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India, Australia strengthen strategic ties with key agreements

Civil nuclear deal enables Australian uranium exports, boosting India's expanding clean energy ambitions

Strategic Partnership Boost

Civil Nuclear Deal
Australia to supply uranium for India's nuclear energy programme.

Defence
Defence Innovation Corridor to link industries and start-ups.

Maritime
New Indo-Pacific security roadmap and shipbuilding cooperation.

Trade
CECA negotiations and bilateral investment treaty to be expedited.

MELBOURNE

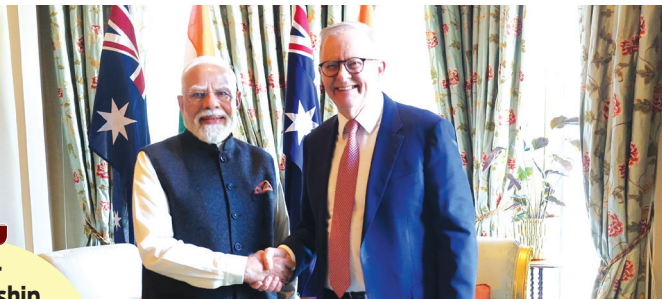
India and Australia on Thursday signed a series of landmark agreements to deepen cooperation in civil nuclear energy, maritime security, critical minerals, defence and emerging technologies, reinforcing their Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and

his Australian counterpart Anthony Albanese held wide-ranging talks in Melbourne during Modi's three-nation tour, focusing on trade, investment, defence and regional security.

A major outcome of the meeting was the civil nuclear energy agreement, paving the way for Australia's commercial supply of uranium to India to support its expanding clean energy programme.

The leaders also unveiled a Joint Declaration on Defence and Security, a Joint Statement on Energy Cooperation, and a roadmap for collaboration in cyber security, critical technologies and resilient supply chains.

The two nations agreed to establish an India-Australia Defence Innovation Corridor to connect defence industries and start-ups, while launch-



"Our relationship with India has never been more consequential than it is today."
— Anthony Albanese, Australian PM

ing a critical minerals partnership to strengthen supply chains essential for clean energy and strategic industries.

Both sides also announced an India-Australia Maritime Security Collaboration Roadmap to enhance cooperation in the Indo-Pacific, including shipbuilding, repair and maintenance. The leaders reaffirmed their commitment to combating terrorism, promoting freedom of navigation and maintaining a rules-based order in the region.

Key Agreements Signed

Civil nuclear energy cooperation, Defence and Security Declaration, Energy Cooperation Statement, Cyber and Critical Technologies Roadmap, Critical Minerals Partnership, Maritime Security Collaboration Roadmap, and faster negotiations on the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA).

Modi calls for dialogue to resolve West Asia conflict

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday reiterated that dialogue and diplomacy remain the only sustainable path to resolving ongoing conflicts in West Asia. Speaking alongside Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese in Melbourne, Modi said India remains committed to promoting peace, stability and a rules-based international order. His remarks came amid renewed tensions following military exchanges involving the United States and Iran, including attacks near the Strait of Hormuz and retaliatory strikes across the Gulf region. Modi stressed that lasting peace can only be achieved through negotiations and constructive diplomatic engagement.

Public service is governance's highest duty: D.K. Shivakumar



BELAGAVI
"Officials are accountable to the people's trust every single day."
—D.K. Shivakumar, CM

Karnataka Chief Minister D. K. Shivakumar on Thursday delivered a strong message on administrative accountability, public service and discipline, directing officials to prioritise citizens over bureaucracy during the Belagavi Divisional-level Progress Review Meeting at Suvarna Vidhana Soudha. Emphasising that governance must reach people's doorsteps, Shivakumar said officials are answerable to the public every day and warned that dereliction of duty amounts to a betrayal of public trust. He cautioned that any official found using a mobile phone during official meetings could face immediate suspension, stressing that discipline remains the cornerstone of effective administration. The Chief Minister instructed district and taluk-level officers to stay within their jurisdictions, resolve grievances locally and eliminate the practice of making citizens visit multiple offices for routine work. He also directed officials to maintain daily records of field visits and grievance redressal, describing field administration as the true measure of governance. Shivakumar called for effective implementation of the Prajaseva Department and expansion of the Revenue Department's e-Khata initiative across Karnataka. He also announced CSR-backed schools on the Karnataka Public Schools model, the launch of the Yuva Udyoga Setu programme to connect youth with private-sector jobs, and the formation of 10,000 Bharat Jodo Yuva Sanghas to promote constitutional values.

CM outlines governance reform agenda

The Chief Minister announced statewide expansion of e-Khata services, establishment of CSR-supported schools, launch of the Yuva Udyoga Setu employment programme and formation of 10,000 Bharat Jodo Yuva Sanghas with ₹10 lakh assistance each. He also ordered a comprehensive audit of government land, directed officials to resolve grievances at the local level, and stressed that every eligible voter's rights must be protected during the Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls while ensuring transparent, disciplined and citizen-centric governance.

CM announces ₹1 crore per constituency for drinking water

Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Thursday announced a ₹1 crore grant for every Assembly constituency to ensure uninterrupted drinking water supply amid deficient rainfall and looming drought concerns.

Addressing reporters after a Belagavi Division review meeting at Suvarna Vidhana Soudha, he said the State would not wait for Central assistance and had already released funds to Deputy Commissioners to tackle emerging water shortages. Officials have also been directed to ensure adequate stocks of seeds and fertilisers and store sufficient water in reservoirs to safeguard drinking water needs. The Chief Minister also announced that CCTV cameras will be installed in front of hundis in all Muzrai temples across Karnataka following allegations of irregularities linked to Ram Mandir donations. Footage of donation boxes, cash removal and counting will be monitored by district authorities to improve transparency. Shivakumar said the government would continue all guarantee schemes while verifying beneficiaries to eliminate fraudulent claims. He also announced measures to protect voters during the Special Intensive Revision (SIR), including residence certificates for eligible residents and booth-level help centres. On the Tungabhadra issue, he termed the recent inter-state meeting a "historic decision" and reiterated Karnataka's support for the proposed Krishna-Cauvery-Godavari river-linking project.

Reform Roadmap

- **Governance:** Public service and accountability made top priorities.
- **Discipline:** Mobile phone use during meetings may invite suspension.
- **Education:** CSR schools planned on KPS model statewide.
- **Employment:** Yuva Udyoga Setu to link youth with private-sector jobs.

CJP announces Parliament march on July 20 over exam irregularities

New Delhi: The Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) has announced a peaceful march to Parliament on July 20, demanding accountability over alleged examination irregularities and the resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan. The youth-led organisation said the march would begin from Jantar Mantar on the opening day of the Monsoon Session of Parliament. The announcement came as the group's protest entered its 20th day amid heavy rain in the national capital. The CJP has urged students, parents and citizens from across the country to join the march, seeking a transparent examination sys-



tem and justice for students affected by alleged irregularities in competitive exams. The organisation will be joined by educator and climate activist Sonam Wangchuk, who has been on an indefinite hunger strike since June 28. Wangchuk appealed to people to participate in the march, saying Parliament was the appropriate platform to raise the issue. The CJP also accused the Delhi Police of preventing protesters from bringing tarpaulins to the protest site despite heavy rainfall. CJP founder Abhijeet Dipke alleged that students sitting at the protest were exposed to rain while police personnel were provided shelter.

Kharge accuses Centre of deepening India's dependence on China

NEW DELHI

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Thursday accused the Narendra Modi-led government of compromising India's national interests by allowing China to strengthen its hold over key strategic sectors despite the 2020 Galwan Valley clash.

Citing a media report, Kharge alleged that India's dependence on Chinese imports had grown significantly across critical industries, including pharmaceuticals, electric vehicles, renewable energy and manufacturing. He claimed that imports from China had risen sharply since the Galwan clash, widening India's trade deficit with its neighbour.

The Congress chief alleged that China accounted for a dominant share of India's imports of antibiotics, active

pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs), lithium-ion batteries, electric vehicle components, permanent magnets and silicon wafers used in solar cell manufacturing. He argued that such dependence contradicted the Centre's claims of promoting self-reliance under the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative.

Kharge also criticised the government for allegedly easing restrictions on Chinese firms to participate in power projects, claiming the move would further strengthen Beijing's presence in India's strategic sectors. Referring to the Galwan clash, he alleged that the government had failed to adopt a firm stance against China despite the sacrifice of Indian soldiers. There was no immediate response from the Union government or the BJP to the allegations. The Congress has repeatedly questioned the government's China policy.



GULF CONFLICT ESCALATES

Iran strikes Gulf after fresh US attacks

TEHRAN

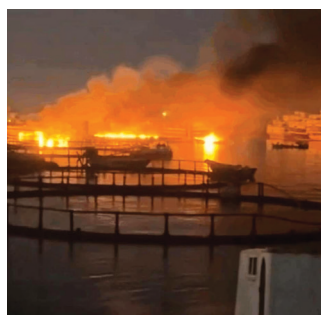
Iran launched retaliatory strikes on United States military facilities in Bahrain, Kuwait and Qatar on Thursday after a second consecutive night of US attacks on Iranian territory, sharply escalating tensions across the Gulf. Tehran said it targeted "US bases and strategic centres" in response to American strikes on several Iranian cities along the Strait of Hormuz.

According to Iranian authorities, two days of US airstrikes have killed 14 people and injured 78. Explosions were reported in Bushehr, Chabahar, Bandar Abbas and Sirik, with Bushehr—home to Iran's only operational nuclear power plant—once again coming under attack, heightening fears of a nuclear incident.

Kuwait confirmed that one person was injured after missile

debris fell during the attacks. Its air defence system intercepted ballistic missiles, a cruise missile and multiple drones. Bahrain sounded air raid sirens and urged residents to seek shelter, while Qatar called on all parties to return to diplomacy and avoid further escalation. Iran's Revolutionary Guards warned that attacks would expand if US strikes continued, alleging that Gulf states were facilitating American military operations. Kuwait condemned the strikes as a dangerous escalation threatening regional peace and sovereignty.

The latest exchange has intensified concerns over the security of the Strait of Hormuz, a critical global oil shipping route, with analysts warning that any prolonged disruption could affect international energy supplies and trigger wider instability across the Middle East.



Situation Update

- **Retaliation:** Iran targets US military facilities in Bahrain, Kuwait & Qatar.
- **Casualties:** Iran says US strikes killed 14 and injured 78 people.
- **Security:** Bahrain issues shelter alert; Kuwait intercepts missiles & drones.
- **Risk:** Strait of Hormuz tensions threaten regional stability & energy supplies.



Cong set to finalise Karnataka Cabinet expansion after July 12

Political Balancing Act

Meeting: Congress leaders to meet high command after July 12.
Balance: Regional, caste and factional equations under consideration.
Representation: More women & first-time MLAs may enter Cabinet.
Timeline: Swearing-in likely before July 20.

NEW DELHI

The long-awaited expansion of the Karnataka Cabinet is expected to gather pace after July 12, with Chief Minister D. K. Shivakumar and senior Congress leaders likely to meet the party high command in New Delhi to finalise the new ministry.

According to party sources, the final decision is expected after Rahul Gandhi returns to Delhi. Shivakumar and senior leader Siddaramaiah are expected to present separate lists of aspirants, with both camps seeking representation for their supporters.

The Congress leadership is understood to be focusing on balancing factional interests while ensuring regional, caste and community representation. Sources said the party is also keen to induct fresh faces, including first-time MLAs, as part of a broader strategy ahead of the 2028 Karnataka Assembly elections.

Greater representation for women is also under consideration, with two to three



Expansion strategy

The Congress leadership is treating the Cabinet expansion as both an administrative exercise and a political balancing act. Besides accommodating competing factions led by Shivakumar and Siddaramaiah, the party wants the new ministry to reflect regional diversity, caste representation and generational change. Inducting first-time legislators and increasing women's representation are also being considered to strengthen the party's image ahead of the 2028 Assembly elections. The expansion is expected to be completed before the Assembly's monsoon session, allowing the government to begin the session with a full-strength ministry.

women legislators likely to find a place in the expanded ministry. The exercise is expected to conclude before the monsoon session of the Assembly, enabling the government to function with a full-strength Cabinet. Shivakumar was sworn in as Chief Minister on June 3 along with 13 ministers, leaving several Cabinet positions vacant.

Over 635 voters marked 'others' in K'taka SIR process, sparking questions

BENGALURU

More than 635 voters in Karnataka have been placed under the 'others' category during the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, triggering concerns over the classification process and its implications.

The house-to-house enumeration exercise, which began on June 30, has seen differences emerge between election officials and Booth-Level Officers (BLOs) over the reason for using the category. Karnataka Chief Electoral Officer V Anbukumar said the tag is mainly used for voters who refuse to participate in the documentation process.

Anbukumar said some voters may refuse to sign forms

due to personal reasons or because they have acquired citizenship elsewhere.

He added that lists of such voters have been shared with Booth-Level Agents of recognised political parties to identify possible errors.

However, BLOs have reportedly given a different explanation, stating that the category was being used in cases where voter records could not be linked to the 2002 electoral rolls or where progeny mapping was unsuccessful.

Civil society groups have raised concerns, pointing out that standard election categories usually include absent, shifted, dead/deleted and duplicate voters.

They have sought clarity over the criteria for placing voters under 'others'.

US justifies fresh strikes

The United States said its latest military strikes on Iran were intended to weaken Tehran's ability to threaten freedom of navigation in the Strait of Hormuz, following recent attacks on commercial vessels transiting the strategic waterway. US officials described the operation as a response to growing risks to international maritime security and global shipping. The attacks have further heightened tensions in the Gulf, raising concerns over regional stability, energy security and the safety of one of the world's busiest oil transit routes.



QUICK READ

NSUI seeks extension of student bus pass validity

CH NEWS, BENGALURU The National Students' Union of India (NSUI) has urged the Karnataka government and the Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTCL) to extend the validity of student bus passes beyond June 30 until the completion of university examinations. NSUI leader Khaja Hussain said the government's free student bus pass scheme has greatly benefited students, but the expiry of passes has caused hardship as several undergraduate and postgraduate examinations are scheduled in July and August. Students are now forced to bear additional travel expenses to attend examinations, he said. The organisation appealed to the government to immediately extend the validity of existing passes to ensure students can travel without disruption during the examination period.

Professors seek inclusion of in-laws as dependants

CH NEWS, BENGALURU Women faculty members have urged the Higher Education Department to include mothers-in-law and fathers-in-law in the list of dependants under the transfer policy for teachers in government first-grade and technical education colleges. Representatives said the 2021 special transfer rules provide benefits for employees with disabilities, serious illnesses, widows, single parents and spouse cases. However, only parents and children are currently recognised as dependants in illness-related provisions. The professors argued that married women often shoulder the responsibility of caring for their in-laws and sought their inclusion.

Scouts and Guides State awards today

CH NEWS, BENGALURU The State Award ceremony of the Bharat Scouts and Guides will be held at the Glass House in Lok Bhavan on Friday at 4 pm. Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot will present the 2024 State Awards, while Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar will attend as the chief guest. Health Minister U.T. Khader, Additional Chief Secretary Rashmi V. Mahesh, Commissioner Vikas Kishore Suralkar and other dignitaries will also be present. According to Bharat Scouts and Guides Chief Commissioner P.G.R. Scindia, 1,000 students have been selected for various State awards from 10,106 eligible candidates after successfully completing examinations, training programmes and community service activities.

Retired professor loses ₹61 lakh in deepfake investment scam

CH NEWS, BENGALURU A retired professor from Bengaluru has lost more than ₹61 lakh in a sophisticated cyber fraud after being lured by a deepfake video featuring Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman promoting a fake investment scheme. According to a complaint filed with the Cyber Crime Police, the victim, a resident of Shankarapuram, came across the video on Facebook on March 9. The AI-generated video falsely promised extraordinary returns through an

Ward-level SIR stalls as enumeration lags, draft rolls delayed

Parallel ward-level SIR stalls as enumeration slows, delaying draft electoral rolls across Bengaluru

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls ordered by the State Election Commission (SEC) for select wards in Bengaluru has hit a roadblock, with sluggish door-to-door enumeration delaying the publication of draft electoral rolls.

The draft rolls, which were scheduled to be released on Thursday, are yet to be published as the verification exercise remains incomplete. The SEC is now considering whether to continue the exercise or suspend it temporarily. SEC Secretary H. Amaresh said the district electoral officer and Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) Chief Commissioner Maheshwar Rao have sought guidance from



the Commission after civic authorities expressed their inability to complete the exercise on schedule.

Officials said the GBA is currently engaged in the Election Commission of India's nationwide Special Intensive Revision, leaving it unable to train Booth Level Officers (BLOs) for the SEC's separate ward-level revision.

The exercise has also come under legal scrutiny after being challenged in the High

Court. Amaresh said the Commission has sought a week's time from the court while it decides its next course of action.

The SEC had ordered revision of electoral rolls in 27 wards — 24 in the Mahadevapura Assembly constituency and three in Gandhinagar. Though door-to-door verification was scheduled to conclude on July 4, BJP leaders in Mahadevapura claimed that only around 20 per cent of the work had been completed.

BJP functionary Prasad Babu alleged that the parallel exercise was intended to create confusion ahead of the Greater Bengaluru Authority elections. He claimed Mahadevapura has 486 polling booths, but only about 300

BLOs had been appointed. He also alleged that political parties had not been informed of any extension to the verification process.

The Congress, however, defended the revision exercise. Gandhinagar Congress coordinator Deepak Ramaiah said party workers, along with BLOs, had found several unverifiable voter addresses and submitted around 11,000 Form-7 applications seeking deletion of suspected fake voters.

Questioning the BJP's opposition, he said if the party supported the nationwide SIR, it should not object to a similar exercise in Karnataka. He maintained that documentary evidence of electoral irregularities had already been submitted to the authorities.

New cancer centre promises affordable, integrated treatment

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

A newly launched cancer hospital in Bengaluru has announced that it will provide comprehensive cancer treatment at costs 30-40 per cent lower than those charged by corporate hospitals, aiming to make quality oncology care more affordable and improve treatment completion rates.

Speaking at a press conference on Thursday, ARC Cancer Hospital Founder and Chairman Dr Dinesh Mavinahalli Gangaiah said the hospital has been established to bridge the gap between expensive private healthcare and government institutions by offering all major cancer services under one roof.

He said patients frequently discontinue treatment because of rising costs and the need to visit multiple hospitals for surgery, chemotherapy, radiotherapy and other specialised care. The integrated model, he said, would reduce delays, improve coordination among specialists and enhance treatment outcomes.

Every patient will undergo evaluation by a multidisciplinary



plinary Tumour Board comprising surgical, medical and radiation oncologists, radiologists and pathologists. Based on the diagnosis and stage of cancer, the board will prepare a personalised treatment plan before therapy begins.

Medical Director Dr Samskruthi P. Murthy said the hospital has also introduced financial counselling to help families understand the total cost of treatment, which often extends over six months or longer. She noted that many patients exhaust their savings after surgery and are unable to continue chemotherapy or radiotherapy, increasing the risk of recurrence.

The hospital has also established a cancer trust to support economically weaker patients.

Eligible BPL card holders will receive subsidised or free treatment based on financial assessment, while the trust will also promote cancer screening and awareness programmes in rural areas.

The centre currently offers organ-specific cancer surgery and plans to introduce robotic cancer surgery within the next three to four months. It is also commissioning an AI-integrated advanced radiotherapy system for faster and more precise treatment.

Doctors said nearly 40 per cent of cancers are preventable through healthier lifestyles, vaccination, tobacco cessation and regular screening, while emphasising that early diagnosis remains the key to improving survival rates.

Karnataka records highest-ever higher education enrolment, ranks sixth nationally

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Karnataka has achieved its highest-ever Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in higher education, with more than four out of every 10 eligible young people now pursuing college education. According to the All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) 2023-24, the state's GER rose to 41.8 per cent, up from 39.6 per cent in 2022-23 and 32 per cent in 2019-20.

The improvement has helped Karnataka climb to the sixth position nationally, reflecting steady growth in access to higher education over the past five years.

Women continued to outpace men in higher education enrolment. The GER for female students stood at nearly 43 per cent, compared with

around 41 per cent for male students, highlighting increasing participation of women in colleges and universities.

Among states, Karnataka now trails only Delhi, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, Telangana, Himachal Pradesh and Sikkim in higher education enrolment.

The state also retained its position as one of India's most accessible higher education destinations, recording 69 colleges per lakh eligible population, the highest among major states. Telangana followed with 56 colleges per lakh population, while Andhra Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh recorded 51 each.

Karnataka had 4,529 colleges during 2023-24, marginally higher than 4,524 the previous year, making it the third-highest in the country

after Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra.

Student enrolment also remained among the highest in India. The state recorded 27.6 lakh students pursuing higher education during 2023-24, ranking fifth nationally behind Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Madhya Pradesh. Bihar reported an identical enrolment figure.

Another notable achievement was the expansion of universities. Karnataka's university count increased from 79 to 91 during the year, largely due to the establishment of 10 new state universities.

The survey also showed that Karnataka accounts for 9 per cent of the country's higher education teachers, ranking behind only Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra.

Global investors department proposal sparks Cabinet turf concerns

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar's proposal to establish a Global Investors and Foreign Affairs Department has triggered unease within the Karnataka Cabinet, with senior ministers expressing concerns over possible overlap with existing portfolios responsible for attracting investments.

The proposal, first promised in the Congress manifesto before the 2023 Assembly elections, gained momentum after Shivakumar assumed office last month. Initially conceived as a platform to strengthen engagement with non-resident Kannadigas (NRKs) and overseas Indians while facilitating investments, the department is now understood to have evolved into a broader investment promotion agency.

According to government sources, Industries Minister M.B. Patil and Information Technology-Biotechnology Minister Priyank Karge have questioned the need for a separate department, arguing that their ministries already handle domestic and foreign investment promotion.

The ministers are learnt to have conveyed that creating another agency with a similar mandate could confuse prospective investors and result in duplication of responsibilities.

The objections reportedly prompted Shivakumar to constitute a Cabinet sub-committee headed by Deputy Chief Minister G. Parameshwara to examine the proposal and address concerns raised by Cabinet colleagues.

A senior official said the committee would study the scope of the proposed department and recommend ways to avoid conflicts with existing ministries.

Congress sources clarified that the ministers had not opposed the proposal to create a

Ministers raise jurisdiction concerns as proposed investors department overlaps existing investment promotion roles significantly

dedicated department for NRI welfare or foreign affairs. Their reservations were primarily linked to the inclusion of a "global investors" mandate, which they believe overlaps with the work already carried out by the Industries and IT-BT departments.

A Congress legislator said the controversy could have been avoided had the government focused only on the NRI welfare aspect instead of positioning the new department as an investment facilitation agency.

The legislator added that the responsibility now rests with Parameshwara to convince Cabinet colleagues that the proposed department would complement, rather than undermine, the roles of existing ministries.

Defending the initiative, Congress NRI Cell Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson Arathi Krishna said the department's primary objective was to safeguard the interests of Karnataka's overseas community.

She said thousands of non-resident Kannadigas, particularly blue-collar workers abroad, require institutional support ranging from legal assistance and social security to repatriation of mortal remains in unfortunate circumstances.

According to Krishna, Karnataka requires a dedicated nodal agency to coordinate welfare measures for overseas Kannadigas while strengthening engagement with the global diaspora, with investment facilitation being only one part of its broader mandate.

High Court stays deportation of detainee, orders verification of citizenship claim

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The Karnataka High Court has stayed the deportation of a man detained as an alleged illegal Bangladeshi immigrant and directed authorities to verify his identity after he claimed to be an Indian citizen who had been wrongly identified.

Justice Suraj Govindaraj granted interim relief to Abdul Rahim by staying the deportation order issued by the Foreigners Regional Registration Office (FRRO), Bengaluru. The court directed the authorities to ascertain his identity before proceeding further with the deportation process.

Rahim told the court that he was born in Seemapuri, New Delhi, in April 1979 and has lived in India throughout his life. He contended that he was not a foreign national but an Indian citizen who had become a victim of mistaken identity.

The petitioner further submitted that he was the same individual who had been convicted by a sessions court in Uttar Pradesh in a case in-

volving allegations of illegal entry from Bangladesh. He informed the High Court that he has already challenged that conviction before the Allahabad High Court.

Rahim has been lodged in a detention centre in Bengaluru since March this year after being picked up during a police drive to identify suspected illegal Bangladeshi immigrants. Following his detention, the FRRO initiated proceedings under the Foreigners Act and issued orders for his deportation.

The FRRO maintains that the detainee is an illegal Bangladeshi national identified as Mohammed Rahim Havaladar. However, Rahim denied the allegation and asserted that he has established his life and family in India.

To support his claim, he produced several identity documents before the court, including a birth certificate, Aadhaar card, PAN card, passport, voter identity card and driving licence. He also submitted that he runs a government-registered waste management and scrap trading business in Bengaluru.

TRIPLE MURDER PROBE

Brain mapping sought for triple murder accused

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

City police have approached a local court seeking permission to conduct brain mapping tests on the two accused in the sensational triple murder of a software engineer's family in Bengaluru, as investigators attempt to verify their statements during the probe.

The accused, M. Shwetha (24) and her live-in partner J. Kenneth (25), are currently lodged in Bengaluru Central Prison under judicial custody. According to the police, the

incident occurred on June 22 at a flat in Seegehalli under the K.R. Pura police limits. Kenneth allegedly stabbed Shwetha's mother, M. Muthulakshmi, to death while she was asleep on a sofa. With Shwetha's alleged assistance, the body was shifted to a bedroom.

Police said Kenneth later attacked Shwetha's sister, Somasundar, and her sister, Supriya, after they entered the apartment. Somasundar managed to run out but collapsed on the staircase with severe

injuries, while Supriya was allegedly overpowered and repeatedly stabbed.

Somasundar later succumbed to his injuries in hospital after reportedly giving a statement naming Kenneth and his daughter as the attackers.

Deputy Commissioner of Police Saidulu Adavat said investigators have sought the court's permission to subject both accused to brain mapping tests to determine the authenticity of the claims they made during interrogation.

Police sources said the accused claimed the murders were triggered by mounting financial distress and prolonged family disputes. During questioning, they allegedly stated that Shwetha's parents were distressed over unpaid loans amounting to nearly ₹56 lakh, which she had reportedly borrowed to support Kenneth and meet his personal expenses.

Brain mapping is a forensic technique used to record brain responses when a suspect is exposed to specific words,

images or events connected with a crime. Investigators use the responses to determine whether the individual possesses knowledge that only someone involved in the offence would ordinarily have.

Police clarified that brain mapping does not independently establish guilt but serves as an investigative aid alongside other evidence collected during the probe.

Investigators are also examining financial records, electronic devices.

QUICK READ

Green Line metro services disrupted due to technical glitch

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Metro services on the Green Line were temporarily suspended on Thursday following a technical fault in a train at Yelachenahalli Metro Station. The train halted at the station, affecting the movement of other trains on the route and causing inconvenience to commuters. Bengaluru Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) officials said technical teams were working on priority to rectify the issue and restore normal operations at the earliest. BMRCL expressed regret over the disruption and advised passengers to plan their journeys accordingly until services return to normal.

Kannada translation of ‘Blaze, The Fire of a Son’ to release on July 11

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The Kannada translation of the English book ‘Blaze – A Son’s Trial by Fire’, based on a true story, will be released on July 11 in Bengaluru. Written by couple Nidhi Poddar and Sushil Poddar, the book has been translated into Kannada by retired Professor M.C. Prakash. Former ISRO Chief A.S. Kiran Kumar, educationist Gururaja Karajagi and IPS officer B.R. Ravikantegowda will attend the launch ceremony at the Indian Institute of World Culture at 10.30 am. The book narrates the inspiring journey of Divyansh Atman, son of the Poddar couple, who battled leukemia with courage and remained positive despite his illness. His determination and love for life form the central theme of the work.

FIR filed against Aryavardhan Gururji over alleged remarks

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

An FIR has been registered at Shankarpura police station against former Bigg Boss contestant and astrologer Aryavardhan Gururji for allegedly making derogatory remarks against women and religion. Police said the case was registered based on a complaint filed by Karnataka Gau Raksha Sena president S.G. Suman Kumar. The complaint alleged that Gururji made objectionable statements in a video circulating on social media. A case has been booked under Sections 299, 302 and 192 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), and an investigation is underway. Police officials said further action, including possible arrest, will be taken based on the findings of the probe.

Power strategy planned to tackle El Nino impact: Gaurav Gupta

El Nino concerns prompt Karnataka to plan measures for uninterrupted power supply statewide

BENGALURU

Energy Department officials have been asked to prepare a comprehensive plan to ensure uninterrupted power supply amid possible challenges posed by the El Nino effect and declining rainfall.

Additional Chief Secretary of the Energy Department Gaurav Gupta directed officials to take preventive measures during a review meeting on the state’s power situation held at the BESCOM office.

Gupta said reduced rainfall could affect hydropower generation and urged officials to make alternative arrangements to meet electricity demand. He stressed the need to maximise thermal power generation, increase renewable energy output and utilise electricity from co-generation units.

“Due to inadequate rainfall, hydropower generation is expected to be affected. Necessary steps must be taken to manage available

resources and ensure uninterrupted supply to consumers,” Gupta said.

He directed the Karnataka Power Corporation Limited (KPCL) to ensure maximum efficiency of thermal power plants, maintain adequate coal stocks and schedule maintenance of thermal and hydro plants according to system requirements.

The Energy Department also reviewed measures to strengthen renewable power generation. Officials were instructed to accelerate solar and wind power projects and ensure faster implementation of KUSUM-B and KUSUM-C schemes through electricity supply companies and the Karnataka Renewable Energy Development Limited (KREDL).

The Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited (KPTCL) was asked to speed up commissioning of JSW’s 300 MW solar power projects linked



with a 500 MW battery energy storage system.

The state is also planning to procure 500-700 MW of electricity from co-generation power units through Power Company of Karnataka Limited (PCKL) to bridge possible supply gaps.

Gupta further instructed officials to explore power banking arrangements with other states before October 2026. The plan will include round-the-clock power purchase agreements and procurement of electricity during peak demand hours.

Reviewing the impact of heavy rains in several districts, Gupta directed electric

ity supply companies to immediately restore damaged infrastructure, including poles, wires and transformers. Managing Directors of all ESCOMs were asked to expedite repair works and strengthen preparedness for emergencies.

Senior officials, including KPTCL Managing Director Dr V. Rama Prasat Manohar, BESCOM Managing Director Dr N. Shivashankar, PCKL Managing Director P.K. Venkatesh and KREDL Managing Director K.P. Rudrappaiah, attended the meeting. Managing Directors of all ESCOMs participated through video

El Nino power action plan

The Energy Department’s strategy includes boosting thermal generation, expanding renewable energy sources, securing co-generation power, strengthening transmission preparedness and arranging interstate power banking facilities before October 2026. The measures are aimed at preventing supply disruptions caused by reduced hydropower generation due to rainfall deficiency.

conference.

The department said the measures are aimed at ensuring stable power supply despite weather-related uncertainties and rising demand across Karnataka.

LIDKAR moves HC against ₹5.02 crore GST demand notice

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The state government-owned Dr Babu Jagjivan Ram Leather Industries Development Corporation Limited (LIDKAR) has approached the Karnataka High Court challenging a Commercial Tax Department order directing it to pay ₹5.02 crore in Goods and Services Tax (GST) dues.

LIDKAR has filed a petition questioning the department’s unilateral order and a subsequent notice seeking recovery of the amount by attaching funds from its bank account. The matter is yet to be listed for hearing.

The Commercial Tax Department had conducted an audit of LIDKAR’s records and issued a final order on December 18, 2025, directing payment of tax arrears. LIDKAR, however, has claimed that its officials were not aware of the notices issued during the audit process and, therefore, could not participate in the proceedings.

In its petition, the corporation stated that the order was passed without providing it an opportunity to present its case. LIDKAR, established in 1976 for the welfare of Scheduled Caste leather artisans and promotion of the leather industry, said the recovery action could adversely affect its welfare programmes.

The department had issued a demand notice comprising ₹2.86 crore as basic tax, ₹1.87 crore as interest and ₹28.86 lakh as penalty, taking the total liability to ₹5.02 crore.

According to LIDKAR, the Commercial Tax Department initiated action on April 21, 2026, to recover the amount by attaching its bank account with Bank of Baroda at Vasanthnagar.

The corporation came to know about the proceedings only on April 24 after receiving information from the bank manager.

LIDKAR contended that although notices were uploaded on the GST portal, they did not come to the attention of the concerned authorities. As a result, it lost the opportunity to respond within the prescribed appeal period.

The corporation has requested the High Court to stay the GST demand order and the bank attachment notice issued by the Commercial Tax Department. It has also sought permission to submit necessary documents and requested a fresh hearing in the matter.

280-metre skywalk, flyover plan revived for Banashankari junction

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

A proposal to construct a 280-metre-long skywalk and a flyover near Banashankari Bus Stand has gained momentum with officials holding discussions on improving connectivity and reducing traffic congestion in the area.

A meeting chaired by Bengaluru South Municipal Corporation Commissioner K.N. Ramesh discussed the long-pending project involving officials from Traffic Police, Bengaluru Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL), Bengaluru Smart Infrastructure Limited (B-SMILE) and civic agencies.

The Banashankari Metro station and BMTC bus stand are located close to each other, but heavy pedestrian movement and traffic congestion have created difficulties

Integrated mobility project linking Metro, BMTC and roads aims to ease congestion at busy Banashankari junction.

for commuters. BMTC buses often pick up and drop passengers on the road, while KSRTC buses operating on the same route add to traffic pressure.

Officials discussed the need for an integrated multimodal hub connecting the Metro station, bus stand and nearby roads through a modern skywalk facility. The proposed skywalk is planned to be 280 metres long and six metres wide, with a resting area for pedestrians.

The project, estimated to cost around ₹50 crore to ₹55 crore in 2023, had received an assurance of ₹25 crore from

BMRCL. However, the work was delayed following changes in the government and other administrative issues.

According to officials, more than 50,000 people pass through the Banashankari junction every day, making the proposed infrastructure crucial for smoother movement of pedestrians and vehicles. The meeting also discussed creating a dedicated parking system, separate bus lanes and pedestrian pathways. Since the famous Banashankari temple is located next to the bus and Metro station, pedestrian traffic increases significantly during mornings, festivals and special occasions.

Officials also explored the possibility of constructing an underpass along with the skywalk in the future to further improve traffic flow.

Rapido auto driver fined Rs 10,000 after being duped into carrying garbage

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

An auto driver in HSR Layout was fined Rs 10,000 after unknowingly transporting a garbage bag booked as a parcel through the Rapido app.

According to reports, a customer booked an auto ride through the app and handed over a bag to the driver, instructing him to deliver it to a particular location.

The driver was unaware that the parcel contained garbage and agreed to transport it.

When the driver reached the destination and attempted to dispose of the bag, BBMP officials, who were monitoring the area, stopped him. The officials found that the bag contained waste and imposed a penalty of Rs 10,000 for illegally dumping garbage



in a public place.

The driver reportedly tried to explain that the garbage did not belong to him and that he was only delivering it as a customer parcel. However, authorities proceeded with the fine, as he was the person found disposing of the waste.

After receiving the penalty, the driver attempted to contact the customer who had handed over the bag. Despite making several calls, the cus-

tommer did not respond, leaving the driver unable to prove his claim immediately.

The incident has raised concerns among app-based transport workers who accept parcel delivery requests.

Officials and experts have advised drivers to verify the contents of packages before agreeing to transport them, as they could face legal consequences for carrying or disposing of prohibited items.

Transport employees’ demands: Talks scheduled on July 15, HC informed

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Negotiations between transport employees, labour unions and transport corporations are scheduled on July 15 to resolve the ongoing dispute over employees’ demands, lawyers representing the corporations informed the Karnataka High Court.

The submission was made before a Division Bench headed by Justice Vibhu Bakhru, which was hearing multiple public interest litigations challenging the strike by transport employees. The petitions were filed by city domestic worker C. Vedavati, construction worker H.V. Sidhar and others.

Counsel appearing for the transport corporations said a meeting has been convened under the chairmanship of the Labour Commissioner to discuss the employees’ demands. The meeting will focus on finding an amicable solution through detailed discussions with all stakeholders, they informed the court.

However, lawyers representing transport employees’

unions told the court that despite earlier directions, the government had not responded positively to their demands. They requested the court to also consider the concerns and interests of transport employees while hearing the matter.

After recording the statement of the corporations’ lawyers, the High Court adjourned the hearing to August 5 in view of the proposed negotiations. The court also continued its earlier interim order restraining the strike.

The dispute relates to demands raised by employees of state transport corporations. The government had prohibited strikes between January 1 and June 30, 2026, under the Karnataka Essential Services Management (Amendment) Act.

Under Sections 4 and 5 of the Act, participation in or instigation of a strike can attract imprisonment of up to six months. Further, services provided by transport corporations have been declared public utility services under the Industrial Disputes Act.

JULY 14 DEADLINE FOR CROP INSURANCE REGISTRATION

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Farmers in Hoskote taluk have been urged to register under the Karnataka Raitha Suraksha Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana for the 2026 monsoon season before the July 14 deadline.

The scheme covers notified crops including rainfed ragi, irrigated ragi and rainfed horsegram. Rainfed ragi has been notified across all 28 Gram Panchayats of Hoskote taluk, while irrigated ragi and rainfed horsegram have been

notified at the hobli level.

The Agriculture Department said both loan and non-loan farmers cultivating these crops can enrol under the insurance scheme. The objective is to provide financial protection against crop losses caused by drought, lack of rainfall, floods, waterlogging and failure of sowing or planting due to adverse weather conditions.

The insurance coverage amount per acre has been fixed at ₹19,960 for rainfed ragi, ₹23,320 for irrigated ragi and ₹9,400 for rainfed horse-

gram. Farmers are required to pay a premium of two per cent of the insured amount.

To complete registration, farmers must submit their FID document, including Pahaní or survey number details, bank passbook, Aadhaar number and registered mobile number related to land ownership.

The Assistant Director of Agriculture, Hoskote, has appealed to farmers to make use of the scheme in large numbers to safeguard themselves against possible crop losses during the monsoon season.

HC reserves verdict on Vinay Kulkarni’s plea against life sentence

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The Karnataka High Court has reserved its order on a petition filed by former Minister and Congress MLA Vinay Kulkarni, challenging the life imprisonment sentence awarded to him in the murder case of BJP leader Yogesh Gowda from Dharwad.

A Division Bench comprising Justice Mohammad Nawaz and Justice G. Basavaraju completed the hearing on Kulkarni’s plea seeking quashing of the sentence and grant of bail by suspending



the punishment. The court’s decision will also determine whether Kulkarni can continue as a legislator.

Appearing for Kulkarni, his counsel argued that he was



not involved in the murder and had been falsely implicated due to political rivalry. The defence sought suspension of the sentence and bail, claiming that the trial court’s order

was unsustainable.

However, the CBI opposed the plea, alleging that Kulkarni had misused his position and influence to execute a conspiracy to eliminate Yogesh Gowda. The agency argued that the conspiracy allegedly extended beyond the murder and included attempts to shield the actual perpetrators, facilitate surrender of false accused persons and secure their acquittal.

The CBI counsel urged the court not to grant relief to an accused facing serious charges of conspiracy.

Background of the case
Yogesh Gowda, a BJP leader and former Zilla Panchayat member from Dharwad, was murdered on June 15, 2016, inside a gym under Dharwad Suburban Police Station limits. He was attacked while reading a newspaper in the morning.

Initially, the Dharwad Suburban Police investigated the case and later filed a B report. However, Yogesh Gowda’s family alleged lapses in the probe and approached the High Court in 2019, accusing Kulkarni of destroying evidence.

Harohalli enters race for Bengaluru’s second airport as govt awaits report

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The Karnataka government has postponed a decision on the location of Bengaluru’s proposed second airport, opting to wait for a detailed technical feasibility report before approaching the Airports Authority of India (AAI).

During a review meeting, Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar directed the Infrastructure Development Department (IDD) to study Harohalli as a fourth possible site, citing concerns over land acquisition costs and

displacement of villages.

The Harohalli proposal will now be examined along with the three shortlisted locations — Nelamangala, Somnathalli and Chudahalli. The final decision will be based on technical feasibility, social impact and the cost involved in acquiring land.

The state has appointed a Singapore-based consultancy to conduct the technical assessment, while KPMG is carrying out the financial evaluation. The proposed airport is expected to require nearly 3,500 acres of land.



QUICK READ

Water release planned to fill Koppal, Raichur lakes

Koppal

Water will be released from Tungabhadra reservoir to Tungabhadra Left Bank Main Canal to fill lakes in villages and urban areas of Koppal and Raichur districts. Officials said 2,000 cusecs of drinking water will be released from July 10 to July 23 as per the schedule. Water supply will cover areas up to 104 miles through different divisions including Yaramaras, Sirawara, Sindhanur and Vaddarahatti. Authorities instructed officials to manage water properly with district administration support. People and farmers have been requested not to enter the canal or collect water directly to ensure safe management.

Health officials spread disease prevention awareness

Chitradurga

An awareness programme on dengue prevention, insect-borne diseases and population control was held at G.R. Halli Government High School in Chitradurga taluk. Sub-District Health Education Officer Govindareddy Konnur advised students to stay alert about symptoms of dengue and malaria and follow preventive measures. He said public cooperation is important in controlling diseases. Health Inspector Prashanth explained tuberculosis and leprosy symptoms, prevention methods and free treatment facilities available through the Health Department. The programme also created awareness about population control methods.

Officials identified voter record issues during visits, adding 4,327 cases, including unavailable, shifted, deceased, and duplicate voters, to ASDDO list

MYSURU SIR CAMPAIGN CROSSES MAJOR PROGRESS BENCHMARK

MYSURU

The Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the electoral roll for 2026 is progressing rapidly in Mysuru district. Officials said 23,49,006 enumeration forms have been distributed across the district till July 8, achieving 83.90 per cent completion.

Mysuru district has a total of 27,99,693 voters and 2,915 polling stations. Among these, 927 polling stations have completed 100 per cent distribution of forms, while 726 polling stations have crossed more than 90 per cent progress. Officials said the process is being carried out smoothly with the cooperation of vot-



ers and Booth Level Officers.

A total of 11,419 voters have submitted their forms online so far. Out of the distributed forms, 1,13,643 forms have already been entered into the computer system. Officials are continuing

the process of collecting and updating voter details across all constituencies. During house-to-house visits, officials are also identifying errors and updating records in the voter list. So far, 2,873 voters who were unavailable, 1,033 permanently

shifted voters, 362 deceased voters, 51 already registered voters and eight other cases have been identified. A total of 4,327 names have been included in the ASDDO list across the district. Officials said the revision work is aimed at preparing an accurate and transparent electoral roll. Voters have been urged to cooperate with officials during the verification process and provide correct information to ensure their names remain updated in the final list. The district administration has instructed field-level officials to complete the remaining work carefully and within the scheduled time to make the voter list error-free.

CLEAN SOCIETY INITIATIVE

Raichur conducts marathon, cyclothon for SIR awareness

RAICHUR

The Raichur district administration, Zilla Panchayat and Raichur City Corporation jointly organised a marathon and cyclothon on Thursday to create awareness about the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls and promote cleanliness initiatives in the city.

Held under the theme "Strong Body – Clean Society" with the slogan "Our Run for a Strong Democracy," the awareness pro-



gramme began from the Mahatma Gandhi District Stadium.

Launching the event, Deputy Commissioner Poo-

vitha S. appealed to citizens to actively participate in the ongoing SIR process by completing voter enumeration forms and submitting

them to Booth Level Officers (BLOs) at the earliest. She said timely submission of forms would help protect citizens' voting rights and ensure accurate electoral records.

Raichur City Corporation Commissioner Zubin Mohapatra said the SIR process was being carried out systematically within the city limits. He urged residents to verify their names in the electoral rolls and cooperate with officials during the revision exercise.

He also appealed to citizens to contribute towards maintaining a clean and hygienic Raichur by actively participating in solid waste management and cleanliness efforts.

The marathon and cyclothon witnessed participation from district officials, students from various schools and colleges, police personnel and civic staff. Participants wore white caps and carried placards and banners highlighting the importance of voter registration, democracy and urban clean-

liness. The rally started at the Mahatma Gandhi District Stadium and passed through Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Circle, Teen Khandil, Mahaveer Circle, Chandramouleswar Circle and Basaveshwara Circle before returning to the stadium.

Students raised slogans promoting voter awareness and cleanliness throughout the route. The event aimed to encourage public participation in both democratic responsibilities and civic duties.

Business leaders demand urgent revival of Dharwad supermarket

DHARWAD

Local trade leaders and civic activists have strongly criticized the worsening condition of the historic Dharwad Supermarket, demanding immediate political intervention to reverse years of structural neglect. Speaking at an urgent brainstorming session organized by the Karnataka Vidyavardhaka Sangha, Ravindra Akalwadi, General Secretary of the Dharwad Chamber of Commerce and Industry, emphasized that reviving the commercial hub requires strong, unified political will rather than empty bureaucratic promises.

The high-profile meeting concentrated on a dual agenda: the comprehensive modernization of the dilapidated supermarket complex and the escalating political demand to establish a completely independent municipal corporation exclusively for Dharwad. Addressing the packed gathering of local merchants, Akalwadi noted with deep concern that the central shopping complex has fallen into a state of severe disarray, suffering from broken infrastructure, poor sanitation, and chaotic traffic management. He openly declared that a sustained, grassroots people's movement is now absolutely necessary to force state authorities to take notice of the city's crumbling infrastructure. Joining the call for mass mobilization, Manoj Patil, President of the Dharwad Municipal Corporation Horata Vedike, pledged that his organization would aggressively fight for the supermarket's rehabilitation. He urged all local citizens and traders to offer their full cooperation for upcoming demonstrations. Prominent legal activist and fighter B.D. Hiremath added that the struggle to modernize the commercial market must run parallel to the larger political campaign for a separate civic body. He strongly advised organizers to convene a non-partisan meeting of all elected representatives to ensure across-the-board legislative backing. The critical town hall session witnessed strong participation from several prominent former civic administrators who voiced their solidarity with the trading community.

Tumakuru protects Rs500 crore government land assets

High Court-directed inquiry led to rejection of private claims, restoring Gulur Chhatra land to government control for development purposes

TUMAKURU

The Deputy Commissioner Shubha Kalyan has issued a historic order to protect 106 acres and 23 guntas of valuable government land near Gulur and keep it under official possession. The decision prevents possible illegal transfer of public property valued at nearly Rs. 500 crore and ensures its future use for public purposes. Tumakuru rapidly growing city near Bengaluru is witnessing increased development activity, causing land prices to rise sharply. Officials said the order was important as avail-



ability of land for future public projects has become challenging. The land dispute involved properties in Kondapur and Kallumath villages of Gulur hobli where claims had remained pending

for years under legal proceedings. The Karnataka High Court earlier clarified that the lands came under the Mysore Religious and Charitable Inams Abolition Act and directed authorities to examine the claims. Following a detailed inquiry, Shubha Kalyan rejected the applications after reviewing records and declared the property as government land reserved for maintaining Gulur Chhatra and Muzaffar Khana. The Tahsildar later completed necessary corrections in land records according to the order. The administration stated that the action saved the valuable

property from private claims and returned it to government control. The Deputy Commissioner described the move as a major milestone and said resolving the long-pending case would help create opportunities for development activities benefiting citizens.

The recovered land can now be used for public infrastructure projects including education, health, sports and environmental protection. Shubha Kalyan said the true purpose of reclaiming the property would be achieved when projects supporting district welfare are established there. She added that the de-

cision came at a time when Tumakuru faces a growing need for land required for long-term public facilities. The government hopes the recovered property will support meaningful projects that improve quality of life for residents and strengthen regional growth. This historic administrative step reflects firm leadership and careful management of public assets. The move also highlights the importance of protecting government resources for future generations through transparent and responsible decisions that serve the wider interests of the district.

Incomplete road, drainage works trouble Yadgir Residents

YADGIR

Residents of Rajiv Gandhi Colony and Dr. Ambedkar Layout in Yadgir are facing severe difficulties as road and drainage construction works remain incomplete for several months, causing inconvenience to thousands of people.

Akila Bharatiya Koli Samaj secretary Umesh Mudnal has urged authorities to immediately complete the pending works and take action against the officials and contractor responsible for the delay.

After inspecting the affected areas along with residents, Mudnal submitted a memorandum to the district administration, stating that people in the two colonies have been suffering for the past six months due to poor road conditions and unfinished drainage facilities.

He said the absence of a proper road has made movement difficult for vehicle users, elderly people and children. Stagnant drainage water and rainwater flowing onto the road have created an unhealthy environment, affecting school students and daily commuters.

According to residents, the government had already released funds for road and

drainage development, but the contractor and concerned officials completed only partial work and abandoned the project.

The blocked drainage system has resulted in foul-smelling stagnant water, increasing the risk of infectious diseases. Two schools are located near the affected road, creating concerns over the health and safety of children. Residents also reported frequent sightings of poisonous reptiles due to poor sanitation. Mudnal pointed out that a public cremation ground is also located beside the road, making it difficult for people to access the facility due to the unhygienic conditions.

He demanded that the district administration conduct an immediate inspection of the area and provide necessary facilities. He also called for strict action against those responsible for leaving the project incomplete. Warning of further protests, Mudnal said that if authorities fail to address the issue, residents will launch a road blockade on the Yadgir-Hyderabad main road. Local residents including Mallikarjun, Mallappa, Mallesh, Sharanu and others were present during the inspection.

Monsoon revives four key rivers across Haveri district

HAVERI

Following a prolonged and worrying dry spell, the arrival of heavy monsoon showers has completely rejuvenated the agricultural landscape of Haveri district. The region, widely recognized as the gateway to North Karnataka, is witnessing a spectacular revival of its primary water bodies. The Tungabhadra, Varada, Dhama, and Kumadvathi rivers, which had been left completely dried up after an unseasonably weak pre-monsoon phase, are now overflowing with abundant water currents.

The intense downpours hitting the Western Ghats and the Malnad catchment areas have

rapidly filled the massive Tungabhadra basin. Concurrently, water released from the Bhadra Reservoir at Gajanur has pushed the Tungabhadra River near critical alert levels. This sudden surge in water availability has brought immense relief to local farmers who were battling severe crop anxiety just a few weeks ago. The brimming rivers have successfully recharged the regional groundwater tables, prompting farmers to set up active pump sets to irrigate their vibrant green fields.

Local agricultural communities report that the steady rainfall has effectively eliminated multiple crop diseases that typically thrive during dry

spells. Currently, about sixty-eight percent of the district's total cultivable land has successfully undergone sowing, with healthy standing crops of soybean, maize, groundnut, and cotton flourishing across the plains. Farmers are now urging the district administration to step up and ensure the timely, seamless distribution of essential fertilizers and protective pesticides to capitalize on this highly favorable weather window.

Amid the celebratory atmosphere, prominent local agricultural leaders are urging the state government to aggressively harvest this excess water rather than allowing it to drain away unutilized.

QUICK READ

Scholarship Applications Open For Scheduled Caste Students

Chitradurga
The Scheduled Castes Welfare Department has invited online applications for Pre-Matric and Post-Matric scholarships for the 2026-27 academic year. Eligible Scheduled Caste students can apply through the State Scholarship Portal to receive financial assistance for their education. Officials said the scheme aims to encourage students to continue their studies and benefit from government support. Applicants are advised to complete the online process within the prescribed period and ensure all required details are submitted correctly. For further information and assistance, students can contact the Scheduled Castes Welfare Officer's Office in Chitradurga taluk.

Family alleges gym trainer death was murder

Chikkaballapura
The family of Bengaluru gym trainer Deviprasad has alleged that his death was murder and not a road accident. The 30-year-old, a resident of Narayanpur, worked as a gym trainer, participated in bodybuilding competitions and was also a professional bike rider. On May 8, he was travelling with his relative Vicky and friend Joshua Joseph on National Highway 44 towards Gudibande. Police initially treated the incident near Setdinne as an accident involving an unknown vehicle. However, the family has raised fresh suspicions and demanded a thorough investigation into the circumstances surrounding his death.

Deviprasad family demands probe into alleged murder

Chikkaballapura
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Officials seek support for accurate voter list preparation

The remaining cases involve deceased, migrated, and locked-house voters; officials are verifying records to ensure an accurate voter list

CHITRADURGA

District Election Officer and Deputy Commissioner T. Venkatesh urged political party representatives and the public to cooperate in preparing an accurate and transparent voter list during the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process. He was speaking at a meeting held at the Deputy Commissioner's office to review the distribution of voter enumeration forms. Venkatesh said the distribution of enumeration forms has reached 98 percent in the district. The remaining two percent includes cases involving deceased voters, people who have migrated and those



whose houses are locked. He said officials are working to verify and update these records to ensure the voter list remains free from errors. According to data available on July 8, the district has 14,40,534 registered voters, of which 14,04,219 voters, or 97.48 percent, have already been mapped. Mapping of

36,315 voters is still pending because their addresses could not be traced. He requested Booth Level Agents appointed by political parties to help identify such voters. He also said death certificates would help remove the names of deceased voters from the electoral roll without delay. The Deputy Commissioner

said local ward members, former councillors and former gram panchayat members can play an important role in identifying voters in both urban and rural areas. He directed Tahsildars and civic officials to conduct verification through the prescribed process. Special training has been provided to Booth Level Officers and Booth Level Agents to avoid mistakes while filling forms. Deputy Collector B.T. Kumaraswamy, Election Tahsildar Bibi Fatima and representatives of various political parties attended the meeting. Officials said daily reviews will continue to ensure the revision process is completed smoothly and accurately.



Farmers intensify Bidadi township protest with blood

RAMANAGARA

Farmers opposing the proposed Bidadi Township project have stepped up their protest by launching a symbolic blood movement in Bhairamangala village. Raising the slogan, "Don't give blood, don't give land," they placed drops of their blood on a map of the proposed township to show their strong opposition to the project. The protest has been growing over the past few days as villagers continue demanding that the government withdraw the plan. Women also joined the demonstration and expressed deep concern over the possible loss of farmland. They urged the government to stop the project immediately, saying their land is their only source of livelihood. Some protesters warned that if their voices were ignored, they would continue their agitation with greater determination. The unusual protest attracted the attention of many people and highlighted the growing anger among farmers over the proposed land acquisition.

Retired Lokayukta Justice Santosh Hegde joined the protest in support of the farmers despite saying that he was facing health problems and had been advised by doctors not to leave his home. At the protest site, he wrote a letter to the government requesting that no land should be acquired without the consent of farmers. He also appealed to the authorities to respect the

Villagers, including women farmers, protested against land acquisition, urging the government to halt the project and warning of stronger agitation to protect their farmland and livelihoods

rights of farming families and avoid forcing development projects on agricultural land. A petition carrying similar demands was also submitted, asking the government to listen to the concerns of local residents before making any final decision on the township project.

Speaking at the gathering, Justice Hegde said agriculture remains essential for the country's future and no technological progress can replace the importance of farming. He expressed concern over the shrinking of agricultural land and the loss of trees due to development projects. He questioned whether financial compensation alone could replace years of hard work spent growing trees and protecting farmland. Stressing that development and agriculture should go hand in hand, he urged the government to protect farmers before taking decisions that affect their lives.

He assured the protesters that he would continue supporting their struggle, calling for a fair solution through meaningful discussions and respect for farmers' rights.

Dr. Nadagouda is a senior legal education professor, renowned for contributions to teaching, research, administration, and institution building

Nadagouda appointed Chancellor of rural development university

GADAG

Prof. Dr. Suresh V. Nadagouda officially assumed charge as the new Chancellor of Mahatma Gandhi Rural Development and Panchayat Raj University in Gadag. He was appointed to the post by Karnataka Governor and University Chancellor Thawar Chand Gehlot.

Expressing his happiness after taking charge, Dr. Nadagouda described the appointment as a great honour and responsibility in his professional journey. He thanked the Governor and the Karnataka government for giving him the opportunity to lead the university and contribute to its future growth.

Dr. Nadagouda said his previous experience as the Founder Registrar and Acting Vice-Chancellor of the university has helped him under-



stand its vision, mission and goals. He expressed his commitment to working with faculty members, students, officials and other stakeholders to develop the institution into a nationally recognized centre for academic excellence, research, innovation and rural development studies.

He also thanked his teachers, elders, family members, colleagues and well-wishers for their support and guidance throughout his career. He said he would dedicate himself to

the overall development of the university with their continued encouragement.

Dr. Nadagouda is a senior professor in legal education and has made significant contributions in teaching, research, academic administration and institution building. He has served on syndicates and academic councils of several universities in Karnataka and was also a member of the Karnataka Law Commission. His experience in higher education administration is expected to strengthen the university's progress.

The university community expressed confidence that under his leadership, the institution will achieve greater success in education,

research, innovation, rural development and socially focused learning, becoming a model university at the national level.

Rain intensity decreases across in Kodagu

MADIKERI

The intensity of rainfall has reduced across Kodagu district compared to the heavy showers witnessed over the past two to three days. On Thursday, most parts of the district experienced more sunshine than rain, except for a few areas that received moderate rainfall. In the district headquarters Madikeri, the weather remained cloudy with light drizzle, mist and occasional sunshine. Moderate rainfall was reported in the Bhagamandala region. A minor landslide occurred on the Bhagamandala-Talakaveri road, around three kilometres from Bhagamandala, where soil slipped and stones were scattered on the road surface. Authorities are monitoring the situation to ensure safe movement of vehicles. The water level at the Triveni Sangama in Bhagamandala has decreased due to the reduction in rainfall.

TRUCK OWNERS DEMAND RELIEF FROM RISING COSTS

HUNSUR

The sharp increase in fitness renewal fees for old vehicles has created fresh financial pressure on vehicle owners, especially small and middle class lorry operators. They said the higher charges are making it difficult for many owners to keep their vehicles running on roads and may affect the transport sector along with the livelihood of thousands of families. Dr. Himhin Pasha, president of the BR Ambedkar Taluk Lorry Owners Association, said the government should immediately withdraw the increased fees and provide relief to truck owners. He made the statement during a press conference held at the city Journalists Association office.

Dr. Pasha explained that after the Nirbhaya case, the Supreme Court and the Central Government made it compulsory in 2019 for public service vehicles to install GIQIA



systems with panic buttons for the safety of women and children. However, the rule has also been applied to freight vehicles with national permits, creating additional difficulties for lorry owners. He said goods vehicles do not carry passengers like buses and passenger cars, so the safety requirement should not be extended to them. He requested the government to exempt freight vehicles from this rule and reduce the financial burden faced by transport operators.

He also highlighted the challenges caused by rising diesel prices, maintenance ex-

penses, insurance costs, toll charges, spare parts prices, and other operational expenses. He said the transport industry plays an important role in India's economic growth, but increasing costs are pushing many truck owners and drivers towards losses.

He urged the government to reduce central excise duty on diesel and take steps to control fuel prices after changes in international crude oil rates.

Dr. Pasha appealed to the taluk administration and elected representatives to address the issues affecting the transport sector at the earliest.

Kanaburu Colony bridge repair work begins

N.R. PURA

Repair work on the K. Kanaburu Colony bridge under Muthina Gram Panchayat limits in N.R. Pura taluk has commenced after the structure reached a critical condition and raised concerns among local residents.

Officials from the Bhadra Upper Canal Project, led by Executive Engineer Manjula, inspected the bridge on Tuesday. The visit was conducted after reports that the bridge was in danger of collapse. A team of officials reviewed the condition of the structure and initiated temporary repair

measures.

During the inspection, villagers gathered at the spot and expressed their anger over the issues they have been facing after the commencement of the Bhadra Upper Canal Project. They alleged that the project works have caused several difficulties for residents in the surrounding areas. Residents said that despite receiving heavy rainfall in the region, they continue to face drinking water problems. They claimed that the construction of large canals under the project has caused several borewells located near the canal areas to dry up. They also

alleged that a large number of trees have been destroyed, affecting agricultural land.

Villagers pointed out that water does not remain in the Karibasavanahalla stream beneath the bridge during summer despite heavy rains during the monsoon season. They alleged that movement of heavy vehicles connected with the Bhadra Upper Canal Project has weakened the bridge structure. They demanded the construction of an alternative road, stating that the existing route has deteriorated due to increased traffic and there is no alternate connectivity available.

SPEEDY JUSTICE INITIATIVE

Lok Adalat targets pending cases across Karnataka

MANDYA

The National Lok Adalat will be held on July 11, 2026, across Karnataka following directions from the State Legal Services Authority. In Mandya district, preliminary hearings are being conducted in seven taluks to help settle disputes through mutual agreement. The special session will focus on various cases including civil disputes, property matters, division suits, money recovery cases, Motor Vehicle Cases, family disputes, alimony matters,

marriage restoration cases, cheque bounce issues and suitable criminal cases that can be resolved through compromise. Authorities said the initiative aims to reduce pending cases and provide faster justice to citizens through a simple and affordable process. During the Lok Adalat, judges and experienced lawyers will work together as members of the bench and listen to both parties before finding solutions. If a case is settled through this process, no court fee will be charged and fees already paid will be returned

according to rules. The decision given by the Lok Adalat will have the same value as a court judgment and no appeal can be filed against the settlement. Apart from pending court cases, people can also bring pre-litigation matters such as bank loan recovery cases, electricity and water bill disputes, labour issues, family matters and other civil cases. Both parties will be called for discussion and settlements can be reached through mediation without paying court fees. The authority has appealed to citizens

and litigants to use this opportunity and participate actively in the National Lok Adalat. Officials stated that resolving cases through this platform will save valuable time, reduce expenses and help people receive quick solutions without long legal procedures. Cases may also be settled with the assistance of lawyers or by directly approaching the legal services authority. The Lok Adalat is expected to bring relief to many people by encouraging peaceful settlements and reducing the burden on courts.

QUICK READ

Mandya Police arrest accused in fly bus attack**Mandya**

Mandya Rural Police have arrested an accused in the KSRTC Fly Bus attack case reported on July 5. According to the complaint, driver Vinod B. Babar and conductor Iranna Bairagond were travelling from Bengaluru to Mysuru when unknown bike riders stopped the bus near Indavalu Underpass service road and assaulted them. Police registered a case under BNS sections and began investigation. Using video evidence from the bus operator, police identified and arrested Varun R., 24, a resident of Indavalu village. The motorcycle used in the incident was seized, and further legal action is underway, officials said.

Senior citizens to receive free devices on July 12**Chitradurga**

The District Administration and ALIMCO will distribute free devices to senior citizens under the National Vayoshree Scheme on July 12 at SSKS Community Hall in Chitradurga city. MLA T Raghuramurthy will inaugurate the programme, while MP Govind M Karajol will distribute the devices. The event aims to support elderly people with useful assistance equipment for daily needs. Several public representatives and officials will attend the programme as guests. District Disabled Welfare Officer J Vaishali informed that eligible senior citizens will receive the devices free of cost during the event.

Chikkaballapura leads state in voter revision drive

Deputy Commissioner announced 30% voter data digitalisation completed, with a plan to finish 100% entry within ten days

CHIKKABALLAPURA

Chikkaballapura district has secured the top position in Karnataka in the Special Intensive Revision of the electoral roll, Deputy Commissioner G. Prabhu said on Thursday. Addressing a press conference at the District Commissioner's office, he said census forms had been distributed to 10,31,113 voters out of the total 10,69,504 voters, achieving 97 percent progress. The remaining 38,391 forms will be delivered within the next few days. Booth Level Officers have been visiting every household since June 30 to collect documents, photographs and voter details for uploading into the online system. He appreciated the support extended by the public, elected representatives and Booth Level Agents during the



ongoing revision process.

The Deputy Commissioner said information of 3,18,978 voters has already been entered into the software, achieving 30 percent digitalisation. The district administration has prepared a detailed plan to complete 100 percent data entry within the next ten days. He urged voters who have not yet submitted their details to cooperate with their Booth Level Officers by providing

the required documents. Karnataka Chief Electoral Officer V. Ambu Kumar praised the district for becoming a model in the state. He said the coordination between district and taluk officials, along with the dedicated work of Booth Level Officers, played an important role in achieving this success. He also stressed the need to upload clear photographs, signatures and documents to avoid rejection during verification.

tion.

Ambu Kumar instructed officials to ensure that no eligible voter is left out and no ineligible person is included in the electoral roll. He said quality and accuracy should be maintained along with speed throughout the revision process. Deputy Commissioner G. Prabhu assured that all directions issued by the Election Commission would be followed carefully to achieve the target within the prescribed time. After the review meeting, the Chief Electoral Officer visited Polling Station Number 90 at Patrenahalli in Chikkaballapura taluk to inspect the progress of the revision work. District and election officials were present during the visit, reaffirming their commitment to preparing a transparent, accurate and reliable voter list for every eligible citizen.



Voter help centres opened to support SIR process

DAVANAGERE

District Election Officer G.M. Gangadharaswamy said the Special Revision of Voter List (SIR) process is progressing smoothly and voters can visit newly opened facilitation centres to clear their doubts and get necessary information. He appealed to people to make use of these centres for voter-related assistance.

The Deputy Commissioner visited voter registration help centres opened at the MCC A Block Municipal Corporation Office, Vinayak Layout Government Primary School, Duda Office, Devaraj Urs Layout B Block Disabled School and SBS Nagar Government Primary School in Davanagere South Assembly Constituency on Thursday. He interacted with voters and Booth Level Officers (BLOs) during the visit.

Gangadharaswamy instructed BLOs to visit every voter's house and provide complete information. If voters are unavailable at their homes, officials should contact them through phone numbers and place notices on doors when required. If voters are found to be residing elsewhere, their details should be recorded properly after verification. He informed voters who

Gangadharaswamy directed BLOs to verify voters, contact absentees, record shifts, and assured residents they can update addresses using Form-8 without losing names

have shifted houses within the same constituency that they need not worry about losing their names from the list. Such voters can update their new address easily by submitting Form-8.

The District Election Officer warned that strict action will be taken against those involved in illegal activities, including the use of fake voter identity cards. He asked citizens to immediately report any suspicious activity to the nearest police station.

He also said locating voter addresses in urban areas is challenging compared to rural areas. BLOs have been directed to complete the survey carefully and ensure that census forms reach all eligible voters.

Municipal Corporation Commissioner Mahantesh and Zilla Panchayat Deputy Secretary Mamata Hosagoudar were present during the inspection.

Koppal Bar Association sets new development goals

KOPPAP

The overall development of the Koppal District Bar Association will receive top priority, said president candidate Hanumesh Murdy after filing his nomination papers in the city on Thursday. He said the association would focus on protecting lawyers' professional interests while improving infrastructure, providing better facilities for members and creating training programmes for young lawyers. Murdy said a transparent administration would be maintained by taking members into confidence and ensuring cooperation among all advocates. He added that stronger relations between senior and junior lawyers would help build a more united and suc-

cessful association.

Speaking at the press conference, Murdy highlighted the need for collective efforts and said every member's support was important for the progress of the Bar Association. He promised to make the organisation a model association through sincere work and guidance from all members. Campaign Committee Chairman and Senior Advocate A.V. Kanavi said Murdy had contributed significantly to the association's development during 2019-2021, and requested lawyers to support him for further service and progress. The development manifesto was released during the event where candidates for different posts appealed for support to strengthen the Koppal Dis-

trict Bar Association.

Senior and junior lawyers attended the programme and expressed their views on the future growth of the association. The Bar Association also responded to questions about district issues and said it had filed a public interest litigation to support Koppal's development.

The association stated that it had participated in various struggles related to district development and would continue raising public concerns with government representatives. It aims to draw attention to people's needs and work for better facilities and opportunities in the region. Lawyers believe that with unity and cooperation, the association can achieve meaningful progress in the coming days.

Chetan Ahimsa honoured for social justice work

HAVERI

Actor and social activist Chetan Ahimsa was honoured at a program held in the city by Udachappa Malgi, State President of the Karnataka State Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe, Backward Classes and Minorities Welfare Committee. The felicitation recognised his efforts in raising issues concerning poor and disadvantaged communities. After receiving the honour, Chetan Ahimsa said people should follow the ideals of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar and work towards protecting the values of the Constitution.

Jangamakote land fight gains new political attention

SHIDLAGHATTA

Farmer activists opposing the proposed acquisition of 2390 acres of fertile land in Jangamakote Hobli met MLA BN Ravikumar on Thursday and requested support to stop the government move. The protesters from the Karnataka State Farmers Association and Green Army said they have been fighting for about 116 days to protect agricultural land and the interests of small farmers from 13 villages. They urged authorities to withdraw the acquisition plan and said industries should be developed on unused land instead of fertile fields that support farming families.

Ravikumar said he has always stood with farmers and supported using non agricultural land for industries. He denied allegations against him and explained that he had discussed the matter with Union Minister HD Kumaraswamy. The minister reportedly expressed support for farmers and agreed to visit the protest site. The MLA said he would continue working for a fair solution while respecting the



concerns of cultivators. Farmers believe Kumaraswamy's involvement has increased attention on their struggle and created fresh hope among those opposing the project.

The land acquisition issue has now become a major political discussion involving Chief Minister DK Shivakumar and HD Kumaraswamy. Farmers argue that if acquisition is stopped in other regions like Bidadi it should also be reconsidered in Jangamakote. The entry of Kumaraswamy into the movement has raised questions about future developments and whether the government will change its decision. Farmer leaders including Bhaktarahalli Byregowda and

Devaraju participated in discussions with officials and representatives. The protesters said their aim is not to oppose development but to save fertile agricultural land and protect rural livelihoods. They requested elected representatives to place farmers' concerns before the government and find a balanced approach. The coming days will decide whether the acquisition process continues or receives changes after the growing pressure from farmers and political leaders.

The administration is expected to review the situation carefully and ensure that decisions protect both development needs and agricultural interests.

MANE URGES STUDENTS EMBRACE COMPUTER SKILLS

HANAGAL

MLA Srinivas Mane said computer knowledge has become essential in today's competitive world and urged students to use technology effectively to improve their skills and achieve success. He was speaking after inaugurating a computer lab at Government High School in Kanchinagaluru village of Hanagal taluk.

The computer lab was established with financial support from MLA Mane's personal contribution and She For Society, Bengaluru, in a 50:50 partnership. Mane said several improvements are being made in the education sector across the taluk. Smart class facilities have already been introduced in more than 50 schools, and com-



puter labs have now been started in government high schools at Baichavalli, Kanchinagaluru and Vardi villages.

He said these facilities will improve students' learning experience, prepare them for competitive examinations and help develop skills required for future employment opportunities. He added that rural students should receive

quality education and access to modern learning tools to compete with students from other regions.

She For Society founder Harshini said the organization has been travelling across the country through social awareness programs and working towards creating a Digital Karnataka. She explained that computer labs have been established in more than 50 gov-

ernment schools across the state. She appreciated MLA Srinivas Mane's support and said his contribution helped establish three computer labs in Hanagal taluk.

Several local leaders and officials attended the inauguration program, including Guarantee Scheme Implementation Committee District President Hanumanthappa Maradagi, Karnataka Milk Producers Cooperative Mahamandal Director Chandrappa Jalagara, KPCC member Takanagouda Patil, Block Congress President Manju Gorannavara and education department officials. MLA Mane said computer education is not an option anymore but an important skill, and such facilities will help shape the future of rural students.

GRASSROOTS DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Dr Vasanti highlights expanded rural employment benefits

DEVANAHALLI

The Central Government's new Developed India Guarantee for Employment and Livelihood Mission has started from July 1, bringing fresh opportunities for rural workers. Zilla Panchayat Chief Executive Officer Dr. Vasanti Amar said the scheme aims to provide 125 days of guaranteed employment to eligible rural families instead of the earlier 100 days. She added that the programme will focus on



complete rural development and ensure better livelihood opportunities within villages. Necessary

preparations have been completed in the district for smooth implementation of the scheme.

Dr. Vasanti Amar said training has already been provided to officers, staff, Panchayat Development Officers and technical teams involved in the scheme. Under the new programme, daily wages have increased from Rs 370 to Rs 382, with equal payment for men and women workers. Wage payments must reach bank accounts within 15 days, and delays will require compensation. Existing employment certificates under the previous scheme

have been verified, and ongoing works will continue without stopping. Officials have also been directed to complete pending e-KYC procedures for workers.

The scheme will be carried out under four major areas, including water security works, core rural infrastructure, livelihood-related infrastructure and extreme weather disaster management. The Yuktadhara Kriya Yojana portal will support Gram Panchayats in planning proj-

ects using satellite images and GIS technology. The system will help identify suitable locations for future development activities and improve planning at the village level. Officials said the initiative will help workers find employment and livelihood support in their own villages, reducing the need to migrate to distant towns. With better planning, technology support and increased job opportunities, the mission is expected to strengthen rural communities and en-

courage sustainable development across the district.

The administration has assured that no eligible worker will lose employment opportunities during the transition to the new scheme. The authorities will continue monitoring progress regularly to ensure timely benefits for all beneficiaries and maintain transparency in implementation. Rural families are expected to gain improved financial security as the scheme expands across villages.

QUICK READ

Violence during anti-encroachment drive in Valmiki Tiger Reserve

Patna

A major clash broke out on Thursday during an anti-encroachment operation in the Valmiki Tiger Reserve (VTR) in Bihar's West Champaran district after local residents protested against the Forest Department's action to remove alleged encroachments from forest land. The confrontation took place at Dhanhiya, near Thadi village, under the Valmikinagar forest range, and resulted in injuries to several people as well as the burning of a JCB machine deployed for the operation. A joint team of the Forest Department and the district police had reached the area to remove alleged illegal encroachments from VTR forest land. As the operation began, local residents gathered at the site and staged a protest.

Ladakh climate well suited to my health, says Dalai Lama

Dharamsala

Tibetan spiritual leader, The Dalai Lama, who is recuperating in Ladakh's Leh from the medical procedure of his left knee, said on Thursday that like in the past he found the climate here at this time of year well suited to his health and would remain here for the next several weeks. In a thank you message to his followers and well-wishers, who greeted him on his 91st birthday, the Nobel Peace Laureate wrote, I would like to thank you all for your greetings on my 91st birthday. As I mentioned to those gathered here in Leh on July 6, when I look back on my life, I see that the core of my practice has been to be of benefit to others. That is the altruistic motivation with which I wake up every day.

Delhi HC reserves verdict on Rajendra Bharti's plea to stay conviction

New Delhi

The Delhi High Court on Thursday reserved its verdict on a plea filed by former Congress MLA Rajendra Bharti seeking a stay on his conviction in the 1998 Rural Development Bank fraud case, and said it would pronounce its decision on Friday. A single-judge Bench of Justice Manoj Jain reserved the order after hearing arguments on Bharti's application seeking suspension of his conviction awarded by a Special MP-MLA court in New Delhi. Bharti has sought a stay on his conviction, contending that it led to his disqualification as a member of the Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly and triggered the by-election process for the Datia Assembly constituency.

Madras High Court Begins Hearing Multiple Election Challenge Petitions

CHENNAI

The Madras High Court has commenced proceedings in a series of election petitions challenging the validity of the victories of several Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) elected in the recent Tamil Nadu Assembly elections. The court has issued notices to respondents in multiple cases, while granting time to petitioners in others to rectify procedural defects before the matters proceed further. Justice P.B. Balaji heard a batch of five election petitions on

Kerala BJP Denies Fake Circular, Threatens Legal Action Strongly

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Kerala Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) President Rajeev Chandrasekhar on Thursday strongly denied the authenticity of an alleged party circular circulating on social media and broadcast by certain television news channels, describing it as a fabricated document created to defame the party. He asserted that the claims contained in the purported circular were entirely false and intended to mislead the public.

In a detailed statement, Chandrasekhar dismissed reports suggesting financial irregularities linked to the BJP's campaign during the recent Kerala Assembly elections. He maintained that no instance of financial misconduct had been identified anywhere within the party and reaffirmed that the BJP had adhered to a transparent and accountable financial system throughout the election process.

The Kerala BJP chief said the party had completed a comprehensive audit of all election-related accounts within days of the conclusion of the Assembly polls. According to him, the auditing exercise covered every organisational level, including the national leadership, state unit, district committees and Assembly constituency units. He said the extensive audit reflected the party's commitment to financial discipline, accountability and transparent functioning.

Highlighting the party's electoral performance, Chandrasekhar said the BJP had created history by securing three seats in the 140-member Kerala Legislative Assembly for the first time. He noted that the achievement demonstrated the effectiveness of the party's organisation and campaign strategy. He also revealed that the BJP's National Organisation General



Secretary had personally congratulated party leaders and workers for conducting the election campaign in an organised and disciplined manner.

Chandrasekhar alleged that the fake circular was part of a deliberate disinformation campaign aimed at tarnishing the BJP's image. According to him, forces opposed to the party's growing political influence and organisational expansion had manufactured the document to spread confusion among the public and undermine the party's credibility.

He urged BJP workers across Kerala to remain alert and exercise caution against what he described as coordinated attempts to circulate false information. Stressing the importance of verifying information before sharing it, Chandrasekhar said misinformation campaigns were increasingly being used to create unnecessary controversy and damage public trust in political institutions.

Responding to speculation regarding internal organisational matters, the BJP leader clarified that disciplinary proceedings within the party are a routine aspect of the functioning of any democratic political organisation. He said such internal processes are administrative matters handled within the party's established framework and should not be interpreted as evidence of wrongdoing or financial misconduct.

Assam Awaits Centre's Decision on Scheduled Tribe Status Proposal

GUWAHATI

The Assam government on Thursday clarified that the long-pending proposal to grant Scheduled Tribe (ST) status to six communities remains under the consideration of the Central government, with the final decision resting entirely within the constitutional authority of the Centre. The state government said it has completed all responsibilities assigned to it but cannot provide any timeline for the completion of the process.

Replying to a question raised by MLA Chakradhar Gogoi during the Assam Legislative Assembly session, Education and Tribal Affairs Minister Ranoj Pegu explained that the inclusion of any community in the Scheduled Tribe list is governed by constitutional provisions and requires approval through the prescribed parliamentary process. He stressed that the Assam government has no authority to determine the timeline for the Centre's decision.

Pegu informed the Assembly that the Central government had requested a detailed report from the Assam government before proceeding with the proposal. The report was sought to evaluate whether granting Scheduled Tribe status to the six communities would have any impact on the constitutional safeguards, reservation benefits and other rights currently enjoyed by the existing Scheduled Tribe communities in the state.

To conduct a comprehensive examination of the issue, the Assam government constituted a Group of

Ministers (GoM). The committee was tasked with studying the social, legal and administrative implications of extending Scheduled Tribe status to the six communities while ensuring that the interests of existing tribal groups remained protected.

According to the Minister, the Group of Ministers completed its work and submitted its report to the state government. The report was subsequently placed before the Assam Legislative Assembly during its Winter Session in November 2025, where it received the approval of the House. Following this approval, the government began the process of forwarding the report along with its recommendations to the Central government for further consideration.

Pegu reiterated that the state government has fulfilled its responsibilities in accordance with the directions received from the Centre. He said the remaining stages of the process, including examination of the recommendations, constitutional scrutiny and parliamentary approval, are entirely within the jurisdiction of the Union government.

Responding to a question regarding the likely timeline for granting Scheduled Tribe status, the Minister said the Assam government is not in a position to predict when the proposal will be finalised. Since the matter falls under the constitutional powers of the Central government, any decision will depend on the procedures followed by the Union government and Parliament.

position as an MLA. The reasons behind the challenge will be examined as the proceedings continue before the court.

The High Court also took up two separate election petitions questioning the election of DMK MLA O. Panneerselvam from the Bodinayakanur Assembly constituency. The petitions were filed independently by T. Kannan, a voter from the constituency, and Milani, a voter based in Chennai. Both petitioners have challenged the validity of Panneerselvam's election and sought judicial scrutiny of the electoral process.

MANAPPURAM

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DEMAND NOTICE

Whereas the Authorized Officer of Manappuram Home Finance Ltd., having our registered office at 8/596 A, Padmaprabha Building, Near Sreerama Swami Temple, Cherpu - Thrirayar Road, Thrirayar, Thrissur, Kerala 680567 and branches at various places in India (hereinafter referred to as "MAHOFIN") is a company registered under the Companies Act, 1956 and a Financial Institution within the meaning of sub-clause (iv) of clause (m) of sub-section (1) of Section 2 of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (hereinafter referred to as the Act) read with Notification No. S.O. 3466 (E) dated 18th December, 2015 issued by the Govt. of India, Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance, New Delhi, inter alia carrying on business of advancing loans for construction and / or purchase of dwelling units and whereas the Borrower / Co-Borrowers as mentioned in Column No. 2 of the below mentioned chart obtained loan from MAHOFIN and whereas MAHOFIN being the secured creditor under the SARFAESI Act, and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 2 of the security interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued demand notice calling upon the Borrowers / Co-Borrowers as mentioned herein below, to repay the amount interested in the notices with further interest thereon within 60 days from the date of notice, but the notices could not be served upon some of them for various reasons. That in addition thereto for the purposes of information of the said borrowers enumerated below, the said borrowers are being informed by way of this public notice.

Sr. No.	Name Of The Borrower/ Co-Borrower/Lan/Branch	Description Of Secured Asset In Respect Of Which Interest Has Been Created	Npa Date	Date Of Notice Sent & Outstanding Amount
1	Muniraju, Saraswathi, Sumanth M, /MLAP0129053465/ Kolar	All That Piece And Parcel of The Residential Building Bearing Grama Panchayath Khattha No.173 And E-Khattha No.151900203000300395 Total Measuring 139.354560 Sq. Mtrs Is Situated At T. Gollahalli Village, T. Gollahalli Grama Panchayath, Bethamangala Hobli, Kgf Taluk, Kolar District, Karnataka, Pin: 563116. East-House Belongs To Jyothi, West-Road, South-Property Belongs To Venkatamuniyappa., North-House Belongs To Srinivasa.	15-05-2026	06-06-2026 & Rs.556888/-
2	Naveen Kumar, Rajanna, Narasamma, /MLAP030652392/ Tumkur	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing Katha No.290And E-Katha No.152500701600920055, Measuring East To West: 12.19 Meters And North To South: 9.14Meters, Situated At Panijganahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Sira Taluk, Tumkur District, Karnataka, Pin: 572139. East-Road, West-Remaining Property of Halasappa, South-Site No.291., North-Road,	15-05-2026	06-06-2026 & Rs.722845/-
3	Harisha G R, Sowbhagya, Akash G H, /MLH01360048592/ Chikmangalur	All That Piece And Parcel of The Site And House Property Bearing Property Id No. 151600203700300665, Gram Panchayath Khattha No. 405, Property No. 533, And Property Situated At Gandasi Village, Gandasi Gram Panchayath, Araskere Taluk, Hassan District, Karnataka, Pin: 573119 Totally Measuring 61.316006 Square Meters, Constructed Plinth Area 61.316006 Square Meters. East-House Property of Sri. Kenchaiah., West-Well Property, South-House Property of Sri. Sharpu., North-Road.	15-05-2026	06-06-2026 & Rs.966815/-
4	Vinay Kumara R, Ramachandra, Netthra, /MLAP001050593/ Hassan	All That Piece And Parcel of The Site And House Property Bearing No. 151600301200401141 Gram Panchayath Property No. 1040, Survey No. 55 And Property Situated At Basavapattana Village, Basavapattana Gram Panchayath, Arakalagud Taluk, Hassan District, Karnataka, Pin: 573113 Totally Measuring 61.966328 Square Meters. East-Panchayath Road, West-House Property of Smt. Jagadamba., South- Vacant Site Property of Smt. Yashodha., North-Panchayath Road.	15-05-2026	06-06-2026 & Rs.434472/-
5	Akkamma, Harish, Jyothi C M, /MLH01360047670/ Chikmangalur	All That Piece And Parcel of The Site And House Property Bearing No. 13-9-399- 400/15, Ward No. 13, Indragandhi Village, Sas No. 36-38, Site No. 15 Property Situated At Trameshwarakere Road, Block No. 09, Ward No.13, Chikmagalur Taluk And District, Karnataka, Pin: 577101 Totally Measuring 55.742050 Square Meters. East-House No. 14., West-House No. 16., South-House No. 12. North-Road.	15-05-2026	06-06-2026 & Rs.416757/-
6	Rudresh, Amaramma, Shivaraj, /MLH0142039517/ Hospet	Residential Property Bearing Tmc Kushtagi, Property P.I.D. No. 26-514-1098, Ward No. 14, Property Old No 681/2-1698, Nirdharana No. 681/2-1698, In Total Measuring 23.225750 Sq Mtrs, Building Plinth Area 23.22575 Sq Meters, And Situated At 109B,#T 2nd Cross Road, 26, 14 Kushtagi, Kushtagi Tq & Koppal Dist, Karnataka, Pin: 583277. East-Sri Siddappa S/O Parvathavva Chalevadi., West-Smt.huligeveva W/O Hulugappa Myagalamani, South-Road, North-Road.	15-05-2026	06-06-2026 & Rs.314539/-
7	Geetha G, Galappa P, Aijappa G, Sangeetha A, /MLAP0051035121/ Shimoga	All That The Piece or Parcel of Site Along With Structure Standing There On Being Bearing A Municipal Site/ Property No. 35-511-253, Old Property No. 6114/5836/5836, Assessment No. 6114/5836/5836, Measuring Total 55.7418 Sq. Meter, Including 37.1612 Sq. Meter, Situated At Ward No. 7, Thungabhadra Uttara Bhaga, Honnali Purasabhe, Within The Limit of Honnali Town Panchayath, Honnali Taluk, Davangere District, Karnataka, Pin: 577217. East-Road, West-House No. 16, South-House No. 24, North-House No. 22	15-05-2026	06-06-2026 & Rs.323144/-
8	Parashuram Basappa Madara, Basappa Tayavva Tayappa, Bhoramma Parashuram Madara, /MLH01370046967/ Vijayapura	All That Part & Parcel of The Residential Property No.15070010020020268, Gram Panchayat No. 441/1, Measuring 96.820000 Sq Meter, Nandiahl Village Besavan Bagewadi Tq, Dist: Vijayapur, Karnataka, Pin: 586122. East-Road, West-Road, South-Road, North-Property of Sabavvva Madar	14-05-2026	06-06-2026 & Rs.984170/-
9	Arjuna, Bhagyamma, A K Ningappa, /MLH01420043057/ Hospet	Residential Property Bearing The Gramapanchayathi Bannihatti, Property No. 264, P.I.D. No. 150500600704600328, In Total Measuring 80.55 Sq Mtrs, Building Plinth Area 39.48 Sq Meters, And Situated At Nagalapura Village, Bannihatti Gramapanchayathi, Sandur, Tq & Ballary Dist., Karnataka, Pin: 583123. East-House of Swamy, West-House of Maremma, North-Road, North-Road.	14-05-2026	06-06-2026 & Rs.563306/-
10	Praveena Kulkarni, Prabhavati Prabhakar Kulkarni, Madivalappa Sangappa Madivalar, /MLH02260043171/ Hubli	Residential Property Bearing Vpc No. 857/30, Property No.151400041500120014, Total Measuring 152.555Q Mtr, Rs No.252/B/2, Situated At Kotabali Village, Tq: Ron And Dist: Gadag, Karnataka, Pin: 582209. East-Rs No.2C, West-Road, South-Plot No.31, North-Plot No.29	14-05-2026	06-06-2026 & Rs.597818/-
11	Sabeena M, Rahul R, Bindiya R, /MLH00510021814/ Shimoga	All That The Piece or Parcel of Site Along With Structure Standing There On Being Bearing Site/Khattha/Property No 21, E-Property No. 151200105400600022, Measuring Total 158.45 Sq Meter, Situated At Gopanalpura Village, Horonahalli Village Panchayath, Channagin Taluk, Davangere District, Karnataka, Pin: 577213. East-House of Sabeena Rajavada, West-House of Chumthi M. P.Kheni, South-Panchayath Road, North-Panchayath Road.	14-05-2026	06-06-2026 & Rs.335007/-
12	Syed Jabir, Harshiya, Amjad Khan, /MLH00900044019/ Vivekananda Circle	All That Piece & Parcel of The Property Bearing Kirugavali Gramapanchayathi Property No 163/125/1 As Per From No 11 B Unique No 152100301100200842 Situated At Kirugavali Village, Malavali Taluk, Mandya, Karnataka - 571424 Measuring East To West : 6.10 Meters And North To South : 14.33 Meters. East-Property of Syed Ali S/O Syed Yakub, West-Property of Shabbir Ahmad S/O Syed Khasim, South-Road, North-Property of Rasool	14-05-2026	06-06-2026 & Rs.388831/-
13	Vasanta, Dhanashur, Timmakka, /MLAP0051038543/ Shimoga	All That The Piece or Parcel of Site Along With Structure Standing There on Being Bearing Site/ Khattha/Property No. 39-41/43, E- Property No. 152400103500600045, Total 111.48 Sq Meter, Including 74.32, Situated At Navilebasapura Village, Bilaki Village Panchayath, Bhadravathi Taluk, Shivamogga District, Karnataka, Pin: 577222. East-Property of Shanthamma, West-Property of Rathnamma, South-Conservancy Road, North-Road	14-05-2026	06-06-2026 & Rs.363419/-
14	Rajesha B R, Roopa C S, Guruprasad B P, /MLH00340007001/ Mysore	All That Piece And Parcel of Property Bearing Berambadi Gramapanchayathi Property No. 322 And As Per Form No. 9 And 11 A Unique No. 150800200600120015 Situated At Berambadi Village, Gundupite Taluk Chamranjanagara Dist, Karnataka, Pin: 571111 Gramapanchayathi Measuring East To West : 7.40 Meters And North To South : 9.20 Meters., East-House of Raghu, West- House of Mallappa, South-House of Mahadevanayaka, North-Road.	17-05-2026	08-06-2026 & Rs.556604/-
15	Siddaraju S R, Mamatha A, Ramakka B, /MLH0030023322/ Tumkur	All That Piece And Parcel of The Residential Building Constructed In Katha No.130 And E-Katha No.152500701002000660 Measuring East To West: 13.716000000000001 Meters And North To South: 16.764 Meters, Situated At Kamagondanahalli Village, Gowdagere Hobli, Sira Taluk, Tumkur District, Tumkur, Karnataka, Pin: 572135. East-House of Sanna Guarnagamma, West-House of Thippeswamy, South-15 Feet Road., North-Remaining Property.	16-05-2026	08-06-2026 & Rs.795664/-
16	Shital Ramu Karvekar, Nivruti Rama Karavekar, Ramu Babu Karvekar, /MLH00980029291/ Belgauw	Residential Property Bearing Swattn No. 150400300200200780 Gram Property No. 28/5 Total Measuring 74.310 Sq Mtrs Including Built Up Area Measuring 69.68 Sq. Mtrs. Situated At Bijagarni Tq & Dist: Belagavi, Karnataka, Pin: 591108. East-By Road, West-By Own Open Space, South-By Property of Maruti Jothiba Karvekar, North-By Own Open Space	16-05-2026	08-06-2026 & Rs.496139/-
17	Savakka Maruti Khanagavi, Maruti Devappa Khanagavi, /MLH00980028993/ Belgauw	All That Piece And Parcel of The Residential Property Bearing G.P. No. 1671/1A, Rdpr P.I.D. No. 150400704100100643, Situated At Nandagad Village, Nandagad Gram Panchayat, Khanapur Block, Belgavi (D), Admeasuring: 180.96 Square Meters, Karnataka, Pin: 591120. East-Property of Yallappa Devappa Khanagavi, West-Property of Mudukappa Devappa Khanagavi, South-Gram Panchayath Road., North-Gram Panchayath Gutter.	16-05-2026	08-06-2026 & Rs.463967/-
18	Shanmuka K, Krishnakuma E, Sushila K, /MLH00930027323/ Tumkur	All That Piece And Parcel of The House Bearing The Residential Building Bearing Grama Panchayath Khattha No.242 And E-Khattha No.152500503600420174 (Formed in Sy. No. 317/3) Measuring East To West: 9.144 And North To South: 12.192 Is Situated At Chandragiri Village, Dodderi Hobli, Madhugiri Taluk, Tumkur District, Karnataka, Pin: 572112. East-Road And Land Belongs To Doddamariyappa., West-Remaining Property Belongs To Kannanna., South-Land Belongs To Chikkamarayappa., North-Remaining Property Belongs To Kannanna.	16-05-2026	08-06-2026 & Rs.519544/-
19	Manjunatha G, Veerendra G, Gangamma S, Ramakka G, /MLH00930026871/ Tumkur	All That Piece And Parcel of The House Bearing The Bearing Katha No.77/95 And E-Katha No.152500703500800349, Measuring East To West: 12.192 Meters And North To South: 9.144 Meters, Situated At Honnenahalli Village, Bukkapatna Hobli, Sira Taluk, Tumkur District, Karnataka, Pin: 572137. East-Site No.131, West-Site No.129, South- Road., North-Site No.116.	16-05-2026	08-06-2026 & Rs.508790/-
20	Manjula S, Govinda Raju J, Anuprasad G, /MLH00340026347/ Mysore	All That Piece And Parcel of Property Bearing B. Matakere Gramapanchayathi Property No. 54 And As Per Form No. 11 B Unique No. 152200102501500336 Situated At B. Matakere Village, Heggadadevanakote Taluk, Mysuru District, Karnataka, Pin: 571121 Totally Measuring 111.48 Square Meters And Building Measuring 83.61 Square Meters. East-Government Road, West-House of Krishniah, South-House of Lakshmana, North-Road	16-05-2026	08-06-2026 & Rs.406488/-
21	Shivabavajva Shidlingappa Kadappanavar, Beerappa Shidlingappa Kadappanavar, Shidlingappa Yallappa Kadappanavar, Muttappa Shiddalingappa Kadappanavar, /MLH0020025757/ Hubli	Residential Property Bearing Vpc No.174, Property No.151400301000303146, Total Measuring 111.48Sq Mtr And Building Measuring 111.48Sq Mtr Situated At Shirol Village, Tq: Nargund & Dist: Gadag And Karnataka, Pin: 582207. East-Property of Basappa Gaddi, West-Road, South-Property of Shankravva Maregudi, North-Property of Shekhappa Mudengudi	16-05-2026	08-06-2026 & Rs.335069/-
22	Lokesha N, Shobha H Y, Arunkumar K N, /MLH00340020789/ Mysore	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing No. 353, P.I.D.No.152100100600720116, Situated At Naragonahalli Grama, Balekere Gramapanchayath, Krishnarajpete Block, Mandya (D), Admeasuring: 33.16 Sq Mts., Karnataka, Pin: 571426. East- Gali & House of Shnidhra, West-Vacant Site., South-Road, North-Gali & House of Jayanna	16-05-2026	08-06-2026 & Rs.609977/-
23	Padma R, Rajanna C, /MLH00930016197/ Tumkur	All That Piece And Parcel of The House Bearing Residential Vacant Site Bearing Property No.42 And E-Katha No.152500403100600135 Measuring East To West: 13.412000000000001 Meters And North To South: 17.9832 Meters Situated At Kadashettihalli Village, Amruthur Hobli, Kunigal Taluk, Tumkur District, Karnataka, Pin: 572130. East-Road, West-Road, South-Gali, North-Gali.	16-05-2026	08-06-2026 & Rs.733313/-
24	Manju Shri, Ramesha K, /MLAP0030005006710/ Mysore	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing No. 327, P.I.D. No. 152200422084000491, Situated At Marballi Grama, Marballi Gramapanchayath, Mysore Block, Mysore (D), Karnataka, Pin: 570008 Measuring E.W: 8.5344 Meters & N-S: 12.192 Meter. East-Property of Channarajanayaka, West-Property of Prakash, South-House of Thimmanayaka., North-Road.	16-05-2026	08-06-2026 & Rs.196299/-
25	Venkatesha B, Venkatamma B, Thimmanayaka B, Ramya V, Basavaraju V, Venkateshgowda V, /MDH01ALN050000507207/ Mysore	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing No. 364, P.I.D. No. 152900100300120036, Situated At B. Bannagahalli Grama, Bannagahalli Gramapanchayat, Channappa Block, Ramnagara (D), Karnataka, Pin: 571501 Measuring E-W: 18.8976 Meter & N-S: 7.010400 Meter. East-Govt. Road, West-Own Property., South-Property of Shivamuthi & Siddarama, North-Own Property.	16-05-2026	08-06-2026 & Rs.282911/-
26	Sushila S, Lakshmi L S, Sridhar B, /MLH01360033797/ Chikmangalur	All That Piece And Parcel of The Site And House Property Bearing No.1509000402600600039, Gram Panchayath Property No. 35, Survey No. 8 And Property Situated At Lokavalli Estate Village, Hale Mudigere Gram Panchayath, Mudigere Taluk And Chikmagalur District, Totally Measuring 111.48 Square Meters, Karnataka, Pin: 577132. East-Site No. 3, West-Site No. 1, South-Road, North-Government Land	15-05-2026	08-06-2026 & Rs.419179/-
27	Mangalagowamma R, Ramesh K G, Mahesha K R, /MLH00920011612/ Vinaynagar Ramnagara	All That Piece And Parcel of Property Bearing Katha No.59, Unique No.152500401901000059, Kempannahalli Village, Thavarekere Grampanchayath, Kunigal Taluk, Tumnakur District, Karnataka - 572123. Measuring: E-W: 5.7912 Meter N-S: 21.3360000000000002 Meter. East-Own Space And Panchayath Road, West-Gally And House of Ramachar, South-House of Ramanna, North-Gully And House of Ningamma	17-05-2026	09-06-2026 & Rs.263024/-
28	Anjal Priya A, Saggamery A, Anthoniswamy R, /MLH00900030147/ Vivekananda Circle	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing No. 12/2A Unique No. 152200100411420004, Situated At Doddakerekavali Village, Bachegowdanahalli Gramapanchayath, H D Kote Taluk, Mysuru District, Karnataka, Pin: 571125 Total Measuring: 117.06 Meters. East-House of Rathnaswamy, West-House of Thomas, South-House of Annamma, North-Road	18-05-2026	09-06-2026 & Rs.390571/-
29	Shrinivasa S, Bhagyalakshmi C, Raghu C, /MLH00340012683/ Mysore	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing No.55-509- 502, Property Old Number Basthipura, Assessment No.1231, Situated At Ward No.30, Basthipura, 509, 5th Main Road, Kollegala, Chamranjanagara District, Karnataka,Pin: 571440 Totally Measuring 69.491444 Square Meters. East-Road., West-Vacant Site., South-House Belongs Jayalakshmi., North-Vacant Site.	19-05-2026	09-06-2026 & Rs.487058/-
30	Hanumappa, Meenakshamma, Devaraj, /MLH01170049692/ Raichur	All That Piece And Parcel of The Residential House Property Bearing Panchayath No: 127 Its E Property No: 152300203100600127 Totally Measuring 260.128500 Sq Meter, In Which The Plinth Area Measuring 27.870900 Sq Meter Situated At Nagarabenchli Village Within Limits of Gram Panchayath Medikinali Tq Maski Dist Raichur, Karnataka, Pin: 584124. East-House of Hanumappa D/O Mariyappa, West-House of Lachampappa S/O Mariyappa Road, South-Road, North-House of Durugamma W/O Hanumappa	20-05-2026	09-06-2026 & Rs.495457/-
31	Durgaprasad H R, Yuvarani S, Keshavamurthi, /MLAP136042531/ Chikmangalur	All That Piece And Parcel of The Site And House Property Bearing No. 151600403100600144, Gram Panchayath Property No. 140 And Property Situated At Hanike Village, Hanike Gram Panchayath, Belur Taluk, Hassan District, Totally Measuring 59.23 Square Meters, Karnataka, Pin: 573115. East-House Property of Sri. Jivarajah., West-Road, South-Property of Smt. Dyavamma., North-House Property of Smt. Lakkamma.	20-05-2026	09-06-2026 & Rs.1017301/-
32	Nethravathi, Tirthesh G R, Ramaiah, /MLAP0136038315/ Chikmangalur	All That Piece And Parcel of The Site And House Property Bearing No. 150900100700420119, Gram Panchayath Khattha No. 150900100700420119, Situated At Gailihalli Village, Eshwarahalli Gram Panchayath, Chikmagalur Taluk And District And Totally Measuring 106.84 Square Meters, Karnataka, Pin: 577146. East-Site Property of Sri. Puttaiah., West-Road, South- Property Belongs To Sri. Basavegowda., North-Road.	20-05-2026	09-06-2026 & Rs.672075/-
33	Bhaseshab Karimasab Nadaf, Amirabi Karimasab Nadaf, Halimabi Bashesab Nadaf, Praveen Madevappa Barki, /MLAP0026055132/ Hubli	Residential Property Bearing Vpc No.253/1A, Property No.151700301800301189, Total Measuring 114.684000Sq Mtr And Building Measuring 114.684000Sq Mtr, In Rs No.253/1 Situated At Hosaratti Village, Tq & Dist: Haveri, Karnataka, Pin: 581213. East-Property of Nadaf, West-Property of Korawar, South-Road, North-Road	26-05-2026	09-06-2026 & Rs.444218/-
34	Rachayya Veerayya Gourimath, Akkamahadevi Gourimath, Mallangoud Somanagouda Beleri, /MLAP026200997/ Hubli	Residential 11B Property Bearing Vpc No.1906/14, Property No.151400102100103009, Total Measuring 52.45Sq Mtr And Building Measuring 52.45Sq Mtr Situated At Lakkundi Village, Tq & Dist: Gadag, Karnataka, Pin: 582115. East-Property of Neelavva Halli, West-Property of Girijavva Kulkarni, South-Road, North-Property of Papanasni (Agricultural Land)	26-05-2026	09-06-2026 & Rs.986536/-
35	Gokul H R, Saroja H R, R Ravi, /MLAP0091049744/ Hassan	All That Piece And Parcel of The Site And House Property Bearing No. 151600800100420033, Gram Panchayath Property No. 213, Survey No. 124 And Property Situated At Hurudi Village, Hanbalu Gram Panchayath, Sakaleshapura Taluk, Hassan District, Totally Measuring 200.660000 Square Meters, Karnataka, Pin: 573134. West-Remaining Property Belongs To Survey No. 124., South- Remaining Property Belongs To Survey No. 124., North-Remaining Property Belongs To Survey No. 124.	28-05-2026	09-06-2026 & Rs.382897/-
36	Chinnaswamy C, Mahadevaswami N, /NAG00CLOLNS00000507659/ Mysore	All That Piece & Parcel of The Property Bearing Kudluru Grama Panchayathi Khattha No. 170/1 & As Per Form No. 9 & 11 A Unique No.150900102001003031 Situated At Kudluru, Chamranjagar Taluk & District, Karnataka, Pin: 571342 Measuring East To West 12.192 Meters & North To South 4.87 Meters. East-Road, West-House of Honnashetty, South-House of Nagashetty And Narayanashetty, North-Road	15-05-2026	15-06-2026 & Rs.187683/-

Notice, is therefore given to the Borrowers / Co-Borrowers, as mentioned herein above, calling upon them to make payment of the total outstanding amount as shown herein above, against the respective Borrower / Co-Borrower, within 60 days of publication of this notice. Failure to make payment

Himachal Chief Minister Defends Kishau Dam Deal

SHIMLA

Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu on Thursday defended his government's handling of the Kishau dam project, asserting that the revised agreement would significantly strengthen the state's financial position while protecting its long-term interests. He also launched a sharp attack on the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), alleging that a BJP-led government would have accepted an earlier agreement that would have caused substantial financial losses to the state.

Addressing a public function, Sukhu said the Congress government rejected the agreement proposed in 2023 after determining that it was not in Himachal Pradesh's best interest. According to the Chief Minister, the revised arrangement secured by his government would generate an additional annual revenue of approximately Rs 600 crore for the state, which he described as a major achievement in improving Himachal Pradesh's economic prospects.

He said the revised agreement reflected the government's commitment to safeguarding the state's resources and ensuring that development projects contribute fairly to public welfare. Sukhu maintained that the decision to renegotiate the terms demonstrated the Congress government's resolve to protect the interests of the people rather than compromise on financial issues.

The Chief Minister also highlighted his government's governance agenda under the slogan of Vyavastha Parivartan, stating that the administration had translated its promises into concrete welfare measures. He said several schemes had been implemented for orphaned children, widows, single women, meritorious students.

Meghalaya Chief Minister Reviews Baghmara Hospital Infrastructure Expansion Projects

SHILLONG

Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K. Sangma on Thursday directed officials to expedite all ongoing and proposed infrastructure projects at Baghmara Civil Hospital in South Garo Hills, emphasising that the works should be completed on priority to ensure the delivery of dependable and quality healthcare services to the people of the district.

Chairing a review meeting with senior officials of the Health and Family Welfare Department, the Chief Minister assessed the progress of the hospital's upgradation and instructed authorities to closely monitor every component of the project. He stressed that delays should be avoided and that all construction and development activities must be completed within the stipulated timelines to meet the growing healthcare needs of the region.

Sangma also asked the department to accelerate the recruitment of specialist doctors while strengthening the nursing and paramedical workforce. He said that improving human resources in the healthcare sector is as important as developing physical infrastructure and that adequate staffing is essential for providing efficient medical services to patients.

During the meeting, officials informed the Chief Minister that the hospital's operation theatre, which became functional in 2025, has already performed 85 surgeries.

Assam Records Sharp Rise in Registered MSMEs, Says Chief Minister

GUWAHATI

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Thursday said the state has witnessed a significant rise in the number of registered Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), describing the sector as one of the key contributors to employment generation and overall economic growth. He said the expanding MSME ecosystem reflects the success of the state's efforts to promote entrepreneurship and strengthen local industries.

In a post on social media platform X, the Chief Minister stated that Assam currently has 17.29 lakh registered MSMEs operating across a wide range of sectors. He said the government intends to build on this momentum by creating an even more supportive environment for businesses and encouraging the establishment of new enterprises across the state.

There has been a manifold rise in the number of registered MSMEs in Assam over the last few years. This is a great metric, and we want to expand it further, Sarma said while highlighting the progress achieved in the sector.

The Chief Minister emphasised that every new enterprise established in the state represents an investment in employment opportunities, entrepreneurship and economic prosperity. According to him, the continued growth will contribute to higher income and social stability.

Every new enterprise we create is an investment in jobs, opportunity and a more peaceful, prosperous and stable Assam, he said, underscoring the government's focus on inclusive economic growth.

Sarma also shared a graphic illustrating the increase in registered MSMEs over the past few years. He described the sector as a major pillar supporting Assam's economic transformation and noted that its expansion has created opportunities for entrepreneurs in both rural and urban areas.

Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises play an important role in Assam's economy by contributing to sectors such as manufacturing, food processing, handloom and handicrafts, trade, services and agro-based industries. These enterprises support local production, encourage innovation and generate large-scale employment, particularly for youth and small entrepreneurs.

The Assam government has introduced several policy initiatives in recent years to encourage the growth of MSMEs. These measures include simplifying regulatory procedures, improving the ease of doing business, enhancing access to institutional finance and providing incentives for entrepreneurs to establish new ventures. Officials believe these reforms have encouraged more businesses to register under the formal system and benefit from government support schemes.



CH

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ಸಂ:ಪ.ಪಂ.ಬೋಗಾದಿ/ಆ.ತಾ/ಚಿಂಢರ/ಸಿ.ಆರ್.04/2026-27

ದಿನಾಂಕ:07.07.2026

ಇ-ಮೈಕ್ರೋಮೆಂಟ್ ಚಿಂಢರ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಬೋಗಾದಿ ಪಟ್ಟಣ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ 2026-27ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಎಸ್.ಎಸ್.ಸಿ ಅನುದಾನ ಮತ್ತು ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ಅನುದಾನದಡಿ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಅಧ್ಯಾದೇಶ 1999 ಮತ್ತು ನಿರುದ್ಧರ 2000ದಂತೆ ಅರ್ಹ ಚಿಂಢರದಾರರುಗಳಿಂದ <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಚಿಂಢರನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಆಸಕ್ತ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಚಿಂಢರದಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

1. ಕಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 01 ರಿಂದ 05ರವರೆಗಿನ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಪೂರ್ವಭಾವಿ ಸಭೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 17.07.2026 ಅಪರಾಹ್ನ 3.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ

2. ಚಿಂಢರ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕಡೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 23.07.2026 ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ

3. ಚಿಂಢರತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 24.07.2026ರ ಸಂಜೆ 5.15 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಅಥವಾ ಮುಂದೆ ಸೂಚಿಸುವ ದಿನಾಂಕದಂದು ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ	ವಿವರ	ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ. ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ
01	DMA/2026-27/OW/WORK_INDENT59545 (ST)	100	84750
02	DMA/2026-27/OW/WORK_INDENT59549 (SC)	100	84725
03	DMA/2026-27/OW/WORK_INDENT59552	100	169500
04	DMA/2026-27/OW/WORK_INDENT59553 (Cat-IIA)	100	84750
05	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT52472/CALL-2	100	169500
06	DMA/2026-27/EL/WORK_INDENT60193	9.29	23225
07	DMA/2026-27/EL/WORK_INDENT60196	1.08	2700
08	DMA/2026-27/EL/WORK_INDENT60195	2.52	6300
09	DMA/2026-27/OW/WORK_INDENT60194	2.38	5950

ಸೂಚನೆ: 1. ಕಾರ್ಪೊರೇಟರ್‌ಗಳಿಂದ ಮೇಲೆ ತಿಳಿಸಿದ ಚಿಂಢರ ದಿನಾಂಕಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗಳಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು <http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದು.

ಸಭೆ/- ಮುಖ್ಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿ

ವಾಸಾಂಶ/ಮೈಸೂರು/434/ಬಿ.ಡಿ ಸಾಯಿ/2026-27

ಪಟ್ಟಣ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ, ಬೋಗಾದಿ

Visvesvaraya Technological University, Belagavi

"Jnana Sangama" Belagavi -590 018, Karnataka State

Ref. VTU/BGM/SAP/CW1/T-741,752/2026-27/1637 Date: 09-07-2026

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Registrar, VTU, Belagavi, invites e-tenders (two cover systems) for the following works through e-procurement tendering mode.

Sl No	Name of the tenders	Estimated Amount	EMD Amount
1	T-741: Tender for Printing and Supply of Printing Stationery items required for the forth coming examinations to VTU Examination Section, Belagavi on Annual Rate Contract Basis for period of one year – 2 nd Call	28,55,200/-	57,200/-
2	T-752: Tender for procurement of equipment for establishment of AICTE IDEA Lab at Dept. of Mechanical Engineering, VTU PG Centre, Kalaburgi	59,28,905/-	1,18,600/-

Last date for receipt of tender **23-07-2026 up to 2.30 p.m.**
Date of opening of tender: **24-07-2026 at 4.00 p.m.**
The details regarding participation in the e-Tendering can be accessed by logging to our VTU **website: www.vtu.ac.in** and KPPP portal **website: www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Registrar

GENERAL HOSPITAL, JAYANAGAR

Medical Superintendent Office, Bangalore-560041.

Email: ghjao1985tblk@gmail.com Tel: 080 22395722

No.GHJ/GROUP D/E-TENDER/01/2026-27 Date:09/07/2026

INVITATION FOR E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

Short Term e-tender is invited in Two cover System from reputed and eligible Manpower service provider companies for providing man power services for **55 Group D SERVICES for the year 2026-27** to this hospital for a period of **ONE YEAR** as per Karnataka Transparency in Public procurement Rules 2000. Tender shall be submitted only through e-portal website-<https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in>.

Tender Details

Floating of Bid document in e-portal website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in . Helpdesk: 080-25501216/25501227 e-mail: hpheelpdesk.blr@intarvo.com	13.07.2026 at 4:00 PM
Last Date for Submission of e-tender through e-portal	On or before 28.07.2026 at 4:00 PM
Opening of Technical Bid proposals	If the opening date is declared Holiday, opening will be on following working date.
Opening of Financial Bid	05.08.2026 at 10.00 AM
E.M.D	Rs.2,75,000/-
Place of opening of tenders	General Hospital, Jayanagara 4th T Block, Bangalore-560041

Note: Tender documents shall be uploaded online at e-procurement portal.

All Tender conditions are given in the Tender Bid. Further information can be obtained from the Hospital of the Hospital on all working days.

Sd/- Medical Superintendent
General Hospital, Jayanagar, Begaluru

MANAPPURAM HOME FINANCE LIMITED

Regd Office: 8/596 A, Padmaprabha Building, Near Sreerama Swami Temple, Cherpu - Thriprayar Road, Thrirprayar, Thrissur, Kerala 680567 | Phone No.: 0487-3520504.

DEMAND NOTICE

Whereas the Authorized Officer of Manappuram Home Finance Ltd., having our registered office at 8/596 A, Padmaprabha Building, Near Sreerama Swami Temple, Cherpu - Thrirprayar Road, Thrirprayar, Thrissur, Kerala 680567 and branches at various places in India (hereinafter referred to as "MAHOFIN") is a company registered under the Companies Act, 1956 and a Financial Institution within the meaning of sub-clause (iv) of clause (m) of sub-section (1) of Section 2 of the Securitization and Reconstruction of financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (hereinafter referred to as the Act) read with Notification No. S.O. 3466 (E) dated 18th December, 2015 issued by the Govt. of India, Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance, New Delhi, inter alia carrying on business of advancing loans for construction and / or purchase of dwelling units and whereas the Borrower / Co-Borrowers as mentioned in Column No. 2 of the below mentioned chart obtained loan from MAHOFIN and whereas MAHOFIN being the secured creditor under the SARFAESI Act, and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 2 of the security interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued demand notice calling upon the Borrowers / Co-Borrowers as mentioned herein below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notices with further interest thereon within 60 days from the date of notice, but the notices could not be served upon some of them for various reasons, That in addition thereto for the purposes of information of the said borrowers enumerated below, the said borrowers are being informed by way of this public notice.

Sl. No.	Name Of The Borrower/ Co-Borrower/Len Branch	Description Of Secured Asset In Respect Of Which Interest Has Been Created	Age Date	Date Of Notice Sent & Outstanding Amount
1	Anjineyya, Saraswathi, Nirupadi, Raichur	All That Piece And Parcel Of The Residential House Property Bearing Tmc No. 4-5- 123/2A Bearing its E-Property No. 9348616749 Measuring Totally 83.61307 Sq. Meter, Including Residential House In An Area Measuring 83.6127 Sq.meters Situated At Ward No.15 Dhanagara Wadi Maski Within The Limits of TMC Maski, Tq Maski Dist Raichur, Karnataka, Pin: 584124. East-House of Basavaraj, West-House of Hanumanthappa, South-Road, North-Road.	05-05-2026	02-06-2026 & Rs.536101/-
2	Megharaja Naik, Shobha Bai, Tukya Naika, /MLAP0117050463/ Shikaripura	All That Piece And Parcel Of Site Along With Structure Standing There On Being Bearing Site/Property No. 59P E-Property No. 1524004043004002028, Situated At Doddaghatta Village Panchayath, Shikaripura Taluk, Shivamogga District, Karnataka, Pin: 577214 Measuring Total 117.057830 Sq. Meter, Including 48.774096 Sq. Meter, East-Road, West-Property of Chendi Bai, South-Road, North-Place of Sa. Ki. Pra. School	06-05-2026	02-06-2026 & Rs.392522/-
3	Guddappa Banger, Renuka Shivajappa Banger, Annappa Shivajappa Banger, /MLAP0144056506/ Shikaripura	All That The Piece or Parcel of Site Along With Structure Standing There On Being Bearing Site/Khattha/Property No. 110/3 E-Property No. 151700203000201008, Measuring Total 257.400000 Sq. Meter, Including 76.800000 Sq. Meter Building, Situated At Gondhi Village, Gondhi Village Panchayath, Hangal Taluk, Haveri District, Karnataka, Pin: 581104. East-Property of Jafersaba Ananthpooor, West-Village Panchayath Road, South-House of Kotesha Na Patila, North-House of Basanagowda Dyavanagowda S/O Mahalinganagowda Patila	06-05-2026	02-06-2026 & Rs.518540/-
4	Intihayy M F, Ghousiya Anjum, Farida Begum, S T Mohammed, Khadar M F, /MLAP0051048619/ Shimoga	All That The Piece or Parcel of Site Along With Structure Standing There On Being Property Under Municipal, Property No. 23-3-547-19, Survey No. 43, Assessment No. 3006/43/94Cc, Old Property No. 3006/43/94Cc, Measuring Total 111.4841 Sq. Meter, Including 41.80635 Sq. Meter, Situated At Ward No. 23, Bhommanakatte, Bhadravathi, Shivamogga, Within The Jurisdiction of Municipality Bhadravathi, Bhadravathi Taluk, Shivamogga District, Karnataka, Pin: 577302. East-Road, West-Property of S. T. Mahammed, South-Hiduvail Land, North-Property of S. T. Mouliai	06-05-2026	02-06-2026 & Rs.431248/-
5	Krishna P. Suma T. Nagamma B, /MLAP002007541/ Vinayagangar Ramnagar	All That Piece And Parcel of Property Bearing Katha No.46 Unique No. 15210020300100766, Chikkarsinakere Village And Grama Panchayath, Maddur Taluk And Mandya District, Karnataka, Pin: 571422 Admeasuring 1700 Sqft. East-House of Karigowda, West-House of Mr. Thammegowda, South-Road and Site of Boregowda, North-Road	06-05-2026	02-06-2026 & Rs.325130/-
6	Nagarajappa A K, Shobha, A K Haralaiah, Nagamma A K, /MLAP0051050515/ Shimoga	All That The Piece or Parcel of Site Along With Structure Standing There On Being Bearing Site/Property No. 161, E-Property No. 151200501600620061, Measuring Total 111.483600 Sq. Meter, Including 74.322400 Sq. Meter, Situated At Thaggihalli Village, T. Gopagondanahalli Village Panchayath, Nymathi Taluk, Davanagere District, Karnataka, Pin: 577217. East-Property of A. K. Nagarajappa S/O Basappa, West-Remaining Property of Survey No. 10, South-Road, North-Road, North-Remaining Property of Survey No. 10	07-05-2026	02-06-2026 & Rs.527323/-
7	Muttanna Hariappa Rathoda, Hemavva Hariappa, Ariappa Chandappa Rathoda, Savita Muttanna, Kariyappa Deepaleppa Deepaleppa, /MLAP01270333001/ Koppal	Residential 11B Property Bearing Vpc No.53, Property No.152000102300120098, Total Measuring 66.895Q Mtr, Situated At Ingaldal Village Within Musapur Gram Panchayath, Tq. Kanakagiri & Dist. Koppal, Karnataka, Pin: 584119. East-Property of Narayanappa, West-Road, South-Property of Hanamesh, North-Road	07-05-2026	02-06-2026 & Rs.497938/-
8	Basamma H, Karthik H, Haleshappa C, /MLH0048001954/ Davangare	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property No 227, E Swathu No 1512002030800520201, Measuring 4.8768 X 9.144 Mts I.e 44.59 Sq Mts, Situated At Honnur Village, Honnur Gram Panchayath, Davangere, Karnataka, Pin: 577556. East-House of Rudresh, West-House of Erappa, South-Road, North-House of Hanumanthappa	08-05-2026	02-06-2026 & Rs.348357/-
9	Naganna K, Susheelamma M, Manu V N, Kamalamma H, /MHOBLADMS00005005048/ Mysore	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing No. 181/168/81A, P.I.D. No. 152900103101100201, Situated At Vandarguppe Grama,Vandarguppe Grampanchayath, Channanagara Block, Ramnagara (D), Karnataka, Pin: 562160 Admeasuring E-W: 6.858000000000005 Meter & N-S: 32.9184 Meter, East-House of Siddachari, West-House of Kamalamma, South-House of Kempamma,, North-Road,	08-05-2026	02-06-2026 & Rs.482057/-
10	Eranak, Sibibai, Lakshmi Bai, Raghu Naika R, Prashanth Naik E, /MLAP0051054199/ Shimoga	All That The Piece or Parcel of Site Along With Structure Standing There On Being Bearing Site/Property No. 58/2, E-Property No. 1524004043004002038, Measuring Total 278.779120 Sq. Meter, Including 94.761101 Sq. Meter, Situated At Doddaghatta Village Panchayath, Shikaripura Taluk And Shivamogga District, Karnataka, Pin: 577214. East-Road, West-Property of Shanthi Bai W/O Peekya Naik, South-Property of Seethi Bai W/O Rama Naik, North-Road	09-05-2026	02-06-2026 & Rs.441785/-
11	Tohildula, Phtemabanu, /MLH01440049134/ Shikaripura	All That The Piece or Parcel of Site Along With Structure Standing There On Being Bearing Site/Property No. 199, E-Property No. 152400403700100739, Situated At Mathikote Village, Mathikote Village Panchayath, Shikaripura Taluk, Shivamogga District, Karnataka, Pin: 577427 Measuring Total 139.350000 Sq. Meter, East-Property of Rathnamma W/O Shivalingappa, West-Property of Shobha W/O Basavarajappa, South-Panchayath Road, North- Panchayath Road	09-05-2026	02-06-2026 & Rs.513925/-
12	Raghunatha M R, Shwetha M B, Jamuna, /MHL00340041947/ Mysore	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing A No. 872, Ja. No. 1670, P.I.D. No.152200300112010051, Situated At Mirle Grama, Mirle Grampanchayath, Krishnarajanagara Block, Mysore (D), Karnataka, Pin: 571603 Admeasuring: 125.42 Sq Mts, East- Gali Next House of Ramegowda, West- Panchayath Road,, South-Site of Bharath Raju, North-Site of Krishnashetty	09-05-2026	02-06-2026 & Rs.769410/-
13	Sarojamma C, Rajalaiah, Pushpa D R, /MHL00510035811/ Hassan	All That Piece And Parcel of The Site And House Property Bearing No. 151600302200300154, Gram Panchayath Property No. 1544, And Property Situated At Dadadhalli Village, Santhamaruru Gram Panchayath, Arakalagud Taluk, Hassan District, Karnataka, Pin: 573102. Totaly Measuring 79.99 Square Meters, East-Site Property of Sri. Kariaiah, West- House Property of Sri. Beluriah, South-Government Road, North-School Field.	09-05-2026	02-06-2026 & Rs.326272/-
14	Mangalamma P, Veerasha P, /MHL00340028043/ Mysore	All That Piece And Parcel of Property Bearing Hadanuru Grampanchayath Property No. 131 And As Per Form No. 11 B Unique No. 1522001034002000019 Situated At Alalaihali Dhakhalte Ettige Village, Saraguru Taluk, Mysuru District, Karnataka, Pin: 571121. Totaly Measuring 183.95 Square Meters, East-Road, West-House of Geetha,, South-Road,, North-House of Kempanna	09-05-2026	02-06-2026 & Rs.419560/-
15	Gadigayya, Kasturi Hiremath, Shashidhar, /MLAP0127052438/ Koppal	Residential 11B Property Bearing Vpc No.77, Property No.152000201600700112 Measuring East To West: 9.144Mtr And North To South: 12.192Mtr, Total Measuring 111.483648Sq Mtr Situated At Hosakanapur Village Within Gittinagar Gram Panchayath, Tq. & Dist: Koppal, Karnataka, Pin: 583228. East-Property of Bhimavva W/O Hanumappa Vadra, West-Road, South- Road, North- Property of Yankappa S/O Hanumappa Vadra	10-05-2026	02-06-2026 & Rs.662437/-
16	Sharanappa, Annappamavva Mahabaleshwarappa Rajur, Vijayalaxmi Sharanappa Rajur, /MHL01270046498/ Koppal	Residential 11B Property Bearing Vpc No.02, Property No.152000402000620038, Total Measuring 167.235Q Mtr And Building Measuring 167.235Q Mtr, Rs No.10/*/2, Situated At Gedagadi Village, Tq: Yalburga & Dist: Koppal, Karnataka, Pin: 583236. East-Canal, West- House of Rudrappa Kammar, South-Road, North-Road	10-05-2026	02-06-2026 & Rs.345548/-
17	Anjinappa V, Meena, Papamma, /MHL01290043923/ Kolar	All That Piece And Parcel of The Residential Building Bearing Grama Panchayath Khattha No.36 And E-Khattha No.1519100700501000043 Measuring East To West : 6.7 Mtrs And North To South : 6.55 Mtrs Is Situated At Shillangere Village, Huttur Hobli, Kolara Taluk, Kolar District, Karnataka, Pin: 563101. East-Property Belongs To Venkatagiriyamma,, West-Road,, North-School Road,, North-Sampoonnabayi Ashwath Katte.	10-05-2026	02-06-2026 & Rs.406280/-
18	Mahmadsheen Maibusab Maniyar, Sharifa Maniyar, Allama Maniyar, /MHL01270038119/ Vijayapura	All That Part & Parcel of The Residential Property Bearing Property No. 3117/D,Old, Measuring 40X25 Sq. Mtrs of Devanhipargi, Dist:vijayapur, Karnataka, Pin: 586115. East-Property of Salim Maniyar, West-Property of Mayub Mualla, South-Sandi, North-Road	11-05-2026	03-06-2026 & Rs.954031/-
19	Krushnappa Lamani, Shilavva Lamani, Jagadish Puttappa Chavan, /MHL00260017267/ Hubli	Residential Property Bearing Vpc No.152C/95, Property No.151400500700101761, Total Measuring 67.505Q Mtr Situated At Chabli Village, Tq. Shirahatti & Dist: Gadag, Karnataka, Pin: 582120. East-Plot No.152C/96, West-Plot No.152C/94, South-Road, North-Plot No.152C/70	11-05-2026	03-06-2026 & Rs.506039/-
20	Gurugowda G, Gurugowdappa Hg, Girijamma G, Ramesh H, /J0900000000000000004325/ Mysore	All That Part & Parcel of The Property No. 310/224, P.I.D. No. 152900402400500451, Situated At Channamanahalli Grama, Vibhuthimuruga Grampanchayath, Kailancho Hobli, Ramanganagur Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, Karnataka, Pin: 562159 E-W: 8.8992 Meter & N-S: 1.277 Meter. East-Property of Kalimuthamma, West-Property of Swamyammath,, South-Property of Giyyappa,, North-Road,	11-05-2026	03-06-2026 & Rs.1883305/-
21	Sunil Kumar, Shivaswamy K, Shashikanta, Nayana S, /MHL00530040977/ Tumkur	All That Piece And Parcel of The Residential Building Bearing Grama Panchayath Katha No.6/23/28 And E-Khattha No.150300301400620003 Measuring East To West : 9.144 Mtrs And North To South: 10.6680 Mtrs Is Situated At Channaganavali Village, Doddabellavargala Hobli, Doddaballavargala Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, Karnataka, Pin: 561204. East-Road,, West-House Belongs To Mahadevamma,, South-Property Belongs To Chikkanna,, North-Road,,	12-05-2026	03-06-2026 & Rs.919163/-
22	Rooja M, Gowashetty T S, /MHL01280038837/ Chamrajnagar	All That Piece And Parcel of Property Bearing Property No 91 And As Per Form 09 And 11 (A) Unique No.152200502200100096 Situated At Taradale Village, Kudlupura Grampanchayath, Nanjanagud Taluk, Mysore District, Karnataka, Pin: 571118 Measuring: East To West : 17.26 Meters And North To South : 17.526 Meter, East-House of Bellashetty, West-House of Mahadevashetty, South-House of Chikkagandashetty, North-Road	12-05-2026	03-06-2026 & Rs.466319/-
23	Honnava Duragappa Babani, Devendrappa Duragappa Babani, Kumar Duragappa Babani, /MHL00480040097/ Davangare	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property No. 6 E Swathu No. 151700503000301222, Measuring 107.76 Sq Mts, Situated At Honnathi Village,, Honnathi Gram Panchayath, Ranebenur Taluk, Haveri Dist, Karnataka, Pin: 581115. East-Property of Nimbavva Handigoji, West- Property of Ambavva Handigoji, South-Road, North-Vacant Property	12-05-2026	03-06-2026 & Rs.417768/-
24	Raghu B, Netra R B, Manjunatha C, Chandrappa H, /MHL00510035251/ Shimoga	All That The Piece or Parcel of Site Along With Structure Standing There On Being Bearing Site/Property No. 90/5, E-Property No. 151200500700120129, Measuring Total 84.82 Sq. Meter, Including 84.82 Sq. Meter House, Situated At Kunkova Village, Kunkova Village Panchayath, Honnali/Nyamathi Taluk, Davanagere District, Karnataka, Pin: 577223. East- Nyamathi Kunkova Road, West-Sadaryavargala Survey Number Land, South-Land of Survey No. 90, North-Land of Kariyamma W/O Siddalingappa	12-05-2026	03-06-2026 & Rs.788554/-
25	Mahalakshmi Makaravalli, Puttappa V Makaroli, Yallamma Vishnappa Makaravalli, Ganapati Kenchappa Mudur, /MHL00260033437/ Hubli	Residential Granthana Property Bearing Vpc No.27/1, Property No.151700202200400029, Total Measuring 394.55Sq Mtr And Building Measuring 113.78Sq Mtr, Situated At Mattihalli Village Within Chikkanshihsour Gram Panchayath, Tq: Hanagal & Dist: Haveri, Karnataka, Pin: 581104. East Property of Vishnappa Makaravalli, South-Panchayath Road,, South-Roads No.58	12-05-2026	03-06-2026 & Rs.701306/-
26	Geetha K, Putta Bhairas, /MLAP0034035685/ Mysore	Allthat Piece And Parcel of The Property No. 283 P.I.D. No. 152200103027720073, Situated At N. Belthuru Grama, N. Belthuru Grampanchayath, Heggadadevanakote Block, Mysore (D), Karnataka, Pin: 571114 Admeasuring: 348.39 Sq Mts. East-House of Kemparaju,, West-House of Chinamma,, South-House of Deviramma,, North-Road,	12-05-2026	03-06-2026 & Rs.494277/-
27	Narasimhamurthy K M, Anupama C, Munithayamma M, /MHL00930034161/ Tumkur	All That Piece And Parcel of The House Bearing Katha No.298/29 And E-Katha No.150300200600100632 Measuring East To West: 9.144 Meters And North To South: 9.144 Meters Situated At Koranganagale Village, Vijayapura Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District, Karnataka, Pin: 562110. East-Site No.30, West-Site No.28, South-12 Feet Road,, North-Site No.24,	12-05-2026	03-06-2026 & Rs.563701/-
28	Sunil Kumar K, Krishna Naik B, Roonpamma B, /MLAP0053032983/ Tumkur	All That Piece And Parcel of The House Bearing Katha No.6050/3553 Measuring East To West: 25 Feet And North To South: 18 Feet, Situated At Ward No.8/2, Madhugiri Town, Tumkur District, Karnataka, Pin: 572132. East-Road, West-House of Govindappa, South-Road, North-House of Venkatamma.	12-05-2026	03-06-2026 & Rs.527233/-
29	Manjunatha N, Gangamma B, Narayanappa D, Harisha N, /MHL00930030837/ Tumkur	All That Piece And Parcel of The House Bearing Property Bearing Old Katha No.771 And New Katha No.938 And E-Katha No.152500501200100972, Measuring East To West: 12.192 Meters And North To South: 9.144 Meters, Situated At Medigeshi Village, Medigeshi Hobli, Madhugiri Taluk, Tumkur District, Karnataka, Pin: 572133. East-Road, West-Site of Puttarasamma, South-House of Hanumantharayappa,, North- Site of Narasimhaiah	12-05-2026	03-06-2026 & Rs.800429/-
30	Lokamani C, Ravikumar N, Nanjunda Aradhya, /MHL00340029767/ Mysore	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing No. 18/18, Situated At Ward No.21 Vaddragudi Heggadadevanakote Taluk & Mysore (D), Karnataka, Pin: 571114 Admeasuring: 250 Sq Mts., East-Road, West-Site of Chinmaswamy,, South-House of Gurusomnadaradhy,, North-Site of K.ramesh,	12-05-2026	03-06-2026 & Rs.516760/-
31	Anandappa Shiddappa Kariyannanavara, Parvava Anandappa Kariyannanavar, Hanumanthappa Shiddappa Kariyannanavar, /MHL00480027051/ Davangare	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property No.70/18, E Swathu No.151700402700100164, Measuring 375.04 Sq Mts, Situated At Haleridagalli Village, Haleridagalli Gram Panchayath, Hirekur Taluk, Haveri Dist., Karnataka, Pin: 581111. East-Property of Amrutha Kariyannanavar, West-Property of Kumbharappa H Kariyannanavar, South-Panchayath Road, North-Property of Kumbharappa H Kariyannanavar	12-05-2026	03-06-2026 & Rs.505938/-
32	Lakshmi Basappa Kamanahalli, Suda Basappa Kamanalli, Chandreshkar Shivalokappa Ulagaddi, /MHL00260023928			

QUICK READ

South Korea's Supreme Court upholds lower court ruling

SEOUL

South Korea's Supreme Court on Thursday upheld a seven-year prison sentence handed down to former President Yoon Suk Yeol for obstructing authorities' attempts to arrest him over his short-lived imposition of martial law in 2024. The ruling came after the Seoul High Court in April increased his prison sentence to seven years from five, after finding Yoon guilty of additional charges. The Supreme Court upheld the appeals court's finding that Yoon was also guilty of fabricating documents and failing to follow the legal process required to impose martial law, which has to be discussed at a formal cabinet meeting, as well as spreading false information to foreign media outlets.

Casualties reported after shoe factory fire in China's Fujian

BEIJING

A fire at a shoe factory in southeastern China left casualties on Thursday, state broadcaster CCTV reported, as firefighters worked to extinguish the blaze and rescue people trapped inside. The fire broke out at around noon (0400 GMT) on Thursday in the city of Jinjiang in Fujian province, with some people trapped on the rooftop, CCTV said. It was not immediately clear how many have been killed or injured. Videos released by CCTV showed flames engulfing the multi-storey factory and thick black smoke billowing into the sky. Several people, apparently trapped by the blaze, could be seen on the rooftop as smoke swirled around them.

NAME CHANGE

I, **SUMAYA ISHAQ**, W/o. Tippu Mohammed Ishaq, Resident of No. 33, Cle De Voute Apartment, Flat No. 401, 4th Floor, 1st Cross, Millers Road, Benson Town, Bengaluru -560046, Karnataka, have changed my name to **SUMAYA IBRAHIM**, vide affidavit dated: 09.07.2026 before notary MEER HASSAN, Bengaluru.

AFFIDAVIT

I, G.Malles @ Manjunath S/o Gangadharappa R/at No.67E, Guddadahalli main Road, Hebbal, Bangalore North do hereby Solemnly affirm and state that I Changed. My Name from G.Malles to Manjunath Vide affidavit no.528/93/15 date:7-7-2026 in front of Notary.

BANGALORE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

T. Chowdiah Road, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru - 560 020

No. BDA/TPM/BBC/9271/1252/2026-27

Date: 09.07.2026

PUBLICATION

(Under Section 13(1) of Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act, 1961)

Sub:Regarding the Revision of Bengaluru Business Corridor(PRR-1) in RMP-2015

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public that Government vide Order No. UDD 198 MNJ 2026, Bengaluru, dated 17.10.2025, has approved revised alignment of the Bengaluru Business Corridor (Peripheral Ring Road-1) under Section 18(3) of the Bangalore Development Authority Act, 1976, in which up to 35m width on the 100 m wide road alignment is proposed for commercial purposes. Accordingly, under Section 13(1) of the Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act, 1961, Government has accorded provisional approval vide Order No.UDD198 MNJ 2026, Bengaluru, Dated 29.05.2026 to incorporate the modifications in RMP-2015 as approved by the Government (dated 17.10.2025), submitted under Section 21 of the Karnataka General Clauses Act 1899 by Bangalore Development Authority. As per the said approval, Notification has already been published in the Karnataka State Gazette on 04.07.2026 under Section 13(1) of the Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act, 1961. Hence, the provisionally approved Maps showing the Bengaluru Business Corridor (PRR-1) are available at the Town Planner Member's Office, BBC (PRR-1) office and Engineer Member's office at Bangalore Development Authority, for public information and public may submit their comments in writing to the Office of the Town Planner Member, Bangalore Development Authority, Chowdiah Road, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru-560020, in person or through registered post, or by email at bda_rmp2041@ka.gov.in, within 60 days from the date of publication in the Karnataka State Gazette.

Helpline / Whatsapp: 9483166622 (24x7) ✉ @BDAOOfficialGok

Sd/- Town Planner Member (I/c), BDA, Bengaluru

Putin Rejects Peace Talks as Ukraine War Escalation Looms

Russian President Vladimir Putin reportedly remains committed to military objectives despite renewed diplomatic efforts and international peace initiatives.

MOSCOW

Russian President Vladimir Putin is rejecting growing calls to negotiate an end to the war in Ukraine, with sources close to the Kremlin indicating that Moscow is instead preparing for a possible escalation of the conflict. According to three individuals familiar with the Russian leadership's thinking, recent Ukrainian drone attacks on Russian oil refineries and port infrastructure have reinforced Putin's determination to continue military operations rather than pursue immediate peace talks.

The conflict, which has now entered its fifth year, has witnessed renewed diplomatic activity in recent weeks. However, the sources said Putin remains convinced that Russia can still achieve its battlefield

objectives and is unwilling to compromise at this stage. Two of the individuals, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said there is a strong likelihood that military operations will intensify in the coming months. One source who reportedly meets the Russian

president regularly described the probability of escalation as high.

The reports contrast with recent remarks by U.S. President Donald Trump, who stated earlier this week that Putin wanted the war to end and suggested that a resolution was

closer than people realize. Trump held separate telephone conversations with Putin and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy last week before meeting the Ukrainian leader during the NATO summit on Wednesday. Following the meeting, Zelenskyy said the discussions focused on ideas that could help move peace efforts forward.

Despite these diplomatic engagements, people familiar with Putin's position said the Russian leader has become even more determined to secure complete control of Ukraine's eastern Donbas region. Although Russian advances have slowed in recent months, one source said Putin believes his forces will eventually capture the remaining territory. The same individual claimed that Putin recently

dismissed suggestions from advisers who proposed accepting a ceasefire based on the current front lines as a possible compromise.The Kremlin has publicly maintained that Russia remains open to a peaceful settlement but insists that its military campaign will continue until its objectives are achieved. Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov stated that Russia possesses sufficient capability to continue what Moscow describes as its special military operation while remaining ready for a peaceful resolution if conditions are acceptable.Ukraine, however, remains skeptical of Russia's intentions. Responding to questions about the reported assessments, a senior Ukrainian official said intelligence gathered in recent months indicates that Russia is

preparing for additional military operations rather than peace negotiations. According to the official, Kyiv believes Moscow may not only expand operations within Ukraine but could also pose a broader security threat to other European nations.Military analysts in Western countries have questioned whether Russia can achieve full control of the Donbas without introducing a nationwide compulsory military draft. Such a measure would require the mobilisation of additional fighting-age men, a politically sensitive decision that Putin has largely avoided since the early stages of the conflict. At the same time, Russian military commentators have increasingly discussed the possibility of expanding the conflict beyond Ukraine.

China, Taiwan brace for Typhoon Bavi, possibly the most powerful storm in years

SUAO

China and Taiwan have stepped up emergency preparations as Typhoon Bavi approaches the region, with forecasters warning that it could become one of the most destructive tropical storms to strike the area in recent years. Carrying winds of nearly 200 kilometres per hour, the powerful storm is expected to bring torrential rain, dangerous flooding and widespread disruption as it moves towards Taiwan before making landfall in eastern China.

Meteorological agencies reported that Bavi was positioned southeast of Taiwan on Thursday and had expanded to nearly 1,000 kilometres across at its widest point, making it one of the largest storms seen in decades. Forecasts indicate that the typhoon will skirt northern Taiwan before moving towards China's Fujian province, where landfall is expected on Saturday evening.

Taiwan's Central Weather Administration warned that northern mountain regions around Taipei could receive up to one metre of rainfall, significantly increasing the risk of landslides, flash floods and overflowing rivers. Officials have urged residents living in vulnerable areas to remain alert and follow evacuation instructions if necessary.

The Taiwanese defence ministry said approximately 29,000 military personnel have been placed on standby to support rescue operations, disaster response and relief efforts. Authorities believe Bavi could become the island's strongest typhoon since Typhoon Kongrey struck in 2024, an event that claimed three lives and caused extensive property damage.Weather experts noted that storms of Bavi's size have become increasingly uncommon in recent years. Jason Chang, a forecaster with Taiwan's Central Weather Administration, described the approaching system as potentially the

Authorities intensified emergency preparations as Typhoon Bavi threatened widespread destruction across Taiwan and eastern China this weekend ahead.

largest typhoon by physical size to affect Taiwan since 1987. Although forecasters expect some weakening in wind intensity beginning Thursday, they cautioned that the storm will remain extremely dangerous as it moves across Taiwan and eastern China through the weekend.Preparations were also underway in communities expected to bear the brunt of the storm. In the northeastern Taiwanese port town of Suao, hundreds of fishing vessels crowded into the harbour seeking protection from rough seas. Residents queued to collect sandbags distributed by local authorities, while farmers hurried to harvest rice crops before heavy rain and strong winds arrived. Emer-

gency services were placed on high alert, and officials advised people to avoid unnecessary travel.

Meanwhile, China continues to recover from the devastation caused by Typhoon Maysak earlier this week. Rescue teams remained engaged in search operations across the southwestern Guangxi region, where at least 39 people were killed. Local officials said nine people were still missing as crews searched damaged communities and cleared debris left behind by the powerful storm.The back-to-back severe weather events have highlighted the increasing vulnerability of East Asia to extreme climate conditions.

Scientists have linked the growing intensity and frequency of tropical cyclones to climate change, while the expected development of El Niño this year is likely to create warmer ocean temperatures that can provide additional energy for stronger and more destructive typhoons.

Taiwan pushes back at China patrols with Coast Guard trip for foreign lawmakers

TAIPEI

Taiwan's government took a small group of foreign lawmakers on a Coast Guard ship around sensitive Taiwan-controlled islands next to the Chinese coast on Thursday, pushing back against China's Coast Guard whose patrols have angered Taipei. China views democratically governed Taiwan as its own territory and recognises no claims of sovereignty or maritime jurisdiction by Taipei.

In 2024, China's Coast Guard began regular patrols around Taiwan's Kinmen islands, which face China's Xiamen and Quanzhou cities, following the death of two Chinese nationals fleeing Taiwan's Coast Guard after entering restricted waters.

Since last month, China's Coast Guard has also patrolled in waters off Taiwan's east coast in what it said was a law enforcement operation - a move that sparked concern in the U.S., Britain, France and Germany, and infuriated Taipei.

On board the Taiwan Coast Guard ship PP-10081 for a 90-minute tour in waters around the Kinmen islands were seven foreign lawmakers and two Taiwanese members of parliament.

The trip, believed to be the first of its kind, underscores Taiwan's efforts to draw international attention to the dispute at a time when China's expanding maritime patrols are testing Taiwan's ability

to defend its waters and raising alarm among some Western governments.

The PP-10081 is one of several 100-ton patrol ships stationed in Kinmen. It did not carry any weapons on deck, and the crew were not visibly armed.

Encounters between Taiwanese and Chinese Coast Guard vessels around Kinmen are typically limited to radio exchanges and verbal warnings.

Britain's Tom Tugendhat, a former security minister and a strident China critic, told Reuters on the boat that being there was an important show of support for Taiwan.I'm in Taiwan. I'm in Taiwanese waters. This has nothing to do with Beijing. This is to do with simply defending the international rules-based system that the Chinese government in Beijing claims to have signed up to, he said.Joining him were two other British lawmakers, as well as one each from Ukraine, the Czech Republic, India and New Zealand, all members of the Inter-Parliamentary Alliance on China. They were on a trip organised by Taiwan's foreign ministry and the Ocean Affairs Council, which runs the Coast Guard.Asked about the trip, China's foreign ministry said Beijing firmly opposes lawmakers from countries that have diplomatic ties with China making sneaky visits to Taiwan.

NATO Leaders Receive Engraved Turkish Revolvers as Summit Gifts

MADRID

An unexpected diplomatic gift presented at the conclusion of the NATO summit in Turkey has attracted international attention after several world leaders returned home carrying engraved revolvers and live ammunition in their official luggage. The unusual gesture by Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan was intended to showcase Turkey's growing defence manufacturing capabilities, but it also created logistical and security challenges for some visiting delega-

tions. Belgian Prime Minister Bart De Wever was among those caught by surprise after arriving back in Belgium and discovering that a handgun and accompanying ammunition had been packed with his official belongings. Rather than taking possession of the weapon, De Wever immediately handed it over to airport police in Brussels, where it was placed in secure storage.According to officials from several participating countries, every leader attending the NATO summit in Ankara received the same commemorative firearm.

NATO weathers another Trump storm but braces for more after Ankara summit

ANKARA

NATO has weathered another storm from Donald Trump but European members of the military alliance are bracing for more turbulence ahead in relations with the U.S. president.It says much about the state of U.S.-European ties when a NATO summit that began with a U.S. leader ordering a cutoff in trade with one member, Spain, and rebuking others was widely hailed as a success after he re-committed to the alliance hours later.

Ukraine's top prosecutor says no signs of Kyiv being behind Nord Stream blasts

KYIV

Ukraine's Prosecutor General denied on Thursday Kyiv's involvement in blowing up the Nord Stream gas pipelines in 2022, and proposed forming a joint investigation team with Germany, which suspects that Ukrainian state entities were behind the explosions.

The explosions, months after Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, damaged the Nord Stream 1 pipeline, a vital route for Russian gas exports to Europe, as well as the Nord Stream 2 branch, which had yet to enter service.

The Prosecutor General's office said in a statement that, based on the investigation so far, no evidence indicated that Ukraine, its official entities or any of its officials were involved in the September 2022 explosions in the Baltic Sea, or had issued any related orders on behalf of Ukraine.

At the same time, the investigation into these circumstances is not yet complete, and the necessary evidence is still being gathered and examined, it said. Last week, German federal prosecutors charged a former Ukrainian army officer with being a co-perpetrator of a war crime over the blasts, accusing him of acting on behalf of unspecified Ukrainian state entities.Arrested in Italy in August and transferred to Germany in November, the suspect, identified as Serhiy K., has denied the charges.

NAME CHANGE

I, Mrs. **SABEHA IBRAHIM**, aged 47 years, W/o. Shameer Nechapadi, Residing at No. 401, 4th Floor, Cle De Voute Apartment No. 33, Millers Road, 1st Cross, Benson Town, Bengaluru -560046, hereby declare that **N. SHAMEER** and **SHAMEER NECHIPADPIL**, Both the names are belong to one and the same person i.e., my Husband only. Vide affidavit dated: 09.07.2026 before notary MEER HASSAN, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I Nikhil Jalla S/o Narsimha Rao Jalla R/o Flat No. 303, Laa Regency Apartment, 10th Main, Hongasandra Begur Main Road, Bangalore South, Hongasandra, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560068, India, I have changed the name of my minor Son Jalla Atharv to Atharv Nikhil Jalla aged 11 years.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, DIVYA M C alias DIVYA MAGADI CHANDRU W/o KIRAN HANUMANTHARAJ, R/o No.957, 12th Cross, 3rd Main, BharathNagar, 2nd Stage, Magadi Main Road, Handrahalli, Viswaneedam, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560091, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as DIVYA KARUNAD.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, M Y Faizul Ahamed S/o Mohammed Yussuf R/o No. 1305, Trendsquares Ambience, 13th Floor, 100/1, Thanisandra Main Road, Thanisandra, Bangalore North, Dr.Shivarama Karanth Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560077, I have changed the name of my minor Son Shayantalha to F A Shayan Talha aged 16 years.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SANAULLA KHAN aged about 66 years, Son of Abdul Subhan, residing at # 62/1, 5th Main 3rd Cross, Near Meena Masjid, Matadahalli, R T Nagar, Bangalore, Karnataka-560032, hereby declare that my name is changed to MD SANAULLA KHAN for all practical purposes, vide affidavit dated 09-Jul-2026 sworn before Advocate & Notary V. Rajashekhara, Bangalore.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Karnataka vide F. No. SEIAA 95 CON 2026 dated 16.05.2026 has issued Environmental Clearance to M/s. Astrom India Private Limited for "Expansion of Industrial Building" located at Plot No. 32, 33, 34 & 35, Japanese Industrial Township, Vasanthanarasapura, 3rd Phase Industrial Area, Tumkur District, Karnataka, as per applicable provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006 and amendments made thereafter. A copy of the Environmental Clearance certificate is available with the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board/ Committee and may also be viewed on the website of the Ministry at: <https://parivesh.nic.in>

RED BULL CRASH: VERSTAPPEN blames car balance 'terrible'

CHARLES LECLERC WON A DRAMATIC BRITISH GRAND PRIX AS MAX VERSTAPPEN'S LATE CRASH TRIGGERED A CONTROVERSIAL SAFETY CAR FINISH

SILVERSTONE

Charles Leclerc finally broke his long winning drought of twenty months at the historic British Grand Prix last weekend, but the dramatic race ended in massive confusion and boos from angry spectators. A late crash by Max Verstappen brought out the official safety car, which slowly led the drivers across the finish line instead of allowing an exciting final shootout.

With just four intense laps remaining, Verstappen spun into the gravel after his Red Bull car suffered a sudden rear wing failure. It was his second consecutive crash caused by the exact same mechanical problem. The frustrated Dutch driver blasted his own team over the radio, admitting he is completely fed up with the vehicle's terrible balance and severe lack of top speed. Red Bull bosses later promised to thoroughly investigate the dangerous issue.

Meanwhile, many fans felt

cheated by the slow finish. Track electronic screens briefly teased a single lap racing restart, but officials quickly canceled the order due to strict sporting regulations. While many disappointed supporters called for urgent rule changes to prevent safety car finishes, Mercedes driver George Russell strongly defended the final decision. He argued that vital safety rules must remain identical whether an incident happens at the start or the very end of a race.

Behind the leaders, other iconic British teams faced major development headaches. Williams continued its disappointing downward slide this season. Driver Carlos Sainz expressed deep worry that their newest aerodynamic upgrades

are simply not working, leaving them far behind the competitive midfield. McLaren also looked totally lost on the track, with Lando Norris calling his vehicle one of the hardest cars he has ever driven in his career. McLaren boss Andrea Stella admitted they are at least two months behind rivals in car updates and are heavily struggling with engine reliability.

Despite the heavy drama, Leclerc and Ferrari celebrated a wonderful victory at the historic home track.

However, the sport now faces immense pressure from critics to fix these critical technical reliability issues and thoroughly rethink race rules to keep global racing fans happy and satisfied.



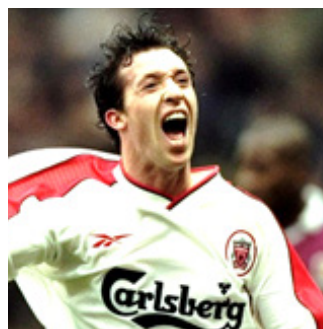
NEW DELHI

FOWLER: KNOCKOUTS ARE WHERE LEGENDS ARE BORN

NEW DELHI

Former England striker Robbie Fowler believes the FIFA World Cup has officially entered its most thrilling phase, stating that the high-stakes knockout rounds are exactly where legendary heroes are born. The iconic player turned pundit explained that the tournament's overall intensity skyrockets after the group stage, making every single upcoming match feel just like a historic cup final.

Fowler, speaking as a prominent expert analyst, noted that the tiny, split-second decisions now have the immense power to permanently alter football history. He highlighted how the global game has changed dramatically, pointing directly to Norway's stunning upset victory over tournament favorites Brazil. According to Fowler, this massive shock proves that traditional footballing superpowers can no longer afford to



underestimate their opponents, as global skill gaps have narrowed significantly.

The celebrated Liverpool icon confessed that his personal support remains firmly with England, but he expects many more wild twists and turns from other hungry squads. Fowler expressed great excitement about connecting directly with passionate football supporters in India during the final stages of the global competition. His previous coaching stint with East Bengal FC helped him forge a deep, permanent bond

with the country's energetic sports fans.

During his spectacular playing days, Fowler earned a reputation as one of the most clinical and natural goal scorers of his generation. He famously smashed 183 goals for Liverpool, securing his proud place as the seventh-highest scorer in the English club's rich history. He also represented England twenty-six times, playing in major tournaments like the 2002 World Cup before transitioning into a global coaching career spanning Australia, Thailand, and the Middle East.

With the current tournament reaching its absolute business end, Fowler's sharp tactical insights will help guide fans through the chaos. As billions of eager spectators tune in worldwide, the legendary forward promises that the remaining matches will deliver special, unforgettable moments that will be talked about for decades to come.

Injury knocks Morocco's Saibari out of quarter final

FOXBOROUGH

Morocco has suffered a massive, devastating setback just before their highly anticipated FIFA World Cup quarter-final showdown against title contenders France. In-form star forward Ismael Saibari has been officially ruled out of the crucial knockout match due to a painful hamstring injury. Head coach Mohamed Ouahbi confirmed the heavy blow during an emotional pre-match press conference.

The twenty-five-year-old newly signed Bayern Munich attacker sustained the injury during Morocco's triumphant round of 16 victory against Canada. Saibari had been one of the absolute standout performers for the history-making African side, scoring brilliant goals in all three group stage matches and converting a pressure-filled penalty in their dramatic knockout shootout victory over the Netherlands. While his presence will be sorely missed on the pitch, Coach Ouahbi expressed strong optimism that the forward could return for the semi-finals if the Atlas Lions manage to progress.

In addition to the team's injury woes, FIFA has sparked intense global debate by appointing an exclusively Argentine refereeing crew for this highly charged European-African clash. This marks the first time in the 2026 tournament that a single nation

will completely control an entire officiating lineup. However, Coach Ouahbi confidently downplayed any potential controversy, praising the immense experience of the selected match officials and urging his team to remain calm and focused purely on their play.

Historically, France has held a firm upper hand in this rivalry, securing four victories out of their six previous competitive meetings. The fixture also serves as a high-stakes rematch of the iconic 2022 World Cup semi-final in Qatar, where France ended Morocco's fairytale run with a hard-fought 2-0 victory. This time around, even without their star attacker, the defiant Moroccan squad is completely determined to rewrite history, avenge their past heartbreak, and book an elusive spot in the final four.



All-Argentine referee crew sparks World Cup debate

FOXBOROUGH

France and Morocco are ignoring the referee controversy ahead of their massive World Cup quarter-final. FIFA sparked a huge debate by choosing an all-Argentine officiating team for this high-stakes knockout match.

The decision raised eyebrows because of France's fierce football rivalry with Argentina. However, French coach Didier Deschamps quickly brushed off any worries about bias. He stated he fully trusts the match officials, reminding his players to focus entirely on Morocco.

Morocco coach Mohamed Ouahbi also dismissed the outside noise, saying his squad feels incredibly calm. He praised the quality of the experienced professionals handling the game.

Both teams are focused on history rather than the whistle. France wants a third straight semi-final appearance, while Morocco seeks revenge for their 2022 semi-final loss. Instead of getting distracted by fan chatter, both camps are determined to let their football do the talking.

Jimmy Neesham signs Auckland cricket contract

AUCKLAND

New Zealand's six major cricket associations have announced their opening round of men's domestic contracts for the 2026/27 season, with several high-profile player movements and young talents earning professional deals.

Veteran all-rounder Jimmy Neesham has committed to a permanent full-time contract with Auckland after several seasons of casual domestic appearances. The 34-year-old, who previously balanced international commitments with franchise cricket, will bring valuable experience and leadership to Auckland's squad alongside returning spinner Adithya Ashok.

Several teams strengthened their squads through key transfers. Wellington signed fast bowler Henry Shipley from Canterbury to bolster its pace attack and retained youngster Muhammad Abbas after his national central contract stint.

Top-order batter Nick Kelly is set to return to Northern Districts after four seasons as Wellington captain across all formats. Central Districts also



Ben Stokes mocks ICC investigation with joke

NEW DELHI

England cricket icon Ben Stokes has responded with a hilarious two-word social media reaction following reports that global officials were investigating his sudden international retirement announcement. The International Cricket Council allegedly contacted English cricket bosses after emotional behind-the-scenes footage from inside the team dressing room was publicly released while a major match was still actively being played.

The dramatic video captured the thirty-five-year-old star informing his teammates about his decision to step away from international cricket before the fourth day of the final Test against New Zealand at Trent Bridge. The England and Wales Cricket Board published the clip while Stokes was still competing out on the field. Re-

acting to the viral news reports on social media, the cheeky former captain jokingly posted, "Sack him..."

The unexpected controversy stems from strict global anti-corruption regulations designed to protect players. Official rules firmly state that member boards must ensure no fixed or temporary recording equipment is ever used inside active dressing rooms to broadcast audio or video footage. Governing bodies are strictly reminded that any footage captured within these highly restricted areas must not contain audio, nor should it ever be released to the public before the match officially concludes.

Despite the intense off-field drama and the minor rule scare, sporting insiders confirm that the communication is merely a friendly reminder and will not lead to any formal disciplinary actions against the home board.

Harsh Mehta to captain Indian Pickleball squad

MUMBAI

The Indian Pickleball Association has officially announced its elite national squad for the upcoming Pickleball World Cup 2026. Following an intense and highly competitive selection process, global circuit veteran Harsh Mehta has been named captain to lead the country's charge in the prestigious professional category. The highly anticipated global tournament will take place in Da Nang, Vietnam, from August 30 to September 6.

Mehta will spearhead a talented men's lineup that includes Arjun Singh, who pulls double duty as the under-eighteen team captain, alongside skilled competitors Anish Frolian and Aman Patel. Expressing his immense pride and gratitude, Mehta emphasized that while individual talent wins matches, true team unity is what secures world championships. He voiced high confidence that the closely-knit squad would perform at their absolute peak and make a deep run

in the tournament.

The women's contingent boasts incredible depth with Mihika Yadav, Aaliyah Ebrahim, and the formidable sibling duo of Pearl and Naomi Amalsadiwala. The Amalsadiwala sisters have utterly dominated the domestic circuit over the past year, consistently securing podium finishes in both doubles and mixed events. Notably, Naomi and Arjun Singh are considered strong medal frontrunners after recently shocking the world by defeating legendary, top-three globally ranked international partnerships.

The ambitious Indian team heads to Vietnam with high expectations, determined to upgrade the impressive bronze medal they secured during the previous edition of the tournament. To ensure peak physical condition, the selected athletes will soon enter a rigorous, high-performance training camp focusing on advanced technical skills, physical conditioning, mental resilience, and sports nutrition.



QUICK READ

Flipkart's food business grows 50% as health rises

Bengaluru

Flipkart's food and nutrition business is growing 50% year-on-year, driven by rising demand for healthier products and increased purchases from smaller cities, company executive Nishant Dalal said. Consumers are increasingly buying nuts, dry fruits, protein-rich breakfasts, cold-pressed oils and premium food items as health awareness grows. Gen Z shoppers are emerging as a major growth driver, contributing significantly to the segment's expansion. Flipkart is also witnessing strong growth from Tier-2 and beyond markets. Food influencers and creators are helping customers discover new products and healthier alternatives, while AI tools are increasingly being used for product searches.

India leads major economies in intangible investment growth

New Delhi

India has emerged as the fastest-growing major economy in intangible investments, according to the World Intangible Investment Report 2026 cited by Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal. The country recorded 7.9% growth in intangible investment, reaching USD 78.2 billion in 2023, driven by software, research and development, intellectual property and innovation capabilities. The report by the World Intellectual Property Organization and Luiss Business School highlighted India's strong focus on software and databases, which accounted for nearly 45% of total intangible investment. Goyal said policy reforms, digital transformation and start-up support are strengthening India's innovation-led economic growth.



Meta faces scrutiny over alleged CSEAM advertisements

NEW DELHI

The government will decide its next course of action against Meta after reviewing the company's formal response to a notice issued over alleged promotion of Child Sexual Exploitative and Abuse Material (CSEAM) through paid advertisements on Instagram, IT Secretary S. Krishnan said on Thursday.

Speaking on the sidelines of the CII GCC Business Summit, Krishnan said the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) is awaiting Meta's reply before taking any further steps.

"We will await the formal response to the notice that we have issued, and thereafter we will take a view based on what the response is," he said.

The government had issued the notice to Meta after concerns were raised over paid advertisements on Instagram allegedly promoting and facilitating access to child sexual abuse material. MeitY had directed Instagram to disable advertisements and content connected with such material.

Earlier, IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw had instructed ministry officials to seek an explanation from Meta regarding the alleged presence of such content on the platform. The ministry also sought details of measures



AustralianSuper's boosts India investment through NIIF commitment

Sitharaman hails PM Modi as AustralianSuper commits additional AUD 500 million to NIIF, boosting India's infrastructure investment and investor confidence

NEW DELHI

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Thursday welcomed AustralianSuper's additional AUD 500 million investment in India's National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF), describing it as a reflection of growing global confidence in the country's economic growth and investment potential.

Taking to her official social media account, Sitharaman thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi for promoting greater foreign investment and strengthening the NIIF platform. She said India has continued to remain one of the fastest-growing major economies under Modi's leadership and appreciated AustralianSuper for its continued trust in India's growth story.

The fresh investment commitment will take Australian-



Super's total investments across various asset classes in India to AUD 3.3 billion, further expanding the Australian pension fund's presence in the country.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi also highlighted the development, saying the investment demonstrates rising global confidence in India's economic reforms and growth trajectory. He said the commitment reflects the opportu-

nities available in India's expanding domestic market and encouraged more global investors, including pension funds, to participate in the country's long-term development journey.

The announcement came after Modi's address at the India-Australia CEO Forum and Economic Roadmap Business Reception during his visit to Australia. The Prime Minister positioned India as a reliable and attractive destination for long-term investments while emphasizing the growing economic partnership between the two nations.

AustralianSuper Chief Executive Officer Paul Schroder said India's stable policy environment and long-term economic vision have strengthened investor confidence. Speaking on the sidelines of the business event, Schroder praised Modi's approach to-

wards engaging with businesses and creating conditions that support major global investments.

He said the India-Australia relationship offers significant opportunities for collaboration and mutual learning, particularly in areas linked to infrastructure development and economic growth.

AustralianSuper said the latest capital commitment builds on the AUD 240 million investment it made seven years ago. The additional funding is expected to support India's infrastructure expansion and contribute to the country's long-term economic development goals.

The investment marks another major step in strengthening financial ties between India and Australia and reflects increasing participation of global institutional investors in India's growth story.



GCCs emerge as key drivers of India's innovation economy

NEW DELHI

Global Capability Centres (GCCs) have evolved from back-office support units into high-value hubs for research, design and innovation, making them a key pillar of India's economy and an important contributor to the vision of Viksit Bharat, a senior Labour Ministry official said on Thursday.

Ajoy Sharma, Additional Secretary and Director General (Employment), Ministry of Labour and Employment, said the GCC sector has witnessed remarkable growth over the years and is now undertaking advanced activities that place it much higher in the global value chain.

Speaking in the national capital, Sharma said the traditional perception of GCCs as cost-effective back-office operations has changed significantly.

"GCCs have grown tremendously. Earlier, they were viewed mainly as entities performing back-office work, but today they are engaged in research and design activities, which are much higher up the value chain," he said.

According to Sharma, the transformation of GCCs reflects India's broader economic progress and strengthens the country's position as a global innovation and technology destination. He noted that the sector has become an important pillar of the Indian economy during a period of rapid economic transformation.

Referring to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of Viksit Bharat, Sharma said achieving the goal of making

GCCs evolve into innovation hubs, driving research, design and high-value services while playing a crucial role in India's Viksit Bharat vision: Labour Ministry

India a developed nation requires collective efforts from the government, industry and all stakeholders.

He said the GCC sector is well aligned with the country's long-term development objectives and is expected to play a significant role in supporting innovation, employment and economic growth.

Sharma stressed that the responsibility for achieving the Viksit Bharat vision does not rest solely with the government. Instead, it requires close collaboration between ministries, businesses and other stakeholders through a whole-of-government approach.

"Every ministry is working hand in hand, and it is a whole-of-government approach. Industry and all stakeholders also have an important role to play in achieving the vision of Viksit Bharat," he said.

India has emerged as one of the world's leading destinations for Global Capability Centres, with multinational companies increasingly establishing centres focused on technology development, engineering, digital transformation, artificial intelligence, research and product innovation, further strengthening the country's position in the global knowledge economy.

Gujarat launches Data Centre Policy 2026-29 to attract investments, strengthen AI infrastructure, boost digital economy and emerge as global hub

Gujarat launches Viksit Data Centre Policy 2026-29 initiative

GANDHINAGAR

The Gujarat government on Thursday launched the Viksit Gujarat – Data Centre Policy 2026-29, aiming to position the state as a leading destination for data centres, artificial intelligence (AI) infrastructure and digital services. Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel unveiled the policy in Gandhinagar in the presence of senior ministers, government officials and representatives of the technology industry.

Science and Technology Department Secretary P. Bharathi described data as a critical resource powering digital payments, cloud computing, AI applications, online transactions, government services and innovation. She noted that although India gener-

ates nearly 20 per cent of the world's data, it accounts for only around three per cent of global data centre capacity, underscoring the need for rapid expansion of digital infrastructure.

The policy offers several fiscal incentives to attract investments, including capital and interest subsidies, power tariff support, reimbursement of State GST and electricity duty, stamp duty exemptions, and assistance for desalination plants. It also provides non-fiscal incentives to encourage the establishment of hyperscale data centres and AI infrastructure in the state.

Bharathi announced that two cable landing stations are planned in Gujarat, while another project will be announced soon. The additional international connec-

tivity is expected to strengthen Gujarat's attractiveness as a preferred destination for global data centre investments.

According to the policy document, Gujarat has 69 GW of installed power capacity, including 47 GW generated from renewable sources, along with industrial hubs such as Dholera and GIFT City that can support large-scale digital infrastructure. The state aims to play a significant role in the expected global expansion of data centre capacity while contributing to its target of becoming a USD 3.5 trillion economy by 2047.

Science and Technology Minister Arjun Modhwadia said AI and quantum computing would drive the next phase of economic growth.



Finance panel to finish securities code bill review

NEW DELHI

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance is expected to complete its clause-by-clause scrutiny of the proposed Securities Market Code Bill, with around 25 clauses remaining for examination, Chairman Bhartuhari Mahtab said. The committee has reviewed more than 100 of the Bill's 157 clauses after receiving clarifications and amendment suggestions from the government. The Bill seeks to consolidate India's securities market laws by replacing multiple legislations, including the SEBI Act, Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act and Depositories Act. The committee plans to prepare its draft report by July 15 and is likely to present it during the Monsoon Session of Parliament.

India food services market set to hit USD 150 billion

NEW DELHI

India's food services market is projected to expand from around USD 90 billion in FY26 to USD 150 billion by FY31, driven by rising consumer spending, online food delivery growth and increasing preference for eating outside the home, according to a report by Redseer Consulting.

The report said the share of online food delivery in the overall food services market is expected to rise from 11 per cent in FY26 to 18 per cent by FY31, reflecting changing consumer habits and wider adoption of digital platforms.

Over the past five years, India's food services sector has witnessed strong growth, increasing from USD 56 billion in FY21 to nearly USD 90 billion in FY26. During the same period, the online segment's contribution grew from 4 per cent to 11 per cent.

Redseer said the sector is benefiting from increased demand for convenience, higher spending on dining experiences and the expansion of organised food service brands. Younger consumers, especially in metropolitan and Tier-1 cities, are increasingly opting for outside meals not only for convenience but also for social events and celebrations. The report highlighted that the organised food services segment currently contributes around 45-50 per cent of the total market and is expected to grow faster than the unorganised segment. However, significant opportunities remain as only a small number of organised companies have achieved large-scale revenues.

Among approximately 1,000-1,500 organised food service companies, only about 2 per cent have crossed revenues of Rs 500 crore, while nearly 89-90 per cent earn less than Rs 50 crore annually.

ADB lowers Asia-Pacific growth forecast amid energy disruptions

NEW DELHI

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has lowered its economic growth forecast for developing economies in Asia and the Pacific to 4.9 per cent in 2026, citing prolonged disruptions in global energy markets caused by geopolitical tensions and rising inflationary pressures.

The revised projection is 0.2 percentage points lower than the forecast released in April and compares with the region's 5.5 per cent growth recorded in 2025. According to the latest Asian Development Outlook July 2026, ongoing conflicts in the Middle East have affected energy supplies, commodity prices, fertilizers and global supply chains.

ADB said energy market disruptions are expected to ease gradually despite a

framework agreement reached in June. However, uncertainty over implementation and possible renewed tensions continue to pose significant risks to economic stability.

The bank has raised its regional inflation forecast for 2026 to 4.3 per cent, an increase of 0.7 percentage points from its earlier estimate. ADB Chief Economist Albert Park said developing Asia remains resilient but faces challenges from geopolitical conflicts, requiring governments to balance growth support with inflation control.

The report warned that prolonged instability could further tighten energy markets, increase risk premiums and add pressure on economies. Higher global interest rates are also raising borrowing costs and government bond yields, potentially widening fiscal deficits in several coun-

tries. Rising fertilizer prices remain a concern for agricultural output and food security, while trade uncertainties and higher tariffs could weigh on economic activity.

Most subregions saw their 2026 growth projections reduced, with developing East Asia being the only exception. China's growth forecast remains unchanged at 4.6 per cent for 2026 and 4.5 per cent for 2027, supported by infrastructure spending and exports. India's growth forecast was revised to 6.6 per cent for 2026 due to higher energy costs affecting domestic demand, while the 2027 projection remains at 7.3 percent.

ADB maintained its broader regional growth forecast for 2027 at 5.1 percent, expecting economic activity to recover as geopolitical and inflationary pressures gradually ease.

RUPEE FALLS EARLY

Rising oil prices pressure rupee against dollar

MUMBAI

The rupee slipped 4 paise to 95.52 against the US dollar in early trade on Thursday, pressured by a sharp rise in global crude oil prices following renewed tensions in West Asia that raised concerns over global trade and energy supplies.

According to market analysts, crude oil prices climbed to their highest levels in weeks after US President Donald Trump announced an

end to the ceasefire with Iran following reported Iranian attacks on commercial vessels in the Strait of Hormuz and on American military installations in the Gulf region. The escalation has heightened fears of disruptions to oil shipments through the strategic waterway.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the domestic currency opened at 95.52 against the dollar, down four paise from its previous close. On Wednesday, the rupee had

recorded a sharp decline of 52 paise to settle at 95.48 against the US currency.

Despite pressure from rising oil prices, analysts said positive sentiment in domestic equity markets helped limit further losses in the rupee.

The US dollar index, which measures the greenback against a basket of six major currencies, was trading 0.09 per cent lower at 100.98. Meanwhile, Brent crude futures rose one per cent to USD 78.80 per barrel, reflect-



ing investor concerns over possible supply disruptions.

Analysts warned that any prolonged blockage of the Strait of Hormuz could significantly affect global oil supplies and keep crude prices elevated, adding pressure

on oil-importing economies such as India.

Domestic equity markets rebounded after heavy losses in the previous session. The BSE Sensex gained 454.78 points, or 0.59 per cent, to 76,958.38, while the NSE Nifty advanced 151.10 points, or 0.63 per cent, to 24,033.15.

Foreign institutional investors (FIIs) remained net buyers, purchasing equities worth Rs 1,962.80 crore on Wednesday, according to exchange data.



Neeru Sharma's Bandra Boy tackles media narratives

After spending more than two decades reporting on Bollywood, veteran entertainment journalist Neeru Sharma has successfully transitioned from writing headlines to directing films. Sharma makes her formal directorial debut with *Bandra Boy*, a gripping twenty-one-minute Hindi thriller that draws deeply from her extensive career observing media culture and public perception.

To prepare for this major career shift, Sharma completed a professional direction course at the renowned Whistling Woods International institute. Her debut project explores a highly relevant world where crafted narratives often become far more powerful than the actual truth. The intense film explicitly examines how modern media,

authority figures, and public opinion collectively twist facts.

The narrative focuses heavily on contemporary digital themes, including misinformation, so-



cial prejudice, and the dangerous speed at which public judgment can permanently ruin an individual's identity. The project boasts an impressive ensemble cast, starring popular actor

Ahwaan Kumar in the lead role alongside acclaimed regional actor Dharmendra Gohil.

Behind the scenes, the short film features a skilled technical crew. The project is produced by Rajeesh Parashar and edited by industry veteran Sandeep Kurup, who previously worked on major Hindi feature films like *Mubarakan*.

Following an enthusiastic response to its recent promo from media peers, *Bandra Boy* has officially started its festival journey. The timely film has already been submitted to several prestigious national and international film festivals. Ultimately, Sharma's inspiring transition from documenting filmmakers to becoming one herself highlights a bold second innings in showbiz.

DULQUER SALMAAN'S DQ41 SET FOR TITLE REVEAL

Pan-Indian star Dulquer Salmaan has a highly packed and exciting lineup of big-budget movie releases scheduled for this year. Among his most anticipated upcoming projects is his fifth straight Telugu venture, temporarily titled *DQ41*. Sending waves of excitement across South Indian cinema circles, the filmmakers officially announced today that the movie's definitive title alongside its highly anticipated first-look poster will be publicly unveiled soon.

To break the news, the production house shared a beautiful update poster that instantly exuded incredibly pleasant and warm romantic vibes. The promotional team also introduced a captivating main hashtag, *#LoveWillSpeakAgain*, which strongly hints that the movie will be a feel-good, emotionally layered contemporary romantic drama skillfully intertwined with gripping mystery elements. Directed by talented newcomer Ravi Nelakuditi, the narrative reportedly presents Salmaan in a clean, high-intensity romantic avatar set against a visually spectacular scale.

The massive project features glamorous actress Pooja Hegde playing the main female lead, marking the very first time these two popular stars are sharing screen space together. Beyond the fresh lead pair, the high-budget film boasts an incredible ensemble cast comprising leg-

endary industry powerhouses. Renowned actors Ramya Krishnan, Jagapathi Babu, Rao Ramesh, Sachin Khedekar, and rising star Dheekshith Shetty are locked in to play highly pivotal roles in this intricate story.

The film is being bankrolled on a lavish scale by the prominent production house SLV Cinemas, the highly successful banner that is also currently producing the upcoming action film *The Paradise*.



Renowned veteran filmmaker MS Raju is officially venturing into entirely uncharted cinematic territory with his highly anticipated upcoming mystical thriller, titled *Agadha*. The ambitious project has already generated significant curiosity across the South Indian film industry following the viral success of its intense first-look posters and mysterious teaser. The production house has now formally announced that the grand movie will hit theaters nationwide on August 14, 2026.

To celebrate the major announcement, the creative team unveiled a striking



new promotional poster that firmly locks in the mid-August release date. Written and directed exclusively by MS Raju himself, the film is being produced on a massive scale as a true pan-Indian theatrical

Akhil Akkineni's Lenin hits theaters nationwide

Following a long three-year hiatus from the silver screen, popular Tollywood actor Akhil Akkineni

is making a massive, highly anticipated theatrical comeback tomorrow with his grand cinematic venture, titled *Lenin*. Both the talented lead actor and the creative production crew have openly expressed high confidence that this ambitious project will strike a powerful chord with audiences and emerge as a historic box-office success.

Ahead of its worldwide theatrical release, the Central Board of Film Certification officially granted the movie a standard U/A rating. The newly published censor report reveals a total approved runtime of 158 minutes, offering fans an engaging two hours and thirty-eight minutes of pure entertainment. Interestingly, the official review certificate firmly indicates that the film is a raw, high-intensity, and violent action drama, completely defying previous fan expectations of a tradition-

al, soft romantic love story.

To successfully secure the family-friendly U/A rating rather than an adult certificate, the filmmakers willingly agreed to complete thirty-two seconds of precise structural cuts. The removed segments mostly contained highly graphic imagery, including explicit decapitation sequences and excessive cinematic bloodshed. Additionally, color technicians intentionally darkened several intense combat scenes to effectively minimize the raw visual impact of the violence without compromising the director's unique storytelling vision.

Akhil plays the fierce titular character, supported by a stellar ensemble cast featuring rising star Bhagyashree Borse alongside Pramod Panju, Sivaji, Brahmaji, Sunil, and veteran actress Easwari Rao in pivotal roles. The prestigious project is being jointly bankrolled on a lavish scale by Akkineni Nagarjuna and Suryadevara Naga Vamsi under the combined banners of Manam Enterprises, Sithara Entertainment, and Annapurna Studios. With a thumping musical score composed by hitmaker Thaman S., the massive action spectacle has already witnessed exceptional advance ticket bookings across global markets.



actress Kiara Advani. Advani's upcoming action-thriller, *Toxic*, is currently locked in for a major nationwide release on August 26, meaning the real-life star couple will no longer have to compete against each other for multiplex screens.

Directed by popular filmmaker Deepak Kumar Mishra, *The Vvaan* has already created massive buzz across social media for its unique plot structure, which seamlessly blends ancient Indian mythology, deep supernatural mystery, and dark forest folklore. Glamorous actress Tamannaah Bhatia plays the main female lead, heading a stellar ensemble cast that features versatile television icon Shweta Tiwari, comedy powerhouse Sunil Grover, Manish Paul, and veteran performer Anup Soni in pivotal roles.



Sidharth Malhotra's "The Vvaan" delayed to September

MS Raju's Agadha to release on August 14

release under the prestigious Sri Adi Varaha Entertainments banner. The highly respected director has openly stated that this high-concept supernatural thriller stands out as one of the most creatively ambitious and expensive projects of his decades-long cinematic career.

While the core plot details are being strictly kept under wraps to prevent spoilers, the promotional teaser successfully offers a fascinating glimpse into a deeply mysterious and dark universe. Touted heavily by trade insiders as a high-octane suspense thriller packed with heavy fantasy elements, *Agadha* features an incredibly talented ensemble cast. Rising stars Kamakshi Bhaskarla, Shravan Reddy, Jovika Vijay-

kumar, and Ulka Gupta are set to play the demanding lead roles in this complex story.

With the official release date now publicly set for the lucrative Independence Day holiday weekend, the film's promotional campaign is expected to gather rapid pace over the coming weeks. The marketing team is planning a series of massive audio launches, character reveal videos, and interactive fan events across multiple major cities to sustain the growing hype. Film critics and eager moviegoers alike are highly enthusiastic to see how the legendary filmmaker handles this unique blend of modern psychological suspense and ancient fantasy.



KAJAL PROMOTES REALISTIC DRAMA 'THE INDIA STORY'

Star actress Kajal Aggarwal is actively leading an aggressive promotional campaign for her highly anticipated upcoming cinematic project, titled *The India Story*. While interacting with media outlets during a high-profile press event, the popular actress revealed that the entire production team has poured immense effort into seamlessly bringing this vital, realistic narrative to life on the silver screen.

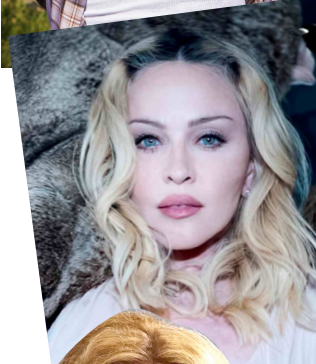
Kajal passionately explained that the film's core theme revolves around a universal, everyday subject that will instantly connect with families across the nation. She emphasized that the creative team has structured the screenplay as a highly engaging and hard-hitting courtroom drama, making it deeply relevant to audiences spanning all age groups. The actress also showered rich praise on director Chettan DK and the dedicated technical crew for their unwavering commitment to maintaining absolute authenticity

throughout the intense, multi-city shooting schedule.

Subtitled *Slow Poison* in Progress, the socially relevant narrative features versatile actor Shreyas Talpade playing the main lead alongside Kajal, who portrays a determined advocate fighting for justice. The plot takes a deep, uncompromising look into the hidden, terrifying world of severe food adulteration and toxic pesticide misuse in farming, shedding crucial light on how corporate greed directly impacts public health and children's safety. To heighten the ongoing excitement, Zee Studios and MIG Production & Studios recently unveiled a chaotic new theatrical poster capturing the lead actors being attacked by an aggressive mob in a crowded vegetable market.

With Kajal expressing such supreme confidence in the film's hard-hitting message, trade expectations surrounding the box-office prospects of *The India Story* have reached a new peak.

Bieber, Madonna, Shakira, BTS for FIFA halftime show



FIFA President Gianni Infantino has announced an incredible lineup for the first-ever World Cup Final halftime show. Pop star Justin Bieber will join legendary singers Madonna, Shakira, and global sensations BTS as the main performers for this historic musical event on July 19.

The massive eleven-minute concert will happen live during halftime at the final match. The grand final game is being held at the famous New York New Jersey Stadium. Music fans and soccer lovers are thrilled because this special event completely bridges the gap between sports and music on the grandest global stage.

The highly anticipated entertainment show is being organized by Coldplay frontman Chris Martin alongside

Global Citizen. It aims to support a great cause by raising money for the FIFA Global Citizen Education Fund, which helps kids worldwide access schools and soccer programs.

Apart from the primary headliners, the short concert will feature other famous names. Afrobeats star Burna Boy, talented orchestra conductor Gustavo Dudamel, and the local PS22 Chorus will also take the stage alongside Coldplay to create an unforgettable experience.

Infantino stated that the event is meant to spread a powerful message of global unity and hope to billions of viewers. Meanwhile, the tournament has entered the intense quarterfinal rounds. Eight highly competitive teams, including former champions France and Argentina, are still fighting fiercely to win the golden trophy.