERS / GUARANTOR/ S/ MORTGAGOR (S):**  
Borrower: Mr. K Natarajan, No.40, Ramasamy Street, Anai Santhiya Nagar, Salabogam, Kancheepuram- 631 502. And also at: Plot No.86, Sri Ram Anjaneya Garden, Flat No F 1, Ganapathy Illam, No.142, Salamangalam Village, Kundrathur Taluk, Kancheepuram, Tamil Nadu-602 203.

**Total Dues : Rs.62,98,308.58 as on 24.05.2025 and further interest from 25.05.2025, other charges and legal expenses.**

**Status of Possession: Physical**

**Detailed description of the immovable property with known encumbrances, if any:**  
**Schedule A (Whole Property)** All that piece and parcel of vacant house site bearing Plot No.86, measuring an extent of 1800 Square Feet, in the layout named as "Sri Rama Anjaneya Garden" (Layout approved vide C.T.D.T.C.P.M 83-140/ LP 103) Comprised in old Survey Nos 218/1 & 218/1A1A1A1 as per new Patta No.3282 new Survey No.218/38, situated No.142, Salamangalam Village, Kundrathur Taluk Kancheepuram District lying within the limits of Kundrathur panchayat union and within the Registration district of Chengalpattu and Sub-Registration District of Sriperumbudur. Bounded on the North by: Plot No.85, South by: Plot No.87, East by: Plot No.91 and West by: 24 feet Road, Measuring East to West on the Northern side: 60 feet, East to West on Southern side: 60 feet, North to South on the Eastern side: 30 feet, North to South on the Western side: 30 feet.  
**Schedule B Flat No. F1, First Floor measuring 1060 Sq.ft., (including common area) of the apartment named as "Ganapathy Illam" (Now Sri Hari-Ram-I) constructed in the Schedule "A" Property, together with 350 Sq.ft., Undivided share of land out of the total extent of 1800Sq.ft., of the Schedule "A" property along with one carparking. Latitude: 12.878769 N, Longitude 80.006633 E.**  
**NOTE: As per valuation report the superbuilt up area is 804 Sq.ft**

**RESERVE PRICE ₹ 20,50,000/- EMD ₹ 2,05,000/- BID INCREASE AMOUNT ₹ 10,000/-**

**SI.No.2: NAME & ADDRESS OF BORROWERS / GUARANTOR/ S/ MORTGAGOR (S):**  
Borrower: 1. Mr. Yuges Loganathan, 2. Mrs. Gajalakshmi Yuges, Both are residing at: No.157/A, Thiruvottiyur High Road, Kaladirep, Thiruvottiyur, Chennai-600 019 And Also at: Plot No.86, Flat No S2, Second Floor, Ganapathy Illam, Sri Ram Anjaneya Garden, Salamangalam Village, Tamil Nadu 601 301.

**Total Dues : Rs.65,47,428.53 as on 25.05.2025 and further interest from 26.05.2025, other charges and legal expenses.**

**Status of Possession: Physical**

**Detailed description of the immovable property with known encumbrances, if any:**  
**Schedule A (Whole Property):** All that piece and parcel of vacant house site bearing Plot No.86, measuring an extent of 1800 Square Feet, in the layout named as "Sri Rama Anjaneya Garden" (Layout approved vide C.T.D.T.C.P.M 83-140/ LP 103) Comprised in old Survey Nos 218/1 & 218/1A1A1A1, as per new Patta No.3282 new Survey No.218/38, situated No.142, Salamangalam Village, Kundrathur Taluk Kancheepuram District lying within the limits of Kundrathur panchayat union and within the Registration district of Chengalpattu and Sub-Registration District of Sriperumbudur. Bounded on the North by: Plot No.85, South by: Plot No.87, East by: Plot No.91, and West by: 24 Feet Road, Measuring East to West on the Northern side: 60 feet, East to West on Southern side: 60 feet, North to South on the Eastern side: 30 feet, North to South on the Western side: 30 feet.  
**Schedule B Flat No. S2, Second Floor measuring 1345 Sq.ft., (including common area) of the apartment named as "Ganapathy Illam" to be constructed in the Schedule A property together with 390 Sq.ft., undivided share of land out of total extent 1800Sq.ft., of the Schedule "A" property. Latitude: 12.878743 N, Longitude: 80.006997 E.**  
**NOTE: As per valuation report super builtup area is 876 Sq.ft**

**RESERVE PRICE ₹ 22,40,000/- EMD ₹ 2,24,000/- BID INCREASE AMOUNT ₹ 10,000/-**

**SI.No.3: NAME & ADDRESS OF BORROWERS / GUARANTOR/ S/ MORTGAGOR (S):**  
Borrower: Mr. Ahmad Iqbal Sahul Hameed, No.15/14, Ragavan Colony, Andavar Nagar, Kodambakkam, Chennai-600 024. And Also at: Plot No. 93, Flat No S2, Second Floor, Sri Ram Anjaneya Garden, Salamangalam Village, Tamil Nadu - 601 301.

**Total Dues : Rs.64,70,159.45 as on 24.05.2025 and further interest from 25.05.2025, other charges and legal expenses.**

**Status of Possession: Physical**

**Detailed description of the immovable property with known encumbrances, if any:**  
**Schedule A (Whole Property):** All that piece and parcel of vacant house site bearing Plot No.93, measuring an extent of 1800 Square Feet, in the layout named as "Sri Rama Anjaneya Garden" (Layout approved vide C.T.D.T.C.P.M 83-140/ LP 103) Comprised in old Survey Nos 219/4 & 219/2A1, as per Patta No.2839 new Survey No.219/18, situated No.142, Salamangalam Village, Kundrathur Taluk Kancheepuram District lying within the limits of Kundrathur panchayat union and within the Registration district of Chengalpattu and Sub-Registration District of Sriperumbudur. Bounded on the North by: Plot No.94, South by: Plot No.92, East by: 24 Feet Road, and West by: Plot No.86, Measuring East to West on the Northern side: 60 feet, East to West on Southern side: 60 feet, North to South on the Eastern side: 30 feet, North to South on the Western side: 30 feet.  
**Schedule B Flat No. S2, Second Floor measuring 1196 Sq.ft., (including common area) constructed in Schedule A property together with 370 Sq.ft., undivided share of land out of total extent 1800Sq.ft., of the Schedule "A" property. Latitude : 12.878922 N, Longitude 80.006819 E**  
**NOTE: As per valuation report the super built up area is 806 Sq.ft**

**RESERVE PRICE ₹ 21,90,000/- EMD ₹ 2,19,000/- BID INCREASE AMOUNT ₹ 10,000/-**

**Property Inspection Date & Time: 18.06.2025, 3:00 PM to 05:00 PM**

**DATE & TIME OF E-AUCTION : 24.06.2025**  
Time: 02.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.

With unlimited auto extension of 10 minutes each, till sale is concluded

For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer to the link provided in <https://www.bankofbaroda.in/e-auction.htm> and online Auction portal <https://baanknet.com>. Also, prospective bidders may contact the Authorized Officer on Tel No. 044-28885428, Mob: 9987478064.

Date: 31.05.2025, Place: Chennai

Authorised Officer, BANK OF BARODA

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

Tender No. & Description of Material	Estimated Amount (in Rs. in Lakh)	Due Date & Time (Hrs.) Submission & Opening of Tender
SP/T-17/0525_TKC1 RFx 7000036564 (1st call) Up-gradation of existing HVDC Control & Protection of ±500kV, 1500 MW Chandrapur- Padgha HVDC Bi-pole Link to suitable Control & Protection	43974.50 25,000.00	30.06.2025 11:00 30.06.2025 16:00

**Pre-bid meeting Date, Time & Venue**  
Date: 09.06.2025 Time: 11:30 Hrs Venue: 8th Floor, MSETCL, "Prakashganga", BKC, Bandra (E), Mumbai.

Contact Person: Office of the Executive Engineer (Gr-P&C)  
Tel.No.022-69852720/022-69852717 Cell.No.09619469933  
Email:1) C.E. (CPA) 2) E.E. (Group-TKC1), CPA, C.O. MSETCL, 1st Floor, Prakashgad Building, Bandra (E), Mumbai Email id: [cecpa@mahatransco.in](mailto:cecpa@mahatransco.in), [eegrp7@mahatransco.in](mailto:eegrp7@mahatransco.in)  
For further details visit our website <http://www.srmnetender.mahatransco.in>  
Any further amendments will be published on the MSETCL website [www.mahatransco.in](http://www.mahatransco.in). So bidders are requested to check the website.

S/d  
Executive Engineer (P&C)

**ICICI Bank**  
Branch Office: ICICI Bank Limited, SP-24, Ambattur Industrial Estate, Chennai-600058

**PUBLIC NOTICE-TENDER CUM E-AUCTION FOR SALE OF SECURED ASSET**  
[See proviso to Rule 6(6)]  
Notice for sale of immovable asset(s)

E-Auction Sale Notice for the sale of immovable asset(s) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 6 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

This 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 possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of ICICI Bank Limited will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" as per the brief particulars given hereunder:

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)/ Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Reserve Price Earnest Money Deposit	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of E-Auction
1.	Mr. Umer Sherif (Borrower) Taj Unisso (Co-Borrower) LBCHE00004387260	Plot No. F1, 1st Floor, Block A, Signature Apartments, 7th Cross Street Extn, Thiruvalluvar Nagar, Thiruvanniyur, Chennai-600041 Residential Flat Super built-up area 1493 Sq.ft. and UDS 780 Sq.ft.	Rs. 1,28,51,099/- as on (January 06, 2025) DPD-1070+	Rs. 96,00,000/- to Rs. 9,60,000/-	June 17, 2025 from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM	June 27, 2025 from 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM
2.	Mr. Umer Sherif (Borrower) Taj Unisso (Co-Borrower) LBCHE00004347962	Plot No. F2, 1st Floor, Block A, Signature Apartments, 7th Cross Street Extn, Thiruvalluvar Nagar, Thiruvanniyur, Chennai-600041 Residential Flat Super built-up area 1536 Sq.ft. and UDS 782 Sq.ft.	Rs. 1,36,33,477/- as on (May 31, 2025)	Rs. 98,50,000/- to Rs. 9,85,000/-	June 17, 2025 from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM	June 27, 2025 from 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM

The online auction will be conducted on the website (URL Link- <https://disposalhub.com>) of our auction agency M/s NexGen Solutions Private Limited. The Mortgagors/Notices are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest by June 26, 2025 before 05:00 PM else the secured asset(s) will be sold as per schedule. The prospective bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at ICICI Bank Limited, SP-24, Ambattur Industrial Estate, Chennai- 600058 on or before June 26, 2025 before 03:00 PM. Thereafter, they have to submit their offer through the website mentioned above on or before June 26, 2025 before 05:00 PM along with the scanned image of the Bank acknowledged DD towards proof of payment of EMD. In case the prospective bidder(s) is/are unable to submit his/ her/ their offer through the website, then the signed copy of tender documents may be submitted at ICICI Bank Limited, SP-24, Ambattur Industrial Estate, Chennai- 600058 on or before June 26, 2025 before 05:00 PM. Earnest Money Deposit DD/PO should be from a Nationalised/Scheduled Bank in favour of ICICI Bank Limited payable at Kanyakulam. For any further clarifications in terms of inspection, Terms and Conditions of the E-Auction or submission of tenders, contact ICICI Bank Employee Phone No. 7550214251. Please note that Marketing agencies 1.M/s Value Trust Capital Services Private Limited, 2. Matex Pvt Ltd, 3. Augco Asset Management Pvt have also been engaged for facilitating the sale of this property. The Authorised Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any further reasons. For detailed Terms and Conditions of the sale, please visit [www.icicibank.com/n4p4s](http://www.icicibank.com/n4p4s)  
Date: June 04, 2025  
Place: Chennai

Authorized Officer  
ICICI Bank Limited

**बैंक ऑफ बड़ोदा Bank of Baroda**  
Velappanchavadi Branch  
No. 126, Poonamallee High Road,  
Velappanchavadi, Chennai- 600077.  
Ph- 044-26800353 / 354

**SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES**

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 6 (2) & (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s), Mortgagor (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Bank of Baroda, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis for recovery of dues in below mentioned accounts. The details of Borrowers/Mortgagor/Guarantor/Secured Asset/s/Dues/Reserve Price/Auction date & Time, EMD and Bid Increase Amount are mentioned below:-

Name & address of Borrower(s) / Guarantor/ Mortgagor : Borrower : 1. M/s. Falcon Plastics Represented by its partners 2. Mr. Karthikeyan M, S/o Mr. K Muniappan 3. Mrs. Geetha K, W/o Karthikeyan Official Address : Shed No. 7, Survey, No. 418/1, Padasala Road, PKM Cross Street, Melayyanabakkam, Chennai-600095 Residence Address : Flat No. 403, Tower 22, 4th Floor, SKY CITY apartments, Ambattur high road, Vanagaram, Chennai-600095

**Total Dues : as on 03-06-2025 Rs. 75,94,487.16 plus further interest charges expenses thereon.**

**Constructive Possession**

**Detailed description of the immovable property : Property 1 :** All piece and parcel of land and building at Flat No. 403, Tower 22, 4th Floor, SKY CITY apartments, Ambattur high road, Vanagaram, Chennai-600095. Having super builtup area of 1617 Sqft together with 809 Sqft of undivided share in the area of 7.48 acres as per documents in New Sy.No.92/1, 92/2, 92/3, 93/1, 93/2A, 93/3A, PART, 94/1, 94/2B1A, 94/2B1A, 94/2B2C, 94/3A2A, 94/3A2C, 94/3A2D, 94/3B3A, 94/3B3C, 94/4, 94/5A, 94/5C, 94/6, 95/1B, 95/2A, 95/2B, 97/6, At Adyalampet village Ambattur Taluk Thiruvalluvar district Bounded by : North by : Land in Sy.No. 97/5 & 95/1A part, South by : Land in Sy.No. 101/2 part, 105 & 108, East by : land in Sy.No. 95/1A part, 91, 90 & 89, West by : Road (Vanagaram-Ambattur High Road).

**RESERVE PRICE : Rs. 73,00,000/- EMD Amount : Rs. 7,30,000/- Bid Increase Amount : Rs. 10,000/-**

**Detailed description of the immovable property : Property 2 :** All that part and parcel of the property consisting of All piece and parcel of land and building at Natham Nilavari Thittam Patta No. 580, New R.S.No. 85/72 as per present sub division R.S.No. 657/2a, S.F. No. 308/3A, Puna Acre 3.22 Kist Rs.4.00, Ward No. 5, Sankari by pass road, Palipalayam Village, Thiruchengode Taluk, Namakkal District. Measuring 2328 Sq.M of House site and a RCC terraced building measuring 200 Sq.M in the ground floor and a RCC terraced building measuring 30 Sq.M in the first floor, Bounded By: East: Sankari Road, West: Land of Shankar, South : Land of K.R.Kuppusamy and others, North : Land of C.D Rajendran and others.

**RESERVE PRICE : Rs. 1,89,07,200/- EMD Amount : Rs. 18,90,720/- Bid Increase Amount : Rs. 10,000/-**

**Property Inspection Date & Time : 03.07.2025 11:00 AM TO 01:00 PM**

**Date & Time of E-auction : 07.07.2025 02.00 p.m to 06.00 p.m**

For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer/visit to the website link <https://www.bankofbaroda.in/e-auction.htm> and online auction portal <https://baanknet.com>. Also, prospective bidders may contact the Authorised officer on Tel No.044-26800353  
Place : Velappanchavadi, Date : 03.06.2025

AUTHORISED OFFICER BANK OF BARODA

**MOUNT ROAD BRANCH**  
781/785, Ground Floor, Rayella Towers, Anna Salai, Chennai 600032 Ph: 044-28521812, Mob: 94983 05022 Email id: [cecpa@canarabank.com](mailto:cecpa@canarabank.com)

**कनारा बँक Canara Bank**

**DEMAND NOTICE [SECTION 13(2)] TO BORROWER/GUARANTOR/MORTGAGOR**  
Demand Notice issued under Section 13(2) of the Securitization & Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 Through Paper Publication To,

**Borrowers: 1.M/s.Venture Tradelinks, Rep. by its Proprietrix Mrs. Nirmala Dilip Kumar, No.4, F11, Kuv Eye AM Optics, Parvathi Nagar, Chennai- 600063 Also at, Flat No. F-11, First Floor, Royal Homes, Mudichur Road, Old Perungalathur, Srinivasa Nagar, Chennai- 600063 Also at, Plot No.33,34,35, Sadayankuppam, Tiruvallur District- 600103, 2.Mrs.Nirmala Dilip Kumar, W/o Mr.Dilip Kumar, 3.Mr.Dilip Kumar, S/o Mr.Lalchand Gandhi, Both at: Flat No. F-11, First Floor, Royal Homes, Mudichur Road, Old Perungalathur, Srinivasa Nagar, Chennai- 600063**

**Dear Sir / Madam,**  
Sub: Notice issued under Section 13(2) of the Securitization & Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Canara Bank, Mount Road Branch (hereinafter referred to as "the secured creditor"), appointed under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, (hereinafter referred to as the "Act") do hereby issue this notice to you as under:

That M/s.Venture Tradelinks, Rep. by its Proprietrix Mrs. Nirmala Dilip Kumar (hereinafter referred to as "the Borrower") has availed credit facility / facilities stated in the Schedule A hereunder and has entered into the security agreement/s in favour of the secured creditor. While availing the said financial assistance, you have expressly undertaken to repay the loan amount/s in accordance with the terms and conditions of the above mentioned agreements.

That Mrs. Nirmala Dilip Kumar and Mr. Dilip Kumar (hereinafter referred to as "the Guarantors"), has guaranteed the payment on demand of all monies and discharge all obligations and liabilities owing or incurred to the secured creditor by the Borrower for credit facilities up to the limit of ₹ 1,40,00,000/- (Rupees One Crore Forty Lakhs Only) with interest thereon.

You Mr. Dilip Kumar, has also entered in to agreements against the secured assets which are detailed in Schedule B hereunder.

**Schedule-A: Details of the credit facility/ies availed by the Borrower**

Loan A/c.No.	Nature of Loan / Limit	Date of Sanction	Amount
125006282903	OD / OCC	19.07.2024	₹ 1,40,00,000/-

the above said loan / credit facilities are duly secured by way of mortgage of the assets more specifically described in the schedule hereunder, by virtue of the relevant documents executed by you in our favour. Since you had failed to discharge your liabilities as per the terms and conditions stipulated, the Bank has classified the debts as NPA on 22.05.2025. Hence, we hereby issue this notice to you under section 13(2) of the subject Act calling upon you to discharge the entire liability of the Borrowers towards the secured creditor as on 14.05.2025 amounts to ₹ 1,43,58,736.29 (Rupees One Crore Forty Three Lakhs Fifty Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty Six and Paise Twenty Nine Only)with accrued and up-to-date interest and other expenses, within sixty days from the date of the notice, failing which we shall exercise all or any of the rights under section 13(4) of the subject Act. You are also put on notice that in terms of section 13(3) the Borrower Guarantor shall transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise the said secured assets detailed in Schedule B hereunder without obtaining written consent of the secured creditor. This is without prejudice to any other rights available to us under the subject Act and / or any other law in force.

Your 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.

**Whereas the demand notice sent to you by Regd. Post / Courier.**

**Schedule-B: Details of Security Asset:**  
Movable: Hypothecation of Stocks and Book Debts

**Immovable : Name of Title Holder : 1. Property in the name of Mr. Dilip Kumar, vide Sale Deed Doc.No.4314/2024 and mortgaged by MODTD Doc.No.6194/2024 and Supplemental Doc.No.9863/2024**

**Cersal id: 400083480194**

**Schedule - "A" (Whole Property)** All that piece and parcel of Land and building, measuring to an extent of 1320 sq.ft comprised in Grama Natham Survey No. 178, as per Town Field Register Ward No. G, Block No.1, Town Survey No.29, Town Survey in Survey No.178 Part situated at Nemilicherry Village, Kakkani Street, Bharathipuram, Chromepet, in Tambaram Taluk, now in Pallavaram Taluk, Kancheepuram District, now Chengalpattu District, within the Registration District of Tambaram and within the Sub Registration District of Pallavaram. Bounded on the North by : Property belongs to Mr. Iyavazhagan, South by : Property belongs to Mr.Murugavel, East by : Property belongs to Mr.Nakoran, West by : Kakkani Street, Measuring on the North by - 60 feet, South by - 60 feet, East by - 22 feet, West by - 22 feet. Total measurement of 1320 sq.ft.

**Schedule - "B" (Power given Principal to Power Agent by Doc.No. 5097/2022) 1065 sq.ft Undivided Share of Land out of the "A" Schedule Property**

**Schedule - "C" (Undivided Share of Land hereby conveyed) 340 sq.ft of undivided share of land of the "B" schedule property as stated above**

**Schedule - "D" (Residential Flat hereby conveyed) Residential Flat, bearing Flat No.F1, in First Floor, having a Super Built up area of 1280 sq.ft (Inclusive Common area, covered car parking area, 3 phase EB and Lift), in the building known as "IS HOMES", with all fixtures and fittings.**

**2.(Property in the name of Mr. Dilip Kumar, vide Sale Deed Doc.No.4312/2024 and mortgaged by MODTD Doc.No.6194/2024 and Supplemental Doc.No.9863/2024) Cersal id: 400091151843**

**Schedule - "A" (Whole Property)** All that piece and parcel of Land and building, measuring to an extent of 1320 sq.ft comprised in Grama Natham Survey No. 178, as per Town Field Register Ward No. G, Block No.1, Town Survey No.29, Town Survey in Survey No.178 Part situated at Nemilicherry Village, Kakkani Street, Bharathipuram, Chromepet, in Tambaram Taluk, now in Pallavaram Taluk, Kancheepuram District, now Chengalpattu District, within the Registration District of Tambaram and within the Sub Registration District of Pallavaram. Bounded on the North by : Property belongs to Mr. Iyavazhagan, South by : Property belongs to Mr.Murugavel, East by : Property belongs to Mr.Nakoran, West by : Kakkani Street, Measuring on the North by - 60 feet, South by - 60 feet, East by - 22 feet, West by - 22 feet. Total measurement of 1320 sq.ft.

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**3.(Property in the name of Mr. Dilip Kumar, vide Sale Deed Doc.No.4313/2024 and mortgaged by MODTD Doc.No.6194/2024 and Supplemental Doc.No.9863/2024) Cersal id: 400091151318**

**Schedule - "A" (Whole Property)** All that piece and parcel of Land and building, measuring to an extent of 1320 sq.ft comprised in Grama Natham Survey No. 178, as per Town Field Register Ward No. G, Block No.1, Town Survey No.29, Town Survey in Survey No.178 Part situated at Nemilicherry Village, Kakkani Street, Bharathipuram, Chromepet, in Tambaram Taluk, now in Pallavaram Taluk, Kancheepuram District, now Chengalpattu District, within the Registration District of Tambaram and within the Sub Registration District of Pallavaram. Bounded on the North by : Property belongs to Mr. Iyavazhagan, South by : Property belongs to Mr.Murugavel, East by : Property belongs to Mr.Nakoran, West by : Kakkani Street, Measuring on the North by - 60 feet, South by - 60 feet, East by - 22 feet, West by - 22 feet. Total measurement of 1320 sq.ft.

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**Schedule - "D" (Residential Flat hereby conveyed) Residential Flat, bearing Flat No.F1, in First Floor, having a Super Built up area of 1280 sq.ft (Inclusive Common area, covered car parking area, 3 phase EB and Lift), in the building known as "IS HOMES", with all fixtures and fittings.**

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Rescue personnel carrying the body of one of the trapped workers | EXPRESS

## 4 asphyxiated to death inside septic tank in Odisha

UMERKOTE: Four persons were asphyxiated to death after being trapped in an under-construction septic tank in Nandahandi block of Nabarangpur district in Odisha on Tuesday.

Police identified the deceased as N Santu (28), Amit Khura (30), Trilochan Bhatra (25) and Lalu Rana (26), all of Padalguda village. They were engaged in construction of a private toilet in Padalguda. Sources said Santu and Khura were working inside the septic tank when a false slab of the toilet collapsed. They were trapped inside and subsequently got suffocated. When the duo did not respond to calls, their associates Bhotra and Rana went inside the tank to rescue them. However, they too got suffocated and became unconscious. ENS

## T'GANA GOVT LODGES PLAINT AGAINST G-B PROJECT WITH CENTRE

Hyderabad: A day after Andhra Irrigation officials met Ministry of Finance representatives, the Telangana government announced it will strongly oppose the proposed Godavari-Banakachera (G-B) project. On Monday, AP officials tried to address the Ministry of Finance's queries on the project. Speaking to reporters in Hyderabad on Tuesday, Telangana Irrigation Minister N Uttam Kumar Reddy said the state had already lodged a formal complaint with the Centre against the project. ENS

# Language row: Kamal clarifies, offers no apology

Comment Intended to express that Kannada and Tamil belong to same language family, actor tells K'taka film chamber

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
@ Chennai

EVEN as the Karnataka High Court made remarks that nearly censured actor-turned-politician Kamal Haasan for stating that Kannada was born out of Tamil, the veteran actor clarified on Tuesday that his intention during his speech at the 'Thug Life' audio launch event, which sparked the controversy, was to express that "We are all one and from the same family" and not to diminish Kannada in any way.

In a letter to the Karnataka Film Chamber of Commerce,

which has refused to release the film in Karnataka, Haasan said, "There is no dispute or debate about the rich legacy of the Kannada language." However, he did not apologise for his remarks.

"It hurts me that my statement at the 'Thug Life' audio launch — said out of genuine affection for the legendary Rajkumar's family, especially Shiva Rajkumar — has been misunderstood and taken out of context," Haasan said.

He expressed hope that his words are received in the spirit they were intended, and his enduring affection for Karnataka,

its people, and their language is recognised in its true light. "I earnestly believe that this misunderstanding is temporary and an opportunity to reiterate our mutual love and respect," he added.

Haasan said his bond with Tamil, Kannada, Telugu, Malayalam, and all the languages in this land is "abiding and heartfelt." Haasan said he has always stood for the equal dignity of all Indian languages and remains opposed to the dominance of any one lan-



Kamal Haasan

guage over another since such imbalance undermines the linguistic fabric of the union of India. The actor said cinema must remain a bridge between people and not a wall dividing them. "I have never been nor would ever want to give any room for public unrest and animosity," he affirmed. Like Tamil, Haasan said Kannada has a proud literary and cultural tradition. "I say this with a clear conscience and conviction: my

love for the language is genuine, and I have great respect for the love that Kannadigas have for their mother tongue."

The actor stated that cinema is the language he understands and communicates in, which embodies only love and connection. Haasan's remark at the audio launch of Thug Life, which is set to release worldwide on Thursday, drew sharp criticism from top politicians in Karnataka, including Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, and protests. Haasan has, however, refused to apologise or take back his remark.

## K'taka politicians fume, TN counterparts subdued

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
@ Chennai

AS the controversy over Makkal Needhi Maiam president Kamal Haasan's remarks on Kannada language escalated further, reactions from most political parties in Tamil Nadu remained subdued, unlike their counterparts in Karnataka, who have vehemently and unanimously condemned the actor-politician. The Karnataka HC came down heavily on Haasan on Tuesday for his remark that Kannada was born from Tamil and his refusal to apologise.

Despite the developments, the ruling DMK and the Congress in TN, both allies of MNM with the latter being the ruling party in Karnataka, did not release any statement on the issue.

However, TNCC president K Selvaperunthagi, when contacted, said, he has been responding to queries from the media and has clearly stated that Haasan did not say anything wrong and his remarks have been misunderstood.

"His statement should not be politicised. Democratic forces will stand by him," Selvaperunthagi said. When reached out for a comment, DMK spokesperson TKS Elangovan said scholars like Manonmaniam Sundaram Pillai (Sundaranar) have written about the languages that came out of Tamil and Haasan might have read them and reflected. VCK chief Thol Thirumavalavan told reporters, "Attempts are being made to politicise this as a linguistic or ethnic issue."

In a social media post, VCK MP D Ravikumar defended Haasan by citing works of Sundaranar and Robert Caldwell. Warning that regressive forces responsible for all types of politics of hatred are behind the controversy, he appealed to Karnataka CM Siddaramaiah to protect Dravidian unity. NTK leader Seeman said Haasan only reiterated established views of scholars. "Are those criticising him experts in linguistics? This is a deliberate attempt to create unrest, and TN will not allow it," he said.

## Single apology could have solved the situation, observes K'taka HC

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

DURING the hearing, Haasan came in for strong criticism from the court for his remark suggesting that "Kannada was born out of Tamil," and the court observed that a "single apology could have resolved the situation."

Justice Nagaprasanna asked, "Are you a historian or a linguist to make such a statement? No language is born out of another." Further, the judge said no citizen has the right to hurt sentiments and underlined that an apology "even a symbolic one," was missing. To this, the counsel for petitioner submitted that "an apology is needed when there is malice, not for a misunderstanding." Justice M Nagaprasanna said the actor's statement has triggered 'certain unrest in Karnataka', and held that it undermined the Karnataka people's sentiment of language.

Noted distributor and Tamil producer Dhananjayan, in his capacity as one of the vice-pres-



idents of the Tamil Film Active Producers Association (TFAPA), appealed to the Karnataka film fraternity to create a conducive atmosphere for getting the film released smoothly. "Kamal Haasan's Vikram is one of the top five-grossing Tamil films in Karnataka. The film minted ₹ 22.10 crore collection. Considering those numbers, we thought that 'Thug Life' would easily make around ₹ 35 to ₹ 40 crore in Karnataka. Now, the film stands to lose this amount."

Veteran Karnataka distributor NS Rajkumar said Kamal losing the goodwill of the Kannada industry was an even more cost-

ly error. "Vikram provided a new lease of life to single-screen theatres. In Karnataka, Hindi films are usually exhibited in multiplexes, while Tamil films get single-screen theatres. With Thug Life's release in limbo and Pawan Kalyan's Hari Hara Veera Mallu's release postponed, single screens in Karnataka will be the biggest losers because of this issue," he said.

Tiruppur Subramaniam, one of the leading film distributors of Tamil Nadu, said the entire issue has become political, and this is an unhealthy trend. "I condemn the fact that political leaders in Karnataka and the Kannada industry have decided to target 'Thug Life' for Kamal's speech. The matter is being heard in the court and Kamal, at the end of the day, will abide by the court's order. I find no reasonable excuse to target his film for that. Similarly, I am against some Tamil political leaders who want to stop Karnataka films from getting released in Tamil Nadu."

## EXPRESS READ

### HC tells NHA to not collect toll fee on Thoothukudi NH

Madurai: The Madurai Bench of Madras High Court on Tuesday directed National Highways Authority of India (NHA) not to collect toll fee from motorists on the Madurai-Thoothukudi national highway (NH-38), till maintenance works are carried out. A Bench of Justices SM Subramaniam and AD Maria Clete passed the order on a PIL petition filed by a retired Tangedco employee, V Balakrishnan of Thoothukudi. Balakrishnan contended that the road contract was awarded to Madurai-Tuticorin Expressways Limited of the Madhucon Projects Limited in 2006, and the road brought to use in 2011. Though the estimated cost of the project was ₹ 920 crore, the firm had received around ₹ 932.44 crore, without even fully completing the sapling plantation work on the roadside and the median, he alleged. The firm collected fee on two toll plazas, but failed to maintain the road surface with many portions becoming non-motorable, Balakrishnan added. ENS

### Mullaiperiyar dam: Panel reviews shutter, baby dam

Theni: The reconstituted sub committee appointed by National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) inspected the Mullaiperiyar dam, baby dam, shutter and other places on Tuesday. Led by NDSA regional director R Giridhar, the team members including Periyar Vaigal Basin circle superintending engineer J Sam Irvin, Periyar Dam special division executive engineer C Selvam, Kerala Minor Irrigation Division executive engineer Lewins Babu Cottur, MI Sub Division, Kumily, assistant executive engineer MK Siji reached Thekkady, and proceeded to Mullaiperiyar dam by boat. The team inspected Mullaiperiyar dam, baby dam, shutter areas, water level, storage capacity etc. Also, they collected water samples for testing. Sources said this was a routine inspection that is held once in two months. ENS

**BARABORT AUTHORITY**  
E-TENDER CALL NOTICE  
No. E/MCHP/Tender-01/25/192  
Date: 30.05.2025

Name of the work "Design, Fabrication, Supply, Erection and Commissioning of one no. of Stacker of 4000 TPH Capacity". Estimated cost: Rs.55,10,00,000/- Last date & time of submission of bid: 07.07.2025 up to 17.15 Hrs. Refer our website for details https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app.

Sd/- Executive Engineer (M),  
MCHP, Paradip Port Authority  
PPA/PR/13/2025-2026 dtd:02.06.2025

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**DOCUMENT LOST**

This is to inform the general public that the Original Sale Deed Document dated 28.08.2014, Document No.1/11586/2014 of Property owned by Mr. S. Chandrasekar S/o. Mr. Sundaraman have been lost/ misplaced from our custody and that the same have not been found despite diligent search. Any person(s) in possession of the aforesaid document or having any claim based on the said document is/are hereby required to make the same known to me, in writing within seven (7) days from the date hereon.

**SCHEDULE - PROPERTY**

All that piece and portion of the LIG Flat No.07 in the Ground Floor of the building in Block No.43 erected on the land in Survey No.49 Part and 44/71 Part of Ayappakkam Village, Ambattur Taluk, Thiruvallur District in that measuring 515 Sq.Ft. (Plinth Area of Flat) and Undivided Plot Area 300 Sq.Ft. land being bounded On the North by: Passage and Flat No.L-43/8. The East by: Flat No.L-43/8. The South by: Setback and 7.20 M Road and The West by: Setback and 7.20 M Accessway. Within the Sub Registration District of Ambattur and Registration District of Chennai North.

State Bank of India,  
Home Loan Centre,  
Anna Nagar, Chennai.

**BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - III AT CHENNAI**  
O.A.No.93 of 2025

The Karur Vysya Bank Ltd Asset and Recovery Branch Represented by its Chief Manager P.S.Sundaravarathan  
2nd Floor, No.1, Padmavathi Road Gopalapuram, Chennai - 600 086

And  
1. Mr. M. Gubenthiran, S/o. Mr. K. Mannar No.49A/76, Sath Sangam Street, Sri Agraja, Flat No.A-1, First Floor, North Park Road, Venkatsapuram, Ambattur Taluk, Chennai - 600 053. & 2 others ... Defendants

D3 - M/s Manasha Lubricants Rep by its Proprietor Mr. M. Gubenthiran No.23/7, Anna Salai, Vijayalakshmi Puram, Ambattur Taluk, Chennai - 600053 ... Defendant

**SUMMONS TO DEFENDANTS THROUGH SUBSTITUTED SERVICE**

Whereas the above named applicant / appellant has filed the above referred application/appeal in this Tribunal, for recovery of a sum of Rs.64,32,210.35 from the defendant(s) / respondent(s) / opponent(s).

Whereas the service of summons/notice could not be effected in the ordinary manner and whereas substituted service has been ordered by this Tribunal, and hence, this notice through paper publication.

You are therefore directed to appear before this Tribunal in person or through a duly instructed Advocate and file written statement on or before 28.08.2025 at 11.30 a.m and show cause as to why reliefs prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default, the application/appeal shall be heard and decided in your absence, in accordance to law.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Tribunal on this 16<sup>th</sup> day of April 2025

M/s AARUN BABU  
Advocate  
Counsel for Applicant

**SOUTHERN RAILWAY**  
ELECTRICAL OPERATIONS, SALEM DIVISION  
E-Tender Notice

Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer, Electrical Operations, Salem Division, Salem - 638005 for and on behalf of the President of India invites E-Tender for the under mentioned work. Online bids only will be accepted. For detailed NIT, qualification criteria, bidding document, tender submission etc., can be viewed / downloaded from website portal [www.gem.gov.in](http://www.gem.gov.in).

1	Tender Notice No.	SA-OP-OT-2025-26/RR-IGU/02
2	Name of work : Salem Division :- Complete maintenance arranging food from outside, serving of food to the running staff and complete housekeeping services in built up area & non built up area and gardening at Irugur running room for a period of 730 days from the date of commencement of work.	
3	Appx. value of the work	Rs.52,06,804/-
4	Cost of tender form (Rs.)	NIL
5	Amount of EMD	Rs.1,04,200/-
6	Completion period of work	24 months (i.e. 730 days)

Sl. No. 1 : Tenders closing Date and Time : 25.06.2025 @ 10:00 hrs. Complete details of the above tenders are given on the e-portal "www.gem.gov.in". For Details of bid submission, please refer website portal "www.gem.gov.in". The online bids for tenders floated through the above portal are required to be digitally signed.

All Addendum / Corrigendum, Time extension, Clarifications, etc., will be uploaded in the e-tender portal [www.gem.gov.in](http://www.gem.gov.in) and will not be published separately in Newspapers. Bidders should regularly visit website to keep themselves updated.

Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer,  
Electrical Operations, Salem - 638005

**VISVESVARAYA JALA NIGAM LIMITED**  
(A Govt of Karnataka Enterprise)

Office of the Executive Engineer/VJNL, U.B.P Division  
No.2,B.R.Project-577 115  
No:EE/VJNL/UBP/D-2/BRP/PB/O&M/2025-26/190  
Dated:31-05-2025

**TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-Procurement only)**

On behalf of the Managing Director, Visvesvaraya Jala Nigam Limited, Bangalore, the Executive Engineer, VJNL, UB Division No.2, B R Project, Shimoga District, Karnataka invites 1 No's of 4701work "Operation and Maintenance for the work of lifting of 29.90 TMC of water at PH-1 Shantipura and PH-2 Bettatavarekere from Bhadra Reservoir to Ajjampur Tunnel (0.00 to 40.29 km of UB Main Canal) including Civil and Electro mechanical works for the period of 5 Years" under Upper Bhadra Project on turnkey basis.(Indent No. VJNL/2025-26/IW/WORK\_INDENT237) for Rs.7132.00 Lakhs tender through e-procurement portal on "Turnkey basis" from eligible enrolled Government Licensed KPWD Class- I Civil / CPWD Class-1 Civil / Supergrade Electrical Contractor.The contractor can access tender documents from 02.06.2025 onwards in KPPP Portal website. The details of EMD, Tender Processing fee, Calendar of events, contractor class, tender rules and regulations and other details can be obtained from <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> or from the under signed in the office hours. Last date of submission of tender is on 02.07.2025 upto 17.30 hrs. Any corrigendum or Addendum will be published in KPPP Portal website.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, VJNL, UB Division No.2,  
B.R.Project-577115.

DIPR/smg/kamca/25-26/06/366

**CHENGALPATTU BRANCH**  
No.29 A, G-10, Alagasin Road, Vedachalam Nagar, Chengalpattu 603 001  
Phone:044-2743 0224 / 2743 0225

**POSSESSION NOTICE**

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Bank of Baroda under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice dated 21.01.2025, calling upon the Borrower/Ms. Mani Agency Proprietor: Mr. N. Manikandan to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs. 25,59,885.25 (Rupees Twenty Five Lakh Fifty Nine Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty Five and Paise Twenty Five Only), as on 06.01.2025 together with further interest thereon at the contractual rate plus costs, charges and expenses till date of payment within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower and the Public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub-section (4) of section 13 of the Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002 on this the 29<sup>th</sup> day of May of the year 2025.

The Borrower/Guarantors/Mortgagors in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of Bank of Baroda for an amount of Rs. 26,59,646.41 (Rupees Twenty Six Lakh Ninety Nine Thousand Six Hundred Forty Six and Paise Forty One Only), as on 29-08-2024 and further interest thereon at the contractual rate plus costs, charges and expenses till date of payment. The Borrowers attention is invited to provision of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY:**

All that piece and parcel of residential land and building, situated at No. 137, Maduranthakam Puthu Mandapam Street, ward No. 5, Maduranthakam Taluk, Within the limits of Maduranthakam Municipality, at Present Chengalpattu District, Comprised in S.No: 955/1B & 955/2 Sub division No: 955/1B2 and after sub division as per S.L.R. Copy New S.No: 67 to an extent of 4 Cents. Boundaries: North by: Pattai; South by: R.Santhana Gopal Iyengar's Plot, East by: Rayam Rangachari Vagira's Land, West by: Pattai. Within the Jurisdiction of SRO, Maduranthakam and the registration District of Chengalpattu.

Place: Chengalpattu, Date: 29.05.2025 AUTHORISED OFFICER BANK OF BARODA

**DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-III**  
6th Floor, Additional Office Building, Shastri Bhavan, Haddows Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai-600006

TRC No. 732/2023 E-AUCTION SALE Dated: 02/06/2025

The under mentioned property will be sold by on line E-Auction through website <https://www.bankauctions.com> for recovery of a sum of Rs. 37,36,24,284/- (Rupees Thirty Seven Crore Thirty Six Lakhs Twenty Four Thousand Two Hundred Eighty Four Only) as on 31/12/2024 from Mr.Dinakaran Medical Agencies & Others payable to EARC Pvt, Ltd in O.A.No. 164/2015

**DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY**

Item No.2 Doc No.9422/2008

All the piece and parcel of land having an extent of 1200 sq.ft with building thereon situated at Door No.59, Old No.19, Raja Street, Sembium, Perambur, Chennai - 600 011. Comprised in R.S.No.231, 232, & 233, T.S.No.88/17, Block No.7, of Sembium Village falling within the Registration District of North Chennai and Registration Sub District of Sembium and the land bounded on the North by: Raja Street, South by: Property of Ranigammal & others, East by: Property of Chinnadurai, West by: Property of Rangammal & others, Measuring North to South: 20 ft, East and West: 60 ft.

Upset Price: Rs. 90,00,000/- (Rupees Ninety Lakhs Only)  
Date and time of e-auction: 17/07/2025 between 11:00 hrs and 12:00 hrs with auto time extension of 3 minutes each, till sale is concluded.

Earnest Money Deposit : 10% of the upset price

EMD Remittance & last date of submission of Bid form with EMD on or before: 15/07/2025 through FTNEFT/RTGS Transfer in favor of "The Recovery Officer, DRT-3 Chennai" to the credit of A/c No. 16330200000250 with Indian Overseas Bank, Cathedral Bazar, Chennai-2 IFSC Code: IOBA0000109

Bid Increment : Minimum Rs. 1,00,000/- or multiples of Rs. 1,00,000/-  
Inspection of Property : 26/06/2025 From 11.00 AM to 3.00 PM

UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES BIDS IN PHYSICAL FORM WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED BY THE TRIBUNAL & NO ENQUIRIES WILL BE ENTERTAINED.

The other details about the above auction and the e-auction bid form declaration and detailed terms and conditions is available in the website: <https://www.bankauctions.com> Service Provider contact person: Mr. M Prabakaran - 74182 81709.

Further details if any, shall be obtained from EARC Pvt, Ltd, 101, Executive Zone, Shakti Tower 1, Ground Floor, 766, Anna Salai, Chennai - 600 002. (Contact Person: R. Sureshkumar, General Manager of EARC Pvt, Ltd, (Call No. 9848070098) E-Mail: r.sureshkumar@encorearc.com (E.SASIKUMAR) RECOVERY OFFICER

**CCL Central Coalfields Limited**  
"A Miniratna Company" (A Subsidiary of Coal India Limited)

**NOTICE**

"All the tenders issued by CIL and its Subsidiaries for procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on website of Coal India Ltd. [www.coalindia.in](http://www.coalindia.in) in respective Subsidiary Company (CCL, [www.centralcoalfields.in](http://www.centralcoalfields.in)), CIL e-procurement portal <https://coalindiatenders.nic.in> and Central Public Procurement Portal <https://eprocure.gov.in> in addition, procurement is also done through GeM portal <https://gem.gov.in>".

**Indian Bank**  
NORTH USMAN ROAD BRANCH  
53/32, First Floor, Elite Towers, North Usman Road, Chennai - 600 017. Telephone : 044-28345146, 28345147, email : northusmanroad@indianbank.co.in

**PUBLICATION DEMAND NOTICE**

Notice under Sec.13(2) of The Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 sent on 26.05.2025 by Registered Post with Acknowledgement Due : To, (1) M/s. GVSF FOODS, (Borrower - Partnership Firm), No.60, Eldams Road, Teynampet, Chennai - 600 018. (2) Mr. Gautam Vimal, (Partner), Flat No.3A, 3rd Floor, No.12/8, Sri Chakra Apartments, Balaji Avenue Road, Alagiri Nagar Extension, Vadapalani, Chennai - 600 026. (3) Mr. Srinivas Udipi Manohar, (Partner), No.24, Rukmani Nilayam, School Road, Perambur, Chennai - 600 011. (4) Mr. Vimal Kumar P, (Guarantor/Mortgagor), Flat No.3A, 3rd Floor, No.12/8, Sri Chakra Apartments, Balaji Avenue Road, Alagiri Nagar Extension, Vadapalani, Chennai - 600 026.

Sub : Your IND SME MORTGAGE MSE Account No.7628129013 with Indian Bank, North Usman Road Branch - Reg.

You committed default in repayment of loan due to the tune of Rs.35,70,673/- (Rupees Thirty five lakhs seventy thousand six hundred and seventy three only) as on 20.05.2025 with further interest at the agreed rate from 21.05.2025 till the date of repayment.

The Bank issued notice under the SARFAESI Act on 20.05.2025 upon you to repay the outstanding amount of Rs.35,70,673/- (Rupees Thirty five lakhs seventy thousand six hundred and seventy three only) as on 20.05.2025. The notice was sent to you by Regd. Post has been returned unserved/Acknowledgement not received.

You are called upon to pay Rs.35,70,673/- together with interest from 21.05.2025 till date of payment within 60 days from the date of this demand notice failing which Bank will be constrained to exercise its rights of enforcement of security interest as against the secured assets given in the Schedule hereunder. This notice is without prejudice to any other remedy available to the Bank.

"We draw attention to the provisions of Section 13(8) of the SARFAESI Act and the Rules framed there under which deals with your rights of redemption over the securities".

**SCHEDULE**

The specific details of the assets in which security interest is created are enumerated hereunder :

**Mortgaged Asset :** Residential Apartment No.3A bearing Municipal Door No.8(12), 3A, Alagiri Nagar East, Balaji Avenue, Vadapalani, Chennai - 600 026, situated on the Western side of Third Floor having a super built area of 1612 Sq. ft. which is inclusive of the share in the common built up area and the allotment of 118 Sq. ft. of exclusive private open terrace in the Third Floor and the three exclusive earmarked covered car parks in the Ground Floor at Still level more clearly marked in the sketch for covered car parks already provided to the purchaser together with 799 Sq. ft. undivided share in the land on which the building has been erected named Plot No.2 forming part of an Approved layout No.23/58. Situated at Old Door No.12, New Door No.8, Alagiri Nagar East, Balaji Avenue, Vadapalani, Chennai - 600 026 of an extent of 2 Grounds and 654 Sq. ft. as per Documents and as per Patta 5 Acres and 10 Sq. mtrs., comprised in Old Paimash No.12, Field No. 378, as per Patta Present Town Survey No.32/9, Block No.2 of Puliyur Village, Egmore-Nungambakkam Taluk, Chennai District, covered by extract from the Town Survey Land Register dt. 25.08.2010 issued by Tahsildar, Egmore-Nungambakkam Taluk, Chennai District. Bounded on the North : Chinnaswamy Naicker's land T.S. No.30, South : 30 feet wide Road and Plot No.1 Part, East : Plot No.3, T.S.No.32/1, West : Vannan Manniam. And situated within the Registration Sub-District of Kodambakkam and Registration District of Chennai Central.

**Hypothecated Asset :** Hypothecation of Book debts upto 90 days.

Date : 04.06.2024  
Place : Chennai

Authorised Officer,  
Indian Bank.





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

— Ramnath Goenka

## GST COLLECTION HIGH A RESULT OF MATURING SYSTEM

THE goods and services tax collection crossing ₹2 lakh crore in May came in as a surprise. It's only the third time the gross monthly GST revenues have crossed the mark, that too at a time of immense economic uncertainty. The May high flows from transactions carried out in April, the month when Donald Trump triggered a major upheaval in global trade with his wavering 'reciprocal' tariff announcements. The latest figures show that despite the heightened uncertainty, domestic economic activities remained buoyant. Even trade picked up, as shown by a 25 percent growth in revenue from imports. The double-digit growth in GST is an indication of not just stronger economic activity, but also of a maturing tax system in which compliances are less burdensome and tax leakages fewer.

The total collection in May rose 16.5 percent, with revenues from domestic transactions growing by 14 percent to ₹1.5 lakh crore, while revenues from imports increased by a quarter to ₹51,000 crore. The net GST revenues, after deducting refunds from the gross collection, showed even better buoyancy as it increased by 20.4 percent to ₹1.74 lakh crore. The fact that the gross revenues in the first two months of the current financial year witnessed double-digit growth is significant, as collections in 2024-25 had shown a worrying trend of fatigue. Revenue growth in 2024-25 failed to cross the double-digit mark as the gross collection increased by only 9.4 percent.

If this monthly trend continues—as some have explained it should—the GST Council could be encouraged to bite the bullet on rate rationalisation, a long overdue reform in the indirect tax system. Rationalisation is not necessarily an exercise only in lowering tax rates on specific items, but also of removing anomalies like inverted duty structures and bringing down the number of rate slabs. Currently, there are five GST rates, adding to the compliance burden and leading to a mountain of litigation. Fewer rates should be the glide path the council should adopt. A matured tax system should not wear out taxpayers with onerous compliances, lengthy litigations and punishing rates. With sustained efforts of the government and the GST Council, the indirect tax system has evolved for the better over the past 8 years. Now is the time to iron out the creases that remain.

## SPEEDY JUSTICE IN RAPE CASE A HOPE FOR OTHERS

THE recent verdict in the Anna University sexual assault case sentencing the convict to life for a minimum of 30 years without remission is welcome for the speed at which the police, prosecution and judiciary acted to deliver justice in five months. The brazen assault was committed on December 23 on the campus of the premier educational institution a stone's throw from the governor's residence in Chennai. The convict, food vendor A Gnanasekaran, raped the survivor, captured the assault on video and threatened to share it if she spoke up. The survivor, however, reported the crime to the police the very next day. Although the authorities initially failed her when the FIR briefly became publicly available, revealing her identity, she saw her case through to the end. The state faced the wrath of the Madras High Court for this, with the appointment of a three-member special investigation team to probe the case. The team filed the charges within two months of the crime, while the Mahila Court delivered its verdict in less than three months.

The case saw protests from students and political parties, with opposition parties insisting that the state allowed Gnanasekaran's "partners" go free. This is based on the survivor's account that he spoke to someone on his phone during the assault. However, the verdict held that Gnanasekaran had faked the call, pointing to evidence from the mobile service provider. It appears the SIT pursued every avenue despite the speed of investigation.

The quick probe and trial honour the survivor's courage and the faith she placed in the law. There are scores of women and children across Tamil Nadu and the rest of the country who have placed their faith in the system—only to endure years of investigation, trials that never seem to end, and a mirage in the place of justice. The Anna University assault shows what can be done when the state puts its will behind a case. If this will, in provisioning resources, support and pressure, can be exercised in every such case, the courage of every woman and child coming forward despite the trauma and stigma of sexual violence will be truly honoured. And India will be safer for it. After all, it is not the severity of punishment that is the true deterrent, but the certainty of it.

### QUICK TAKE

#### NURTURING THEM YOUNG

AT the end of two hours on Sunday, a slammed fist sending chess pieces skittering summed up a tense match. Five-times world champion Magnus Carlsen was so frustrated with his loss to D Gukesh at Norway Chess that he wondered whether he should quit classical chess altogether. The sweetest moment came at the start, when four-year-old Gauri Asha, a Carlsen fan, was propped on a box so that she could make the first move for 19-year-old Gukesh. This, combined with the now-familiar story of the sacrifices Gukesh's parents made for their son's career, reminds us that the nurturing of chess prodigies begins very early, at home. May many Gauri Ashas bloom.

EVER since President Donald Trump began unsettling the United States, commentaries in formal and informal exchanges have often sighed that the very idea of America has come under attack. The desperate sigh, that could cover miles and stretch across continents, makes a distinction to communicate the decline of the 'free world' and our times.

The standard progression of the narrative indicates it is one thing to target immigrants, foreign students, trade, environmental agreements, the military and monetary pacts. But to maul and dismantle the long-held perception of the US, which is willy-nilly linked to a certain rational construct, liberal ethos and cosmopolitan embrace, is a tectonic shift. If a nation ever had a fantastic marketing line in history, the US had it in the sublime phrase—'The American dream'. The suggestions emerging now are that the dream seems to be over; it has turned into a nightmare.

Although 'American dream' sounds almost like a truism, it has meant many things to many people both inside and outside the US. It's like a phrase with a universal semantic connotation, but the dream itself has been nuanced across generations. America allowed immigrants to chase diverse freedoms, liberty, the good life and democracy; while encompassing a Protestant ethic, an emphasis on individuality and individual success, and a certain meritocracy. It has also accommodated an unabashed worship of profit. People have picked what they wanted, depending on where they stood on the arc of their personal progress.

The idea of the American dream was nearly always about the young and their flaming aspirations. It excluded the poor, the disabled, the sick and the elderly. The phrase perhaps also taught one to play down hardships, pain, loneliness and a variety of discriminations to be perennially on a junket of celebration. That is because to challenge the positivity of the phrase meant to negate the choices one had made to chase the dream. This is especially true for an immigrant.

An immigrant in America constantly markets success, opportunity and purposefulness, which is argued as missing in the nations of their origin. It is this marketing pitch and mythology that has enticed millions to somehow reach the borders of the country, spending enormous sums of money on touts while surviving ghastly routes. One wonders if such people would ever get a return on their investment. Therefore, they choose

The rise of neoliberalism in the 1970s put the US's share-the-wealth ethic under a cloud. Indians' view of what America promises has changed drastically since then

## AMERICAN DREAM WAS STOLEN LONG BEFORE TRUMP

SUGATA SRINIVASARAJU

Senior journalist and author of *The Conscience Network: A Chronicle of Resistance to a Dictatorship*



SOURAV ROY

to play for the future, for an un-guaranteed and distant comfort of their future generations. Ironically, for such people to merely survive also means living the American dream.

Only prosperous countries can create a dream like the one America has manufactured. This dream consumes every other dream. A top psychiatrist once told me there was nothing called an Indian dream because all such dreams were fragments of the American dream. America's biggest export has been its dream. No country in the world has put trade barriers and tariffs on it. It acquired a greater ring ever since the collapse of the Soviet Union. Although China has emerged in the last couple of decades, it has never been able to export a dream. When Covid struck, and people disparagingly called it

the 'China virus', it mortally struck at the possibility of such an export.

Even within the US, people have long felt that the American dream has been 'stolen' because wealth distribution in the past half-century has become skewed. A minuscule percentage of Wall Street, Ivy League and Silicon Valley types are accused of having rigged the system. They argue that between the 1950s and the 1970s, the American dream had created "shared prosperity" and expanded the middle class. In 2012, Pulitzer-winning journalist Hedrick Smith even wrote a bestseller titled *Who stole the American dream?* Philosophers like Michael Sandel at Harvard have also questioned the meritocratic system—an inevitable component of the dream.

Historians and commentators have

seen the 1970s as a decade of transition in the US when parts of the powerful American establishment started rethinking its welfarist idealism of the 1950s through the 1960s. They were plotting to impart a harder pro-business, *laissez faire* identity to the nation. This put the 'share-the-wealth ethic' under a cloud and aided the burglary of the American dream, eventually. From being an 'empire of production', it started moving towards becoming an empress of consumption. The loss of jobs argument that began then haunts America to this day.

In India, of course, the 1970s was the reverse. The Nehruvian-socialist dream had taken a crude turn. We were into nationalisation of nearly everything. The state was the final arbiter of nearly everything from industrial licences to prescribing the size of the family that one should raise. The Emergency was a part of this authoritarian micro-management of a nation's destiny. India's middle-class expansion came late, only in the 1990s. That is when we borrowed the American dream that was already in a crisis.

Even during the 1950s and 1960s America, although one section imagined the full bloom of the American dream, racial inequalities and segregation ensured the dream was a truncated, one-dimensional affair that cleverly brushed everything that disturbed the formulation under the carpet. Those who dreamt the American dream when the first waves of big immigration happened from India, notoriously labelled the 'brain drain', constructed the dream very differently. Economist J N Bhagwati even spoke of a 'brain drain tax'. They did not abandon their motherland, but had a constructive narrative that was about scouting for technology, enterprise and education to take back. Interestingly, rural development was a running theme among the conscientious who had migrated in the 1960s and 1970s.

All this, of course, changed in the mid-1980s when a new generation of Indian-Americans, quite naturally, grew independent of their obligations back home. Assimilation in American society became a far greater pull. In the next few decades, India became an important member of the global technology network. For Indians, the American dream changed yet again. The diaspora perhaps imagined that the 'brown' had escaped the humiliations of the 'black' and had found a seat at the high table of American destiny. They had become an aspirational class of power and influence back in India, which had become a back office for the American dream.

(Views are personal)

(sugata@sugataraju.in)

## AS CAMUS QUIZZED CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

FEW lines in literature are as famous as the opening of Albert Camus's *L'Étranger*: "Mother died today Or maybe yesterday; I don't know." The most famous work by Camus—an editor, playwright, novelist, journalist and, although he denied it, a philosopher—was rightly considered as a new start for European fiction. The stark tale of a *plotted noir*, who kills an unnamed Arab and seems indifferent to his fate while facing execution, is a dense creation that deals with the themes of alienation, the crepuscular line between truth and lie, and capital punishment.

As the opening betrays, Meursault, the *petit colon* narrator, is distant even from the woman who bore him. He is engulfed with a weariness that a sociologist would categorise as anomie and the French call *l'appel du vide* (call of the void). He is inscrutable and intransigent even as he is imprisoned for murder. His is the strangeness of the forsaken, not the banality of someone excluded. He is condemned to death as he refuses to express any remorse for his crime. As Camus would later state, Meursault refuses to lie, which entails more than simply expressing something that is false. While we all do it every day to make life easier, Meursault refuses to disguise his emotions. He responds that he is annoyed rather than regretful, and that condemns him. He is left hoping for an indifferent crowd at his execution, only to be greeted with howls of execration.

For Camus, the death penalty exemplifies a profound violence that warrants our condemnation. It reflects the society's nihilism and "indifference to life", where justice is perceived as retribution—measurable and rooted in the talionic law, "An eye for an eye." It is, after all, true that we continue to define justice based on the principles of simplistic arithmetic. But as Camus questions, can it be asserted that the arithmetic is precise, especially when it involves the life of another man? The response must be in the negative.

The death penalty hides behind a veneer of righteousness, suggesting that justice is somehow always clear and definitive in a society that is without blame or blemish. As to the necessity to establish a precedent, the secret manner in which the state conducts executions at night undermines its assertion that these acts may function to dissuade the

populace from similar criminal behaviour. However, courts in most countries harbour scepticism about such philosophising, as they realise that if criminal law is the middle child of jurisprudence, then the law governing punishments is its illegitimate offspring.

India's approach has, for long, been defined by the "rarest of rare" doctrine, which refers to the premise that the death penalty should be reserved for the most egregious and heinous crimes where no other punishment would suffice. While the famous *Bachan Singh*



Albert Camus' apathetic, remorseless protagonist in *The Stranger* raised philosophical questions on society's view of the death penalty. Though Indian courts have followed the 'rarest of rare' doctrine for such sentences, justice should not be regarded as a price to be paid

(1980) case introduced this doctrine, it has had antecedents. Justice V R Krishna Iyer aptly observed in the *Rajendra Prasad* (1979) case that the use of the punishment is on the belief that "social defence against murderers is best insured in the short run by caging them, but in the long run, the real run, by transformation through re-orientation of the inner man by many methods including neuro-techniques of which we have a rich legacy... It is cheaper to hang than to heal. But Indian life—any

human life—is too dear to be swung dead save in extreme circumstances".

Courts have used the doctrine in situations usually marked by extreme depravity and barbaric manner in which the crimes are perpetrated, coupled with the accused's absence of remorse. In *Aloke Nath Dutta* (2006), the Supreme Court acknowledged that "what would constitute a rarest of rare case" was to be determined on the basis of the facts of each case, even though "different criteria have been adopted by different benches of this court, although the offences are similar in nature".

The Supreme Court has affirmed death sentences on a number of occasions partly on the basis of lack of remorse, while simultaneously emphasising on the significance of reformation and rehabilitation of offenders as primary goals of the criminal justice system. In *Mohd Arif* (2014), while admitting a lack of cogency when it came to sentencing guidelines, the court quoted Immanuel Kant to acknowledge that the punishment was in itself the end: "judicial punishment can never serve merely as a means to further another good, whether for the offender himself or for the society, but must always be inflicted on him for the sole reason that he has committed a crime".

However, as Kant asserts in *The Metaphysics of Morals*, such a situation subjects the principle of justice to a calculation of interest and, consequently, to the assessment of a price. Ideally, justice should not be regarded as a price to be paid but as invaluable, existing beyond any form of calculation. It must be seen as being beyond even the value of life itself. Justice, after all, transcends sentimentalities—and, for that matter, existence.

Maybe we are not there yet. As the recent "artistic death" sentences lashed out by our courts would prove, we are very irascible about our sentimentalities and liberal with labelling. Or as Camus puts it, "in our society, any man who doesn't cry at his mother's funeral is liable to be condemned to death".

(Views are personal)

### MAIL BAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

#### Party prompts

Ref: *Khurshid slams critics in party* (June 3). Salman Khurshid and Shashi Tharoor are prompting the party high command to not be irrational while passing comments on Operation Sindoor. It was unexpected from the leaders that they would exhort their party high command to be supportive of the country's larger interests. **SLakshmi, Hyderabad**

#### Indemnifying coastline

Ref: *Lessons from Kerala shipwreck* (June 3). Oceanologists need to explore newer means to contain sea contamination. Each time a vessel sinks, threats surface. Coastal habitation takes the largest hit. With newer ports like Vizhinjam coming up, policies like charging an emergency fee should be proposed. **Sachidananda Satpathy, Sambalpur**

#### Future imperfect

Ref: *Working India is sleepwalking into a crisis* (June 3). India's sleepless workforce is paying a costly price. More than a personal need, sleep is a strategic business asset. It's time employers recognised this and worked on flexible schedules, sleep literacy, and workplace wellness. Because well-rested minds build the future. **NR Jagannath, Bangalore**

#### Protean retreats

Ref: *Klaasen retires from Int'l cricket* (June 3). It is shocking for Heinrich Klaasen to retire in his prime. A few other big Proteas players have also retired this year stating various reasons. All would be missed. There must be requirements by the South African cricket board. **N Mahadevan, Chennai**

#### Kamal qualifier

Ref: *Kamal moves HC for Thug Life release* (June 3). The Karnataka Film Chamber of Commerce is making avoidable noise over Kamal Haasan's comments—not because of their love for the language, but out of aversion to a supreme Tamil actor. Those who follow history know well which language came first. **Sanath Kumar T S, Thrissur**

#### Battling nature

Ref: *5L across 22 Assam dists affected* (June 3). The Northeast has yet again faced the fury of nature. Its severity is unfortunate. The repeated pattern needs long-term preparedness. With all of the Centre's and States' efforts, the rescue process seems to be a herculean task. **DV Sankara Rao, Vizianagaram**



# Losses are not important, but outcomes are, says CDS in Pune

Gen Anil Chauhan says professional military forces are not affected by setbacks and losses

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

CHIEF of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan on Tuesday asserted that "losses are not important, but outcomes are", days after admitting that India lost a few fighter jets during Operation Sindoor. "Professional military forces are not affected by setbacks and losses," he said while speaking at a special lecture on 'Future Wars and Warfare' organised by Savitribai Phule University in Pune.

"When I was asked about losses on our side... I said these are not important. The results are important. It would not be very correct to talk about losses. Suppose you go to a cricket match, and you win, by any means, then there's no question about how many wickets, balls, players," he said.

Highlighting adaptability as "an important constituent of a very professional force", he pointed out, "You should be able to understand what went wrong, need to rectify your mistake and go again. You can not sit down in fear."

As this newspaper reported earlier, Gen Chauhan told Bloomberg TV on Saturday, on



CDS General Chauhan during lecture at Savitribai Phule Pune University on Tuesday | PTI

the sidelines of the Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore, when asked whether Pakistan had downed an Indian jet or more in the course of Operation Sindoor, "What is important is that, not the jet being down, but why they were being down, what mistakes were made, that are important."

The CDS said, "The good part is that we can understand the tactical mistake which we made, remedy it, rectify it, and then implement it again after two days and flew all our jets again, targeting at long range."

While asserting that "numbers are not important", the CDS outrightly denied Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz

Sharif's claims that the Pakistan Air Force had shot down six Indian fighter jets, including four Rafale fighters, during the brief India-Pakistan clash.

"The thinking behind Operation Sindoor was (also) that Pakistan should not be able to hold India hostage to terrorism. India is not going to live under the shadow of terror and nuclear blackmail," he said.

"What happened in Pahal-gam was profound cruelty... all victims were killed with headshots in front of their families and children, in the name of religion," he said, asserting that India has been the victim of most terror acts with almost 20,000 people killed.

## Media advisory on privacy of senior officers, families

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

THE Ministry of Defence (MoD) on Tuesday pointed out "inappropriate" actions of media personnel of approaching senior officers of the Armed Forces and their family members regarding coverage of their personal lives. The MoD's Directorate of Public Relations issued an advisory in this regard.

The DPR advisory, in the context of ongoing operations such as Operation Sindoor, said, "Media personnel have reportedly approached their residences, attempted to contact family members, and pursued personal coverage unrelated to their official duties," adding, such actions are deeply inappropriate and potentially compromise dignity, privacy, and safety of the officers and their families, who are private citizens and must be treated with due respect and sensitivity.

# India can talk to Pak if it acts against terror, says Tharoor

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

CONGRESS MP Shashi Tharoor has said that India can talk to Islamabad if it takes significant action against terror infrastructure that is visible in the country. Tharoor, who is leading an all-party parliamentary delegation to Brazil, said the problem in holding talks with Pakistan is not the language but finding a common vision for decency and peace.

He said that his team successfully conveyed India's message against terrorism to Latin American countries, including to those who may have had some misunderstandings.

"This is what we keep telling our interlocutors. If Pakistan is as innocent as it claims to be, why does it give safe haven to terrorists? Why are they able to live peacefully, to conduct training camps... and radicalise people, to equip arms and get people to practice their arms and Kalashnikovs," he said.

"You crack down on this infrastructure of terrorism that is visible everywhere in your country. Then, of course, we can talk. We can talk to them in Hindustani. We can talk to them in Punjabi. We can talk to them in English. There is no problem in finding common



## ACT ON TERROR INFRA

Shashi Tharoor said if Pakistan is as innocent as it claims to be, why does it give safe haven to terrorists? "You crack down on terror infra visible in your country. Then, of course, we can talk. We can talk to them in Hindustani. We can talk to them in Punjabi. We can talk to them in English..."

ground with Pakistan. The problem is finding a common vision for decency, for peace. We want to be left in peace, to grow and develop. They don't want to leave us alone. They want to harass us," he said.

The Tharoor-led delegation will head to Washington from Brazil. On a question on the delegation's expectations from Washington visit, Tharoor said,

"It is going to be a challenging visit. We have a lot of different kinds of audiences. Judging by some of the information floating around, we get some interesting and perhaps challenging questions, which we will be very happy to answer."

Tharoor in a post on 'X' said that the delegation had an intense day of meetings in Brazil that "gave us much to be pleased about affirmations of solidarity and goodwill for India across the board, both from the highest echelons of government and from the legislature". The team held a highly productive meeting with Senator Nelsinho Trad, President of the India-Brazil Friendship Front.

Whether nations have been recognising India's stance against terrorism, Tharoor said his delegation has been to four nations — Guyana, Panama, Colombia and Brazil — so far and "this has been very clear in all the countries we've been to".

"I would say in all four countries, we've had very clear success, if that's the word, I don't like to boast of success. That's for others to judge. But we've got our message through clearly, including to those who may have had some misunderstandings," he said, referring to Colombia.

# Govt expected to move impeachment motion on judge in monsoon session

RAJESH THAKUR @ New Delhi

THE Modi government is expected to move an impeachment motion against Justice Yashwant Varma of the Allahabad High Court's during the upcoming monsoon session of Parliament, scheduled to begin between late June and mid-July.

According to sources, senior BJP leaders have held several meetings in preparations for the proceedings against Justice Varma, in connection with a cash recovery case.

On Tuesday, Home Minister Amit Shah and BJP national president JP Nadda met with Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar. Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal has also reportedly discussed the matter with Shah. Recently, Shah met with President Droupadi Murmu, although no official statement on the meeting has been released.

Meanwhile, a source said that "the processes before tabling the motion are being completed."

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju has also understood to have started discussions with all political parties to build a consensus on the matter, the sources said.

"The Centre is hopeful of getting all parties' support on the motion to impeach Varma. He has not yet resigned in spite of a Supreme Court-appointed three-member committee submitting its report," remarked another source.

It has been learnt that Meghwal may move the impeachment motion, which would be needed to be passed in both Houses of Parliament with a two-thirds majority. "Without the support of Opposition, the Centre wouldn't succeed in bringing impeachment. Consultations with other parties are likely to begin soon," said another source.



The Centre is hopeful of getting all parties' support on the motion to impeach Justice Varma. He has not yet resigned in spite of a SC-appointed 3-member panel submitting its report

A source

100 MPs in LS, 50 in RS

As per set norms, the support of at least 100 lawmakers in the Lok Sabha and 50 in the Rajya Sabha is needed to table the motion. Then it needs a two-thirds majority in both Houses of Parliament.

# Finance ministry likely to approve 12% higher outlay for MGNREGS

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

THE Finance Ministry is likely to approve a 12% hike in the outlay of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) for five years, as demanded by the Ministry of Rural Development, sources said.

Recent media reports have said that the MoRD has sought an outlay of ₹5.23 lakh crore for MGNREGS for five years until 2029-30 in its proposal to the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC). EFC is responsible for appraising and approving schemes with significant budgetary implications.

Sources in the Finance Ministry said that the ministry may give a go ahead to the proposal and it will be finalised after Cabinet approval. In the previous five financial years from 2020-21 to 2024-25, the central fund amounted ₹4.68 lakh crore for MGNREGS.

For the 2024-25 financial year, the budget allocation for the MGNREGA was ₹86,000 crore, same as what was spent on the scheme as per the revised estimate of 2024-2025.

The findings of a recent report by LibTech India, showed that employment fell by 7.1% in 2024-25, despite an 8.6% rise in



registered households, under the scheme. It showed only 7% households availed the promised 100 days of work under the MGNREGS scheme.

It also pointed out that average workdays dropped by 4.3%, and 100-day completion households fell by 11.9%. While states with the sharpest employment drops included Odisha (34.8%), Tamil Nadu (25.1%), and Rajasthan (15.9%), Maharashtra (39.7%), Himachal Pradesh (14.8%), and Bihar (13.3%) showed gains.

The report showed, though there was a 8.6% increase in registered households in FY 2024-25, it did not result in improved employment.

The report also suggested that Aadhaar Payment Bridge System (APBS) ineligible workers are denied work, despite

## Govt should ensure adequate funds: Cong

Hitting out at the Centre, Congress said amid the economic downturn, the budget must make adequate financial provision to realise the vision under MGNREGA. Wages cannot be set by the arbitrary whims of the government, the party said, adding, a Standing Committee must be established to evaluate the need for changes

MoRD assurances.

It showed that 27.5% of all workers and 1.5% of active workers still remained ineligible for ABPS, only a slight improvement from the previous year. Maharashtra (63.4%), Gujarat (58.1%), and Jharkhand (38.1%) have the highest proportions of all workers ineligible for ABPS, it said.

Citing the report, Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh recently said even as coverage of the scheme rises, hardships due to the ongoing economic slowdown, the average number of days employment per household has fallen, he said in a statement. Ramesh said due to the worsening economic downturn, the budget must make adequate financial provision to realise the vision under MGNREGA.

# Airspace can't be used as retaliatory tool, civilian flights not to be targeted

S LA LITHA @ New Delhi

AIRSPACE must never be weaponised in conflicts, and civilian aircraft should never become casualties—deliberate or accidental—of military operations, said Nick Careen, Senior Vice President of Operations & Security at the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

Speaking at the IATA Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, Careen said that governments worldwide are working together to enhance coordination and establish clear global protocols to protect civil aviation in conflict zones.

"Governments must step up, enhance intelligence-sharing, and establish clearer global protocols to prevent such tragedies and safeguard civilian aviation," Careen said.

Citing rising threats to flight safety, Careen said, "There needs to be a better balance between connectivity and geopolitical issues that always puts national security and international law in the forefront. Instead, we see airspace used as a retaliatory tool."

The fallout from global con-

## Better co-ordination

When asked on the halstorm incident on May 21 in which an IndiGo Delhi-Srinagar flight was involved, Nick Careen, Senior VP at the International Air Transport Association, said, "The learning from it would involve better co-ordination. I am sure that's something that would be under consideration."



licts is already hitting the aviation sector hard. In 2023, two civilian aircraft were shot down in Kazakhstan and Sudan, claiming 38 lives. The ongoing Russia-Ukraine war continues to disrupt European airspace, with up to 2,000 flights being rerouted or cancelled on an average summer day due to closed Ukrainian airspace and sanctions on Russia. That's

about 6% of total daily network traffic, Careen noted. Another 1,500 flights are rerouted daily to avoid restricted airspace, causing logistical chaos and increased fuel consumption.

Conflict zones in West East, especially around Israel, have added to the crisis. In October 2024, multiple flights had to take emergency actions after encountering Iranian missiles aimed at Israel. "The presence of missiles in active flight corridors raised serious safety issues," Careen said.

These diversions not only impact safety but also have steep financial and environmental consequences, often making routes economically unviable for airlines.

However, the industry's troubles aren't limited to geopolitical conflicts. A severe shortage of aircraft and engines is crippling operations globally. As many as 1,100 aircraft under 10 years old—3.8% of the global fleet—are currently grounded due to engine issues, a sharp rise from just 1.3% before 2019. Most of these groundings are linked to PW1000G engine problems, Careen revealed.

# Quad foreign ministers to meet ahead of summit

JAYANTH JACOB @ New Delhi

NEW DELHI is set to host a meeting of the foreign ministers from Quad nations—India, Australia, Japan, and the US—between late June and early July, sources said. The meeting will be attended by External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, Australia's Foreign Minister Penny Wong, Japan's Foreign Minister Takeshi Iwaya and the Secretary of State Marco Rubio.

"The dates are on the works for the meet of foreign ministers of Quad. The window is between late June end and first week of July," sources said.

The timing of the meeting is seen as crucial, as it will lay the groundwork for the upcoming Quad summit scheduled to be held in India later this year.

The summit is expected to be a major diplomatic event, with Donald Trump slated to visit India as part of the proceedings. His visit, if confirmed, will mark a significant moment in India-US relations and is likely to draw global attention, given the evolving geopolitical landscape in the Indo-Pacific.

# EC: Will provide faster voter turnout updates, reduce reporting delays

MUKESH RANJAN @ New Delhi

THE Election Commission on Tuesday announced that it was introducing a technology-driven system to provide timely updates on approximate number of votes cast, which would "significantly" reduce the time lag linked to the earlier manual reporting methods.

Under the new initiative, the presiding officer (PRO) of each polling station will be directly entering voter turnout on the new ECINET application every two hours on polling day to reduce the time lag in updating the approximate polling trends. It would be automatically aggregated at the constituency level, the EC said in a statement. The approximate voting percentage data will continue to be published every two hours.

"Notably, voter turnout data will now be entered into ECINET by PROs immediately after the close of polls, before they leave the polling station. It

will reduce the delays and ensure that the approximate percentage of votes polled be available on the updated voter turnout app constituency-wise after the end of polls subject to network connectivity," it said.

The poll panel said the initiative is part of the EC's commitment to timely public communication, a priority repeatedly highlighted by Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar after he took over the office.

Under the Conduct of Elections Rules, 1961 (Rule 49S), PROs are legally required to provide Form 17C—a record of votes cast—to polling agents at the close of voting.

"While this statutory provision remains unchanged, the EC has put in place a parallel, non-statutory system used to provide approximate voter turnout data through the Voter Turnout App. In areas with poor mobile connectivity, data can be entered offline and synced once the network is available," it said.

# Belgian embassy staff behind Bibi posters: Police

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

DELHI Police has identified a Belgian national posted at the Belgium Embassy as the individual behind "wanted" posters of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu found in the high-security Chanakyapuri area where most diplomatic missions are located.

The posters appeared around 10-12 days ago, prompting an internal investigation. Authorities traced the act to a diplomatic passport holder from the embassy. Due to diplomatic immunity, no action was taken against the individual. However, the police have submitted a detailed report to the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA).

The incident has raised concerns given the sensitive nature of the area, home to several foreign missions and embassies.





	Max	Min		Max	Min
Armedabad	34	27	Mumbai	29	27
Bhopal	31	22	Panaji	32	27
Jaipur	32	24	Patna	33	27
Amritsar	34	23	Lucknow	32	24
Chennai	36	28	Port Blair	30	27
Kolkata	34	27	Imphal	27	21
Srinagar	18	09	Chandigarh	31	22

# PM to inaugurate Kashmir railway project on Friday

Modi to travel to Katra by train, flag off Vande Bharat train services

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the 272 km-long Kashmir Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla rail project, connecting the landlocked Valley with the country's rail network, on June 6. This marks his first visit to Jammu & Kashmir after 'Operation Sindoor'.

"History in the making... Just 3 days to go! The mighty #ChenabBridge, the world's highest railway bridge, stands tall in #JammuandKashmir. Part of the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Railway Link (USBRL). Built to withstand nature's toughest tests. PM Sh @narendramodi to inaugurate the #ChenabBridge on 6th June 2025. A proud symbol of New India's strength and vision!" Union MoS PMO Jitendra Singh posted on X.

After inaugurating the Chenab bridge, the PM would travel by train to Katra, sources said. They said the PM will also visit India's first cable-stayed bridge over Anji Khad.

He will flag off the Vande Bharat train from Katra to Baramulla (north Kashmir) and another from Baramulla to Katra, they added.

The launch of the train service by the PM was scheduled for



April 19 but was postponed owing to bad weather conditions.

PM Modi will then address a public rally at the Sports Ground, Katra, which is the base camp for the pilgrims visiting Mata Vaishno Devi.

Since it will be his first public rally after May 7 'Operation Sindoor', PM Modi is expected to talk in detail about the operation launched to avenge April 22 Pahalgam terror attack in which 26 lives were lost.

The launch of the train service will end 70 years of wait for direct train to Kashmir. Currently, train services are operational between Sangaldan to Baramulla in the Valley and from Katra to across India.

Due to security concerns, the trains would have to halt at Katra railway station and passen-

gers would have to disembark there (whether coming from outside Kashmir or from Valley) and board another train for their onward journey.

The Vande Bharat train plying in Kashmir has been designed as per weather condition of the region. Due to security concerns, trains would operate only during daytime on the Kashmir route as security deployments are withdrawn in the evening.

The work on 272-km Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla rail project, entailing a cost of ₹41,000, was started in 2005-06.

The USBRL project involves 38 tunnels (combined length of 119Km). The longest tunnel (T-49) has a length of 12.76 km and is the country's longest transportation tunnel.

## Gang selling traders' data busted in Surat

DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA @ Ahmedabad

A nationwide scam involving the online sale of traders' GST data has come to light, with Delhi, Ghaziabad, and Noida identified as hotspots of a gang called 'Data Solution'.

The Surat Chartered Accountants Association (SCAA), in a letter to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, revealed that sensitive GST data is being sold in packages - GSTR-1 for ₹8,000-₹10,000 and 2B, 3B, and e-Way Bill data bundled at ₹15,000 for a three-month period. The expose has triggered alarm over serious lapses in the GST system and sparked calls for urgent government action.

Rates vary based on the depth of information - ₹5,000 for basic data, ₹7,000 for more detailed sets, and up to ₹25,000 for premium access, including e-way bills and HSN codes.

The brokers operate from office-like setups in Delhi and Ghaziabad. Far from being a backdoor operation, these data dealers operate like firms, offering bulk packages of sensitive tax data to clients nationwide.

A leaked WhatsApp chat between a broker and a trader gave the game away. Sources indicate businessmen are purchasing their competitors' GST data to gain an edge while aspiring traders approach data brokers for financial footprints.

# 20% reservation for Agniveers in UP police depts okayed

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

THE Uttar Pradesh government has approved a 20% reservation for Agniveers in specific government jobs, including police constables, mounted police, fire personnel, and PAC constables, through the direct recruitment process. The state cabinet, presided over by CM Yogi Adityanath, on Tuesday also decided that Agniveers who complete their stint in the Army will be granted a 3-year age relaxation when applying for these jobs.

However, only permanent residents of Uttar Pradesh will be eligible for this benefit. The first batch of Agniveers is expected to be available for recruitment by 2026.

Finance Minister Suresh Khanna stated that states like Haryana and Odisha, as well as forces such as the CISF and BSF, offer 10% quota, making UP's offer the highest so far.

"States like Haryana and Odisha have offered 10% reservation to former Agniveers. The UP Cabinet has now approved 20% horizontal reservation,

which is a bold and generous initiative," Khanna said.

Khanna explained that the reservation would be applicable across all caste categories: "This is a significant decision. The reservation will be applicable across categories - general, SC, ST, and OBC."

Khanna said this initiative aims to ensure that Agniveers continue to make significant contributions to the state's security infrastructure after their military service. The Agnipath scheme, introduced by the Centre in 2022, aimed at short-term induction of personnel into the Army, Navy, and Air Force to reduce the age profile in these services. Uttar Pradesh's new policy is seen as being aligned with this scheme, further facilitating the continued contribution of Agniveers.

This reservation would provide Agniveers concrete opportunities within the state's security apparatus. Khanna said the move not only recognises their service but ensures they continue contributing to security after their military stint.



The UP Cabinet has now approved 20% horizontal reservation, a bold and generous initiative... The reservation will be applicable across categories - general, SC, ST, and OBC

Suresh Khanna, UP finance minister

## L-G sacks 3 govt employees for J&K terror links

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

J&K Lt Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday invoked Article 311 of the Constitution to dismiss three government employees, including a policeman and a teacher, for allegedly engaging in anti-national activities. They are Sg Constable in J&K Police Malik Ishfaq Naseer of Malikpora, Anantnag, Junior Assistant in Health and Medical Education department Waseem Ahmad Khan from Srinagar and teacher Aijaz Ahmad of Buzilaz, Surankote in Poonch.

The order said the L-G is satisfied under sub-clause (c) of the proviso to clause (2) of Article 311 that in the interest of the security of the State, it is not expedient to hold an inquiry and dismiss the trio from services with immediate effect.

He has so far sacked over 80 government employees in J&K for alleged anti-national activities, invoking Article 311.

Former J&K chief minister and PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti posted on X: "Since 2019, hundreds of employees have been summarily dismissed without trial solely based on unproven allegations of so-called terror affiliations. While this iron-fist approach may create a façade of normalcy, genuine, sustainable peace can't be achieved by inflicting suffering on people."

## 'Free speech doesn't mean hurting sentiments': HC denies bail to influencer

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

THE Calcutta High Court on Tuesday refused to grant interim bail to social media content creator Sharmishta Panoli, arrested for allegedly making controversial remarks in the now-deleted videos targeting a community in the aftermath of Operation Sindoor.

The vacation bench of Justice Partha Sarathi Mukherjee said while free speech is protected, it must not cross limits that infringe upon sentiments of others. "The sentiments of a section of people of our country have been hurt. We have freedom of speech but that does not mean you hurt sentiments of others. Our country is full of diversity. Our country is diverse, with all persons from different caste, creed, religion... We must be cautious by saying this," the judge observed.

Justice Mukherjee directed the West Bengal government to produce the case diary related to the investigation on June 5, when Panoli's bail plea will be heard again. He further ordered that the investigation in the FIR lodged at Garden Reach police station - filed on May 15 by Wajahat Khan - will proceed, while all other related



FIRs will remain stayed until further notice. The court also instructed the state to ensure that no additional cases are filed against Panoli over the same incident.

Panoli, a student at Symbiosis Law School in Pune with nearly 2,00,000 followers across platforms, was arrested on May 30 in Gurugram. She was remanded to 14 days of judicial custody by a Kolkata court.

According to the complaint, Panoli's video allegedly hurt the religious sentiments of the minority community and incited disharmony. The prosecution claims her remarks were made in the context of social media exchanges following Operation Sindoor-India's military response to the Pahalgam terror attack that killed 26, mostly tourists.

## Punjab man nabbed for selling military info to ISI operatives

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

THE Punjab Police on Tuesday arrested a person, Gagandeep Singh from Tarn Taran, for allegedly sharing sensitive information about the Indian Army movement with Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) during Operation Sindoor. He was allegedly in touch with 20 ISI operatives and direct contact with Gopal Singh Chawla, a Pakistan-based pro-Khalistan leader.

DGP Gaurav Yadav informed that Gagandeep alias Gagan, a resident of Mohalla Rodupur in Tarn Taran district, was apprehended by the Counter-Intelligence unit in a joint operation with the Tarn Taran police.

Preliminary investigations revealed that the accused was in communication with Chawla for the last five years. The latter introduced him to Pakistani Intelligence Operatives (PIOs). The accused shared classified information, including troop deployments, strategic locations, and army movements during Operation Sindoor, which posed a serious threat to national security, the DGP said.

The police recovered two mobile devices from Gagandeep. They contained sensitive intelligence that he shared with the PIOs, as well as details of over 20 ISI contacts. The accused received payments from the PIOs via Indian channels, he said, adding that probe is on to trace other linkages and establish the full scope of this espionage network.

### ESPIONAGE

## Ex-aide of former Cong minister held on charges of spying

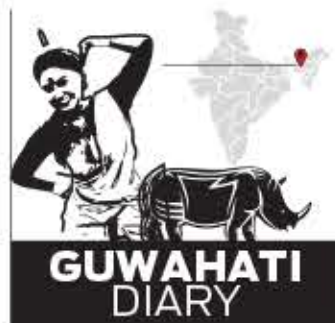
RAJESH ASNANI @ Jaipur

IN a case that's sent shockwaves across Rajasthan, the police has arrested Shakoor Khan, an Assistant Administrative Officer in the Jaipur District Employment Office on charges of espionage. Shakoor, a former personal assistant to ex-Congress minister Saleh Mohammad, was arrested under the Official Secrets Act, 1923, following weeks of intelligence tracking.

According to senior officials, Shakoor Khan was found to be in contact with former officials of the Pakistan High Commission, including Ehsan-ur-Raheem alias Danish. Investigations have revealed that, much like Haryana-based YouTuber Jyoti Malhotra - arrested earlier for similar espionage activities - Shakoor had direct links to several individuals associated with Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI). He reportedly met Danish multiple times at the Pakistani Embassy and was in touch with Sohail Qamar.

During interrogation, Khan has reportedly admitted to making seven visits to Pakistan in recent years, aided by visa arrangements facilitated by his contacts in the Pakistani embassy. Intelligence sources confirmed that he maintained regular WhatsApp communication with at least 13 ISI-linked operatives. He allegedly shared sensitive information about Indian Army movements and even helped send other individuals to Pakistan.

The arrest triggered a political row in Rajasthan with the BJP pointing out Khan's past association with a former Congress minister.



PRASANTA MAZUMDAR

Our correspondent in Guwahati

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## Gogoi named state Cong chief, thanks CM Sarma

When Lok Sabha MP from Jorhat Gaurav Gogoi took charge as the Assam Congress president on Tuesday, he couldn't help but take a not-so-subtle dig at CM Himanta Biswa Sarma, who has been lobbing one attack after another at him. Gogoi quipped, "Had the Chief Minister not been so busy with me in the last two to three years, my party would not have entrusted me with this responsibility." His appointment as the party's state unit chief comes in the backdrop of serious allegations made by Sarma that Gogoi's British wife is linked with Pakistan spy agency ISI.



## Bengal man booked for denigrating Hindu deity

The Assam police have registered a case against a man from Kolkata, Wajahat Khan Qadri Rashidi, for his alleged disparaging remarks about Goddess Kanakakha. Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma took a serious view of the matter and wrote on X, "Reference to unacceptable comments made by an individual against Devi Maa Kanakakha, a case has been registered by @assampolice and we will seek West Bengal Govt's cooperation in bringing the individual to Assam to face the law." Sarma said the Assam government would request the West Bengal government to hand the accused over to Assam police.

## Health visitor from state gets Nightingale Award

Bhnapani Deka, a lady health visitor from Assam's Nalbari, has brought laurels to the state by winning a National Florence Nightingale Award, an honour instituted by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare that recognises the dedication, compassion and resilience that define the nursing profession. She was presented the award by President Droupadi Murmu at a recent ceremony. CM Sarma described it as a proud moment for Assam. This year, 15 nurses from various regions and healthcare settings were feted for their exemplary service in strengthening public health delivery and commitment to community welfare.

# 13 from free coaching centre crack JEE Advanced

MUKESH RANJAN @ Ranchi

IN an impressive feat, 13 students from government schools, coached free at the state-level 'Akanksha Programme' in Ranchi, have cleared the IIT-JEE Advanced this year. They are now eligible for admission to the prestigious Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs).

The students come from Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes. Two of them figured in the top 1,000 list of successful candidates. Rajeev Kumar, belonging to the Economically Weaker Sections, secured the 436th rank, while tribal student Vishal Hansda stood 784th.

Their success, despite a stringent question paper this year, is being attributed to the rigorous coaching they underwent in the Aakanksha Programme.

District Education Officer Vinay Kumar said, "It all became possible due to the regular classes conducted at Akanksha by the best faculty available.



The environment is such that students are attentive and disciplined, without distraction." Students passing the Class 10 board exam from Jharkhand Autonomous Council (JAC) are eligible to sit for the Akanksha entrance test.

Kumar said the prospective candidates go through a two-stage filtration - first by the JAC and then the entrance test. Given the hard work the candidates put in during the prepar-

atory two years, he expected better results, he said.

The Akanksha Programme, a government initiative since 2016-17, follows a rigorous selection process to identify the best students. The School Education department organises the entrance test for Class 11 students of government schools across Jharkhand.

Forty students are selected for the engineering and medical streams. They get free

## J'hkhand govt programme

This Jharkhand govt initiative aims to create an inclusive learning atmosphere for children from economically backward classes who cannot afford private lessons for entrance exams. It gives them a level playing field to compete with students from affluent sections. The programme follows a rigorous selection process. Forty students are selected for engineering and medical streams who get free boarding and tuitions for classes 11 and 12.

boarding and tuitions for classes 11 and 12, along with free residential coaching for engineering and medical entrance examinations.

The idea behind the initiative is to create an inclusive learning atmosphere for children from economically backward classes who cannot afford private coaching to take entrance exams. It gives them a level playing field to compete with students from affluent sections.

# Assam flood situation worsens, 6L in 21 dists under water, PM takes stock

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Guwahati

THE flood situation in Assam worsened on Tuesday, affecting over 6.33 lakh people in 21 districts, with six people, including two minors, reported dead in the deluge.

The flood and landslide toll in the Northeast now stands at 47 - 17 in Assam, 12 in Arunachal Pradesh, six each in Meghalaya and Mizoram, three in Sikkim, two in Tripura and one in Nagaland. The region recorded an estimated 700 landslides, with 552 occurring in Mizoram and 93 in Manipur.

The Indian Meteorological Department predicted moderate to heavy rainfall in parts of the Northeast in the next 24 hours. The Assam State Disaster Management Authority said 6,33,114 people and 14,739.33 hectares of cropland have been affected. The floods damaged homes and infrastructure, in-



cluding roads and bridges.

Over 2.57 lakh people are in relief camps or relief distribution centres. The Brahmaputra and some of its tributaries are in a spate, flowing above the danger level at some places.

Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma said he briefed Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the continuous rainfall causing flooding and impacting lives and the state government's relief operations. "The PM expressed concern and assured full support from the Centre for

our relief and rehabilitation efforts. Grateful for his guidance and unwavering support to the people of Assam," Sarma said.

On Tuesday, he assessed the flood situation in Cachar, which is one of the worst-affected districts. The floods in Manipur affected over 56,000 people, mainly in the Imphal Valley.

The Mizoram government advised postponing all official trips until June 13. In Arunachal Pradesh, a doctor from Assam is reported missing from in Lohit district since May 31.





200

is the total death toll due to  
flooding in north-central NigeriaGLOBAL  
WEATHER

Beijing	26	11	LC	Los Angeles	17	10	SNY
Colombo	32	25	TDS	Melbourne	18	13	LC
Dhaka	34	27	LC	Moscow	5	0	LC
Dubai	42	31	SNY	New York	14	6	LR
Houston	30	22	LC	Singapore	31	25	TDS
Istanbul	17	12	LR	Toronto	8	1	LC
London	17	8	SNY	Washington	23	8	TDS

newindianexpress.com

# HAMAS SAYS ISRAELI FIRE AT AID CAMP KILLS 27

RAFAH

PALESTINIAN health officials and witnesses said Israeli forces fired on people as they headed toward an aid distribution site on Tuesday, killing at least 27, in the third such incident in three days. The army said it fired "near a few individual suspects" who left the designated route, approached its forces and ignored warning shots.

The near-daily shootings have come after an Israeli and US-backed foundation established aid distribution points inside Israeli military zones, a system it says is designed to circumvent Hamas. The United Nations has rejected the new system, saying it doesn't address Gaza's mounting hunger crisis and allows Israel to use aid as a weapon.

The Israeli military denied opening fire on civilians or blocking them from reaching the aid sites.

The Gaza Humanitarian Foundation, which operates the sites, says



Palestinians carry bags filled with food and humanitarian aid provided by Gaza Humanitarian Foundation in Khan Younis, southern Gaza Strip, on Tuesday | AP

there has been no violence in or around them. On Tuesday, it acknowledged that the Israeli military was investigating whether civilians were wounded "after moving beyond the designated safe corridor and into a closed military zone," in an area that was "well beyond our secure distribution site."

There were three children and two women among the dead, according to Mohammed Saqr, head of nursing at Nasser Hospital.

The shootings all occurred at the Flag Roundabout, around a kilometer (1,000 yards) from one of the GHF's distribution sites in the now mostly uninhabited southern city of Rafah. The entire area is an Israeli military zone where journalists have no access outside of army-approved embeds.

Yasser Abu Lubda, a 50-year-old displaced from Rafah, said the shooting started around 4 a.m. on Tuesday and that he saw several people killed or wounded.

Neima al-Aaraj, a woman from Khan Younis, said the Israeli fire was "indiscriminate." "After the martyrs and wounded, I won't return," she said. "Either way we will die."

Rasha al-Nahal, another witness, said "We'd rather die than deal with this. Death is more dignified than what's happening to us."

The Israeli military said three of its soldiers were killed in an explosion in the Jabaliya area in northern Gaza on Tuesday. AP

# No quick breakthrough possible, says Russia

MOSCOW

RUSSIA on Tuesday said it was wrong to expect a quick breakthrough in Ukraine talks, a day after Moscow rejected Kyiv's call for an unconditional ceasefire at negotiations in Istanbul.

The sides agreed on a large-scale swap of captured soldiers and exchanged their roadmaps to peace, or so-called "memorandums", at the discussions, which lasted under two hours.

More than three years into Russia's offensive - which has killed tens of thousands on both sides and forced millions from their homes in eastern Ukraine - the two sides appear as irreconcilable as ever.

"The settlement issue is extremely complex and involves a large number of nuances," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters on Tuesday. "It would be wrong to expect immediate solutions and break-



In this photo provided by Ukraine's defence forces, soldiers fire a canon towards Russian army positions near Kharkiv, Ukraine, on Tuesday | AP

throughs," he added. Moscow demanded Ukraine pull its troops out of four eastern and southern regions that Moscow claims to have annexed as a precondition to pausing its offensive, according to the document handed to the Ukrainians that was published by Russian state media.

Kyiv pressed for a full and uncondi-

tional ceasefire. Russia instead offered a partial truce of two to three days in some areas of the frontline, its top negotiator said after the talks.

Elsewhere, a Russian attack targeted Ukrainian city of Sumy on Tuesday, killing at least three people, officials said. Zelenskyy denounced the assault, saying it underscored that Moscow has no intentions of halting the three-year war.

Russia said Ukraine was behind rail blasts in its western border regions that derailed a passenger train, killing seven people and wounding dozens more. The deadly explosion in Russia's Bryansk region that borders Ukraine caused a road bridge to collapse onto a railway line late Saturday and derail a passenger train, the authorities said. "The terrorists, acting on orders of Kyiv, planned it so that hundreds of would come under their attacks," a Kremlin spokesperson said. AP & AFP

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**POSSESSION NOTICE (for Immovable property)**

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Indian Bank, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the Act read with rule 8 and 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a demand notice dated 25.02.2025 calling upon the Borrower with our Ashok Nagar Branch : (1) M/s. Imayam Publications Private Limited, (Borrower), No.59, 2nd Floor, Empee Towers, Harris Road, Egmore, Chennai - 600 002 AND C/o Netpex Entertainment Pvt. Ltd., 9/4, Duraisamy Street, Nungambakkam, Chennai - 600 034, (2) Mr. R. A. Jebaraj, (Guarantor/Mortgagor), S/o Mr. T. Raja Rathina Pandian, Flat-C, 202, 2nd Floor, Block-C, 'BELVEDERE', School Main Road, Kumaraswamy Nagar Main Road, Sholinganallur, Chennai - 600 119, (3) Mrs. J. Anitha, (Guarantor), W/o Mr. R. A. Jebaraj, Flat-C-202, 2nd Floor, Block-C, 'BELVEDERE', School Main Road, Kumaraswamy Nagar Main Road, Sholinganallur, Chennai - 600 119, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs.77,91,190/- (Rupees Seventy seven lakhs ninety one thousand one hundred and ninety only) within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 and 9 of the said rules on this 30th day of May of the year 2025. The Borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Indian Bank for an amount of Rs.81,57,958/- (Rupees Eighty one lakhs fifty seven thousand nine hundred and fifty eight only) and interest thereon. "We draw attention to the provisions of Section 13(8) of the SARFAESI Act and the Rules framed there under which deals with your rights of redemption over the securities"

**DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY**  
The specific details of the assets in which security interest is created are enumerated hereunder :  
**Mortgaged Asset :** Apartment bearing No.202 in the Second Floor, in Block No.C, having a super built up area of 1675 Sq. ft. or thereabouts, which includes share in the common built up area along with private open terrace area of Nil Square feet attached to apartment of the Residential Apartments building called 'BELVEDERE', together with 1 number earmarked covered car park in the Still Floor, as per the sketches for apartment and covered car park, along with 738 Sq. ft. of undivided share of land in : All that piece and parcel of land comprised in the Survey Nos.602/1C Part, 602/1D Part, 602/1E, Part 602/1F, Part 602/1G and Part 602/1H Part, as per Patta Survey Nos.602/1C1 Part and 602/1F2 Part, situated at School Main Road, Kumaraswamy Nagar Main Road, in Sholinganallur Village, (formerly Tambaram Taluk) now Sholinganallur Taluk, Kanchipuram District, now Corporation of Chennai, measuring an extent of 3.946 Acres or 71.62 Grounds or 171896.26 Sq. ft. or thereabouts, Bounded - On the North by : Land comprised in Survey Nos.602/1C2 and 1C3, on the East by : Kumaraswamy Nagar Main Road, on the South by : School Main Road, on the West by : OSR Land in Survey No. 602/1C1 Part and 602/1F2 Part gifted to CMDA. And situated within the Registration District of Chennai South and Sub Registration District of Neelangarai.  
Date : 30.05.2025  
Place : Chennai

**Authorised Officer,**  
**Indian Bank.**

**CLASSIFIEDS**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**CHANGE OF NAME**  
**CHANGE OF NAME**  
I, PERIYASWAMI S V, son of Thiru Venkatasamy, born on 9th April 1946, (District of Birth: Erode), residing at No. 45, Defence Endave 6th Street, 8th Lane, Avadi, Chennai-600055, shall henceforth be known as S.V. PERIASAMY Periyaswami S V Chennai, 20th May 2025

**CHANGE OF NAME**  
Old Name: JOHN PETER.M Son of Thiru Mariya Selvaraj, Date of birth: 21/03/1995, District of birth: Pondicherry, Address : Door No. 6/16, Flat No. G2, Ashokasishwaryam Apartment, UC colony Tambaram, East Tambaram, Chennai-600059 New Name: DEENADAYALAN.M

**CHANGE OF NAME**  
Old Name: MARY SELVI, Daughter of Thiru Nayansami, Date of birth: 29/10/1967, District of birth: Cuddalore, Address : Door No. 6/16, Flat No. G2, Ashokasishwaryam Apartment, UC colony Tambaram, East Tambaram, Chennai-600059 New Name: RAJESHWARI.N

**CHANGE OF NAME**  
Old Name: ALDO ANASWAMY, Daughter of Thiru Mariya Selvaraj, Date of birth: 22/09/1997, District of birth: Villupuram, Address : Door No. 6/16, Flat No. G2, Ashokasishwaryam Apartment, UC colony Tambaram, East Tambaram, Chennai-600059 New Name: VALARMATHI.M

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# Analysts see another 25 bps rate cut

As inflation remains at subdued level, monetary easing by the MPC is likely to continue

DIPAK MONDAL @ New Delhi

AS the Monetary Policy Committee of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) sits down to deliberate on interest rates for three days, beginning Wednesday, it will have its eyes firmly on external factors, which is the biggest risk currently at sight for growth in India. Keeping in view the fact that inflation is under control, most analysts believe the rate-setting panel might cut the repo rate by another 25 bps.

With consumer price index (CPI) based inflation forecast to trail 4% for a large part of this fiscal, monetary easing by the MPC is likely to continue. A 25 bps rate cut is expected this week, followed by two more cuts over the subsequent two policy reviews, taking the repo rate to 5.25% by the end of the cycle.

With growth below trend and inflation below target, we believe policy rates will need to move into the accommodative zone rather than neutral, says a report by Nomura.

"As such, we expect an additional 100 bps rate cut to a terminal rate of 5.00%, with 25

With CPI inflation forecast to trail 4% for a large part of this fiscal, monetary easing by the MPC is likely to continue

A 25 bps rate cut is expected this week, followed by two more cuts over the subsequent two policy reviews

Analysts believe the repo rate will be reduced to 5.25% by the end of the cycle

SBI HAS BEEN HOPING FOR A 50 BPS RATE CUT

## RATE CUT HOPE

Nomura predicts India's GDP to grow at 6.2% against RBI's projection of 6.5% in FY26

FY26 inflation to be at 3.3% as against 4% predicted by the RBI, says Nomura

As per Icr's Aditi Nayar, with CPI inflation forecast to trail 4% for a large part of this fiscal

bps cuts in each of June, August, October and December," it says.

Nomura underscored the fact its projection for both GDP growth and inflation are lower than the RBI estimates. Nomura predicts India's GDP to grow at 6.2% against RBI's projection of 6.5%, and FY26

inflation to be 3.3% against 4% predicted by the RBI.

"RBI would be one of few central banks which are in a comfortable position to ease policy rate with the dual mandate of inflation at 4% and supporting growth not in conflict," says Gaura Sen Gupta, chief economist, IDFC first Bank.

IDFC First Bank expects another 25 bps cut in the forthcoming MPC meet. Gaura Sen Gupta expects the overall tone of the policy to be positive on growth both consumption and investment. "Based on our FY26 CPI estimate of 3.5%, we see terminal repo rate at 5.25%," says Sen Gupta.

According to Aditi Nayar, chief economist and head of research & outreach at ICRA, with CPI inflation forecast to trail 4% for a large part of this fiscal, monetary easing by the MPC is likely to continue. "A 25 bps rate cut is expected this week, followed by two more cuts over the subsequent two policy reviews, taking the repo rate to 5.25% by the end of the cycle," she says.

However, SBI has been hoping for a 50 bps cut. Domestic liquidity and financial stability concerns have receded, inflation is expected to stay within the tolerance band, and therefore, keeping the domestic growth momentum intact should be the main policy focus and provides the justification of a jumbo rate cut, it argues.

# Mkt falls for 3rd session amid global cues, profit booking

ARSHAD KHAN @ New Delhi

DOMESTIC equity markets extended their decline for a third straight session on Tuesday, dragged down by broad-based selling pressure and profit booking at elevated levels. Weak global cues, lingering geopolitical tensions, and currency market volatility fuelled by a softening US dollar further dampened investor sentiment.

Despite a positive opening, market sentiment turned weak in the second half. The Nifty 50, after hitting an intraday high of 24,845, settled at 24,542.50, down 174 points or 0.70%, from the previous day's closing. The BSE Sensex mirrored similar trends, closing at 0.78% lower at 80,737.51. The benchmarks have fallen about 1.4% each in the past three sessions.

The broader indices showed a mixed trend — the smallcap index closed almost flat, while midcap lost nearly half a percent. Sectorally, most indices closed in the red. The Nifty Realty index was the outlier, gaining 1%, supported by investor interest in housing and



Mid- and small-cap stocks are seeing relatively less consolidation than large caps due to better earnings growth & moderation in premium valuation

Vinod Nair, research head, Geojit Investments

commercial realty segments amid favourable demand. Vinod Nair, research head, Geojit Investments, said profit booking is evident across sectors, except for realty stocks. "Mid- and small-cap stocks are seeing relatively less consolidation than large caps due to better earnings growth & moderation in premium valuation. While short-term consolidation is likely to persist, strong domes-

tic oriented players are estimated to provide outperformance against external volatility," added Nair. Ajit Mishra – SVP, research, Religare Broking, said the ongoing foreign fund outflows, coupled with weak global cues like geopolitical tensions and uncertainty over trade deals, are adding pressure to the markets.

Bajaj Broking said the Nifty index has formed a bear candle signalling profit booking at higher levels as index failed to sustain above 24,800 and gave up its initial gains to close near the low. "The index closed below 20 days EMA for the first time since April 15, 2025. We expect the index to extend the last 15 sessions consolidation in 24,400–25,080 zone," added the brokerage. Among individual stocks, shares of Adani Group firms fell up to 2.5% on Tuesday following a Wall Street Journal report which stated US prosecutors were probing whether Adani group firms imported Iranian LPG into India via their Mundra port in Gujarat. An Adani spokesperson called the report "baseless and mischievous".

## Hyundai, Kia offload stake in Ola Electric via block deal

ARSHAD KHAN @ New Delhi

SOUTH KOREAN automakers - Hyundai Motor and Kia Corporation - have divested their entire shareholding in Ola Electric Mobility through block deals, marking a strategic exit from the loss-making electric two-wheeler manufacturer.

Hyundai sold 10.8 crore shares at ₹50.70 apiece, amounting to ₹552 crore, while Kia sold 2.7 crore shares at ₹50.55 each, amounting to ₹138 crore, showed NSE bulk deal data. Shares of Ola Electric closed 8.12% lower at ₹49.33 on the BSE on Tuesday.

As of March 2025, BSE data shows that Hyundai held a 2.4% public stake in the company. Citigroup Global Markets Mauritius purchased 8.61 crore shares at ₹50.55 per share, thus investing ₹437 crore in-

vestment in Ola Electric.

The exit by Hyundai and Kia comes days after Ola Electric reported that its losses more than doubled to ₹870 crore in the fourth quarter of financial year 2025 (Q4FY25) as against ₹416 crore loss reported in the same quarter of last fiscal (Q4FY24). The company's revenue from operations dropped 59.5% year-on-year to ₹716 crore.

The fall in and bottomline and topline performance is primarily attributed to a sharp decline in sales amid increasing competition from legacy

players. Vehicle deliveries came down to 51,375 units in Q4FY25 from 115,000 units in Q4FY24.

The company, however, claims to have retained market leadership for FY25, with full-year deliveries coming at 359,000 units, up from 329,000 a year earlier.

## HDB Financial Services, five others receive Sebi approval to launch IPO

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

HDB Financial Services, a subsidiary of HDFC Bank, Vikram Solar and four other entities have received market regulator Sebi's nod to raise funds through initial public offering (IPO).

The other companies that received Sebi's approval are A-One Steels India, Shanti Gold International, Dorf-Ketal Chemicals and Shreeji Shipping Global Limited.

These six companies, which filed their preliminary public offer papers with Sebi between October 2024 and January 25, 2025, obtained their observations during May 27-30. In Sebi's parlance, obtaining observations means go ahead to float the public issue.

As for HDB Financial Services, its proposed public issue is a combination of a fresh issue of equity shares worth ₹2,500 crore and an offer-for-sale (OFS) of ₹10,000 crore by



HDB Fin to issue `2.5k cr fresh offer, `10k cr OFS

As for HDB Financial Services, its proposed public issue is a combination of a fresh issue of equity shares worth ₹2,500 crore and an offer-for-sale (OFS) of ₹10,000 crore by promoter HDFC Bank, according to the draft red herring prospectus (DRHP)

promoter HDFC Bank, according to the draft red herring prospectus (DRHP).

Currently, HDFC Bank holds 94.36% stake in HDB Financial

Services, a non-banking financial company (NBFC). The company proposes to utilise the proceeds from the fresh issue to strengthen its Tier-I capital base. This will support future capital needs, including additional lending, to support business growth. Vikram Solar's IPO is a mix of fresh issue of shares up to ₹1,500 crore and an offer-for-sale (OFS) of up to 17.45 million equity shares by promoter and promoter group selling shareholders.

Dorf-Ketal Chemicals has received approval to launch a ₹5,000 crore IPO, which includes a ₹1,500 crore fresh issue and a ₹3,500 crore OFS by its promoter entity, the Menon Family Holdings Trust. The company supplies chemicals used in oil and gas, refining, and petrochemicals industries across international markets.

A-One Steels India has received Sebi's nod for its ₹650 crore IPO.

## Layoffs at Microsoft again, weeks after snipping 3% workforce

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

MICROSOFT announced another round of layoffs, weeks after reducing nearly 3% of its global workforce. The tech giant cut 305 jobs, in addition to the nearly 6,000 positions Microsoft eliminated earlier this year.

The company eliminated nearly 10,000 roles throughout 2023. As per a filing with Washington state's Employment Se-

curity Department, 305 additional employees in Redmond were let go. A Microsoft spokesperson confirmed these layoffs were separate from the company's earlier round, which impacted 6,000 employees worldwide. The latest cuts, however, represented "significantly less than 1%" of Microsoft's total global headcount. The company said it was implementing organisational changes neces-

sary to best position the company for success in a dynamic marketplace. It said while AI was not cited as the cause, it continued to use technology to help employees focus on "the most meaningful and important tasks."

Reportedly, most of the staff impacted in this round of layoffs were not in managerial roles. Software engineers and

product managers appeared to have been hit the hardest, while fewer than 17% of the affected workers were in management positions.

Microsoft employed about 228,000 people globally till last year.

In 2025 alone, a number of tech companies across Silicon Valley, including Google, Meta, and Amazon, laid off thousands of employees. Earli-

er this year, it had made some performance-based job cuts, but Microsoft later clarified that the more recent layoffs in May of that year were not related to individual performance. While Microsoft hadn't detailed which departments were affected in this latest round, the message was clear: the company was recalibrating to stay competitive — and leaner — in a rapidly changing tech landscape.

### EXPRESS READ

#### Tesla leases 24,565 sq. ft warehouse in Mumbai

NEW DELHI: American electric carmaker Tesla has taken on lease 24,565 square feet warehousing space in Lodha Logistics Park in Mumbai at a monthly rent of ₹37.53 lakh, according to real estate data analytics firm CRE Matrix. The report came a day after Union Heavy Industries Minister H D Kumaraswamy said global EV giant Tesla is not interested in manufacturing cars in India but keen on establishing showrooms in the country. ENS

#### Warburg gets CCI nod for 10% in IDFC First Bank

NEW DELHI: Fair trade regulator CCI on Tuesday cleared private equity major Warburg Pincus' proposal to acquire 10% stake in IDFC First Bank. Warburg Pincus, via its arm Current Sea Investments, is acquiring a stake in IDFC First Bank. IDFC First is engaged in business of providing banking services like providing loans, credit cards, distributing MFs and insurance products and providing financial solutions. ENS

## Rising satellite launches causing orbital congestion, says MoS communications

RAKESH KUMAR @ New Delhi

THE growing number of satellites in low-Earth orbit (LEO) is leading to increasing orbital congestion and presenting new risks, said Minister of State for Communications Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani on Tuesday.

The minister, while speaking at the 11th BRICS Communications Ministers' Meeting, emphasized that these challenges are not just technical, but also evolving into significant geopolitical concerns.

"...rising satellite density—especially in low-Earth orbit—has brought new risks: orbital congestion, signal interference, and spectrum monopolization. These are not just technical issues but growing geopolitical concerns," said Pemmasani.

With companies like Star-

link, OneWeb, and Project Kuiper launching thousands of satellites to expand global satellite communication networks, the minister underscored the need for international cooperation. "Thousands of satellites now form a digital nervous system above us, predicting storms, connecting remote communities, and delivering life-saving disaster alerts," said the minister. During his address, the minister also highlighted the Digital Bharat Nidhi scheme, one of the world's largest rural connectivity initiatives. He noted that over 218,000 village councils are now connected via optical fiber, helping transform rural India into an integral part of the digital economy. Pemmasani emphasized that India has not only adopted but also mastered indigenous 4G technology

## Tata strengthens hold in EV mkt with Harrier.ev

ARSHAD KHAN @ New Delhi

TATA MOTORS on Tuesday launched the much-awaited Harrier.ev in an effort to strengthen its position in India's electric vehicle (EV) market. The move comes as rival carmakers such as JSW MG Motor and Mahindra & Mahindra ramp up their EV offerings, chipping away at Tata's once-dominant market share.

Just a year ago, Tata Motors commanded 73% of India's electric passenger vehicle market. However, a surge in rival launches and their quick adoption by EV buyers has eroded Tata's lead, making the Harrier.ev a crucial addition to its lineup.

Tata Motors' EV sales fell 15% in May 2025 as it delivered 4,316 units as against 5,083 in the same month last year. This decline reduced its share in the small but fast-growing EV market to 35%. In contrast, JSW MG Motor India's share in this segment rose to 30% share as its sales, thanks to the high demand for its Windsor model, grew by 159% YoY to 3,737 units.

M&M, which commenced de-



### Booking for new EV to commence from July 2

Booking for the new EV will commence from July 2. Chandra said with the model, the company expects to attract a new set of customers, right from small-time explorers to off-road enthusiasts. Harrier.ev will target customers from the mainstream premium SUV segment, which currently witnesses sales of around 25,000 units per month

liveries of the BE 6 and XEV 9E in March this year, sold 2,605 EVs in May 2025, boosting its market share to 21%. It has delivered 10,000 units of these models since deliveries began on March 20.

Tata Motors Passenger Vehicle and Tata Passenger Electric Mobility MD Shailesh Chandra

recently said they have aspirations to have more than 50% market share in the EV market in the mid-to-long term. "We would aspire to be at a 50 per cent market share by having a very wide product portfolio and products which are aligned to the expectation of the customers," he stated.

Tata Motors plans to follow Harrier.ev launch with the Sierra EV this fiscal and Avinya-branded models 2027, as part of its strategy to maintain leadership in the EV space. However, the market is expected to turn highly competitive as India's largest carmaker – Maruti Suzuki (MSIL) is all set to launch its first electric SUV this year.

The Harrier.ev carries an introductory price tag of Rs 21.49 lakh (ex-showroom). Built on the Gen 2 acti.ev+ architecture, the EV comes with two battery options, 65 kWh and 75 kWh. It has a claimed IDC range of up to 627 km on a single charge. Tata Motors claims that the Harrier.ev will redefine performance.

Booking for the new EV will commence from July 2. Chandra said with the model, the company expects to attract a new set of customers, right from small-time explorers to off-road enthusiasts. Harrier.ev will target customers from the mainstream premium SUV segment, which currently witnesses sales of around 25,000 units per month.



**ANTALYA:** The Shanghai World Cup showed some encouraging signs for India, as they will look to shine again in the third stage of the showpiece, here on Wednesday. Buoyed by Parth Salunkhe's performance, the Indian men's recurve team, of veteran Tarundeep Rai, Atanu Das, and Dhiraj Bommadevara, will also look to return to the podium. India had finished second in the overall medal standings.

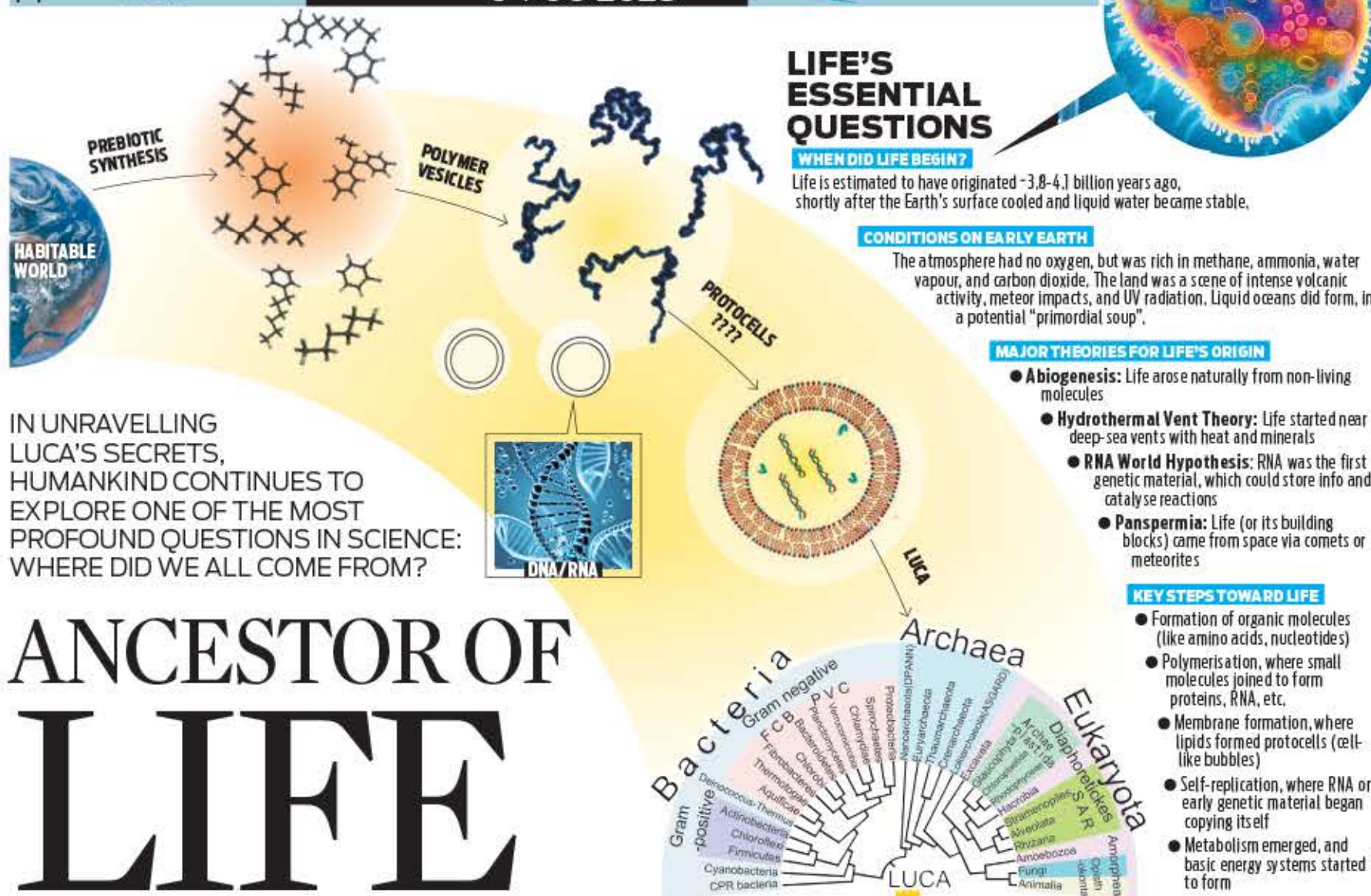




## DID YOU KNOW?

There are up to 400 billion stars in the Milky Way galaxy, but the number of trees on Earth is estimated to be more than 3 trillion

newindianexpress.com



IN UNRAVELLING  
LUCA'S SECRETS,  
HUMANKIND CONTINUES TO  
EXPLORE ONE OF THE MOST  
PROFOUND QUESTIONS IN SCIENCE:  
WHERE DID WE ALL COME FROM?

ANCESTOR OF  
LIFE

Archaea organisms live in inhospitable environments



Wild evolution



Life in Motion

## HRITHIK KIRAN BAGADE

HERE Did life come from? What could possibly be the first living, breathing, primordial ancestor of all beings on Earth? The search for answers to such compelling

questions leads to LUCA!

The Last Universal Common Ancestor, or LUCA, represents a foundational concept in evolutionary biology. It refers to the most recent common ancestor from which all current life on Earth descends. While LUCA is not exactly the first life form, it is the earliest organism for

which we can trace a universal lineage connecting all domains of life: Bacteria, Archaea, and Eukarya. Studying LUCA is crucial for understanding the origin of life and the evolutionary processes that have shaped biodiversity over billions of years.

The idea of a universal com-

mon ancestor dates back to Charles Darwin, who in *On the Origin of Species* (1859), suggested that all life might share a common origin. Modern science has supported this hypothesis through molecular biology, particularly the universality of the genetic code. All known life uses DNA or RNA to encode ge-

netic information, and proteins constructed from amino acids through ribosomes, indicating a shared evolutionary heritage. LUCA is therefore not a specific species or fossil, but a theoretical construct inferred from shared genetic and biochemical traits.

Scientists have attempted to reconstruct LUCA's characteristics using comparative genomics. By examining the genes common to all three domains of life, researchers can hypothesise what LUCA's genome may have contained. Studies suggest that LUCA likely lived around 3.5 to 4 billion years ago in an environment rich in hydrogen, possibly near hydrothermal vents in the deep ocean. These conditions would have provided both the chemical energy and the physical shelter required for early life to develop.

Accordingly, LUCA is believed to have been a single-celled organism with a complex internal structure, including ribosomes and possibly primitive cell membranes. While it did not possess a nucleus (as found in eukaryotic cells), it likely had DNA as its genetic material and used RNA for transcription and translation. The enzymes required for processes such as replication and protein synthesis — like DNA polymerase, RNA polymerase, and ribosomal RNA — were probably present in LUCA.

Molecular studies have allowed scientists to identify genes likely present in LUCA. For instance, a landmark 2016 study by Weiss et al. analysed gene families conserved across all domains of life and identified 355 gene families likely derived from LUCA. These included genes related to core metabolic functions, such as energy production and nucleotide synthesis. Interestingly, many genes related to lipid synthesis were missing, suggesting that LUCA might have used a simpler or mixed membrane system, or that membrane evolution occurred later.

Another crucial insight from genetic studies is that horizontal gene transfer (HGT) — the exchange of genes across spe-

cies — is rampant in microbial life. This complicates the reconstruction of LUCA's genome, because genes present in modern organisms may not have been inherited vertically (ie., through reproduction) from LUCA, but acquired laterally. Despite this, the presence of core informational genes involved in transcription and translation, which are less prone to HGT, provides a reliable molecular signature for LUCA.

## LUCA vs the Origin of Life

It is important to distinguish LUCA from the origin of life itself. As stated, LUCA is not particularly the first life form to exist on Earth; rather, it is the last common node from which all current life descends. Life likely began with a variety of simple, self-replicating molecules in a prebiotic environment. These proto-life forms underwent evolutionary changes, some of which may have included RNA-based life forms or other biochemical systems that no longer exist.

LUCA represents the point at which a stable, inheritable biological system emerged, capable of giving rise to the major domains of life. In this context, LUCA acts as a boundary: everything before it is considered pre-LUCA evolution, possibly involving more diverse and experimental forms of life.

One of the most intriguing questions about LUCA is its habitat. The prevailing hypothesis suggests that LUCA lived in a hydrothermal vent environment, such as alkaline vents on the ocean floor. These vents provide the ideal conditions for early biochemical processes: a source of hydrogen gas, transition metals for catalysis, and natural pH gradients that could have powered primitive energy systems like ATP synthesis. This theory is supported by the types of enzymes LUCA is believed to have had. Many of them, such as hydrogenases and ferredoxins, are associated with anaerobic and thermophilic (heat-loving) environments.

**GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION**  
**IT CELL**  
T.C.C. No. C1/1583/2025  
**E-Tender Notice**  
e-tenders are invited for the following work by Senior System Manager in Two Cover System as per details furnished below  
Proposal for replacement of aged switches installed in Arima Maaligal Building on buyback basis  
Value of work in Rs.3,99,88,608/- E.M.D Amount in Rs.3,99,886/-  
Bid document will be available in web site: <https://tntenders.gov.in>  
Last date and time to submit the filled in tender document: 24.06.2025 upto 02.15 PM  
Tender opening date and time: 24.06.2025 at 03.15 PM  
Pre-bid Meeting Date and Time: 13.06.2025 at 03.30 PM, IT Cell, 3rd floor, Muthamizh Arignar Kalaignar Mu. Karunanidhi Maaligal, Greater Chennai Corporation, Chennai-600 003.  
Senior System Manager  
DIPR/2795/Tender/2025

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**Aarulmigu Mariamman Temple, Irukankudi**  
Satur Taluk, Virudhunagar Dist. Tamil Nadu. ITMS No.35702  
E.Code: VIRAT001 e.mail : aceosvg\_35702.hrce@tn.gov.in Phone - 7339464328 R.C.No.1051/2025/B3 Dt.03.06.2025  
**Notice of Tender opening (through MSTC) for Collection of Tonsured Human Hair for Fasil 1435 Short Call for Auction/Tender (2nd Call)**  
SI. No. Details Deposit Amount Rs. Solvency Amount Rs. Additional Amount of Deposit in lieu of Solvency  
1. Licence for the collection of Tonsured Human Hair for the Fasil 1435 (01.07.2025 to 30.06.2026) (Mottai prarthana of Devotees) 75,00,000/- 50,00,000/- 50,00,000/-  
Date and time of Auction/Tender opening : 10.06.2025 (MSTC Timing)  
Other informations can be had from the Temple office during working hours.  
Irukankudi, Assistant Commissioner/ Executive Officer. Chairman, Board of Hereditary Trustees.  
DIPR/2758/Tender/2025 03.06.2025.

**TAMILNADU TEXTBOOK AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES CORPORATION**  
"EVK Sampath Maaligal" No.58, College Road, Chennai - 600 006  
Phone: 044-28275851, 28275244. Fax No: 044-28224493, E-mail: generalsection2023@gmail.com  
R.C.No.3222/A2/2025  
**NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER** Date: 02.06.2025  
1. Name of the work: Tender for appointment of Travel agency for hiring of vehicles for official purpose of TNB & ESC for a period of 12 months and extendable by 3 months with same rate, terms and conditions  
2. Sale period of Tender Document: On all working days from 04.06.2025 to 19.06.2025 between 10.00 a.m. and 5.00 p.m.  
3. Pre Bid meeting date & time place: 10.06.2025 at 3.00 PM in Tamil Nadu Text Book and Educational Services Corporation, Chennai - 6.  
4. Last Date and Time for submission for tender: 19.06.2025 upto 3.00 PM  
5. Tender opening time & date place: 19.06.2025 at 3.30 PM in Tamil Nadu Text Book and Educational Services Corporation, Chennai - 6.  
6. Tender document can be downloaded at free of cost from the website: <https://textbookcorp.in> <https://tntenders.gov.in>  
Managing Director / Tender Inviting Authority  
Tamilnadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation, Chennai - 600 006.  
DIPR/2767/TENDER/2025

भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, अंतरिक्ष विभाग / DEPARTMENT OF SPACE  
एनएसएससी - वलियमला/LPSC - VALIAMALA, निर्माण व अन्वेषण प्रभाग/CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE DIVISION  
फोन./PH: 0471-256 7445, 7326 & 7577, फैक्स/FAX: 0471 2567717  
**ई-निविदा आमंत्रित करने की संक्षिप्त सूचना/BRIEF NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER**  
भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु ई-निविदा द्वारा मत-दर निविदाएं आमंत्रित हैं।/ On behalf of the President of India, online item rate tenders are invited through e-tendering for the following work:  
e-NIT No. एनएसएससी-वो/LPSC-V/सौरमंडल/CMD/सौरमंडल/CS/01/1124/सी./C/टेंडर/TE-005/2025-26 dated 03.06.2025 एन पी एस सी, वलियमला के कार्यालय में नई कैंटीन सुविधा का निर्माण कार्य हेतु।/ Construction of New Canteen Facility at Cryo, LPSC Valiamala - Civil & PH Works (Estimated cost: ₹652.20 Lakhs)  
अनुरोध करने की अवधि/Period for requesting: से/From 04.06.2025, 17:30 बजे/Hrs तक/To 21.06.2025, 23:30 बजे/Hrs  
इच्छुक निविदाकार, संपूर्णता के साथ अनुरोध करने के लिए कृपया आमंत्रित ई-निविदा (ई-निसाई) विवरण सूचना देखें, जिसे डाउनलोड किया जा सकता है।/ Interested tenders may please refer detailed Notice Inviting E-Tender (E-NIT) for eligibility criteria and other details which can be downloaded from website [www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO/www.isro.gov.in](http://www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO/www.isro.gov.in)  
प्रधान, सौरमंडल/एनएसएससी (सी)/Head, CMD/LPSC (V)

**BARADID BORT AUTHORITY**  
**E-TENDER CALL NOTICE**  
No. EN/MCHP/Tender-02/25/191  
Date: 30.05.2025  
Name of the work "Design, Fabrication, Supply, Erection and Commissioning of one no. of Reclaimer of 4000 TPH Capacity". Estimated cost: Rs.62,14,00,000/- Last date & time of submission of bid: 01.07.07.2025 up-to 17:15 Hrs. Refer our website for details <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app>.  
Sd/- Executive Engineer (M), MCHP, Paradip Port Authority  
PPA/PR/14/2025-2026 dt.02.06.2025

Government of Tamilnadu  
**Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department**  
**District Rural Development Agency, Erode.**  
Tender Notice R.C.No.2332/2025/A10 Dt.02.06.2025  
**Notice Inviting Tender**  
Construction of New houses to Sri Lankan Tamil Refugees Camp - Phase III (2025-26)  
1. For details, visit [www.tntenders.gov.in](http://www.tntenders.gov.in)  
2. e-Bids are invited by the Additional Collector (Dev)/Project Director, District Rural Development Agency, Erode District, for the Construction of 36 Combined houses (1-Combined houses - 4 no. of houses, totally 144 houses) package wise under Construction of New houses to Sri Lankan Tamil Refugees Camp - Phase III (2025-26) (Two Cover system)  
3. The bid documents can also be downloaded free of cost from [www.tntenders.gov.in](http://www.tntenders.gov.in) from 04.06.2025 to 19.06.2025.  
4. Last date and Time:  
(i) Last Date and Time for downloading and submission of Bid Documents : 19.06.2025 Up to 3.00 PM  
(ii) Date and Time of online opening of Bid Documents : 19.06.2025 Up to 4.00 PM  
Additional Collector (Dev), DRDA, Erode  
DIPR/2729/Tender/2025

**Indian Overseas Bank**  
ADYAR BRANCH: 12, Sardar Patel Road, Adyar, Chennai-600 020  
Phone No - 044 2442 5585 Email: [ioib002@ioib.in](mailto:ioib002@ioib.in)  
**SUBSTITUTED SERVICE OF DEMAND NOTICE TO BORROWERS / MORTGAGORS / GUARANTORS UNDER SUB-SECTION (2) OF SECTION 13 OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002**  
1. Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of Indian Overseas Bank under SARFAESI Act and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) of the Act, issued Demand Notice dated 26.05.2025 calling upon the following Borrowers / Mortgagors / Guarantors to repay the amounts mentioned in the Notice, within 60 days from the date of receipt of Notice, as per details given below:  
2. The said Notices have been returned undelivered by the postal authorities / have not been duly acknowledged by the borrower / guarantor. Hence the Bank by way of abundant caution is effecting this publication of the demand notice. Copies of the said Notices are available with the undersigned and the said Borrower / Guarantor / Mortgagor, may, if they so desire, collect the said copies from the undersigned on any working day during normal office hours.  
3. Against the above background, Notice is hereby given, once again, to said Borrower / guarantor / mortgagor to pay to Indian Overseas Bank, within 60 days from the date of publication of this Notice, the amounts indicated / payable as given below under the loan & other documents. As security for due repayment of the loan, the following assets have been mortgaged to Indian Overseas Bank by the respective parties as below:  
Borrower: Mrs. Janet Thomas, Permanent Address: Flat No B53 Second Floor, Plot No.1 Nellikuppam Main Road, Kayarambedu 603202 Chengalpattu District, Communication Address: No 36- 99 Siru Valluvar Main Road, Perambur, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, 600011, Office Address: Mrs. Janet Thomas, Assistant Vice President Regional Business Head New No.14, Old No.83, TSS Plaza, Arcot Road, Vadapalani, Chennai 600026; Nature of Facility: RSUBH (000203517000173); Limit: ₹ 62,00,000/-; Rates of Interest & Interest at monthly rates: 10.50%; Last Interest Debit Date : 24.05.2025; Total dues\* as on 26.05.2025 : ₹ 62,63,513.46;  
NPA Date: 25.05.2025  
**DESCRIPTION OF SECURED ASSET:** Nature of Security: Mortgage  
Schedule - A : (Total Property): All that piece and parcel of Vacant Land bearing Plot No.1, Nellikuppam Main Road, No.50, Kayarambedu Madura Moolakazhanni Village, Chengalpattu Taluk, Chengalpattu District, approved vide Regularization Permit No. DTPC/05434455/2017 dated 29.10.2018, Na.Ka.No. 21792/2018 Sema 3, Land Comprised in Old Survey No. 350/208, New Survey No. 350/208/1A, Present Survey No. 497/26, as per Patta No. 213, measuring to an extent of 2488 Sq.ft., together with 50% of the Common Passage measuring 550 Sq.ft. of land of 1100 Sq.ft. in all totalling 3038 Sq.ft. of land being bounded on the North by : Govindasamy and others Land, South by: Balan, Vedagiri, Ravichandran Property, East by: Plot No. 2, and Private Passage leading from Road to Plot No.1, West by: Kasi Naicker Land And situated within the Sub Registration District of Joint II Chengalpattu and Registration District of Chengalpattu.  
Schedule - B: (Property mortgaged) An Undivided share of 533 Sq.ft., of land in the Schedule 'A' Property herein above.  
Schedule - C: (Property mortgaged) An extent of 533 Sq.ft., Undivided Share of land in Schedule B mentioned above of Schedule A mentioned above together with RCC Roofed Flat identified, Flat Bearing No.BS-3, in Second Floor, Flat having Super Built up area of 1398 Sq.ft., in the Premises, and Covered Car Parking, and Drainage Connection, including Common amenities and Common area.  
\* payable with further interest at contractual rates/residual charges as agreed from the date mentioned above till date of payment.  
4. If the said borrower / guarantor / mortgagor fail to make payment to Indian Overseas Bank as aforesaid, then Indian Overseas Bank shall proceed against the above secured assets under Section 13(4) of the SARFAESI Act and Rule entirely at the risks, costs and consequences of the said borrowers / guarantor.  
5. Further, the attention of borrower / guarantor / mortgagor is invited to provisions of Sub-section(8) of the Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to them to redeem the secured assets.  
6. The said Borrower / guarantor / mortgagor are prohibited under the SARFAESI Act from transferring the secured assets, whether by way of sale, lease or otherwise without the prior written consent of Indian Overseas Bank. Any person who contravenes or abets contravention of the provisions of the Act or Rules shall be liable for imprisonment and/or fine as given under Section 29 of the Act.  
Date: 26.05.2025, Place: Chennai Authorised Officer, Indian Overseas Bank

**SOUTHERN RAILWAY**  
**Works Tender Notice**  
E.Tender.No. TPJ-E-13-2025-2026 Date: 29.05.2025.  
Divisional Railway Manager (Electrical General Services) Southern Railway, Tiruchchirappalli invites E-Tenders for the under mentioned works for and on behalf of President of India.  
Name of work, E.Tender No. TPJ-E-13-2025-2026: Tiruchchirappalli Division Diesel Locomotive Training Centre GOC Conversion of existing class room in to computer based test room and face lifting of hostel building - Electrical arrangements- Works Contract, (Period of Completion: 90 Days). Value of Tender (Rs): 16,66,758/- Earnest Money Deposit (Rs): 33,300/-  
Tender closing and opening date & time: 23.06.2025 at 15:00 Hrs  
For further details refer to web portal: [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) > E-Tender > Works > View tenders. Please note that only ONLINE Tenders are accepted and tenders are to be digitally signed.  
Divisional Railway Manager (Electrical) General Services/ For and on behalf of President of India

**INVITATION FOR BID (IFB) (LOCAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING)**  
**MAHATRANSCO**  
Mahatransco is a wholly owned subsidiary of Mahatransco Ltd.  
SRM e-Tender No. T-2526/MSETCL/CO/Projects/Pre-Tender (RfX No. 6000001353)  
MSETCL invites offers by SRM e-tendering in TWO bid system (Techno-Commercial Bid and Price Bid) from the eligible registered bidders for the following work as detailed below:  
"Balance work of establishment of 132/33KV Dhanora Sub-station Dist. Jalgaon along with Balance work of Construction of 132KV DCDC LILO line on 132KV SCSC Yawal-Chopda Line (3.1 km) on turnkey basis under Nashik Zone."  
Interested bidders may obtain further information available on the website <https://srmteender.mahatransco.in>  
The date of downloading of Bid documents available on the website is on 28.05.2025.  
Sd/-  
Chief Engineer (Projects), MSETCL

**MANAPPURAM ASSET FINANCE LTD.**  
Regd. Office: Door No. 111/105, Opp. Nattika Fika Co-Op Rural Bank, Valapad (P.O)-680567 Thiruvananthapuram Kerala C.IN : U65921KL1987PLC004810  
**GOLD AUCTION NOTICE**  
The borrowers, in specific and the public, in general, are hereby notified that public auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the below accounts is proposed to be conducted at the following branches on below mentioned dates. The auction is of the gold ornaments of defaulted customers who have failed to make payment of their loan amount despite being notified by registered letters. Change in venue or date (if any) will be displayed at the auction centre and on the company website ([www.maafin.in](http://www.maafin.in)). Unauctioned items shall be auctioned on subsequent working days after displaying the details on Company website and auction centre.  
List of pledges to be auctioned on 16.06.2025 from 10.00 am onwards at the following branches.  
CHEPAUK CHENNAI: 0413400700053499, EDAYARPALAYAM, COIMBATORE: 043110700016425, KOKILAMBAL NAGAR: 0433490700011081, 11092, 11146, MEDAVAKKAM TANK ROAD: 0413510700044227, PONNIMAMMAN KOIL STREET: 0418250700053966, 54023  
Persons wishing to participate in the above auction shall comply with the following:-  
Interested Bidders should submit Rs. 10,000/- as EMD (refundable to unsuccessful bidders) by way of Cash on the same day of auction. Bidders should carry valid ID card/PAN card. For more details please contact 18005729787.  
Authorised Officer  
For Manappuram Asset Finance Ltd

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU  
**VELLORE CORPORATION**  
Infantry Road, Vellore  
**INVITATION FOR TENDER** Date: 02.06.2025  
R.C.No.8091/2024/E2  
1. Publication of Notice Inviting Tender on behalf of ULBs Designation, Address  
2. a) Name of the Work  
b) Bid Value  
3. Bid document available  
4. Cost of Earnest Money Deposit  
5. Date of Pre-Bids Meeting and Place  
6. Last date of submission of bids  
7. Date, time and place of opening of technical bid  
8. Any other important criteria by the Tender Inviting Authority  
Commissioner, Vellore Corporation  
DIPR/2765/TENDER/2025

**SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY**  
Follow us on @SCRRailwayIndia Details of the Tender Notices of S.C.Railway can be seen on our website: [www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in)  
**Tender Notice No. SCR-PR-SMMA-2025 Dated 03.06.2025**  
The Chief Public Relations Officer, South Central Railway, Secunderabad on behalf of President of India invites open tenders in two-packet system for Selection of Agency for Social Media Management & Media Analysis on South Central Railway for a period of two years.  
**Name of the Service/ Work** Selection of Agency for Social Media Management & Media Analysis on South Central Railway for a period of two years.  
**Appx. Total Cost of Service/ Work (with GST)** Rs.4,50,76,000/- with GST @18% (Rs. Four Crore Fifty Lakhs Seventy Six Thousand Only) for two years.  
**Earnest Money Deposit** Rs.3,75,380/- (Rs. Three Lakhs Seventy Five Thousand Three Hundred and Eighty Only)  
**Cost of Tender Form** Rs.10,000/- + 18% GST = Rs.11,800/- (Non- Refundable) (Rs. Eleven Thousand Eight Hundred Only)  
**Last Date / Time for Downloading of Tender Document** Up to 14:00 Hrs of 25.06.2025  
**Last Date / Time of submission of Tender** Up to 15:00 Hrs of 25.06.2025  
**Date & Time of Opening of Tenders** Up to 15:30 Hrs of 25.06.2025  
**Venue for Tender Submission & Opening** CPRO's Office, South Central Railway, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Rail Nilayam, Secunderabad - 500025  
Please visit website [www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in) for downloading of tender document along with Eligibility Criteria and terms & conditions of the tender  
A0817 Chief Public Relations Officer, Secunderabad





Exploring potato's  
versatility

PG 3



## DAY'S DIARY

### Aviation record

On this day in 1954, at Edwards Air Force Base, California, Major Arthur Murray flies Bell X-1A rocket plane to record 27,000 m

## BELL X-1A

Murray flew the experimental Bell X-1A which was developed by Bell Aircraft Corporation. It was a successor to the original X-1



## MISSIONS OF MURRAY

Arthur Murray, also called as Kit, was born in 1918 in Pennsylvania and joined the Army in 1939. He flew over 50 combat missions in WWII



## LEGACY IN FLIGHT

The test flights helped shape the future of aviation. Murray contributed to the development of jet and rocket-powered aircraft

## AASHNA REDDY

HERE was always a plan to leave. Hyderabad, with its roomier skies and better biryani, was supposed to be my annual summer escape. As a Telugu girl living in Chennai, my seasonal discontent peaked right around the first week of April — when the heat made my earrings feel like branding irons and I'd begin pleading dramatically with my parents: "Just send me to Ammamma's house, please." Some years, they gave in. But the few times that I couldn't fly away, I was forced to surrender to Hyderabad's heat, its slowness, and the way time folds differently here in May.

And yet — between the dramatics, something surprising happened. I started collecting memories. Not the postcard kind. But the humid, specific, and funny kind. Cold showers that never really felt cold. Waking up at 5.30 am because the power randomly goes out. Biryani that makes you sweat — eating spicy food in the heat just makes things more intense. Neighbours sending over mangoes wrapped in newspaper. I began to see that the city didn't need to be escaped from — it needed to be remembered, the way one remembers a fever dream: with half-exasperation, half-affection.

So I started asking people — what was your Chennai summer like? What follows is a collection of memories — chaotic, sentimental, and heat-soaked — from girls like me, boys on summer break, elders with stories of a pre-AC Chennai, and even vacationers who accidentally fell in love with the city's sultry charm.

People who grew up visiting the city remember it vividly. Pranitha Pillai, who would visit from Hyderabad every May, insists it shaped her entire emotional landscape. "We didn't have a beach. So I thought Marina was magical. We'd go at 6 am to beat the crowd. I'd come back sunburnt, sandy, and so happy I'd cry when we left. My mom used to hate it because of how tanned my brother and I used to get."

She still talks about the mangoes her aunt in Chennai sliced and served on steel plates, her

Following a love letter that carried stories of summer rituals, here is a story of spending the holidays under the Chennai sun, baking away at Marina beach, spending hours at amusement parks, and gorging on the 'King of Fruits'



Sometimes my mother would soak vetiver in clay pots, and that first sip of water tasted like the smell of soil when it rains. Nothing fancy — just comforting.

Vasanthi

# Mangoes, Memories, & Madras

cousins dunking each other in an inflatable pool on the terrace, and the smell of Pond's talcum powder after a cold (not-so-cold) shower.

## Sweat and sentimentality

Chennai summers also have amusement park stories. Charvi T. recalls a road trip to an amusement park on the outskirts. "It was supposed to be a one-hour drive. Took three. My cousin puked in the car. But we went on every ride, ate popcorn and cotton candy till we couldn't move, and passed out in the return van."

For others, it was VGP Marine Kingdom — a mini escape into air-conditioned fish tunnels. "The tunnel with sharks felt like therapy. I cried when they said we could scuba dive with them and my mom said no," said Devansh R, who visited from Delhi.

Even the simple joys hit harder in the heat. One mother said her 8-year-old's favourite part of the summer is coming home from basketball drenched in sweat and drinking Tang. "I only give it in summer. It's a ritual. He gets one glass with ice cubes and some snack on the side. I try not to make it a habit. Occasionally when we visit the beach, he begs for the Kwality Walls orange stick ice cream. So that is something that's allowed during the summer too."

## When summers were wild

What was Chennai summers

like for the generation that lived through the season without Google Maps, ACs, or face mist?

Eshwari, 63, remembers the summers of the 70s not through sweeping sentiment, but through specifics: the scratchy back of cane chairs, the sound of water being drawn from copper pots, and the smell of freshly soaked vetiver roots left to chill drinking water. "We didn't have fans in every room. So we followed the breeze. Some days that meant folding laundry near the stairwell where it was a little cooler, or eating lunch on the *thinnai* because it faced east and stayed shady."

Instead of "cool floors", she recalls how she and her sisters would sneak into the prayer room — the quietest, darkest part of the house — just to escape the heat. "It wasn't even about prayer, honestly. That room always smelt of camphor and was one or two degrees cooler. We would pretend to meditate and just sit there."

The food was precise. No creamy curries or elaborate biryanis. Just curd rice with green chillies, roasted *appalams*, *maavadu*, and maybe a few slices of Neelam mangoes. "We didn't snack. (We had) Buttermilk with salt and ginger, lemon juice with sugar, and rose milk if you were lucky."

The houses were also built with survival in mind — thick lime-coated walls, windows

with wooden slats to let in air but not sun, and terraces that doubled as night beds and social spaces. "We'd sleep on woven mats, one eye open for mosquitoes, one ear open for ghost stories. I remember pressing my ear against the transistor during the cricket commentary and not caring that I was sweating through my nightie."

Vasanthi, 71, says she rarely wore synthetic fabrics. "Cotton was mandatory. *Dupattas* would be rinsed and wrung out just to be tied around the head before stepping out. We'd wear checked skirts stitched from leftover blouse fabric. Nothing matched — it didn't need to."

Meanwhile, 68-year-old Niroopa S still talks about the smell of roasted peanuts in evenings, when the street hawker's cart would come by. "We didn't have cafés. Our version of a snack run was walking barefoot to the corner and buying boiled peanuts wrapped in yesterday's newspaper. We'd sit on the stairs, salt on our fingers, not speaking — just shelling and eating."

## Summer stories

Summer in Chennai doesn't care about your plans. It strips you down to your most basic self. No filters. No moisturisers that work. Just you, a fridge, and a vague desire to be anywhere cooler.

But it gives you stories. The drama, the sentimentality, the fruit stains. It gives you the unhinged laughter of kids screaming over water fights. The soft ache of your childhood house, — the echoes, the rituals, the noise.

And sure, we carry water bottles with motivational time stamps. We go to breezy cafés with cold brews and solar roofs. But deep down, we're still the same people who saw power cuts as an excuse for conversation. Who thought opening the fridge and standing in front of it was a form of self-care. Who knew drinking Rasna after running barefoot across a sunbaked terrace would give the thrill. Who knew, for those two months we would be emotionally over-invested in mangoes. This is summer in Chennai. It's sweaty, sentimental, occasionally spiritual.



# CULTURAL ICON TO GET 'COINED'

## EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

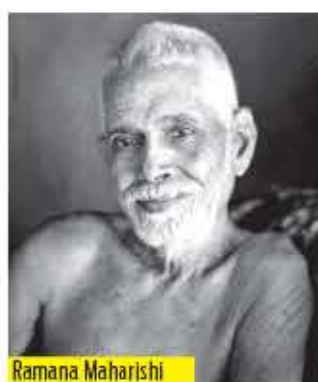
SRI Ramana Maharishi was a great Indian sage known for his profound teachings on self-inquiry and inner realisation through the simple question, "Who am I?", writes S Navaneethan Ramanujam in his blog on Numismatics collections. Published on May 15, this blog details the Government of India's move to issue a ₹100 commemorative coin marking the centenary year of his *ashram* — Sri Ramana-ramam in Tiruvannamalai.

Navaneethan says, "The Ashram has applied for the coin under the currency division, Department of Economics of the Ministry of Finance. But it got delayed for two years — maybe the approval process took time, or the proposal might have made the payment late."

Ramana Maharishi was well known for his spiritual journey and preached that individuals turn their attention inwards and find the true self, beyond one's body and mind. "Maharishi was a pure soul. A coin in his remembrance is actually a proud moment for Tamilians as the Government of India is honouring a Tamilian's sage life and the spiritual path he followed," shares IAS aspirant, Nandhini Siva, a follower of this philosopher.

His followers aim to keep his legacy alive. Anandhi K says, "Even today, at his *ashramam*, food is served for free. People can find free accommodation. They can read his books at the library and walk the paths he walked understanding the nuances of life. Exploration of the self is easier when you learn about him."

The Ashram, followers, and



Ramana Maharishi

coin collectors hope the coin will be released soon. The coin is made of pure silver and weighs 40 grams with a diameter of 44 mm, as per the blog. "It is a very important and strategic move. With the introduction of this coin, collectors

who have MGR and Karunanidhi coins will come together again. As this coin brings pride in each one of us," says S Ramana, a coin collector.

A total of four thousand coins are to be manufactured and put up for sale on the official government website.

"When numismatists look at it on the website, they will remember the *rishi* and his teachings. They may spread their learnings. What is more honourable than Maharishi's teachings being passed on to people far and wide?" says Sitharaman, who hosts the 'Coins, stamps and currencies' page on Facebook.

Ruing that minting of coins has gone down due to the increase in use of digital options, Navaneethan hopes that more coins like one on Ramana Maharishi that celebrates silence, wisdom, and self-realisation, are released. "I assume the coin will be released in June or July," he concludes.



ASLAM GAFOOR

(The writer is a Bengaluru-based hospitality professional, food lover, and travel enthusiast)

HEF Himanshu Saini has carved a distinguished place in culinary history, becoming the first Indian chef to helm a restaurant — Tresind Studio in Dubai — that has been awarded the prestigious three Michelin Stars. Bestowed at the recent Michelin Guide ceremony in Dubai, this remarkable accolade cements his status as a pioneer in modern Indian gastronomy. Nestled within the elegant setting of The St. Regis Gardens at Palm Jumeirah, the intimate 20-cover restaurant is a celebration of narrative-driven, progressive Indian cuisine. Renowned for his exquisite plating, reverence for regional culinary traditions, and unwavering commitment to excellence, Chef Saini has propelled Indian fine dining onto the world stage. In this interview,

he reflects on this milestone moment, the journey of his evolving culinary philosophy, and his vision for the future.

• **Congratulations on this historic milestone. What does earning three Michelin stars mean to you and your team at Tresind Studio?** Thank you — it's a deeply emotional and humbling moment for all of us. These three stars are more than just a symbol of excellence; they reflect the courage we took to challenge conventions and express our culture through food. Tresind Studio was never just a restaurant — it was a vision to reshape how Indian cuisine is perceived globally. This recognition belongs equally to my incredible team, whose dedication and passion brought this vision to life. And none of it would have been possible without Bhupender Nath, the founder and CEO of Passion F&B, whose belief in our journey has been unwavering. This accolade marks not an end, but a thrilling new beginning for us.

• **What do you believe sets Tresind Studio apart for**

Michelin to award its highest honour?

Indian cuisine has always been profound and multifaceted, yet often misunderstood abroad. What sets Tresind Studio apart is our intention — each course is meticulously crafted not only to please the palate but to convey a story rooted in culture. We do not aim to merely impress with technique. We seek to evoke memory, emotion, and connection through dishes that honour India's regional traditions while offering them in a refined, unexpected form. Michelin recognised the philosophy behind our food — an immersive, evolving journey, where each guest is treated as sacred. It's this marriage of storytelling and precision that, I believe, resonated most.

• **Your cuisine has always blended storytelling and innovation. How has that evolved to lead you here?** In the beginning, our focus was to share stories of ingredients, landscapes, and local traditions — translated onto a

plate. Progressive Indian cuisine, for me, has always meant evolution rather than reinvention. Over time, our storytelling has become more layered and purposeful. The technique is

# A starry ascent



more sophisticated, and the narratives are more emotionally resonant. We constantly challenge ourselves to elevate, to remain honest and expressive. The heart, however, remains unchanged: a profound respect for Indian cuisine and its rightful place on the world's most revered tables.

• **How do you maintain a balance between tradition and innovation?** It begins with reverence. When you respect your roots, innovation becomes a natural progression rather than a disruption. At Tresind Studio, we reinterpret rather than replace. A street food dish may appear as a delicate tasting course; a forgotten spice may be brought back into prominence. Our innovation stems from a place of authenticity — not rebellion. That's the essence of our philosophy: to celebrate tradition while dreaming with courage.

• **What message would you offer to aspiring Indian chefs around the world?**

Embrace your heritage — it is your greatest strength. For years, we sought validation from abroad. But today, Indian cuisine is being recognised for the richness we've always known it to possess. To the next generation: be proud, but be curious. Challenge norms, explore fearlessly, and remain rooted. Let your food reflect who you are. When your voice is genuine, the



recognition will come. This moment isn't just ours — it's a collective victory for every Indian chef daring to reimagine our culinary legacy.

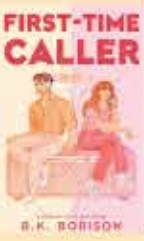
• **How has Dubai influenced your journey and Tresind Studio's rise?** Dubai has been both our canvas and our catalyst. Its cosmopolitan spirit gave us the freedom to

be bold, to innovate, and to cook for a global audience daily. This diversity constantly sharpens our approach and broadens our vision. The city's openness to new ideas, and its respect for cultural storytelling, made it the perfect home for Tresind Studio. Our concept simply could not have taken shape anywhere else.

• **Finally, what's next for you and Tresind Studio after this landmark recognition?** While this is a moment to celebrate, our focus is on the road ahead. The challenge now is to raise the bar further — to delve deeper into emotion, refinement, and discovery. There are still untold stories across India's culinary landscape — forgotten techniques, regional gems, unexplored ingredients. Tresind Studio will remain our creative core, but we're also considering how to share this philosophy more widely — through new cities, new ideas, and new platforms. Whatever we do next, it will remain rooted in our purpose: to honour Indian cuisine with authenticity, precision, and heart.



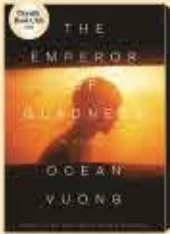
BOOK NOOK



**First-Time Caller**  
By BK Borison  
Aiden, a romance hotline host, has lost faith in love. But when a girl calls for dating advice for her mom, Lude, their viral interview thrusts them into the spotlight. As sparks fly between Aiden and Lucie, she must choose between a radio-sponsored happy ending and the man behind the microphone.



**I'll Have What She's Having**  
By Chelsea Handler  
In hilarious and tender essays, Chelsea Handler shares her journey of becoming the woman she always wanted to be. From childhood antics to outrageous celebrity encounters, she reveals a life of adventure and absurdity that makes you think, "I'll have what she's having."



**The Emperor of Gladness**  
By Ocean Vuong  
Nineteen-year-old Hai, on the brink of suicide, is saved by Grazina, an elderly widow with dementia. He becomes her caretaker, and their unlikely bond, forged through empathy and heartbreak, transforms them. The story echoes cycles of history and memory.



**The Knight and the Moth**  
By Rachel Gillig  
Sybil, a Diviner, foresees terrible futures through her dreams. Nearing the end of her service, her fellow Diviners vanish. She must reluctantly enlist Rodrick, a heretical knight who scoffs at her visions. Together, they navigate a perilous world, seeking answers.



DEDICATING A DANCE

On the 102nd birth anniversary of late CM M Karunanidhi, a cultural show was held as part of Semmozhi Naal celebrations at Kalaivanar Arangam. | P. JAYAWAR

QUICKFIX

TUNA AVOCADO SANDWICH

INGREDIENTS

- Tuna: 300 g
- Egg: 2
- Mayonnaise: 2 tsp
- Avocado: 1

METHOD

- Stir fry tuna using the oil in the can.
- Keep the tuna in a bowl. Add two teaspoon mayonnaise and chopped avocado along with chopped boiled eggs.
- Once the mixture is cool add the spread over toasted bread, top it with another slice.
- Serve hot.



Contributed by Preeti Nagpal, Delhi

WHATWHENWHYWHERE

Handicraft exhibition

All India Handlooms and Handicrafts is holding exhibition-cum-sale by artisans across the country. The exhibition brings together rural artisans from East India, featuring vast collections of cotton and silk handlooms and handicrafts, dress materials, and more.

- WHEN: Till June 6
- WHERE: No.47 and 48 North Mada Street, Mylapore

New launch

Evoluzione announces the launch of designer Richhima Bhasin's latest collection at its boutique. Bhasin brings her signature style with a showcase that embodies her unique blend of tradition and innovation.

- WHERE: Evoluzione, 3 Khadar Nawaz, Khan Road



Journaling art

Here is your sign to slow down and reconnect through colors, words & sticker through an art journaling workshop.

- WHEN: June 7
- WHERE: Backyard, Adyar



Mango mania

Moonbakes presents an exclusive Mango Menu. Featuring over 15 premium mango-inspired creations, this thoughtfully curated collection celebrates the season's most beloved fruit in innovative and indulgent way.



Queer Art Festival

It's that time of the year, No, not Chris Evan's birthday, but it is the month of the queers. Sunshine House has managed to create a space to celebrate being queer all throughout the year and on June 8, they bring yet another event titled Affections. Experience queer art performance, curated talks, art installations, and food at the queer art festival

- WHEN: June 8
- WHERE: Backyard, Adyar

Resin art workshop

Create your resin pendants and beaded bracelets at Backyard, Adyar through a fun, hands-on workshop.

- WHEN: June 7
- CALL: 812278110



Contemporary art

The House of Klotberg presents 'Coalescence', a contemporary art exhibition curated by Jitha Karthikeyan. This group exhibition features the works of five Indian artists - Aishwaryan K, Sooraja K S, Dimple Shah, Anitha T K, and Mibin.

- WHEN: Till June 20
- CALL: 9092070099



Mango magic

At Taj Coromandel, magical treats are created with the season's choicest mangoes at La Patisserie and Anise, while the expert bartenders at Chipstead have crafted refreshing mango-inspired cocktails.

- WHEN: Till June 15



Tamil flavours

Sangamithirai, Feathers Hotel, presents Ayalagam Food Festival, a week-long celebration of authentic Tamil flavours from a cross the seas, specially curated by Chef Devagi Sannugam.

- WHEN: Till June 8



NOWSTREAMING

REGIONAL



TOURIST FAMILY (Tamil)

Seeking refuge in Tamil Nadu, Das and his family face tough trials. However, through acts of kindness, they find the home and hope they never imagined.

Cast: Sasikumar, Simran, Yogi Babu

- Watch on: Jiohotstar

THUDARUM (Malayalam)

Shanmugham, a taxi driver, is in love with his black ambassador. Later due to mysterious circumstances, it seems as if his car is missing and there is a change in him as he searches for it.

Cast: Mohanlal, Shobana, Aarsha Chandini Baiju

- Watch on: Jiohotstar



FOREIGN

A COMPLETE UNKNOWN (English)

In the early 1960s, 19-year-old Bob Dylan arrives in New York with his guitar and revolutionary talent, destined to change the course of American music. Forming his most intimate relationships during his rise to fame, he grows restless with the folk movement, making a controversial choice that reverberates worldwide.

Cast: Timothee Chalamet, Monika Barbraro, Elle Fanning

- Watch on: Jiohotstar



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FITBIT

BHUJANGASANA VARIATION ARMS (COBRA POSE VARIATION ARMS)

The Cobra Pose Variation Arms is a beginner-level, gentle backbend performed in prone position. Students new to yoga, who may not yet be able to perform the full Cobra Pose, can do this. This variation of Bhujangasana (Cobra Pose) serves as a preparatory posture for this and other intense backbends. This pose is part of mini vinyasa flows such as Bhujangasana Vinyasa (Cobra Pose Flow) and Bhujangasana Vinyasa I (Cobra Pose Flow I).

STEPS

- Start in a prone position, either Advasana (Reverse Corpse Pose) or Makarasana (Crocodile Pose).
- Place the palms close to the upper abdomen on the floor at chest level. The arms and elbows should remain aligned close to the body.
- With the feet stretched behind and the toes and heels together, align the legs and lower back as you breathe.
- Applying slight pressure on the palms, inhale and lift the chest and shoulders, drawing the body backwards. The arms remain close to the body with the elbows bent. Exhale and engage the neck and head.
- Do not tilt the head back into a deep backbend. Keep the gaze fixed on the floor.
- Stay in the pose as per your capacity, ensuring you do not hold your breath.
- Release the palms off the floor and gradually lower the chest and forehead back down.
- Exit the pose and rest in Makarasana.
- Repeat the practice as per your capacity and gradually build back strength.
- Note: Senior citizens or people suffering from prolonged illnesses, are bed-ridden, can do this pose with proper clinical analysis of their therapy requirement.

BENEFITS

- It is a gentle back-strengthening pose that tones the lower back and glutes.
- Enhances spinal flexibility.
- Gentle backbends promote chest opening.
- Breathing remains rhythmic and natural.
- Practitioners can focus on alignment here.
- Students develop breath awareness to maintain the posture without sudden movements.
- Provides a foundational step towards flexibility for beginners.
- For beginners, this pose is energising as it tones the lower back and gluteal muscles.
- Spinal toning contributes to calming the nervous system.
- This moderate backbend releases muscular tension in the upper, mid, and lower back, thereby relaxing both body and mind.
- Students experiencing lower back pain, or digestive disorders such as flatulence, constipation, diabetes, or low metabolism may benefit from this pose.
- Those suffering from depression, insomnia, or have experienced trauma may also find relief.
- Yoga teachers can use this pose therapeutically for students with cervical spondylosis and lower back pain.
- Due to the abdominal pressure, the digestive and reproductive organs are stimulated.
- Symmetrical stretch and contraction of the lower back muscles and the gluteus benefits the circulatory system.

LIMITATIONS

- Students with injuries, weak wrists, shoulders, or arms, women during pregnancy, or those with hernia, weak intestines, prolapsed uterus, or peptic ulcers should avoid this pose.
- It is suitable for postnatal women, but only if at least three months have passed since delivery.
- New students can begin by holding the pose for 2-3 breaths before relaxing in Makarasana, and gradually increase duration with practise.
- As a therapeutic pose, it should be used mindfully by yoga teachers.



By N Elumalai, PhD Scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

ARTCORNER



THE REAL WEALTH

Kerala-based artist Geetha Mary Elizabeth, through her painting, seeks to convey that in a world where history is often defined by conquests and extraction of wealth, the real wealth remains in the native lands — imagination, resilience, and the living magic, which is kept in a chest that can be opened any moment.



## Aloo Pakoda

- Ingredients**
- Potato: 2
  - Oil
  - Salt: 1/2 tsp
  - Kashmiri red chilli powder: 1/2 tsp
  - Cumin powder: 1/4 tsp
  - Chaat masala: 1/2 tsp
  - Besan: 1 cup
  - Salt: 1/2 tsp
  - Coriander powder: 1/2 tsp
  - Kashmiri red chilli powder: 1/2 tsp
  - Cumin powder: 1/2 tsp
  - Chaat masala: 1/2 tsp
  - Water: 1/3 cup



**Method:** In a bowl, add all the batter ingredients including besan and spices. Add water as required for the batter to have a thick-flowing consistency. Let it rest for 10-15 minutes. Heat oil in a pan on a medium-high flame. Take each potato slice and dip it in the batter to coat each side evenly and add them to the medium hot oil. Fry till the potato fritters are golden and crisp on all sides. Before serving you can sprinkle some chaat masala.

## Chettinad potato fry

- Ingredients**
- For Chettinad masala
  - Cumin seeds: 2 tsp
  - Coriander seeds: 1 tbsp
  - Red dried chillies: 5
  - Black peppercorn: 1 tsp
  - Urad dal: 1 tbsp
  - Chana dal: 1 tbsp
  - Other ingredients
  - Baby potatoes: 20
  - Onion chopped: 1/2 cup
  - Curry leaves: 8 to 9
  - Mustard seeds: 1 tsp
  - Salt to taste
  - Turmeric powder: 1/4 tsp
  - Asafoetida: a pinch
  - Oil: 2 tbsp

**Method:** Dry roast all the masala ingredients for 5 minutes on a medium to low flame. Let it cool down. Grind it to a coarse powder. Place this masala in an airtight container and store it in the refrigerator. It stays fresh up to a month. Now, heat oil in a pan and add mustard seeds. Add curry leaves and onions and sauté for a minute. Now, add boiled and peeled baby potatoes. Mix well. Let it cook for 2 to 3 minutes. Now add salt and 3/4 of the already prepared Chettinad masala. Use the 1/4 according to one's preferred spice level. Let it cook for 5 to 6 minutes or it turns slightly golden.

SRUTHI HEMACHANDRAN

**I**N the world of potatoes, each one is unique, embracing its identity and wearing its bumps and lumps with pride.

They grow in silence, away from the spotlight. But when the time comes, these buried legends rise — firm and full of character. It's knobbly, earthy and sometimes underestimated, but the potato is a global staple with a surprisingly rich personality.

From silky mash to the French fries, its character changes with every cut and cook. Just like a Tamilian in every corner of the world, the potato thrives and adapts everywhere it lands.

## The roots

Long before it hit your dinner plates, the humble potato was living its best life in the Andes (modern day Peru and Bolivia), where it was first farmed over 8,000 years ago. The Inca loved it because why not? It was tasty and filling! Then came the Spanish, who picked it and sailed to Europe in the 1500s. From royal courts to street carts, the potato went global and never looked back.

## Taking the Indian route

The potato took a long journey before landing in Indian kitchens. It was the Portuguese who first introduced it to India at the beginning of the 17th century, likely through the western coast, with Goa believed to be one of the first stops. The newcomer was indeed unfamiliar. But slowly, it crept into curries, samosas and *subzis* — until one day, it felt like it had always belonged. Today, it is hard to imagine food sans potatoes in it! Can you imagine a samosa without its spicy potato filling — or worse, French fries without the potato itself?

## Potato - 'patata-batata'

The word potato comes from the Spanish *patata*, a mix of the Inca *papa* and Caribbean

# HERE COMES POTATO-PATATA!



From poor man's meal to space-age superfood, the potato has done it all; CE explores its versatility following World Potato Day

## POTATO FACTS

- The French Canadians have an expression called "Lâche pas la patate" loosely translated as "Don't let go of the potato." However, it is used popularly as "don't give up."
- Potato is the third most important food crop in the world after rice and wheat.
- In Quechua communities of the Andes, a 'potato-peeling' tradition tests a prospective daughter-in-law's suitability for marriage. The woman must carefully peel a potato, as too much skin removed is seen as a sign of inadequacy.
- Cooking potatoes on high heat can form a toxic chemical called acrylamide.
- In Peru, there is a museum dedicated to potatoes called the 'Museo de la Papa'.
- Potato plants contain a naturally occurring poison called Solanine which has pesticidal properties.
- In the US, Idaho is known as the potato state and produces a significant amount of the country's potato crop.

*batata*. When the potato reached India, it was called *aloo* a word rooted in Sanskrit for root vegetables.

## A poor man's food

The expression 'potato is a poor man's food' captures the humble and accessible nature of the vegetable. Especially in times of poverty or scarcity, the potato serves as a simple yet vital source of nourishment. In celebrated writer Munshi Premchand's 'Kafan', the potato symbolises deep poverty and hunger.

Ghisu and Madhav, a poor father and son, scrape by eating stolen or wild potatoes, barely enough to survive. This simple tuber highlights their harsh reality where even food is scarce, and survival feels like a constant struggle. It's a symbol of survival and resilience and is best showcased in films like *The Martian* (2015) and *Grave of the Fireflies* (1988).

## The nutrient ninja

Potato is a nutrient superhero. Packed with energy-giving

carbs, a boost of Vitamin C to keep you strong and B6 to keep the brain buzzing, the humble tuber does a lot of heavy lifting. It even sneaks in fibre to keep the tummy happy and potassium to play the heart in rhythm.

## Tale of 'two titans'

China is the world's largest potato producer, growing over 95 million metric tonnes annually — about a quarter of global production. India follows as the second biggest producer, with nearly 56 million metric tonnes. Together, the two countries lead the way in potato farming.

## Potato's eureka moment

The idea of growing potatoes on Mars isn't just science fiction — it's grounded in real experiments. In 2016, the International Potato Centre in Peru, in collaboration with NASA's Ames Research Centre, launched the 'Potatoes on Mars' project to test whether the hardy crop could survive in extra-terrestrial conditions. They

built a sealed, space-age box that mimicked the Red Planet's thin air, chilly temperatures, and carbon dioxide-rich atmosphere, then filled it with soil from one of the driest places on Earth — the Pampas de La Joya desert. Against the odds, the potatoes sprouted, offering tangible hope for future space farming.

## Potato palette

The world has over 4,000 potato varieties, mostly from the Andean highlands, cultivated for 7,000 years. They come in colours like purple, red, yellow, and even black, with shapes from round to twisted. From waxy to starchy types, their diversity suits every dish. Famous potato varieties include Desiree (red), Yukon Gold (yellow), Purple Peruvian (purple), Papa Negra (black), and Russet Burbank (brown).

## Europe's lifesaver

During the 18th and 19th centuries, potato became a crucial food source that helped stave off famine and nourish millions throughout Europe. Its remarkable ability to thrive in poor soils and challenging climates made it indispensable for growing populations, fueling significant demographic growth in countries like Ireland and Germany.

However, relying heavily on potatoes had a dark side in history — the devastating Irish Potato Famine of the 1840s, caused by a crop-killing blight, led to widespread hunger and suffering. Still, the potato endures as a powerful symbol of survival and sustenance in Europe's history.

## More than just food

Their starch can be transformed into biodegradable plastics, offering an eco-friendly alternative to traditional materials.

In addition, potatoes serve as a key ingredient in producing vodka, especially in Eastern Europe. On top of that, potato juice and slices have long been used in natural skincare remedies to soothe irritation, reduce dark circles, and brighten the skin.

Now that we've uncovered the many wonders of the potato, let's dive into some delicious recipes to bring this versatile tuber to life in your kitchen.

## Potato Chicken Stew

- Ingredients**
- Chicken: 1 kg
  - White vinegar: 4 tsp
  - Potato (cubed): 1
  - Onion: 1
  - Garlic: 1 tsp
  - Ginger: 1 tsp
  - Green chillies: 2
  - Green cardamoms: 4
  - Cloves: 4-5
  - Cinnamon: 1 inch
  - Coconut milk: 2 cups
  - Curry leaves: 8-10
  - Oil: 4 tsp
  - Salt to taste



**Method:** Boil the chicken in a pressure cooker along with white vinegar, salt, potatoes and water. (You can add vegetables of your choice as well). Keep aside after one whistle. Heat three teaspoons of oil in a pan. Sauté the onion, garlic, ginger, and green chillies till the onion turns translucent. Lightly pound the cardamoms, cloves and cinnamon and mix it with the sautéed onions. Add the boiled chicken to the onions along with coconut milk. Cook well till the chicken is tender. For the *tadka*, heat a teaspoon of oil in another pan. Add the curry leaves to it. Stir well till the curry leaves begin to curl.

## Grilled Potato Salad

- Ingredients**
- Baby potatoes: 2 lb (900 g)
  - Extra virgin olive oil: 3 tbsp
  - Mayonnaise: 1/4 cup
  - Lemon juice: 2 to 3 tbsp
  - Fresh thyme leaves: 2 tbsp
  - Whole grain mustard: 1 tbsp
  - Sea salt: 3/4 tsp
  - Black pepper: 1/4 tsp
  - Green onions, thinly sliced: 2
  - Chopped fresh dill: 1 to 2 tbsp
  - Chopped capers: 1 tbsp

**Method:** Add potatoes to a large pot of salted water. Bring to a boil and cook until fork-tender, about 12 minutes. Don't overcook, as they will be grilled again. Drain well. Cut potatoes in half, then transfer to a large bowl. Preheat the grill over medium-high heat. Lightly brush the grill with oil. In a small bowl, whisk together olive oil, mayonnaise, 2 tablespoons of lemon juice, 1 tablespoon of fresh thyme, grainy mustard, salt and pepper. Drizzle half the dressing over the potatoes. Toss gently to coat. Add potatoes to the grill, and cook until golden brown and crisp on the edges. Add the potatoes back to the large bowl. Drizzle with the remaining dressing and toss to coat.

## Potato rösti

- Ingredients**
- Potatoes: 2-3 (about 400g), peeled and coarsely grated
  - Egg: 1
  - Plain flour: 1 tsp
  - Baking powder: 1/4 tsp
  - Small onion: 1/2 (finely chopped)
  - Sage leaves: 6 (2 finely chopped, 4 whole)
  - Sunflower or vegetable oil: 3 tbsp



**Method:** Squeeze any excess water out of the grated potatoes and mix well with the egg, flour, baking powder, onion and chopped sage leaves. Heat 2 tbsp oil in a non-stick frying pan over medium heat. Using the back of a spoon flatten the mixture into disc shapes. Cook for 5 minutes each side until golden brown and crisp. When ready to serve, on a medium heat, cook the sage leaves it's crisp but still green. Use it as a topping.



# UNDERSTAND THE WEIGHT LOSS PLATEAU



reassess dietary habits and physical activity levels regularly, understanding that weight loss is a dynamic and adaptive process, not a straight line.

## How to come out of a weight loss plateau

● **Reassess diet and activity** Even minor shifts in eating or activity habits can impact weight. Patients may unintentionally consume more calories over time. Rechecking food

intake and exercise routines using food diaries and activity logs helps uncover these patterns. Regular self-weighing and tracking can also maintain awareness and accountability.

## ● Focus on muscle and metabolism

Weight loss can lead to fatigue and lean mass loss, slowing metabolism. A short "recovery phase" with slightly increased calories and 1.2-1.5 g protein per kilogram of your body weight every day can restore energy, preserve muscle, and balance hormones. Fibre-rich foods also help curb hunger and promote satiety without adding excess calories.

## ● Increase physical activity

Exercise, especially resistance training, helps build muscle, boosts resting energy expenditure, and improves insulin sensitivity. Increasing the frequency, intensity, or duration of workouts and everyday movement (NEAT) like walking, taking the stairs, or standing more can help restart weight loss. Aim for at least 200 minutes/week of moderate-intensity ac-

tivity, including both aerobic and strength training.

## ● Leverage behavioural strategies

Behavioural support is crucial. Regular follow-ups, motivational interviewing, goal setting, and addressing barriers can enhance adherence. Tools like smartwatches, food scales, fitness apps, and online CBT-based programmes can keep patients on track and engaged.

## ● Recognise non-scale victories

Progress isn't only about the number on the scale. Celebrate improvements in energy, sleep, body measurements, joint pain, or reduced medication use. These gains often signal better health, even during a plateau. Breaking through a weight loss plateau often requires a combination of renewed dietary focus, enhanced physical activity, behavioural tools, and sometimes medical therapies. With the right strategy and support, sustained weight loss and improved health outcomes are achievable.



## NUTRIWISE

Sadhika Srinivas

@sadhika (dietitiansadhika@gmail.com)  
(Sadhika is the director and chief nutritionist at LivStack Health and Performance, Adyar.)

**S**USTAINED weight loss is widely acknowledged as a difficult journey. While new diets and workout programmes constantly promise fast results, the reality is that successful weight loss involves a complex mix of dietary changes, increased physical activity, and consistent behavioural effort. After an encouraging initial drop in weight, many individuals find themselves stuck in a phase where progress stalls, which is known as a weight loss plateau.

These plateaus are incredibly common, affecting up to 85% of people trying to lose weight. Initially, a calorie deficit method — burning more calories than consumed — leads to weight loss. However, as the body adapts to this deficit, physiological changes begin to resist further fat loss. Metabolic rate slows, fat oxidation decreases, and hunger-regulating hormones shift, often increasing appetite. These bio-

logical defences evolved to protect against starvation, make long-term weight reduction inherently challenging.

Psychologically, the sudden halt in progress can be demoralising. Many individuals become discouraged, leading to what is commonly referred to as yo-yo dieting, the cycle of losing weight, hitting a plateau, regaining weight, and repeating the process. Unrealistic expectations, based on the belief that weight loss is a steady, linear journey, further add to the frustration.

Plateaus are not only biological but also behavioural. Over time, individuals may unconsciously consume more calories or reduce their physical activity. This can result from behavioural fatigue, environmental cues, or simply less attention to portion sizes and food choices. Keeping a close track of food intake, exercise routines, and daily habits can help identify these subtle shifts.

Various diets, whether low-carb, keto, low-fat, DASH, or Mediterranean, ultimately aim to achieve a calorie deficit. Similarly, physical activity helps increase energy expenditure. Yet the most effective approach is the one an individual can follow consistently. To maintain progress and push past plateaus, it's essential to

## CHENNAI DIGEST



## Summer camp on medicine held

A summer camp on medicine and health sciences for school students was held at Sree Balaji Medical College and Hospital, Chromepet, with financial support from Tamil Nadu State Council for Science and Technology. Around 25 students from various schools visited different departments, learned how samples are analysed, explored diagnostic tools like ECG, blood pressure monitors, and MRI scans, and learnt about the skeletal system. Doctors also explained the adverse effects of alcohol, smoking, and drug addiction on the body. The camp concluded with quiz sessions and interactive discussions led by senior doctors. Students also received guidance on preparing for the NEET exam.

## Free yoga classes concludes

The closing day ceremony of 'Free Summer Yoga Classes For Children', in the age group 5-16 years, held at Anjaneyar Temple, Ashok Nagar, between May 19 and 29, 2025. It was organised by Rangarajapuram SKY Trust in collaboration with Indian Yoga Association (IYA) — Tamil Nadu State Chapter, Chennai, on the eve of 11th International Day of Yoga. Vice president of the trust S Kalachelvi welcomed the participants, managing trustee Gnanasiriyar G Jayaraman was the chief guest, who spoke about the importance and necessity of learning yoga. PhD Scholar at MAHER, and Life Member of IYA, Gnanasiriyar N Elumalai, gave the vote of thanks. Certificates and gifts were given to all participants.



# CHILDHOOD IN TIMES OF CONFLICT

NAMRATA JOSHI

**B**E it *Short Sharp Shock*, *The Edge of Heaven*, *Soul Kitchen* or *In the Fade*, Fatih Akin, the prolific German filmmaker of Turkish descent, is best known for films that explore immigrant lives. With his latest, *Amrum*, he ventures into the new zone of period drama. A moving documentation of what it is like growing up in a beautiful place—Amrum Island in Germany—but at a treacherous point in history—towards the end of World War II, it nonetheless engages with the contemporary issues of identity and belonging and rings an obviously discernible politi-

cal bell. What is of the times comes with a timelessness attached. Political indoctrination of the young, after all, is as much a thing of the past as it is of the present and the future.

The story is told from one such child's perspective. The protagonist, 12-year-old Nanning (Jasper Billerbeck), is a man in the body of a boy, whose life is not about fun and games but arduous jobs—working on the farm, fishing, hunting for rabbits and being the bait in the dangerous chase for killing a seal—all to help his mother Hille (Laura Tonke) bring food to the table for the family. Will the end of the war, the death of Hitler and a return to peace change



things for them? Or will normalcy still remain a distant dream? What is normal anyhow what with the pregnant Hille mourning the fall of Hitler and Nanning, brought up in the midst of Nazis, unable to let go of the "Hail Hitler" salutation even while encountering an increase in animosity for those with his political inclination. The unlikely clincher in this momentous

time is the family secret that Nanning unwittingly unearthed, which further ruptures his already broken reality.

The film, which is co-written by Akin with Hark Bohm, is based on Bohm's own childhood memories of Amrum. It had its world premiere at the official Cannes Premiere section of the Cannes Film Festival marking Akin's fifth selection at the event. Akin changes

course stylistically. Unlike his signature lush and vigorous narratives, things get quieter and centred, simple and subdued. The lilting quality of the frames and the rhythmic flow of story-telling is offset by the weightiness and intensity at the heart of the tale. The writing is replete with a sense of mystery and impending doom with the soundtrack

adding to the inscrutability. The panoramic, grand vistas of the island (framed by cinematographer Karl Walter Lindenlaub) parallel the amazing landscape and contours of the emotive face of Nanning. The paradise isn't quite that idyllic as it appears to the eye and the young, far from being carefree and reckless, have to constantly confront ideology and politics with all the inner passion and/or a spirit of resistance. The standout sequence, at the core of the narrative, is Nanning's epic journey across the island to fetch flour, butter and honey—basic necessities that have become luxuries—for his mother who only wants to eat white bread while she mourns Hitler's passing. Diane Kruger collaborates with Akin again after *In the Fade* as a Hitler-hating farm owner Tessa, the rare voice of ra-

tionality and righteousness. However, it's Billerbeck's show all the way. He is stunningly cast and performs the complex role with great finesse that belies his age.

Amrum could remind some of Taika Waititi's *Jojo Rabbit* because of the Hitler Youth member kid as the central figure. But Akin is far from jokey in his approach. He is pertinent without being provocative, and compelling without getting confrontational. Perhaps the artistic approach that works best in our times. He fashions

a tender coming-of-age film that steers clear of the sappy and the showy and touches a chord with both a sense of loss for and hope in a child's innocence. At the end of the day human integrity, and its persistence against all odds, will remain the surefire cure-all for the several ills of the world.

## CINEMA WITHOUT BORDERS

In this weekly column, the writer introduces you to powerful cinema from across the world

Film: Amrum



A still from *Lalanna's Song*

## 'It's frustrating to be reduced to labels like bold and beautiful'

Actor-dancer Rima Kallingal opens up on her role in *Lalanna's Song*, carving her own identity, need for the portrayal of female friendships in films, and more

NARAYANI M

**M**ORE than a decade into her film career, actor Rima Kallingal refuses to be boxed by industry expectations. Although she was last seen in *Neelavelicham* (2023) on the big screen where she was also the producer, Rima's name continues to make headlines for the interesting projects that she chooses to work on. The short film *Lalanna's Song* (currently streaming on Mubi) is one of them, where she plays Miriam, a quiet, yet fierce witness to religious hatred and prejudices in the heart of Mumbai, along with Shoby (Parvathy Thiruvothu). "This piece was liberating," shares Rima. "As both a human being and an artist, these issues have always troubled me, and it gave me a medium to confront those concerns directly—to look them in the eye," she adds.

In this interview, Rima elaborates on these themes, why the ripples of the Hema Committee report haven't died down, exploring different platforms to share stories, the importance of creating inclusive spaces for art, and more...

### Excerpts:

■ *Lalanna's Song* has a myriad of themes involved in it—death, microaggressions, religious hatred, women's agency, and more. How did you unpack the film's world and make



profound meaning out of it?

When I first read Megha (Ramaswamy)'s script, my immediate impression was how wacky and surreal the story unfolded. But once we met each other, and did readings, I understood her vision and artistic intent. Her clarity made it easy to trust her and go with the flow. In the world she created, themes like microaggressions and religious hatred—things we see around us in many forms—started to feel deeply personal.

■ At its core, *Lalanna's Song* is a horror film that feels both surreal and

deeply real. There's also a powerful thread of female friendship between Miriam and Shoby. Yet, mainstream cinema still shies away from exploring such bonds.

There's definitely been a cultural shift when it comes to women's agency. Women are more aware of what they deserve, vocal, and know that they have agency. As for female friendships in cinema, they've long been underrepresented because the world has not woken up to the fact, or they do not want to wake up to the fact that it exists in the world that we live in.

Cinema is a very capitalist

industry. It often assumes there's no audience for movies on female friendships or female-led narratives. But that's changing. Films like *Lalanna's Song* and *Backstage* are signs of that revival, and it's only going to grow from here.

■ The Hema Committee report had exposed the Malayalam cinema industry's ugly side. However, the wave has started to ebb as many weren't willing to fight the battle, and several women have lost their jobs. The cost of speaking out has become too high for many...

I want to clarify that what happened isn't unique to the Malayalam film industry—it exists across industries. The reason it came to light here is because Kerala, being one of the most progressive states, had the systems, government, and society to support such a conversation.

At least we have reached this far in exposing it, trying to find a policy and a way out of this mess. It has not died down. The change has begun, and its ripples are already visible across the industry. I remain optimistic—we've started the conversation, and that's the first step.

■ How important is it for you to draw boundaries and resist being boxed into societal or industry-driven expectations?

It means everything to me—being human, experiencing every shade of emotion, and fully living all that life has to offer. I can't stand the boxes we're put into; they don't do justice to anyone. As an actress, it's frustrating to be reduced to labels like "bold and beautiful". It is so one-dimensional and unfair, especially when male actors aren't held to the same standards.

Actors like KPAC Lalitha, Thilakan, Nedumudi Venu, or Kalpana had the freedom to play a range of roles. I feel envious of that. Heroines, even today, are often stuck in very stereotypical roles.

■ The West has long celebrated Broadway and theatre as mainstream entertainment. While India has a rich tradition of theatre and dance, accessibility and visibility remain challenges. Do you think enough is being done to bring these art forms to a wider audience?

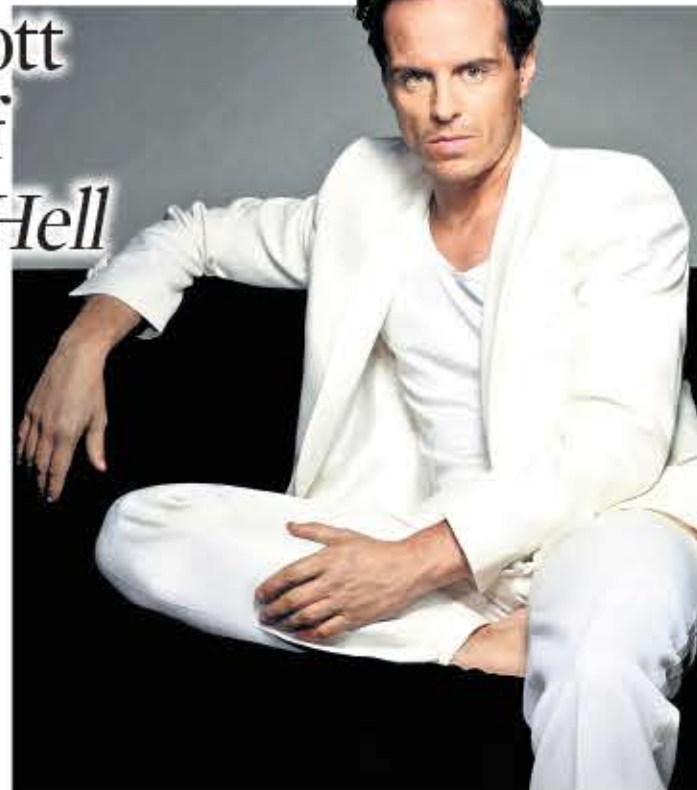
So true. We need to do much more to build and attract the right audience for stage productions. The beauty of connecting with a live audience and working within its constraints is such a beautiful process.

I recently staged a contemporary piece called *Neythe* based on the handloom industry but was told I couldn't present it at the only government-hosted dance festival in Kerala. I was told it's only for classical arts. So, where do contemporary artists go? I'm currently approaching the government to see if contemporary artists can be included or if we can create a separate festival. There's a long way to go, but it's an exciting time to be alive.

## Andrew Scott joins cast of *A Place In Hell*

EMMY and Golden Globe nominee Andrew Scott is all set to star alongside Michelle Williams and Daisy Edgar-Jones in *A Place In Hell*, a legal thriller from Chloe Domont. The film is financed by MRC and produced by T-Street. Set to tell the story of two women at a high-profile criminal law firm, *A Place In Hell* is both written and directed by Domont.

Last seen in *Back in Action*, Scott has *Wake Up Dead Man*, and *Pressure* in the pipeline. The former, the third film in the *Knives Out* series, is helmed by Rian Johnson. Starring Daniel Craig, Josh O'Connor, Cate Blanchett, and more, the film is slated to premiere on Netflix on December 12. *Pressure*, helmed by Anthony Maras, is adapted



from David Haig's 2014 stage play. Domont made her feature film directorial debut with *Fat Girl Play* in 2023. The film stars Phoebe Dynevor, Alden Ehrenreich, Eddie Marsan, and Rich Sommer and premiered on Netflix. Domont also worked on shows like *Ballers*, *Billions* and *Suits*.

## COBIE SMULDERS TO STAR IN *LINCOLN LAWYER S4*



**A**CTOR Cobie Smulders is joining the fourth season of Netflix's *The Lincoln Lawyer*. The series is based on Michael Connelly's character Mickey Haller, who was introduced in the 2005 novel *The Lincoln Lawyer*. Manuel Garcia-Rulfo is back as the titular lawyer, who works from the back of his Lincoln Navigator car. The new season is based on Michael Connelly's *The Law of Innocence*, in which Haller is charged with murder. Details about Smulders' character are kept under wraps.

The cast of the upcoming season sees the return of Becki Newton, Jazz Raycole, Angus Sampson, Neve Campbell, Elliot Gould, and Krista Warner. Joining the cast of season four are Constance Zimmer, Sasha Alexander, Kyle Richards, Jason Butler Harner, Emmanuelle Chiriqui, and Jason O'Mara. *The Lincoln Lawyer* is created by David E Kelley, with Ted Humphrey and Dailyn Rodriguez serving as the showrunners. Like the previous seasons, the new season also consists of ten episodes, with the release date yet to be announced.



## Slow Horses Season 5 to premiere in August

**A**PPLE TV+ announced on Tuesday that the fifth season of its series *Slow Horses* will release on the streaming platform on September 24. The first two episodes will drop on Apple TV+ on the aforementioned date, followed by an episode each every week until the final episode on October 22.

According to the official logline, in the upcoming season, "Everyone is suspicious when resident tech nerd Roddy Ho has a glamorous new girlfriend, but when a series of increasingly bizarre events occur across the city, it falls to the *Slow Horses* to work out how everything is connected. After all, Lamb knows that in the world of espionage, the London Rules—cover your back—always apply." The series also stars Kristin Scott Thomas, Saskia Reeves, Jack Lowden, Christopher Chung, Hugo Weaving, Rosalind Eleazar, Ruth Bradley, Aimee-FFion Edwards, Tom Brooke, and James Callis. Nick Mohammed is also part of *Slow Horses* season 5 in a guest role.