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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

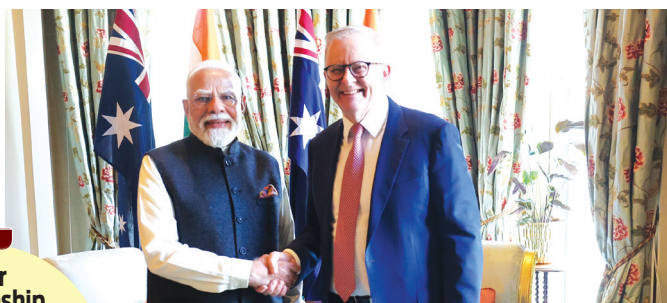
India and Australia on Thursday signed a series of landmark agreements to deepen cooperation in civil nuclear energy, maritime security, critical minerals, defence and emerging technologies, reinforcing their Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and

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

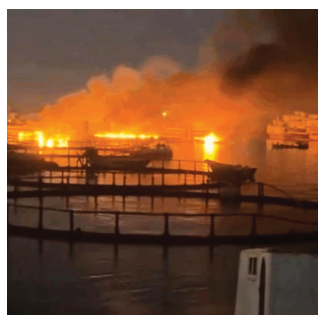
Iran launched retaliatory strikes on United States military facilities in Bahrain, Kuwait and Qatar on Thursday after a second consecutive night of US attacks on Iranian territory, sharply escalating tensions across the Gulf. Tehran said it targeted "US bases and strategic centres" in response to American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

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 (BMTCT) 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

School celebrates Vanamahotsava with green initiative

BHATKAL

Srivali High School in Chitrapur celebrated “Vanamahotsava” to promote environmental sustainability and climate awareness among students. Organized alongside the Rotary Club of Bhatkal and the Interact Club, the event featured the planting of diverse, useful saplings across the campus. Speakers emphasized that the younger generation plays a vital role in combating climate change. Headmistress Mamata M. Bhatkal, Interact Coordinator Sanjay Gudigaara, and the school's teaching staff actively participated alongside student volunteers. Newly elected Rotary Club President Srinath Pai and Secretary Anam Ala also attended to support the community's green initiative.

Officials clash over SIR reforms in Khanapur

BELGAUM

High drama unfolded at the Khanapur Tahsildar's office after a heated argument broke out between the local Tahsildar and Panchayat Development Officers (PDOs). The official meeting, called under directives from the District Magistrate, was meant to address ongoing Standardized Information Receiver (SIR) issues. However, discussions quickly derailed into an intense, word-for-word shouting match between the administrative heads. Furious over the confrontation, the PDOs staged a dramatic walkout from the office. They openly accused the Tahsildar of arrogance, bringing local government proceedings to an unexpected halt.

Sister in law arrested for brutal planned murder

CHITRADURGA

The Chitradurga rural police have cracked a brutal murder case, arresting a woman and three accomplices for killing her brother-in-law. The victim, 49-year-old lab technician Shivamurthy, was targeted after he objected to his sister-in-law's illicit relationship. According to investigators, the suspects lured Shivamurthy to Channagiri under the false pretext of renting his car. Once there, they slit his throat in a pre-planned attack. To destroy evidence, the group transported his body to Ingaladal village and set it on fire. While four suspects are in custody, police are hunting for one remaining accomplice.

Min. Joshi hails India's clean energy momentum

India's non-fossil fuel capacity reached 297.36 gigawatts, surpassing the US to become the world's second-largest solar producer

HUBBALLI

India's clean energy transformation is gaining massive momentum as the nation moves rapidly toward total self-reliance in its power sector. Union Minister for New and Renewable Energy Pralhad Joshi announced that India's non-fossil fuel capacity has dramatically surged to 297.36 gigawatts. This marks a phenomenal growth of fifty-five gigawatts in a single year, up from the 242.78 gigawatts recorded in June last year.

Under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the country has firmly established itself at the absolute forefront of global



green energy initiatives. A standout achievement in this green revolution is India's spectacular rise in solar power generation. The country has officially surpassed the United States to secure the second-largest solar power production capacity in the world. India registered over thirty-seven gigawatts of new solar energy installations,

while the United States trailed behind with thirty-four gigawatts.

The nation's total installed solar capacity skyrocketed from 116.25 gigawatts to over 162 gigawatts by June 2026. This monumental milestone was heavily driven by successful government programs, including the popular PM Suryagarh and PM Kusum schemes. These initiatives have successfully expanded the domestic clean energy market through large-scale solar parks, rural agricultural pump solarization, and millions of rooftop solar plants. Wind energy capacity also witnessed an impressive boost, climbing steadily to 57.44 gigawatts.

According to reports, these combined achievements have significantly strengthened India's standing as a dominant global green leader. Minister Joshi asserted that these proactive steps are paving the way for a highly sustainable, eco-friendly, and secure environment for future generations.

By rapidly reducing carbon emissions and scaling up domestic manufacturing of solar equipment, the country is successfully decreasing its dependency on traditional fossil fuels. The unprecedented pace of this ongoing energy transition proves that the ambitious goal of a green and entirely self-sufficient India is quickly becoming a reality.

Former minister Lakshmi Hebbalkar praised the central delegation's commendation of Karnataka's Gruhalakshmi Scheme

Opposition copying Karnataka Women's Scheme, Says Hebbalkar

BELGAUM

Former state minister Lakshmi Hebbalkar expressed immense joy after a high-level central delegation officially praised Karnataka's flagship Gruhalakshmi Scheme. Hebbalkar revealed that the Central Commission's latest formal report directly highlights the welfare program as a major, groundbreaking milestone for the overall economic independence and self-reliance of women.

The senior leader used the opportunity to aggressively push back against opposition parties, particularly slamming the Bharatiya Janata Party for its previous financial criticisms. The opposition had loudly alleged that the welfare program would burden the state with an unsustainable five-thousand-crore expenditure. Hebbalkar noted that despite those bitter political attacks, the ruling National Democratic Alliance and var-



ious BJP-led state governments have ironically copied Karnataka's successful model to launch identical women-centric programs across the country.

Shifting focus to highly discussed regional politics, Hebbalkar voiced deep confidence regarding an upcoming state cabinet expansion. Pointing out that the ruling Congress party successfully won eleven local assembly seats in Belagavi, she strongly advocated for the massive district to be rewarded with two additional ministerial berths. When pressed by eager journalists for an exact timeline on these crucial political ap-

pointments, she playfully directed them to question the Chief Minister instead.

Hebbalkar firmly rejected the opposition's claims regarding a lack of regional development, asserting that newly appointed Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar holds a grand, progressive vision for the complete transformation of North Karnataka, Kittur Karnataka, and Kalyan Karnataka. Describing Belagavi as the state's proud second capital due to its close economic proximity to major financial hubs like Mumbai and Goa, she urged global industrialists to set up local manufacturing units to generate widespread youth employment.

Dismissing current debates about dividing the massive district as completely irrelevant, she confidently maintained that the top leadership will successfully fulfill the high expectations of local citizens.

3 Gadag cooperative societies officially liquidated

GADAG

Local authorities have officially shut down three cooperative societies in the Gadag taluk after they failed to operate for several years.

The Deputy Registrar of Cooperative Societies issued a strict winding-up order and appointed a liquidator to manage the closure process, as these groups were no longer following their official rules.

Investigations revealed that these organizations were completely missing from their registered addresses.

Furthermore, officials could not find any trace of information regarding their board members or Chief Executive Officers. Because they have vanished without a trace, the government is now stepping in to legally dissolve them.

The Assistant Registrar of Cooperative Societies has issued a final warning to the public.

If anyone has outstanding financial matters with these groups, either owing money or expecting a payment, they must act quickly.

Krishna River floods close Karnataka-Maharashtra highway

BELAGAVI

Severe torrential rains in the Western Ghats of Maharashtra have caused water levels in the Krishna River to spike dramatically, triggering widespread flood panic across the border districts. The heavy surge of water has completely submerged the vital Kudachi-Ugar Khurd Bridge located in the Rayabag taluk of Belagavi. Consequently, local police authorities have officially closed down the prominent Jamkhandi-Miraj state highway to prevent potential accidents.



The raging Krishna River is currently experiencing a massive inflow of 135,000 cusecs of water, sending shockwaves through low-lying riverbank communities. With water flowing over a foot high across the submerged structure, Kudachi police personnel rushed to the spot to install heavy barricades. This critical highway serves as a primary transit link between Karnataka and Maharashtra, handling hundreds of state transport buses and commercial commuter vehicles daily.

The sudden closure of the Kudachi-Ainapur and Kudachi-Ugar Khurd bridges has thrown daily life into absolute chaos for thousands of travelers. Commuters heading toward Maharashtra are now facing a grueling fifty-kilometer detour to reach their destinations. Eager passen-

gers trying to reach prominent towns like Sangli and Miraj must navigate completely alternate routes through the Darur and Ankali roads while border administration officials remain on high alert.

The continuous monsoon downpour has fully filled major regional water bodies, including the Doodhganga, Vedganga, and Ghataprabha rivers. Just two days ago, the Mallikawad-Dattawad bridge over the overflowing Doodhganga River was entirely underwater. Low-lying areas in Nippani taluk are also facing a severe threat of flash floods, with multiple smaller barrages disappearing beneath the rising currents.

Emergency response teams are monitoring the situation closely as the border populace deals with displaced routines and disrupted transport networks.

Local authorities have strictly warned the public against venturing near the swelling riverbanks, advising everyone to follow official travel diversions until the intense floodwaters finally recede.

Corruption complaint filed against Kundgol Village Administrator

KUNDGOL

A serious corruption scandal has rocked the local revenue department after a formal complaint was lodged against a village administrator for allegedly demanding and accepting thousands in bribes for routine official work. The tainted officer, identified as Mohammed Sadiq Saudagar, operates out of the busy Kundgol Tahsildar office.

He is now facing intense public scrutiny and a demanding investigation following dynamic political intervention by anti-graft activists.

The troubling case came to light after an aggrieved resident from Devanur village, Mehboob Nadaf, sought help over an unresolved land documentation matter. According to the official complaint, Saudagar allegedly pocketed twenty-three thousand rupees from the petitioner way back in 2024 to process a vital land deed modification. Despite taking the illegal cash, the corrupt bureaucrat deliberately stalled the file, keeping the helpless villager waiting anxiously for over two long years without any actual progress.

The situation escalated dramatically this month when the applicant visited the revenue office to demand updates.

Instead of completing the long-delayed task, the administrator's assistant audaciously used a mobile phone to demand an additional bribe.

The official had returned nine thousand rupees of the original sum but insisted that the remaining fourteen thousand rupees would only be settled once the farmer paid up even more money under the table.

Furious over the endless harassment and blatant extortion, the victim approached Karnataka Rashtra Samithi party workers for immediate support. Under the aggressive leadership of the political group, angry activists marched directly into the Kundgol Tahsildar building. Discovering that Saudagar had conveniently fled his post to evade confrontation, the protesting workers humiliated the absent officer by hanging an ironic garland over his empty office chair.

The delegation subsequently met with Tahsildar Raju Mavarkar, submitting a detailed petition demanding immediate suspension and strict legal action against the administrator.

Infosys installs clean RO water plants across Hubballi

HUBBALLI

In a major boost to public commuter amenities, the North West Karnataka Road Transport Corporation (NWKRTC) has successfully launched advanced reverse osmosis water purification plants across all its major city terminals.

The newly installed facilities were officially inaugurated by the Managing Director of NWKRTC, Smt. Priyanga M., an IAS officer, to provide clean, safe, and easily accessible drinking water to thousands of daily passengers.

The essential water infrastructure project has been

fully sponsored and implemented by IT giant Infosys Hubballi as part of its corporate social responsibility outreach initiative through the Infosys Foundation.

Under this community welfare program, high-capacity water systems have been strategically deployed at the busy Hubballi City Terminal, the Suburban Bus Stand, and the highly populated City Transport bus stands to ensure maximum coverage.

The celebratory inauguration ceremony was well attended by top corporate executives and senior transport administration officials. Prominent among those pres-

ent were Allahbaksha Asadullah, the current Head of the Infosys Limited Hubballi Center, and Senior Technical Manager Shivananda Kudlamath.

Representing the transport corporation were Chief Traffic Manager Vivekananda Vishwajna, Chief Works Engineer Diwakar Yaragoppa, alongside Divisional Controllers Inayatha Bagban and H. Ramanagara. The entire event was smoothly coordinated and hosted by Public Relations Officer Naveenkumar Tippa, who also led the tour of the active plants.

Following the ceremonial ribbon-cutting, the NWKRTC management re-

leased an official statement warmly inviting the general public to actively utilize this premium amenity during their transit. Local transport authorities have strongly urged all daily travelers and long-distance passengers to prioritize these free purified water stations over unverified sources.

By bringing this modern facility to the region's main transit hubs, the successful collaboration between the corporate sector and public services effectively demonstrates how targeted corporate citizenship can instantly improve the health, safety, and daily travel experience of the common citizen.

VOTER LIST REVISION CAMPAIGN

Extensive voter awareness drive launched across Bhatkal

BHATKAL

Local administrative bodies have successfully launched an extensive, multi-phased public awareness campaign to educate citizens regarding the ongoing Special Intensive Revision of the voter list. The massive educational drive, designed to ensure an accurate and fully updated electoral roll, was actively rolled out across several prominent gram panchayats situated throughout the Bhatkal taluk.

In Hadavalli Gram Panchayat, a large gathering of community members successfully formed an impressive human chain at the bustling Kuntavani Circle. Following the



demonstration, an enthusiastic awareness march wound through the main streets to the local high school. Prominent participants included Panchayat Development Officer Yadav Nayak and Secretary Manjunath Shettimane, alongside local high school principals and teachers who distrib-

uted vital informational brochures to onlookers.

Meanwhile, Mundalli Gram Panchayat adopted a highly targeted, hands-on approach by visiting local agricultural fields. Officials, including Panchayat Development Officer Lokeshwar Gonda, directly distributed detailed posters

and guides to farmers engaged in seasonal planting work. The team focused on explaining how to seamlessly fill out the official voter enumeration forms online or offline without errors.

In a similar effort, Shirali Gram Panchayat organized a street march where Second Grade Assistant Pratima Devadiga joined hands with the public to emphasize the high importance of verifying electoral data. Taking the campaign straight to the younger generation, Hebale Gram Panchayat engaged school children at the Government Kanada and Urdu Higher Primary School, distributing instructional packets to educate

parents through their tech-savvy students.

Further demonstrating strong community solidarity, Bylur Gram Panchayat organized another vibrant human chain on their local school grounds, led by Secretary Irappa Bevinagida and Assistant Tirumalesh Nayak. Finally, Kaikini Gram Panchayat utilized mobile announcement vehicles driven by Officer Nagaraj V. and Assistant Nagaveni Nayak to blare crucial guidelines throughout crowded local marketplaces. Officials collectively urged all eligible residents to urgently complete the vital process of name additions, deletions, and corrections before the fast-approaching deadline.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, KHOT SWATI APPASO

(Old name) address:

SANMATI MARG DHARWAD.

Has changed my name:

SWATI SOMANATH TONNE (New name)

for all purposes.

Vide Affidavit dated:

29/06/2026 before

notary public Hubli.

CH CLASSIFIEDS

To place a classified ad contact: 080-41209042

Activists demand special grant for Dharwad farmers

DHARWAD:

Intense protests erupted outside the Dharwad Deputy Commissioner's office as Shiv Sena workers hit the streets to demand immediate financial relief for local farmers. The activists submitted a formal memorandum addressed to the state government, urging authorities to announce a special economic grant and completely waive off outstanding agricultural loans. The demonstration comes as a severe dry spell grips multiple districts across the state. A critical lack of rainfall has triggered widespread drought conditions, leaving fields parched and causing massive financial losses for the farming community.



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

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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.

Doctor appointment assured
for Kukke health centre

SUBRAHMANYA

The Dakshina Kannada District Health and Family Welfare Department has assured that steps will be taken to appoint a doctor at the Kukke Subrahmanya Primary Health Centre following strong demands from villagers for improved healthcare services.

The assurance came after residents warned of holding a massive protest on July 10 over the shortage of doctors, lack of 24-hour emergency medical services and other issues at the health centre. District Health Officer (DHO) Dr. Thimmaiah visited Kukke Subrahmanya and held an important meeting with villagers at the Gram Panchayat hall.

During the meeting, residents highlighted the difficulties faced by people due to the absence of doctors, particularly during weekends and night

hours. They pointed out that Kukke Subrahmanya is a major pilgrimage centre visited by lakhs of devotees every year, making round-the-clock medical facilities essential.

Villagers demanded immediate appointment of a permanent doctor and uninterrupted emergency healthcare services at the primary health centre. They said the lack of medical staff has caused serious hardships to both local residents and visiting devotees requiring urgent treatment.

Responding to the concerns, Dr. Thimmaiah said the appointment of a permanent doctor involves procedures under government regulations and requires some time. He assured that the matter would be brought to the notice of the government and the Health Minister through a formal communication.

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.

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 Bairagondur were travelling from Bengaluru to Mysuru when unknown bike riders stopped the bus near Indavali 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 Indavali 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 Vayashree 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 - Thirprayar Road, Thirprayar, 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, Kolara 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, /MLAP01360048582/ 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, /MLH01360048582/ 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. Kenchiaah., West-Well Property, South-House Property of Sri. Sharpu., North-Road,	15-05-2026	06-06-2026 & Rs.966815/-
4	Vinay K Chandra, Ramachandra, Netthra, /MLAP001050393/ 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. Jagadamma., 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, Ajappa 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 Property, 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.15140041500120014, Total Measuring 152.555sq 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 Ahmadi 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, /MLH00340033322/ 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, Gowdagera 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/ Belgaur	Residential Property Bearing Swattn No. 150400300200200780 Gram Panchay 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/ Belgaur	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 Chikkamariyappa., 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, /MLH00200257571/ 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 Office 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.733131/-
24	Manju Shri, Ramesha K, /MLAP0034005006710/ 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 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/ Chikmagalur	All That Piece And Parcel of The Site And House Property Bearing No.150900402600600039, Gram Panchayath Property No. 35, Survey No. 8 And Property Situated At Lokavalli Estate Village, Hale Mudiger Gram Panchayath, Mudiger Taluk And Chikmagalur Taluk, 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, Tumakur 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/ Chikmagalur	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/ Chikmagalur	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	Bhsheshab Karimasab Nadaf, Amirabi Karimasab Nadaf, Halimabi Bsheshab 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, /MLAP026200971/ 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 Girijava 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., North-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, /NAG00CLOLN050000507659/ 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.150900102200100303, 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 /

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 ap-

proximately 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 re-

solve 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 doc-

tors 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 communities, entrepreneurship and long-term economic prosperity. According to him, the continued growth of MSMEs will contribute not only to higher income but also to socially sustainable development.

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.



employment opportunities and entrepreneurship and economic growth. According to the report, continued growth in the private sector will contribute to higher income levels and to social stability and sustainable development.

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peaceful, prosper-
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illustrating the impact of the Internet over the past few years. The Internet has become as a major pillar of economic transformation and has created new business and employment opportunities in both rural and urban areas.

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roduced several measures to encourage the measures include simplifying the ease of access to institutions and services for entrepreneurs. Officials believe that more businesses will enter the system and benefit from it.



Visvesvaraya National 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.

SI 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

DIPR/Belagavi/548/2026-27/Deshpandepublicity

	GENERAL HOSPITAL, JAYANAGAR Medical Superintendent Office, Bangalore-560041. Email: ghjao1985tblk@gmail.com Tel: 080 22595722
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: hphelpdesk.blr@intarvo.com Last Date for Submission of e-tender through e- portal	13.07.2026 at 4:00 PM
Opening of Technical Bid proposals	On or before 28.07.2026 at 4:00 PM
Opening of Financial Bid	29.07.2026 at 10.00 AM. If the opening date is declared Holiday, opening will be on following working date.
E.M.D	05.08.2026 at 10.00 AM
Place of opening of tenders	Rs.2,75,000/-
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, Bengaluru	
DIPR/CP/1489/SA/2026-27	

MANAPPURAM HOME FINANCE LTD.		MANAPPURAM HOME FINANCE LIMITED		Regd Office: 8/596 A, Padmaprabha Building, Near Sreerama Swami Temple, Cherpu - Thriprayar Road, Thriprayar, 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 - Thriprayar Road, Thriprayar, Thrissur, Kerala 680567 and branches at various places in India (hereinafter referred to as "MAHOFN") is a Company registered under the Companies Act, 1956 and a Financial Institution within the meaning of sub-clause (1) of clause (1) 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. 3406 (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 MAHOFN and whereas MAHOFN 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.									
Sr. No.	Name Of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/Len/Bran	Description Of Secured Asset In Respect Of Which Interest Has Been Created	Npa Date	Date Of Notice Sent & Outstanding Amount					
1	Anjneyiya, Saraswati, Nirupadi, /NLA1P17050463/ Raichur	All That Piece And Parcel of The Residential House 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.mtrs Situated At Ward No.15 Dhanaganga Wadi Maski Within The Limits of TMC Maski, Tq Maski Dist Raichur, Karnataka, Pin: 584124, East-House of Basavaraj, West-House of Hanumanappa, South-Road, North-Road	05-05-2026	02-06-2026 & Rs.536101/-					
2	Megharaja Naik, Shobha Bai, Tukya Naik, /NLA1P044056010/ Shikaripura	All That The Piece or Parcel of Site Along With Structure Standing There On Being Bearing Site/Property No. 59P-E-Property No. 152400404300420028, Situated At Doddajoghalli Village, Talagathalla Village Panchayath, Shikaripura Taluk, Shivamogwa 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 Bangar, Renuka Shivajappa Bangar, Anappa Shivajappa Bangar, /NLA1P056506/ 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. 151020300300021008, Measuring Total 257.40000 Sq. Meter, Including 76.800000 Sq. Meter, Building, Situated At Gondhi Village, Gondhi Village Panchayath, Hangal Taluk, Haveri District, Karnataka, Pin: 581104, East-Propel of Basanagowda Anantappa, West-Village of S/O Mahalinganagowda Patil, North-House of Basanagowda Dyranavanna S/O Mahalinganagowda Patil	06-05-2026	02-06-2026 & Rs.518540/-					
4	Intihyaz M F Chousiya Anjum, Farida Begum, S T Mohammed, Khadar M F, /NLA1P05104851/ 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. 13, Assessment No. 3006/433940, Old Property No. 3006/433940, Measuring Total 111.4841 Sq. Meter, Including 41.80635 Sq. Meter, Situated At Ward No. 23, Bhoomanakshi, Bhadravathi, Shivamogwa, Within The Jurisdiction of Municipality Bhadravathi, Bhadravathi Taluk, Shivamogwa District, Karnataka, Pin: 577302, East-Road, West-Property of S. T. Mohammed, South- Hidiwadi Land, North-Property of S. T. Mouali	06-05-2026	02-06-2026 & Rs.431248/-					
5	Krishna P Suma T. Nagamma B, /NLA1P00207541/ Vinayangar Ramnagarra	All That Piece And Parcel of Property Bearing Khat No.46 Unique No.15210023003100766, Chikkarsanankappa 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 & Site of Boregowda, North-Road	06-05-2026	02-06-2026 & Rs.325130/-					
6	Nagarajappa A K, Shobha, A K Haralatha, Nagamma A K, /NLA1P05105051/ Shimoga	All That The Piece or Parcel of Site Along With Structure Standing There On Being Bearing Site/Property No. 161, E-Property No. 15120051600620061, Measuring Total 111.483600 Sq. Meter, Including 74.322400 Sq. Meter House, Situated At Thagghalli Village, T. Gopaganandhanalli Village Panchayath, Nyamathi Taluk, Davanagere District, Karnataka, Pin: 577217, East-Property of A. K. Nagarajappa S/O Basappa, West-Remaining Property of Survey No. 10, South-Front Road of Present House, North-Remaining Property of Survey No. 10	07-05-2026	02-06-2026 & Rs.527323/-					
7	Muttanna Harjappa Rathoda, Hemavva Harjappa, Arjappa Chandappa Rathoda, Savita Muttanna, Kariyappa Deepaleppa Deepaleppa, /NLA1P02703301/ Koppal	Residential 11B Property Bearing Vpc No.53, Property No.152000102300120098, Total Measuring 66.89Sq Mtr, Situated At Ingaldal Village Within Musalpur 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, /MHL048001954/ Davangere	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property No.227, E S wathu No 151200203800520201, Measuring 4.8768 X 9.144 Mts Ls 44.59 Sq Mts, Situated At Honnur Village, Honnur Gram Panchayath, Davangere, Karnataka, Pin: 577556, East-House of Udresh, West-House of Erappa, South-Road, North-House of Hanumanthappa	08-05-2026	02-06-2026 & Rs.348357/-					
9	Naganna K, Susheelanamma M, Mianu V N, Kamalanahua H, /NLA1P05000050050648/ Kannur	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing No. 181/168/81A, P.L.D. No. 152900103101100201, Situated At Vandarguppe Grama Vandarguppe Gramapanchayath, Channanappa Block, Ramanaagoda (D), Karnataka, Pin: 562160 Admeasuring E-W: 6.658000000000005 Meter & N-S: 32.9184 Meter. East-House of Siddachar, West-House of Kamanna, South-House of Kempanna, North-Road	08-05-2026	02-06-2026 & Rs.482057/-					
10	Ernak, Sitlaby, Lakshmi Bai, /NLA1P051054191/ Shimoga	All That The Piece or Parcel of Site Along With Structures Standing There On Being Bearing Site/Property No. 58/2, E-Property No. 152400404300420028, Measuring Total 278.709120 Sq. Meter, Including 94.7101 Sq. Meter House, Situated At Doddajoghalli Village, Talagathalla Village Panchayath, Shikaripura Taluk And Shivamogwa District, Karnataka, Pin: 577214, East-Road, West-Property of Shanthi Bai W/O Peckyia Naik, South-Property of Seethi Bai W/O Rama Naik, North-Road	09-05-2026	02-06-2026 & Rs.441785/-					
11	Tohidulla, Phteemabanu, /MHL01440049134/ 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, Shivamogwa District, Karnataka, Pin: 577427 Measuring Total 139.350000 Sq. Meter, East-Property of Rathannamma 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	Raghuatha M R, Shwetha M B, Jamma, /NHL0340041947/ Mysuru	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing A No. 872, Ja. No. 1670, P.L.No.152200300112101051, Situated At Mirle Grama, Mirle Gramapanchayath, Krishnarajanagara Block, Mysore (D), Karnataka, Pin: 571603 Admeasuring: 125.42 Sq Mts. East- Gall Next House of Ramegowda, West- Panchayath Road, South-Site of Bharath Raju, North-Site of Krishnasheety	09-05-2026	02-06-2026 & Rs.769410/-					
13	Sarojamma C, Rajaiah, Pushpa D R, Shashikumar D R, /MHL0091003581/ Hassan	All That Piece And Parcel of The Site And House Property Bearing No. 151600302020030154, Gram Panchayath Property No. 154A, And Property Situated At Dadadhahalli Village, Santhamaruru Gram Panchayath, Arakalagud Taluk, Hassan District, Karnataka, Pin: 573102, Totally Measuring 79.99 Square Meters. East-Site Property of							

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ಸಂ:ಪ.ಪಂ.ಬೋಗಡಿ/ಆ.ತಾ/ಟೆಂಡರ್.ಸಿ.ಆರ್.04/2026-27

ದಿನಾಂಕ:07.07.2026

ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಿಂಗ್ ಮೆಂಟ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಬೋಗಡಿ ಪಟ್ಟಣ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ 2026-27ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಎಸ್.ಎಫ್.ಸಿ ಅನುದಾನ ಮತ್ತು ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ಅನುದಾನದಡಿ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಆಧಾರದೇಶ 1999 ಮತ್ತು ನಿಯಮಗಳು 2000ದಂತೆ ಅರ್ಹ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ದಾರರುಗಳಿಂದ <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಆಸಕ್ತ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

- ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 01 ರಿಂದ 05ದವರೆಗಿನ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಪ್ರಾರಂಭಾತಿ 5ನೇ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 17.07.2026 ಅಪರಾಹ್ನ 3.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ
- ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕಡೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 23.07.2026 ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ
- ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ತೆರೆಯುವ 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/2026-26/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. ಕಾರಣಾಂತರಗಳಿಂದ ಮೇಲೆ ತಿಳಿಸಿದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಿನಾಂಕಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗಳಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು <http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/- ಮುಖ್ಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿ

ಪಟ್ಟಣ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ, ಬೋಗಡಿ

ವಾಸಾಸಂ/ಮೈಸೂರು/434/ಆರ್.ಡಿ ಸಾಯಿ/2026-27

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.

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.

Ganguly joins ICC Hall of Fame on birthday

Sachin Tendulkar congratulated Sourav Ganguly on entering the ICC Hall of Fame, an honor coinciding with Ganguly's 54th birthday and celebrating his legendary cricket career



gious ICC Hall of Fame. The special announcement perfectly coincided with Ganguly celebrating his 54th birthday, prompting an emotional and deeply grateful response from his long-time opening batting partner.

Tendulkar noted that after knowing each other since age fourteen, this ultimate honor came as absolutely no surprise. Ganguly quickly replied to the message, stating that joining Tendulkar on the exclusive list provided him with the greatest job satisfaction of his entire sporting career. Together, the iconic pair famously shattered records to form one of the most destructive and successful opening partnerships in modern cricket history.

Currently leading the Cricket Association of Ben-

gal, Ganguly will officially become the twelfth Indian player to receive this supreme global honor. Known widely by fans as the "God of the Off-side," he scored over eleven thousand runs in one-day internationals and more than seven thousand runs in Test matches. Beyond his incredible personal statistics, Ganguly is deeply revered for taking over the national captaincy during a turbulent match-fixing crisis in 2000 and instantly injecting an aggressive, fearless mindset into the Indian team.

Under his inspirational leadership, India secured unforgettable victories worldwide. These highlights included winning the dramatic 2002 NatWest Trophy, reaching the intense 2003 World Cup final, and scripting a legendary comeback victory against Australia at Eden Gardens. After hanging up his boots, Ganguly served as the BCCI president and currently works as a director for the Delhi Capitals franchise.

The International Cricket Council will formally celebrate the newest icons on July 11 during its annual conference held in Edinburgh. Ganguly proudly joins a legendary list of past Indian inductees that features giants like Kapil Dev, Sunil Gavaskar, Rahul Dravid, and MS Dhoni.

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.



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.



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



added all-rounder Jake Gibson from Otago to increase squad depth.

The contracting round also highlighted emerging talent. Auckland handed a maiden full-time deal to former Under-19 player Luke Watson after an impressive debut season. Otago rewarded young performers Tom Jones and seam bowler Thomas O'Connor, while Canterbury signed bowling all-rounder Lachie Harper.

Central Districts retained Taylor Bettelheim and Sam Cassidy following strong performances in domestic Twenty20 cricket.

Each association has named up to 15 contracted players in the first phase. A two-week transfer window will now allow uncontracted players to explore opportunities before teams finalise their 16-member squads.

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

taken by the company to address the issue.

Following the notice, Meta released a statement outlining its efforts to combat child exploitation across its platforms. The company described child exploitation as a serious crime and said it uses artificial intelligence-based detection systems, along with large-scale enforcement measures, to identify and remove abusive content.

Meta also stated that it would continue investing in technology, improve advertisement review mechanisms and strengthen safety measures for young users.

The government's action follows reports alleging that Meta's recommendation systems may have contributed to the spread of videos containing child sexual abuse material, raising questions about platform safety measures and content moderation practices.

Meanwhile, Krishnan highlighted India's growing digital and technology capabilities, saying the country has the potential to become the "office space of the world" by managing not only back-office operations but also global front-end functions.

He added that artificial intelligence would play a major role in accelerating India's growth as a global technology and services hub.

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 Bharturhari 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 Rajeev 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 Enterprises, 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.





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.

