

THE INDIAN MAIL

HYDERABAD **WEDNESDAY, 19 AUGUST 2026** VOL : 16 No : 355 PAGES : 12 ₹ 2 PUBLISHED FROM HYDERABAD & VIJAYAWADA



Indraprastha Gas' Q1 profit drops 33 pc sequentially
Indraprastha Gas Limited (IGL) on Tuesday reported a 33 per cent decline in profitability for the first quarter of the current financial year (Q1 FY27). The city gas distributor posted a net...

07



Pant becomes first Indian player to hit 100 sixes in Test cricket
Rishabh Pant has etched his name into the history books as he has become the first-ever Indian cricketer to have hit 100 sixes in Test cricket. The star wicketkeeper-batter achieved...

12



Revanth Reddy's government snatches away the lands of the poor : Kavitha
Telangana Defence Sena President Kalvakuntla Kavitha said that if they come to power, they will distribute land to the poor in the name of 'Bhulakshmi'. She warned that if the...

02



Gaddar synonymous with people's movements: Komatireddy

Hyderabad, Aug 18 : Minister for Roads & Buildings and Cinematography Komatireddy Venkat Reddy said legendary balladeer Gaddar was synonymous with people's movements and that it was the collective responsibility of everyone to uphold his ideals and carry forward the spirit of struggle he inspired. The Minister released the poster of the documentary "Praja Yuddha Nauka Gaddar" at his residence in Hyderabad on Tuesday. Speaking on the occasion, Komatireddy Venkat Reddy said Gaddar was not merely an individual but the voice of the oppressed and marginalised people of Telangana. Through his songs and performances, Gaddar had mobilised and united millions of people during various movements, leaving an indelible mark on the history of Telangana, he said. The Minister recalled that both he and Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy had great admiration for Gaddar and noted that the State government had instituted the Gaddar Cine Awards in his honour.

Ours is the first government to settle the accounts of BCs : CM Revanth Reddy

Hyderabad, Aug 18: Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy hailed the heroic struggle of Sardar Sarvai Papanna Goud as remarkable. He emphasized that the statue of Papanna should be accorded the same significance as the Martyrs' Memorial. The 376th birth anniversary celebrations of Sardar Sarvai Papanna Goud were held on a grand scale in Hyderabad on Tuesday, with CM Revanth Reddy attending as the chief guest.

Speaking on the occasion, he remarked that we have lagged behind in recounting history. He lashed out at the BRS party, accusing it of spreading malicious propaganda against the Congress government using ill-gotten wealth. CM Revanth predicted that the Congress government would come to power in 2029.



Uttam calls for prudent water management amid rainfall uncertainty

Hyderabad, Aug 18 : Minister for Irrigation and Civil Supplies N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on Tuesday called for a judicious balance between safeguarding drinking-water requirements and meeting the irrigation needs of farmers, particularly in view of prevailing El Niño conditions and uncertainty over rainfall during the remaining monsoon period. Reviewing reservoir levels and irrigation prospects for the remaining Kharif season at Jal Soudha, the Minister said water management in the coming months must be guided by prudence, scientific assessment and actual availability rather than optimistic assumptions about future rainfall. He said drinking-water security would remain a paramount consideration, but stressed that this should not result in withholding irrigation water where reservoirs and other dependable sources had adequate supplies.



"Our approach must be judicious. We have to protect drinking-water requirements while ensuring that water available beyond those requirements reaches standing crops. Every release must be based on actual usable storage, dependable inflows and a realistic assessment of rainfall," Uttam Kumar Reddy said. The Minister stated that major reservoirs in the Krishna basin were at 76.63 per cent of their capacity.



Telangana targets global hub for clean energy technologies: Bhatti

Hyderabad, Aug 18 : Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka announced that Telangana is positioning itself to become a major global manufacturing hub for clean energy technologies, moving beyond its role as a power consumer.

34% reservation for BCs in municipalities: CM Chandrababu

Amaravati, Aug 18 : Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu stated that the coalition government is according top priority to the welfare of Backward Classes (BCs). Speaking during the AP Assembly session, he announced that 34 percent reservation is being provided to BCs in municipalities. Chandrababu clarified that pro-

viding 34 percent reservation to BCs is not merely an election promise but an integral part of their political ideology. Chief Minister Chandrababu stated that they are not stopping at making promises but are actively implementing them. The Chief Minister stated that a special cabinet meeting was held to rectify the injustice done to the BCs regarding reservations by the

previous government. He attributed the massive victory in the 2024 elections to the BC community. He noted that achieving a 94% strike rate and securing 57% of the votes was possible solely due to the BCs and the trust placed in the leadership. He added that he, Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan, and BJP leaders had decided to ensure justice for the BCs even before the elections. He stated that

reservations of 34% in rural local bodies and 33.33% in urban local bodies would be implemented to provide greater political representation to Backward Classes (BCs), explaining that the relevant provisions already exist in the laws. Chandrababu also announced that Mayors and municipal chairpersons in urban local bodies would be elected through direct elections.



6,534 Teacher Posts in AP: Jobs Without a Written Exam

Amaravati, Aug 18 : A significant opportunity has arisen for candidates awaiting teacher jobs in Andhra Pradesh. The School Education Department has decided to fill 6,534 'Academic Instructor' posts to address the shortage of teachers in government schools; these positions are commonly referred to as 'Education Volunteer' posts. No written ex-



amination will be conducted for these roles; candidates will be selected based solely on their educational qualifications and academic merit.

Jagan calls for intensified operations to trace missing fishermen

Amaravati, Aug 18 : YSR Congress Party President and former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy on Tuesday expressed concern over the disappearance of a fishing boat carrying eight fishermen and urged the government to intensify search operations and use all available resources to bring them back safely. The fishermen hail from Odalarevu, Dummalapeta, and Vasalatippa villages.



Nitin Nabin urges BJP cadre to follow Venkaiah Naidus fighting spirit push Viksit AP WNP

Visakhapatnam, Aug 18 : BJP National President Nitin Nabin urged party cadres to move forward drawing inspiration from the struggles of former Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu, who rose from a grassroots worker to a national leader. He met with party cadres in Visakhapatnam on Tuesday. Speaking on the occasion, BJP chief Nitin Nabin stated that the BJP is the largest party in the world. They urged every party worker to resolve to make the country even stronger. They noted that the nation is experiencing good governance under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He thanked the people of the state for delivering a resounding victory to the alliance. He stated that the state would move forward on the path of development under the lead-



ership of CM Chandrababu and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan. He explained that the alliance was formed to bring the fruits of development to the people of the state. He also noted that foundation stones for numerous projects are being laid under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi. He noted that Prime Minister Modi is paying special attention to Andhra Pradesh and stated that the people are recognizing the party that fulfills their aspirations. He remarked that the "double-engine government" is working towards the state's development through numerous projects.

SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED
(Formerly Known as Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited)
Registered Office: Sri.Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032
Administrative office: 6th Floor(level 2), Building No.Q2, Aurum Q parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Ghansoli, Navi Mumbai-400710.
AuthorizedOfficerAddress: , Shriram Finance Limited, Wyra Road, SBI Building, Khammam- 507001

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE
Where as, the undersigned being the authorised officer of Shriram Finance Limited, (Formerly known as Shriram City Union Finance Limited, amalgamated with Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited, subsequently Shriram Transport Company Limited name Changed as Shriram Finance Limited, by it's Incorporation dt.30-11-2022) under the provisions of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (said Act) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (said Rules) issued demand notices to the Borrowers details of which are mentioned in the table below to repay the amount mentioned in the said demand notices.
The Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said Rules, on this 13th day august of 2026

Borrower Name and Address
1) Vijayalaxmi Kanakabandi, W/O Kanakabani Harinath Babu, Age: 54yrs, R/O H.NO: 2-1-118/3, Tekulapalli, Khammam Urban, Khanapuram Haveli, Khammam Dist, Pin: 507002. (Borrower No.1) 2) Kanakabandi Harinath Babu, S/O Kanakabandi Sita Rama Rao, Age: 46yrs, R/O H.NO: 2-1-118/3, Tekulapalli, Khammam Urban, Khanapuram Haveli, Khammam Dist, Pin: 507002. (Coborrower/ Guarantor No.1.) 3) Modala Saidulu, S/O Lachaiiah, Age: 45yrs, R/O H.NO: 2-1-62, Tekulapalli, Khammam urban, Khanapuram Havili, Khammam Dist, Pin: 507002. (Coborrower/Guarantor No.2.) Amount due as per Demand Notice : Rs. 26,05,666/- (Rupees Twenty Six Lakh Five Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Six Only)

Description of Property
KHMAMTF1803270007- Description Of The Immovable Propertyproperty Holder Name: Kanakabandi Haranadh Babu With Document No: 3872/2018 Item No.1 Open Site Admeasuring To An Extent Of 178.00 Sq.Yards Within The Dismantled H.No: 15-3-9/A Situated At Tekulapally Village, Khammam City And District Is Bounded By: North: Vacant Place Of K.Ravi, South: Vacant Place Of K. Seethaiah Item No 2 : Open Site Admeasuring To An Extent Of 200.00 Sq.Yards Within The Dismantled H.No: 15-3-9/A Situated At Tekulapally Village, Khammam City And District Is Bounded By: North: Vacant Place Of K.Ravi, South: Vacant Place Of Podila Yadagiri, East: Others Vacant Place, West: 20ftwide Road Laid By The Vendor
This notice is also hereby to caution the general public at large that the authorized officer of SFL is in the lawful Symbolic Possession of the immovable property mentioned herein above and the Borrowers or any person shall not after receipt of this notice transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise deal with/ alienate any of the above mentioned secured assets referred to in this notice, without prior written consent of SFL.
Date: 13-08-2026, Place: Khammam
Sd/- Authorised Officer, Shriram Finance Limited

SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED
(Formerly Known as Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited)
Registered Office: Sri.Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032
Administrative office: 6th Floor(level 2), Building No.Q2, Aurum Q parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Ghansoli, Navi Mumbai-400710.
AuthorizedOfficerAddress: , Shriram Finance Limited, Wyra Road, SBI Building, Khammam- 507001

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE
Where as, the undersigned being the authorised officer of Shriram Finance Limited, (Formerly known as Shriram City Union Finance Limited, amalgamated with Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited, subsequently Shriram Transport Company Limited name Changed as Shriram Finance Limited, by it's Incorporation dt.30-11-2022) under the provisions of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (said Act) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (said Rules) issued demand notices to the Borrowers details of which are mentioned in the table below to repay the amount mentioned in the said demand notices.
The Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said Rules, on this 13th day August of 2026

Borrower Name and Address
1) Ganesh Kairamkonda, S/O Somaiah, Age: 51yrs, R/O H.NO: 2-9/1, Gandhi Nagar, Bayyaram, Khammam Dist, Pin: 507211. (Borrower No.1) 2) Kairamkonda Nagamani, W/O Ganesh, Age: 46yrs, R/O H.NO: 2-9/1, Gandhi Nagar, Bayyaram, Khammam Dist, Pin: 507211. (Coborrower/ Guarantor No.1.) 3) Maram Yakub Reddy, S/O Maram Venkat Reddy, Age: 32yrs, R/O H.NO: 2-68, Kotha Irsulapuram, Irsulapuram, Bayyaram, Khammam Dist, Pin: 507211. (Coborrower/ Guarantor No.2.) Amount due as per Demand Notice: Rs. 26,17,829/- (Rupees Twenty Six Lakh Seventeen Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty Nine Only)

Description of Property
MABOBTf2211280001- Description Of The Immovable Property Property Holder Name: Kairamkonda Ganesh With Document No: 14901/2022 Open Plot Bearing No.42 And 43 Admeasuring To An Extent Of 245.50 Sq.Yards Or Equivalent To 205.26 Sq.Mts. In And Out Of Sy.No. 153/1A, 154/1A, 163/1A, 164/1A, And 466/C/1 Without Any Structures Therin And Not Pertaining To Any Ward Or Block Situated At Mahabubabad Town And Mandal, Mahabubabad District., North: Plot No.41, South: 30 Ft.Wide Road, East: 24 Ft.Wide Road, West: Place Of Vendor
This notice is also hereby to caution the general public at large that the authorized officer of SFL is in the lawful Symbolic Possession of the immovable property mentioned herein above and the Borrowers or any person shall not after receipt of this notice transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise deal with/ alienate any of the above mentioned secured assets referred to in this notice, without prior written consent of SFL.
Date: 13-08-2026, Place: Khammam
Sd/- Authorised Officer, Shriram Finance Limited

SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED
Registered Office: Sri. Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032
Administrative office: 6th Floor (level 2), Building No.Q2, Aurum Q parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Ghansoli, Navi Mumbai-400710.
DEMAND NOTICE
Whereas the borrowers/co-borrowers/guarantors/ mentioned hereunder had availed the financial assistance from SHRIRAM FINANCE LTD, (Formerly known as Shriram City Union Finance Limited, amalgamated with Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited, subsequently Shriram Transport Company Limited name Changed as Shriram Finance Limited) We state that despite having availed the financial assistance, the borrowers/guarantors have committed various defaults in repayment of interest and principal amounts as per due dates. The account has been classified as Non-Performing Asset in accordance with the directives/guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India, consequent to the Authorized Officer of SHRIRAM FINANCE LTD, under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 & in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notices on respective dates mentioned herein below under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act, 2002 calling upon the following borrowers /mortgagors to repay the amount mentioned in the notices together with further interest at the contractual rate on the amount mentioned in the notices and incidental expenses, cost, charges etc. until the date of payment within 60 days from the date of receipt of notices.
The notices issued to them on their last known addresses have returned un-served and as such they are hereby informed by way of public notice about the same.
The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

NAME OF THE BORROWER(S)/ Co-Borrower(S)/Guarantors
1. Panjala Narsimha Goud S/o. Panjala Laxma Goud, Age: 43 Years, Occ. Transport Business, O/o. M/s. Narsimha Lorry Transport And Harvester Business, Wargal Mandal, Medak Dist. R/o. H.No. 9-26, Seetharampalli Village, Wargal Mandal, Medak Dist-502336. And Also At Panjala Narsimha Goud S/o. Panjala Laxma Goud, R/o. H.No. 1-1-9/78/1, Survey No.1/*A2/2, Seetharampalli Village, Wargal Mandal, Siddipet District-502336. 2. Panjala Anitha W/o. Panjala Narsimha Goud, Age: 36 Years, Occ: Transport Business, O/o. M/s. Narsimha Lorry Transport And Harvester Business, Wargal Mandal, Medak Dist. R/o. H.No. 9-26, Seetharampalli Village, Wargal Mandal, Medak Dist-502336. 3.Panjala Venkatesh S/o. Panjala Kista Goud, Age: 33 Years, Occ: Employee, O/o. Mission Bagiradha Engineer, Medak, R/o. H.No. 7-29, Seetharampalli Village, Wargal Mandal, Medak Dist-502336. (Borrowers/Co-borrower /Guarantors/Legal heirs)

NPA DATE	DATE OF DEMAND NOTICE	OUTSTANDING AMOUNT	LOAN AMOUNT
08.07.2022	28.07.2026	Rs. 21,26,508.00/-	Rs. 13,00,000/-

PROPERTY ADDRESS OF SECURED ASSETS: KSHDATF2101270003 DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY All that the House bearing No. 1-1-9/78/1, on open plot in Survey No.1/*A2/2, admeasuring an area of 242 square yards situated at Seetharampalli Village and Grampanchayath, Wargal Mandal, Siddipet District and bounded as follows: (R.C.C Built up Area 1332.45 Sq. Feet) North: Open Place of Panjala Nag Goud, South: Open Place of Panjala Krishna Goud, East: C.C. Road, West: Open Place of Chalamgarl Bharathi
In the circumstances as aforesaid, the notice is hereby given to the above borrowers, co-borrowers and/ or their guarantors (where ever applicable) to pay the outstanding dues as mentioned above along with future interest and applicable charges within 60 days from the date of the publication of this notice failing which further steps will be taken after the expiry of 60 days of the date of this notice against the secured assets including taking possession of the secured assets of the borrowers and the mortgagors under Section 13(4) of Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and the applicable rules there under.
Please note that under Section 13 (13) of the said Act, no Borrower shall, transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise any of his secured assets referred to in the notice, without prior written consent of the secured creditor.
Date: 18-08-2026, Place: Wargal
Sd/- Authorised Officer, Shriram Finance Limited



Major Fire Accident in Sircilla



- One person burned alive; three laborers escaped with their lives
- Fire broke out at a furniture shop and warehouse
- Firefighting personnel worked to bring the blaze under control using three fire tenders
- District SP and BRS leaders inspected the scene

Rajanna Sircilla, Aug 18: A massive fire broke out at the Mahalakshmi Furniture Shop and warehouse located on the Pedduru main road within the Sircilla municipal limits. One person was burned alive in the incident. The victim, who died in the accident that occurred on Tuesday morning, has been identified as Mohammad Islam, a laborer from Uttar Pradesh. Four laborers from Uttar Pradesh were sleeping inside the premises when the fire erupted; while three managed to escape safely, Islam was trapped and burned alive amidst the raging flames. The

shop is owned by Addagatla Devadasu, a director of the Sircilla Cooperative Urban Bank, and property damage is estimated at approximately 50 lakhs. The owner has reportedly expressed suspicions regarding the cause of the fire, questioning whether it was triggered by a short circuit or an act of arson. Locals alerted the fire department and police immediately after the fire suddenly broke out in the shop. Fire personnel arrived at the scene and initiated efforts to bring the raging flames under control. The furniture in the showroom was completely gutted by the soaring flames. Firefighters worked strenuously for approximately two hours to contain the fire. Although three fire tenders were present, the water supply proved insufficient; consequently, the crew



KBR Park One Way Traffic Creates Confusion and Massive Traffic Jams In Jubilee Hills

Hyderabad, Aug 18: Confusion continues among motorists as the traffic police implement one-way around KBR. Motorists are confused about where to go. Some are taking the wrong route without knowing the way. Traffic problems have increased since the morning due to the KBR one-way effect. Motorists are shouting with sirens and horns, stuck in traffic. Motorists have appealed to follow the instructions of the traffic po-

lice. A large number of vehicles have stopped at the Jubilee Hills Road No. 5 signal. Motorists are also facing difficulties due to traffic jams in the surrounding areas of Venkatagiri. There is heavy traffic from the Jubilee Hills check post to the Road No. 5 signal. Traffic congestion continues from Road No. 10-C to the Road No. 5 signal.

Revanth Reddy's government snatches away the lands of the poor : Kavitha



Hyderabad, Aug 18 : Telangana Defence Sena President Kalvakuntla Kavitha said that if they come to power, they will distribute land to the poor in the name of 'Bhulakshmi'. She warned that if the Revanth Reddy government snatches the lands of the poor, they will watch and remain silent. Kavitha spoke to the media at the TRS office in Banjara Hills,

Hyderabad on Tuesday. She questioned why social justice is not seen in practice despite saying that BCs will be given a big seat. Kavitha said that activists like Vijayashanti were left aside and were not given ministerial posts and were made to accept MLC posts. She protested why social justice is not seen in the salaries of advisors appointed by the government. Revanth Reddy says social justice.. but in practice, is it will justice..? She questioned. If the upper class speaks, one kind of action will be taken..



attempted to extinguish the blaze by utilizing water from a nearby pit. As the fire remained un-controlled, relief operations continued. Personnel used a JCB machine to break down the wall and the shutter. The massive flames caused panic among the local residents. Local CI Srinivas and the police arrived at the scene and brought the situation under control. District SP Mahesh B. Githe also visited the site to inspect the situation.

BRS Leaders Inspect Accident Site and Visit Victims at the Hospital
BRS Town President Jindam Chakrapani and other party leaders inspected the site of the fire accident in Sircilla town. They visited the District Government Hospital, gathered details about the deceased and the causes of the accident, and spoke with the affected individuals. They were accompanied by Urban Bank Vice Chairman Addagatla Murali, Councilor Boora Balu, former Councilor Gentyala Srinivas, BRS Sircilla General Secretary Mana Ravi, and Konda Shankar.



POSSESSION NOTICE
Whereas, IIFL-HFL, under the provisions of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) ("said Act") and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 ("said Rules") issued a demand notice calling upon the borrower/co-borrower, guarantors, mortgagors to repay the amount, details of which are mentioned in the table below.
And whereas subsequently, IIFL-HFL has vide Assignment Agreement dated 30-11-2025 assigned all its rights, title, interest and benefits in respect of the debts due and payable by the borrower/guarantor(s)/mortgagor(s) arising out of the facilities advanced by IIFL-HFL, Bank to borrower/ guarantor(s) alongwith the underlying Immovable Property to Asset Reconstruction Company (India) Limited acting in its capacity as Trustee Arcil Trust -2026-015 ("Arcil") for the benefit of the holders of Security Receipts. Therefore, in view of the said assignment, Arcil, now stands substituted in the place of IIFL-HFL and Arcil shall be entitled to institute/continue all and any proceedings against the borrower/ guarantor(s)/mortgagor(s) and to enforce the rights and benefits under the financial documents including the enforcement of guarantee and security interest executed and created by the borrower/guarantor(s)/mortgagor(s) for the financial facilities advanced by them.
The borrower/guarantor(s)/mortgagor(s) having failed to repay the said amounts, notice is hereby given to the borrower/guarantor(s)/mortgagor(s) in particular and the public in general that the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Arcil has taken possession of the underlying Immovable Property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Sub-Section (4) of Section 13 of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on "AS IS WHERE IS & WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS" on the date mentioned below.

Name of the Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s)	Description of secured asset (Immovable property)	Total Outstanding Dues (in Rupees)	Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession
Mr. Shaik Faiz Vaili, Mr. Shavalli Sheik, (Prospect No. 942909)	All that piece and parcel of: Unit 201, Municipal No. 2-250/201, Second Floor, Vijaya Vinayaka Enclave, Plot No. 56, Premises No. 2-250, Syno. 885/1, Vanigaraj, Malkajgiri, Hyderabad 500020, Area Admeasuring (IN SQ. FT.): Property Type: Area, Admeasuring, Property Area: 168, Bounded By: North: Unit No.202, South: Open To Sky, East: Corridor, West: Open To Sky	Rs. 1581993.22 (Rupees Fifteen Lakh Eighty One Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety Three and Twenty Two Paise Only)	06/01/2026	13/08/2026
Mr. Raghava Reddy Nennam, Mrs. Neenam Shoba Rani Roc & 104, In Survey No. 631/1, 633 at Pradhranth Nagar Behind Railway Quarters, GHMC, Medchal-Malkajgiri Dist. AP 501401, Area Admeasuring (IN SQ. FT.): Property Type: Area, Admeasuring, Property Area: 855, Bounded By: North: Block No. D, South: Flat No. 2, East: Staircase, West: Flat No.5	All that piece and parcel of: Flat No. 202, In Second Floor on Plot No. 13, In Survey No. 1335/5, SRI BHAVANI RESIDENCY Municipal No. 2-8-160/13, at Macha Bolaram, Awar Municipality, Medchal Dist. AP 500095, Area Admeasuring (IN SQ. FT.): Property Type: Area, Admeasuring, Property Area: 864, Bounded By: North: Open to Sky, South: Open to Sky, East: 6 ft wide Road, West: Open to Sky	Rs. 1583311.71 (Rupees Fifteen Lakh Eighty Three Thousand Three Hundred Eleven and Seventy One Paise Only)	06/01/2026	13/08/2026
Mr. Syed Ghani, Mrs. Shaheda Begum United Motor Works (Prospect No. IL10171806)	All that piece and parcel of: Flat No. 202, In Second Floor on Plot No. 13, In Survey No. 1335/5, SRI BHAVANI RESIDENCY Municipal No. 2-8-160/13, at Macha Bolaram, Awar Municipality, Medchal Dist. AP 500095, Area Admeasuring (IN SQ. FT.): Property Type: Area, Admeasuring, Property Area: 864, Bounded By: North: Open to Sky, South: Open to Sky, East: 6 ft wide Road, West: Open to Sky	Rs. 2020954.24 (Rupees Twenty Lakh Twenty Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty Four and Twenty Four Paise Only)	06/01/2026	13/08/2026
Mr. Bandari Sunny, Mr. Raj Kumar Bandari, Mrs. Showli Bandari (Prospect No. IL10139224)	All that piece and parcel of: Unit No. F-2, Plot No. 3-9-83/RNO F-2/F, SRI SEETHA RAMA RESIDENCY, Premises No. 3-9-83, In Survey No. 8, Situated at Samrat Colony, West Mareddyapalli, Secunderabad, TS 500026, Area Admeasuring (IN SQ. FT.): Property Type: Super Built Up, Area, Property Area: 980, Bounded By: North: Open To Sky, South: Corridor, East: Unit No.F-1, West: Corridor	Rs. 1452721.02 (Rupees Fourteen Lakh Fifty Two Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty One and Two Paise Only)	02/01/2026	13/08/2026

The borrower/guarantor(s)/mortgagor(s) in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned that Arcil is in the lawful possession of the Immovable Property mentioned above and under Section 13(13) of the SARFAESI Act, 2002, the borrower/guarantor (s)/mortgagor(s) or any person whatsoever, shall after receipt of this notice not transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise deal with/ alienate the Immovable Property, without prior written consent of Arcil and any dealings with the Immovable Property will be subject to the charge of Arcil for the amount as mentioned above along with future interest at the contractual rate on the aforesaid amount together with incidental expenses, cost, charges etc.

The borrowers /guarantors/mortgagors' attention is invited to the provisions of the Sub-Section (8) of Section 13 of the said Act, in respect of time available to redeem the above-mentioned Immovable Property.

Place: Telangana
Date: 19/08/2026
Sd/- Authorised Officer, Asset Reconstruction Company (India) Ltd. (In capacity as Trustee)

ASSET RECONSTRUCTION COMPANY (INDIA) LTD.
CIN No.-U65999MH2002PLC134884 Website: www.arcil.co.in
Registered Office: The Ruby, 10th Floor, 29 Senapati Bapat Marg, Dadar (West), Mumbai-400028. Tel: +91 2266581300.

BAJAJ HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED
Corporate Office: Cerebrum IT Park B2 Building, 5th Floor, Kalyani Nagar, Pune, Maharashtra - 411014, Branch Office: Bajaj Housing Finance Ltd, 2nd Floor, City One, 7-1-22/2, Leela Nagar, Greenland Road, Ameerpet, Near Begumpet Flyover, Hyderabad, Telangana - 500016. Authorized Officer's Details: Name: Shreshail Badiger , email id: shreshail.badiger@bajajhousing.co.in.MOB No. +91 8073273577 / 9916551047

APPENDIX IV -A [Rule 8(6)] SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY
E-Auction Sale notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the securitisation and reconstruction of financial assets and enforcement of the security interest act 2002 read with proviso to rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken over by the Authorized Officer of the Bajaj Housing Finance Ltd (Secured Creditor), will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", "Whatever there is" and "Without Recourse Basis" for recovery of the loan dues, applicable interest, charges and costs etc., payable to Bajaj Housing Finance Ltd, as detailed below.

Details Of Borrower/Co-Borrowers/ Guarantor(S) And Loan Details	1.Date & Time of E-Auction, 2. Last Date of Submission of EMD, 3. Date & Time of the Property Inspection	1. Reserve Price, 2. EMD of the Property, 3. Bid Increment
LAN:- H400HLD1201579 and H400HLLT1206681, 1. Gونغुنتilla Vijaya Lakshmi (Borrower), 2. Gonguuntilla Ramarao (Co-Borrower), Both The Above At Flat No. 204, Om Nivas Shreedha Homes, Plot No. 12, Multivellyguda Village, Ghatkesar Mandal, Medchal Malkajgiri District, Hyderabad, Telangana-500039. Outstanding dues of Rs.26,70,759/- (Rupees Twenty Six Lakhs Seventy Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Nine Only) as on 17/08/26 along with future interest and charges accrued w.e.f. 17/08/26.	1) E-Auction Date: 08/09/2026 Between 11:00 AM To 12:00 PM With Unlimited Extension Of 5 Minutes, 2) Last Date Of Submission Of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) With Kyc is: 07/09/2026 Up To 5:00p.M. (lst.) 3) Date Of Inspection :20/08/2026 to 07/09/2026 Between 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM (lst.)	1) Reserve Price For Immovable Property Rs.24,32,000/- (Rupees Twenty Four Lakhs Thirty Two Thousand Only) . 2) Earnest Money Deposit (EMD): Rs.2,43,200/- (Rupees Two Lakhs Forty Three Thousand Two Hundred Only) 10% Of Reserve Price. 3) Bid Increment:Rs.25,000/- (Rupees Twenty Five Only) & In Such Multiples.
Description of the Immovable Property: Schedule Of The Property: Semi-Finished Flat No. 204 In Second Floor Om Nivas With A Built Up Area Of 775 Sq. Ft., (Including Common Area And One Car Parking Area) Together With Proportionate Undivided Share Of Land Measuring 26.9 Sq. Yds., Or 22.48 Sq. Mtrs., Out Of 538 Sq. Yds., Constructed On Plot No. 12 In Survey No. 74/E Part Situated At "Shreedha Homes II" Multivellyguda Village, Kachiwani Singaram Gram Panchayat Ghatkesar Mandal Medchal Malkajgiri District Under S.R.O Narapally Boundaries For Flat No. 204 In Second Floor East: Open To Sky, West: Corridor & Staircase, North: Flat No. 203, South: Open To Sky.	Terms and Conditions of the Public Auction are as under: ● The Secured asset will not be sold below the Reserve price. ● The Auction Sale will be online through e-auction portal. ● The e-Auction will take place through portal https://bankauctions.in , on 08/09/2026 from 11:00 AM To 12:00 PM with unlimited auto extension of 5 minutes each. ● For detailed terms and conditions please refer company website URL: https://www.bajajhousingfinance.in . In auction notices or for any clarification please connect with Authorized officer. Notice Date: 18/07/2026 Place: Hyderabad	

Authorized Officer (Shreshail Badiger)
Bajaj Housing Finance Limited

German doner Kebab makes India debut with Hyd outlet

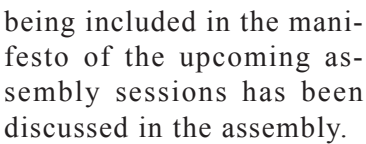


at the Basheerbagh Press Club here on Tuesday, Reddy urged the government to issue title deeds for assigned lands and provide landowners with No Objection Certificate (NOC) rights. He said the Section 22-A land classification issue should be resolved within six to nine months instead of being allowed to become more complicated. He also expressed concern over the lack of clarity regarding the Rythu Bima farmers' insurance scheme.

importance of quality, taste and hygiene in the food sector. Founded in Berlin and headquartered in the UK, GDK operates across several international markets, including the UK, US, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Canada, Sweden and Ireland. The brand specialises in flame-grilled doner served with fresh ingredients, signature sauces and toasted waffle bread. GDK India, launched in partnership with GBC India, plans to expand into markets including Mohali, Chandigarh and other Tier-I and Tier-II cities through company-owned and franchise outlets. The company has set a long-term target of more than 450

pointed as the brand's Cultural Partner to strengthen its connect with younger consumers. The Hyderabad outlet is expected to serve as the launchpad for GDK's nationwide expansion.

honorary president of the Andhra Pradesh Purohita Brahmin Samakhya, Yamijala Narasimha Murthy, State President Tenneti Sunil Sharma, State General Secretary Varanasi Sridhar Sharma, State Treasurer Katta Balasubrahmanyam, State Youth President Sishta Manikantha, State Youth Sec-



Golden Jubilee celebrations of Sri Sri Radha Madanmohan Mandir, Abids, on Tuesday. The ISKCON organisers and devotees accorded a warm welcome to the Governor and his wife. The Governor and Janaki Shukla offered prayers and had darshan of Sri Sri Radha Madanmohan Swamy.



construction of the remaining 15 per cent was progressing at various stages. In the second phase, 2,000 houses have been sanctioned in each Assembly constituency, totalling 2.50 lakh houses across the State, the Minister said. Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy further stated that the State government has also set a target of constructing one lakh houses within the CURE limits and has experimentally launched the Indiramma Towers project in 16 Assembly constituencies. The Minister said Telangana was the only State in the country providing financial assistance of Rs. 5 lakh with 100 per cent subsidy for the construction of houses for the poor.

Possession Notice (For Immovable Property) Rule 8-(1)						
Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of IFL Home Finance Limited (Formerly known as India Infoline Housing Finance Ltd.) (IFL-HFL) under Acquisition of Financial Assets Enforced Sale Order No. 532 Enforcement Order dated 09-06-2022 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, a Demand Notice was issued by the Authorised Officer of the company to the Borrower/Co-Borrowers mentioned herein below to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred upon it by the said Act. If the said property is sold or mortgaged to the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of IFL HFL for an amount as mentioned herein under with interest thereon. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13(12) of the said Act. If the said property is sold or mortgaged to the public in general, all such charges made at any time before the date fixed for sale or transfer, the secured assets shall not be sold or transferred by IFL HFL, and no further step shall be taken by "IFL HFL" for transfer or sale of the secured assets.						
Name of the Borrower (s) / Co-Borrower(s)	Description of the Secured Asset (Immovable Property)	Total Outstanding Dues (Rs.)	Date of Demand	Date of Possession		
Mrs. Rajitha Bhanavath Mr. Srinivas Padmalai Rajitha (Prospect No IL10315254)	All that piece & parcel of Sy No 130/10, Door No. 4-35, Domalgundam Thanda, Domalgundam Thanda, Ballapalle, Near Ramalayana Village, A.P. Under Acquisition Of Financial Assets Enforced Sale Order No. 532 Enforcement Order dated 09-06-2022. In Sq. Ft.: Property Type: Land Area, Built Up, Area Property Area: 1307.00, 545.00 Bounded By: North: V.Malaya Property South: V.Babi Nayak Property East: Road West: V.Bondali Nayak Property	Rs. 534607/-Rupees Five Lakh Six Thousand Five Hundred And Seven Rupees Only	09-01-2026	14-08-2026		
Mr. Kuparaja Rajubabu Mrs. Kalyanadevi Rajubabu Lakshmi Lakshmi Tripti Centre (Prospect No IL10340494)	All that piece & parcel of Door No.6-47, Assessment No 1047, Survey No.130/10, Domalgundam Thanda, Ballapalle, Near Ramalayana Village, A.P. Under Acquisition Of Financial Assets Enforced Sale Order No. 532 Enforcement Order dated 09-06-2022. Area Measuring (In Sq. Ft.): Property Type: Land Area, Built Up, Area Property Area: 462.00, 450.00 Bounded By: North: M.Raju Property South: Road East: N.Kuruguru Property West: K.Gopalakrishna Property	Rs. 411792/-Rupees Four Lakh Ninety Two Thousand Seven Hundred And Ninety Two Rupees Only	10-02-2026	14-08-2026		
Mr. Bangaru Subba Rao Mrs. Rangamma Eswaramma Raju Fasala (Prospect No IL10363685)	All that piece & parcel of Plot No. 2, Sy.No.s: 134p, 135/p2, 136/p2, Kovvurpalli Village, A.P. Under Acquisition Of Financial Assets Enforced Sale Order No. 532 Enforcement Order dated 09-06-2022. In Sq. Ft.: Property Type: Land Area, Built Up, Area Property Area: 350 Bounded By: North: Empe Site South: Road East: Plot No.3 West: Plot No.11	Rs. 3089152/-Rupees Three Lakh Nine Thousand One Hundred And Fifty Two Rupees Only	10-02-2026	14-08-2026		
Mrs. Venkata lakshmi Seera Mr. Appara Venkata Lakshmi Pan Shop (Prospect No IL10388995)	All that piece & parcel of Rs No. 116p, Plot No. 10, Sector, Jagannatha Pradeshi, 531025 Area Measuring (In Sq. Ft.): Property Type: Land Area, Assessing Property Area: 654 Bounded By: North: The Three Hundred South: Survey No. 114 East: Layout Road West: Plot No. 4.	Rs. 172366/-Rupees One Lakh Seventy Two Thousand Three Hundred And Sixty Six Rupees Only	09-03-2026	14-08-2026		
Mr. Madhava Chepala Miss. Madhama Madhava Fish Point Nagarajana Pan Shop (Prospect No IL10406619)	All that piece & parcel of H.No. 1-1, Assessment No. 318, Sy. No. 336-1, Guduvada Village, S Rayavaram Mandal, Vishakapattanam, Presently In Sq. Ft.: Property Type: Land Area, Assessing Property Area: 2795 Bounded By: North: St.J George Chelluri Appara And Others, Hospital Building South: House Of G.Lagga Aditya C/O D.Salyrao East: House Of Chalapra Rajanna West: C.C Road	Rs. 503136/-Rupees Five Lakh Thirteen Thousand One Hundred And Forty Six Rupees Only	09-01-2026	14-08-2026		
Mr. Srinivas Mukka Mrs. Kanakarathnam Srinagar Ravi Reddy (Prospect No IL10420239)	All that piece & parcel of Rs No. 802A, Plot No. 342, Sector, Jagannatha Pradeshi, 531025 Area Measuring (In Sq. Ft.): Property Type: Land Area, Assessing Property Area: 648 Bounded By: North: Plot No.339 South: Plot No.161 West: Plot No.167 East: Plot No.165	Rs. 265843/-Rupees Two Lakh Sixty Five Thousand Eight Hundred And Forty Three Rupees Only	09-03-2026	14-08-2026		
Mr. Kalya Navanuthu Mrs. Haruna Bai Navanuthu Kalya Dairy Farm (Prospect No IL10417560)	All that piece & parcel of House No. 6-185a, Asst. No.492, Survey No.309, Udjartha Village, Ipura Mandal, Palnadu District, Ap-526588 Area Measuring (In Sq. Ft.): Property Type: Land Area, Built Up, Area, Carpet Area Property Area: 1742.00, 600.00, 640.00 Bounded By: North: Panchayathi Road South: Panchayathi Road East: Panchayathi Road West: Executant Remaining Site	Rs. 59995.99/-Rupee Fifty Nine Thousand Five Hundred & Ninety Five & Ninety Nine Paise Only	03-11-2026	14-08-2026		
Mr. Naidu Senapati Miss. Senapati Rajulamma Miss. Senapati Ammai Dadi Senapati (Prospect No IL10702623)	All that piece & parcel of Plot No. 21, Plot No. 19, Ysr Jagannatha Colony, Thimmapuram Village, S Rayavaram Mandal, S Rayavaram, Near Ysr Colony, Visakhapatnam, A.P. India, 531060 Area Measuring (In Sq. Ft.): Property Type: Land Area, Built Up, Area Property Area: 144.00, 144.00 Bounded By: North: Plot No.16 South: Road East: Plot No.2 West: Plot No.18	Rs. 306714/-Rupees Three Lakh Six Thousand Seven Hundred And Fourteen Rupees Only	09-03-2026	14-08-2026		
Miss. Nagaranjan Surampudi Mr. Surampudi Lavurgu Nagaraganandi Dairy Farm (Prospect No IL10787355)	All that piece & parcel of Block No. A1, Flat No. 4, 20 Survey No. 14/2f, 14/2a, 18/2, 18/3, Yelamanchili Municipality, Visakhapatnam District, Andhra Pradesh 531055 Area Measuring (In Sq. Ft.): Property Type: Land Area, Built Up, Area Property Area: 144.00, 144.00 Bounded By: North: Plot No. 3 South: Parking Space & Ground Floor Flat No. 5 East: A2 Block & Open Space West: C3 Block & Ground Floor Flat No	Rs. 376089/-Rupees Three Lakh Seventy Six Thousand Five Hundred And Nine Rupees Only	10-02-2026	14-08-2026		
Mrs. Lakshmi Ravu Mr. Ravu Satyanarayana Daily Labour Work (Prospect No IL10816681)	All that piece & parcel of 24/P72, Plot No. 14, Ysr Jagannatha Colony,Sri Ram Nagar Colony, Yelamanchili Mandalam, Yelamanchili, Near Ysr Colony, Visakhapatnam, A.P. India, 531060 Area Measuring (In Sq. Ft.): Property Type: Land Area, Built Up, Area Property Area: 432 Bounded By: North: Plot No. 40 South: 301 Road East: Plot No. 15 West: Plot No. 13	Rs. 298623/-Rupees Two Lakh Ninety Eight Hundred And Sixty Three Rupees Only	09-01-2026	14-08-2026		
Mr. Venkata Ramaiah Chintala Mrs. Swamalatha Chintala Venkataratnam (Prospect No IL10258278)	All that piece & parcel of Plot No. 242, Survey Nos. 311, 312, 313, 314, 321, & 322, At Inamadugu Village, Kovvuru Mandal, Nellore Dist., Ap 524137 Area Measuring (In Sq. Ft.): Property Type: Built Up, Area Property Area: 241.00 Bounded By: North: Plot No. 241 South: Plot No. 243 East Road West: Plot No. 222	Rs. 293500/-Rupees Two Lakh Ninety Three Thousand Five Hundred Rupees Only	10-02-2026	14-08-2026		
Mr. Tagaram Marjamma Mrs. Rajarajesha Rakesh Kiranram Store (Prospect No IL10409920)	All that piece & parcel of Dr No.6/1192, Sy.No.46, Gangavaram Village, Yemmaginondam Mandal, Kumool District,Andhra Pradesh, 518345 Area Measuring (In Sq. Ft.): Property Type: Land Area, Built Up, Area Property Area: 350 Bounded By: North: Plot No. 151 South: Plot No. 43 East: Place Of Charles Estate: Place Of Venupakshi Reddy West: Place Of Shantrijaru	Rs. 321682/-Rupees Three Lakh Twenty One Thousand Six Hundred And Two Rupees Only	10-02-2026	14-08-2026		
Mrs. Kuruva Bhagyalakshmi Mrs. Kurva Lakshminarayana Bhagyalakshmi (Prospect No IL10836397)	All that piece & parcel of Sy/Sy No 85/6B/A, Plot No. 92, 15th Ward, Mandangi, Adoni, Near Main Road, Kumool, Andhra Pradesh, India, 518301 Area Measuring (In Sq. Ft.): Property Type: Land Area, Assessing Property Area: 350 Bounded By: North: Plot No. 93 South: Plot No. 91 East: Plot No. 114 West: Road	Rs. 237350/-Rupees Two Lakh Thirty Seven Thousand Five Hundred And Fifty Rupees Only	09-03-2026	14-08-2026		
Mrs. K.Sharfunnisa Begum Mr. R.Kassol Daily Labour (Prospect No IL10899525)	All that piece & parcel of Sy No 10-11/A, 12.55c, 16/P2 993 Yemmiganur Municipality Sivnaga Nagar, Kumool: 518360 Area Measuring (In Sq. Ft.): Property Type: Land Area, Saleable Area Property Area: 350.00, 350.00 Bounded By: North: As Per The Title Documents And Technical Reports South: As Per The Title Documents And Technical Reports West: As Per The Title Documents And Technical Reports	Rs. 251242/-Rupees Two Lakh Fifty Two Thousand And Twenty Two Rupees Only	10-02-2026	14-08-2026		
Mr. Jayanthi Peddihari Mrs. Nagabhargu Sonnyamma Daily Labour (Prospect No IL10898970)	All that piece & parcel of Rs/no10 11a, 12.55c, 16/P2, Plot No. 1703, Yemmaginur, Yemmiganur,Engaballa, Engaballa, Kumool, Andhra Pradesh, India, 518301 Area Measuring (In Sq. Ft.): Property Type: Built Up, Area Property Area: 350 Bounded By: North: Plot No. 1678 South: Plot No. 1704 East: Plot No. 1702	Rs. 298635/-Rupees Two Lakh Ninety Eight Hundred And Thirty Five Rupees Only	09-01-2026	14-08-2026		
B.A. Bara Tofiq Mr. Bara Noor Ahmed Mrs. B.Masthani Beg Vegetable Seller (Prospect No IL10916449)	All that piece & parcel of Plot No 1518, Sy.No.85/6A, Mandangi Village, Adoni Mandal, Kumool District, Ap. 518001 Area Measuring (In Sq. Ft.): Property Type: Area Measuring Property Area: 432 Bounded By: North: Plot No. 1519 South: Plot No. 1518 East: Road West: Plot No. 1536 West: Road	Rs. 156897/-Rupees One Lakh Fifty Six Thousand Eight Hundred And Ninety Seven Rupees Only	09-03-2026	14-08-2026		
Mrs. Shikhi Shoghya Mr. Shekshavathi Tailoring (Prospect No IL10950648)	All that piece & parcel of Plot No.1904, Sy.No.85/6A/Mandangi Village, Adoni Mandal, Kumool District,Ap. 518301 Area Measuring (In Sq. Ft.): Property Type: Built Up, Area Property Area: 350 Bounded By: North: Plot No.1951 South: Road East: Open Space West: Plot No.1905	Rs. 235125/-Rupees Two Lakh Thirty Five Thousand One Hundred And Ninety Five Rupees Only	10-02-2026	14-08-2026		
Mr. M.Lakshmi Mr. M.Devendra Das Babu Manson Work (Prospect No IL10953050)	All that piece & parcel of Rs/no 74/C/74/M/4C, 74/H Plot No 1264, Mandangi, Adoni, Near Main Road, Kumool, Andhra Pradesh, India, 518301 Area Measuring (In Sq. Ft.): Property Type: Area Measuring Property Area: 432 Bounded By: North: Open Plot No. 1265 South: Plot No. 1264 East: Road West: Plot No. 1262	Rs. 234342/-Rupees Two Lakh Thirty Four Thousand Three Hundred And Twenty Two Rupees Only	09-03-2026	14-08-2026		
Mrs. Ramulu Devarakonda Mr. Venkata Ramana Devarakonda, Ramulu Fasala (Prospect No IL10951819)	All that piece and parcel of . Plot No 739, S.No.2207, SPSR Nellore District, Andhra Pradesh, India, 524001 Area Measuring (In Sq. Ft.): Property Type: Built Up, Area Property Area: 350. Bounded By: North: Plot No. 440 South: Plot No 738, East: Road, West: Plot No 726.	Rs.330690/-Rupees Three Lakh Thirty Thousand Six Hundred And Ninety Only	10-02-2026	14-08-2026		
Mr. Mohammed Khair Azemuddin Mrs. Wajed Beg Tractor Owner (Prospect No IL10951819)	All that piece & parcel of H.No. 1-97, Khrir Mandal, Madhi Village Digwal, Water Tank, Medak, Andhra Pradesh, India, 502231 Area Measuring (In Sq. Ft.): Property Type: Land Area, Built Up, Area Property Area: 1800.00, 1800.00 Bounded By: North: Road South: C.C Road East: Road West: Road	Rs. 870508/-Rupees Eight Lakh Seventy Thousand Five Hundred And Sixty Three Rupees Only	09-01-2026	14-08-2026		
For further details please contact to Authorised Officer at Branch Office: D.K. 6611, Balaji Nagar, Tangalammudi, Kandikurugudem Centre, IIFL, W.G.D. Ap P 534005/D No. 2-6-37 above BIG C Showroom,Beside Kollamam,RRR Complex Road, Singar Colony,Kakinada-533001/ India Infoline Housing Finance Ltd. 2nd Floor, Chand Imperia Plaza, 40-1-60, Benz Circle Open Grand Modern Super Market, Vijayawada -520010 1-2,15, Inokui Kalyana Mandapam Open Nandimamba Centre,Kn Road, Tadepalligundam-534101, Andhra Pradesh/H No. 25-478 Adathali Circle, Open DEO Office Of C.P.Z. Plaza, 1st Floor,Hanumakonda Warrangal - 506001/H No.5-8-22B/501 5th Floor, My Home Service Centre, Prestatland, Hyderabad - 500082, Open Canal Road, Kothapet 515001, Andhra Pradesh/ IIFL, Sai Prem Centre 4th Floor,Dwarakanagar 2nd Lane,Vishakhapatnam -530016/D No.7-9-5,1st Floor, Maruthi Vilas Stores, MG Road, Andhra Pradesh, Vizianagaram - 533002 or Corporate Office: P.98, Phase-IV, Udyog Vihar, Gurugram, Haryana.						
Place: Andhra Pradesh & Telangana Date: 19-08-2026			Sd/- Authorised Officer, For IFL Home Finance Ltd.			

OPINIONmail



Want to serve as catalyst to take Indo-German friendship to new level

Germany's new Ambassador to India, Jasper Wieck, said on Thursday that he wants to serve as a "matchmaker, enabler and catalyst" to take friendship between the two nations to a new level. In a video posted on X, Wieck recalled his first visit to India when he was a student. He later served as the Deputy Head of Mission at the German Embassy. He also spoke about meeting the Embassy team in New Delhi and described them as a "true engine" behind the operations carried out by the mission. "For me, coming to India is like coming home. I am an old friend of India. I first came to India 35 years ago. I was still a student, immediately I felt thrilled by the country and its people. Many years later, together with Cordula, I returned to India as Deputy Head of the German Embassy. We have fond memories of these years. And here we are again. We have just arrived from Berlin. On my first day, I met with the entire Embassy team. They are the true engine behind our operations," Wieck said in the video. He stated that it is an honour for him to serve as Germany's Ambassador to India and that the Indian diaspora is growing in Germany while the German investments are increasing in India. "Once I have presented my credentials in the coming weeks, I want to serve as a matchmaker, as an enabler, and as a catalyst to bring the Indo-German friendship to a new level. We are building new bridges between our nations every day. The Indian diaspora in Germany is growing as the German investments in India. In these dynamic times, it's a great honour to serve as the German Ambassador to India, together with the entire Embassy team and our four general consulates across the country," said Wieck. Prior to joining the German Embassy in India, Wieck served as Political Director in Germany's Federal Ministry of Defence. He served as Deputy Head of Mission at the German Embassy in New Delhi from 2017-2020. Germany is one of India's most important partners in Europe. India was one of the first nations to establish diplomatic ties with Germany after the Second World War in 1951. The year 2026 marks the 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries. The strategic partnership between India and Germany is based on the Agenda for the Indo-German Partnership in the 21st Century, which was adopted in May 2000 and updated by further joint declarations, such as the Migration and Mobility Partnership Agreement of 2022.



Former Nepal PM Deuba returns home after five months abroad amid money-laundering probe

Kathmandu, Aug, 18 : Krishna Prasad Sitaula, Former Nepali Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba on Tuesday returned home to a rousing welcome from his supporters at Tribhuvan International Airport in Kathmandu, five months after he had left for Singapore to get a "medical check-up". A large crowd of leaders and party workers, including former office-bearers of the party — then acting President Purna Bahadur Khadka,

Prakash Man Singh, Bimalendra Nidhi and Prakash Sharan Mahat, among others welcomed Deuba as he arrived at the airport via Thailand. Supporters chanted slogans in support of Deuba who is facing both legal and political challenge at home as he was ousted by the contested Special General Convention in January.

Singapore envoy, CDS
General Raja Subramani discuss bilateral defence ties

New Delhi, Aug 18 : Singapore's High Commissioner to India, Simon Wong, held a meeting with Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) General NS Raja Subramani on Tuesday, discussing defence cooperation between the armed forces of two nations through exercises, exchanges and established dialogues. During the meeting, Simon Wong congratulated General Subramani on his appointment as India's CDS. "Had an introductory call today on Chief of Defence Staff of the Indian Armed Forces, General NS Raja Subramani. Congratulated him on his recent appointment and reflected on the breadth of long-

running defence cooperation between the armed forces of both countries through major exercises, exchanges, and established dialogues. Also shared views on furthering this strong partnership under General Subramani's leadership. - HC Wong," Singapore's High Commissioner to India posted on X. Last month, Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh held a meeting with the Defence Ministers of Singapore and New Zealand on the sidelines of Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore, with discussions focussed on strengthening bilateral ties, enhancing maritime cooperation, advancing information-sharing mechanisms. In a statement



shared on X, Directorate of Public Relations, Ministry of Defence stated, "Defence Secretary Shri Rajesh Kumar Singh held productive interactions with Defence Minister of New Zealand Mr Chris Penk and Minister for Defence of Singapore Mr Chan Chun Sing on the sidelines of Shangri-La Dialogue 2026." "The engagements focused on strengthening bilateral defence ties, enhancing maritime cooperation, advancing information-sharing mechanisms, and reaffirming a shared commit-

ment to a secure, stable and inclusive Indo-Pacific," it added. Rajesh Kumar Singh also met Singapore President Tharman Shanmugaratnam at the Istana reception hosted on the sidelines of the Shangri-La Dialogue. "Defence Secretary Shri Rajesh Kumar Singh interacted with Singapore President Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam at the Istana reception hosted on the sidelines of the Shangri-La Dialogue 2026. The discussions focused on further strengthening bilateral strategic ties and advancing cooperation in areas of mutual interest," Directorate of Public Relations, Ministry of Defence, posted on X. Earlier in April, Indian Naval Ship (INS) Sunayna visited Singapore's Changi Naval Base for a port call as part of the IOS SAGAR deployment under the vision of MAHASAGAR.

EDITORIAL
the indian mail

India attends 56th
OAS General Assembly in Panama

Panama City, Aug 18 : India's Ambassador to Panama, Sumit Seth, represented India at the opening of the 56th Organization of American States (OAS) General Assembly in Panama. Sumit Seth congratulated Panama President Jose Raul Mulino for his leadership and conveyed his best wishes for the success of the event. The 56th OAS General Assembly is being held in Panama. Panama is hosting the the OAS General Assembly for the third time. It has previously hosted the OAS General Assembly in 1996 and 2007. In a post on X, India's Embassy in Panama stated, "India at the 56th OAS General Assembly in Panama. Ambassador Sumit Seth represented India at the opening of the 56th OAS General Assembly in Panama City today. India is a Permanent Observer to the Organization of American States." "Ambassador congratulated President of Panama Jose Raul Mulino for his leadership and conveyed his best wishes for the success of the event," it added. The theme of the 56th General Assembly is: "The Americas United on the Bicentennial of the Amphictyonic Congress of Panama," and its topic is: "Firm Multilateralism in Defence of Democracy, Hemispheric Security, and Stability in the Member States." The General Assembly is the principal organ of the OAS and comprises delegations from all member states, generally headed by Ministers of Foreign Af-



fairs. Each member state has one vote. Decisions of the Assembly are generally taken by majority vote, although in some cases, the rules require a two-thirds majority. The OAS tradition is to adopt resolutions by consensus, according to the official statement. The Assembly is responsible for defining the policies and mandates of the OAS and the structure and functions of its organs. The Assembly is also responsible for electing members of the OAS's decentralised and autonomous bodies, including the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, the Inter-American Juridical Committee.



Legacy of Air India Flight
182 demands remembrance,
also vigilance: Canadian PM

Ottawa, Aug 18 : Canada's Prime Minister Mark Carney on Tuesday paid tribute to the victims of 1985 bombing of Air India Flight 182, emphasising on 'National Day of Remembrance for Victims of Terrorism' that the legacy of deadliest terrorist attack in country's history not only demands remembrance, but also vigilance. "Forty-one years ago today, the bombing of Air India Flight 182 claimed 329 innocent lives, including 268 Canadians. It remains the deadliest terrorist attack in Canada's history," read a statement issued by Carney on Tuesday. "On this National Day of Remembrance for Victims of Terrorism, we honour the victims of Flight 182 and all those who have lost their lives to acts of terrorism and violent extremism. We stand with the survivors, families, and communities who carry this loss," he added.



EAM Jaishankar pays tribute to Kanishka bombing
victims, reaffirms India's commitment to combat terrorism

Ulaanbaatar, Aug 18 : External Affairs Minister (EAM) S Jaishankar on Tuesday paid homage to the victims of the 1985 Air India 'Kanishka' bombing and reaffirmed India's commitment to combatting terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. "Today, on the 41st anniversary of Air India 182 'Kanishka' bombing, we honour the memory of those who lost their precious lives in this horrific terror incident. Reaffirm our commitment to combating terrorism in all its

forms and manifestations," EAM Jaishankar, currently on a two-day visit to Mongolia, posted on X. Air India Flight 182 was en route from Montreal to Mumbai via London and Delhi when it was destroyed mid-air over the Atlantic Ocean on June 23, 1985, after a bomb exploded in its cargo hold. The aircraft had made a scheduled stop at Montreal's Mirabel airport, where additional passengers boarded. The flight resumed its journey towards London before it vanished from radar shortly after establish-

ing contact with Shannon Air Traffic Control in Ireland. The explosion, which occurred off the Irish coast, killed all 329 people on board, including 22 crew members. Meanwhile, Canada's High Commissioner to India, Chris Cotter and Ireland's Deputy Ambassador to India, Raymond Mullen, also paid tribute to the victims of the Air India Flight 182 bombing on Tuesday during a commemorative ceremony held at Canada House in New Delhi to mark the 41st anniversary of the terrorist attack. Senior officials from the Indian government and members of the diplomatic community attended the ceremony. Participants laid wreaths at the memorial tree planted at Canada House in 2025 in remembrance of the victims and observed a moment of silence. They also signed the remembrance book in honour of the victims. Chris Cotter termed the bombing a "painful chapter" in Canada's history and expressed solidarity with the families of the victims.

Tripura gets 1st public
electric vehicle charging
station; plans 94 more in state

Agartala, Aug 18 : Tripura's first public electric vehicle (EV) charging station was inaugurated in Agartala on Tuesday, marking a significant step towards promoting clean and sustainable transportation in the state while facilitating convenient charging facilities for EV users, officials said. A senior official of the Tripura State Electricity Corporation Limited (TSECL) said that as the nodal agency for the Central government's PM E-Drive Scheme, the corporation has already submitted a proposal for the establishment of 94 public EV charging stations at various locations across the state. The official described the development as a major boost for existing electric vehicle owners as well as those planning to purchase EVs in the future.



US tariffs place 'substantial strain' on Switzerland's export-oriented economy

Geneva, Aug 18 : The US tariffs place "a substantial strain" on Switzerland's export-oriented economy, the Swiss government said, vowing to continue negotiations with the US to reduce the 39 per cent additional tariffs imposed on the country, which came into force Tuesday. The decision was made following the trip of a Swiss delegation to the United States from Tuesday to Wednesday, led by President Karin Keller-Sutter and Vice President Guy

Parmelin, the Federal Council said in a statement. The 39 per cent tariff rate, announced by US President Donald Trump on July 31, was one of the highest globally and also higher than the 31 per cent rate threatened by Trump in early April, Xinhua news agency reported. Nearly 60 per cent of Swiss exports to the US are subject to the new tariffs, which are "particularly steep" compared with other US trading partners such as the European Union and Britain, the statement said, adding that it is not



considering tariff countermeasures for fear of "additional costs on the economy." According to Swiss customs data, the US has been Switzerland's biggest export market since 2021, with Swiss exports to the United States accounted for 18.6 per cent of the country's total exports in 2024. The US also stood as the top market for major Swiss industries including chemicals and pharmaceuticals.

China using Buddhism as tool for political control: Report

Beijing, Aug 18 : The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) has described religion as superstition, a relic of feudalism, and a distraction from socialist modernisation. However, China has been tolerating and actively promoting Buddhism as it has become Beijing's tool for political control, a report has detailed. According to a report in the Journal of Democracy, the ideological foundation of the CCP is based on Marxism, and religion, according to it, is a distraction from class struggle and revolutionary progress. For years, temples were destroyed, monks defrocked, and scriptures burned in China, particularly during the Cultural Revolution. Later, the CCP

learnt that religion cannot be eliminated through decree. "China is officially atheist. The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) has long declared religion to be superstition, a relic of feudalism, and a distraction from socialist modernisation. Yet walk through Beijing, Shanghai, or Chengdu today, and you will find Buddhist temples restored, incense burning, monks in saffron robes chanting sutras," Khedroop Thondup, nephew of the 14th Dalai Lama, wrote in the Journal of Democracy.



Indonesia's Mount Dukono erupts, triggers aviation warning, safety advisory

Jakarta, Aug 18 : Mount Dukono, located in Indonesia's North Maluku province, erupted on Tuesday, prompting the country's Volcanology and Geological Disaster Mitigation Centre to issue an aviation warning. The volcano, situated on Halmahera Island, spewed a column of ash up to 2,000 metres into the sky. Thick white-to-grey clouds drifted south of the crater.



West continuing aggressive policies and actions against Russia: Putin

Moscow, Aug 18 : Russian President Vladimir Putin on Tuesday said that Western countries are openly talking about preparing for war with Russia and continue to increase their military budgets, local media reported. Putin made these comments at a meeting with graduates of higher military educational institutions, Russia's state-owned Tass media reported. "We see that while NATO countries previously limited themselves to supporting the Kyiv regime, which came to power through illegal armed means and a coup d'etat, now the West is openly saying that they are preparing for war with us and are increasing their military offensive budgets," noted the Russian President. According to him, the "pseudo-democratic West" first create threats against Russia, which forces the country to take actions necessary for self-defence and then accuses Russia of "all mortal sins" to justify continuing its aggressive policies and actions against Russia. Putin also noted that the "rules" imposed by the West conceal neo-colonialist ambitions and disrespect for others' sovereignty, and Russia is not satisfied with that. The statement was part of his greeting to participants of the 12th International Scientific and Expert Forum 'Primakov Readings'.

The greetings were read by Yuri Ushakov, the Russian leader's aide for international affairs. "As is well known, Western countries advocate for a certain rules-based world. However, it was not difficult to see that this slogan conceals blatant neocolonial ambitions, disrespect for the sovereignty of independent states, a desire to interfere in their internal affairs, and force them to change their foreign policy priorities," read Putin's statement. "Russia, like many others in the world, is categorically unsatisfied with such 'rules,'" Putin said in his greeting. "We advocate for other, truly democratic foundations of world order, binding norms of international law, the indisputable authority of the UN Security Council, mutual respect and equality for all countries, and their free choice of development paths," it added. The statement also said that the theme of the Primakov Readings, 'A World Without Rules: A Power Game,' very accurately characterises the alarming trends that have become clearly evident in contemporary international relations.



Taiwan President asks universities to be cautious of China's influence

Taipei, Aug 18 : Asserting that democracy and academic independence are invaluable, Taiwan's President William Lai said on Tuesday asked universities to be cautious about any exchanges with China. He was speaking at the 2025 National Conference for the University Presidents of Taiwan at an academic conference in Yilan. "Institutions must be aware of the risks and join the government in protecting the country's core key technologies. , research, and competitiveness regarding China's influence in the education system. Taiwan's freedom and democratic way of life are precious assets," Lai stated according to a report in Taiwan's leading newspaper Taipei Times. Taiwan has blacklisted two Chinese universities - Huaqiao University in Xiamen and Quanzhou and Jinan University in Guangzhou - from conducting academic exchange programmes in the nation after reports that the institutes are arms of Beijing's United Front Work Department, Taiwan's Minister of Education Cheng Ying-yao said in an interview on Wednesday. Citing reports by national security officials, Cheng said that both these institutions had 600 and 1500 Taiwanese on their rolls, respectively and are under direct control of the Chinese government's political warfare branch. The measure is necessary to prevent China from systematically targeting Taiwanese students with its 'united front' work, he said, adding that education providers must protect national security.

South Korean govt to ease visa rules, expand regional airport entry for inbound tourism

Seoul, Aug 18 : The South Korean government unveiled Tuesday a series of measures aimed at promoting inbound tourism across South Korea, including easing of visa rules and expanding entry points at regional airports. The measures were announced during an expanded national tourism strategy meeting held at the presidential office Cheong Wa Dae and chaired by South Korean President Lee Jae Myung, with the attendance of officials from relevant ministries, Yonhap News Agency reported. Under the proposed measures, the government plans to make visa and entry procedures for foreign tourists more flexible. Indonesia will be included in a pilot visa waiver program for group tourists of three or more people. The government will also seek to introduce five-year multiple-entry visas for travellers from China and Southeast Asian countries who have prior records of visiting South Korea, and 10-year multiple-entry visas for those from major cities in China and Vietnam. An automated immigration clearance system will be expanded from the current 18 countries, including Japan, Singapore and Australia, to European Union member states.



3 empty buses explode in suspected terror attack near Tel Aviv

Jerusalem, Aug 18 : Three empty buses exploded simultaneously in Israel's Tel Aviv area, while explosive devices were found on at least two others before they could detonate, in what police said was a "suspected terror attack". No injuries have been reported, Israel's Magen David Adom rescue service said on Tuesday.

Pakistan: Children from underprivileged families continue to face structural barriers

Islamabad, Aug 18 : Children from underprivileged families in Pakistan face structural barriers while children from wealthy families in the country continue to receive high-quality schooling and better opportunities leading to prestigious careers, a report has detailed. According to estimates, approximately 26.2 million children, including 13.4 million girls, remain out of school in Pakistan. Around 20-28 per cent of school-age children are not enrolled in school, with many forced to prioritise survival over education.



"Why do some children enjoy their right to education while others are denied it? Why are quality schools reserved for those who can afford them, while millions are left with inadequate alterna-

tives? Why do we continue to tolerate a system that reinforces inequality from one generation to the next? Children enter the world equal and without any bias or class difference.



Mizoram: Drugs valued at Rs 2.41 crore seized, 4 arrested

Aizawl, Aug 18 : The Assam Rifles and Mizoram Police, in three separate joint and coordinated operations, seized drugs worth around Rs 2.41 crore and arrested four alleged drug peddlers in Mizoram’s Saitual district, officials said on Tuesday. A police official said that a special team of the police, in a joint operation with Assam Rifles troops, conducted a check at the outskirts of Keifang in Saitual district and recovered 868 grams of heroin concealed in 73 soap cases from a truck. The seized heroin was valued at around Rs 1.74 crore. The driver and his assistant of the vehicle, identified as Monwar Singh Barbhuiya and Abdul Kayum Munna, both residents of Cachar district.

Punjab Police foil terror plots, seize RPG and arms cache

Chandigarh, Aug 18 : In yet another major blow to the terror conspiracy involving Pakistan-backed Inter-Services Intelligence and the pro-Khalistan terrorist network involved in the Shambhu railway track attempted improvised explosive device blast case, Punjab Police have averted major terror plots with the recovery of another substantial cache of militant hardware, including a rocket-propelled grenade, hand grenade, explosives, and high-end pistols, said Director General of Police Gaurav Yadav here on Tuesday. The recovered military hardware includes one rocket-propelled grenade, one metallic improvised explosive device (sticky bomb) weighing 2.296 kg, along with three detonators with electric wire and one battery, two packs of RDX weighing 1.456 kg, one P-86 hand grenade, three pistols, 9 mm Glock-18 CX ‘Austria’, .30 bore PX5 Storm and .30 bore Star Mark, along with five magazines and 84 cartridges, two wireless sets Baofeng, one headphone, and two timer switches. The development came in continuation of the investigation into an explosion at a railway track near Shambhu in Patiala district on Monday night, which resulted in the death of one Jagroop Singh, alias Jupa, who was attempting to plant an improvised explosive device that apparently detonated prematurely. Pertinently, in less than 12 hours, police teams had arrested four highly radicalised individuals of this module, identified as Pardeep Singh Khalsa, Kulwinder Singh, alias Bgga, Satnam



Singh, alias Satta, and Gurpreet Singh, alias Gopi, and recovered one hand grenade, two .30 bore pistols, technically sophisticated communication devices, and laptops from their possession. Director General of Police Yadav said that Wednesday’s significant recovery from Panjwarh Khurd village in Tarn Taran district is based on the disclosures by the arrested accused Satnam, the brother of prime accused Jagroop Singh, who died while setting off the improvised explosive device. “Investigations have revealed that this terror module was backed by a Malaysia-based entity, with financial support being routed through Malaysia by the main handler using the name Jujhar Singh,” said the Director General of Police.



Arunachal: Assam Rifles foil insurgent network, ULFA (I) cadre nabbed

Itanagar/Guwahati, Aug 18 : Security forces apprehended an armed NSCN (Khango) extremist and an overground worker in Arunachal Pradesh, officials said on Tuesday. A defence spokesman stated that, acting on specific intelligence inputs regarding the presence of an overground worker in contact with an armed Naga extremist in the Rima-Putok circle of Changlang district, and further corroborated by internal sources, the Assam Rifles launched a well-coordinated, intelligence-based operation on Thursday. During the operation, security forces successfully.

Centre rolls out special kharif plan for 315 vulnerable districts amid El Nino worries

New Delhi, Aug 18 : The Central government on Tuesday unveiled a special contingency plan amid concerns over a possible El Nino weather phenomenon that could lead to a weak monsoon this year and adversely impact the kharif crop in 315 vulnerable districts in the country. Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers Welfare Shivraj Singh Chouhan chaired a high-level virtual meeting with state Agriculture Minis-

ters, senior officials, experts from the ICAR, ICAR-CRIDA, and the India Meteorological Department to review the situation across the country. Addressing a press conference after the meeting, Chouhan said that the southwest monsoon is significantly delayed this year, and rainfall so far has been around 43 per cent below normal. According to IMD forecasts, rainfall is likely to remain weak even during the week ending July 2. This could directly affect kharif crops, particularly in

rainfed regions where agriculture is heavily dependent on monsoon rains. The minister said that around 315 districts have been identified that could be potentially affected by weak monsoon conditions. Of these, 111 districts have been categorised as high priority, where irrigation coverage is below 25 per cent. Another 76 districts fall under the medium-priority category with irrigation coverage between 25 and 50 per cent, while 128 districts have been classified as low

priority owing to relatively better irrigation facilities through dams and other sources. A majority of these districts are located across 12 states—Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Bihar, Jharkhand, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, and Odisha. Detailed discussions were held with Agriculture Ministers and District Collectors of these states, and they were urged to expedite preparedness at the local level, he said. Chouhan informed that the ICAR



and ICAR-CRIDA have prepared District Agriculture Contingency Plans for all districts. These plans incorporate district-specific climatic conditions, cropping pat-

terns, water resources and risk factors and prescribe measures such as suitable alternative crops under low rainfall conditions.



K'taka cabinet clears Premises Regulation Bill, Sandhya Kiran healthcare scheme

Bengaluru, Aug 18 : The Karnataka Cabinet on Tuesday approved the Karnataka Regulation of Use of Government Premises and Public Property Bill, 2026, aimed at regulating the use of government premises and public property by private individuals, organisations, associations, societies and other entities. Speaking about the Cabinet decision, Home Minister Priyank Kharge said the proposed legislation would provide a legal framework to safeguard and preserve government property and ensure its responsible utilisation for public benefit. The Bill seeks to regulate the use of government lands, buildings, playgrounds, parks, roads and other public assets, while preventing their misuse. Kharge dismissed speculation that the legislation was intended to target any particular institution, association, organisation, society, club, union, syndicate or NGO. “Why is everyone thinking this is to curtail or curb any particular institution, association, organisation, society, club, union, syndicate or NGO? Beats me,” he remarked. Meanwhile, the Cabinet also approved the launch of the “Sandhya

Kiran” contributory cashless healthcare scheme for State Government pensioners below 70 years of age, family pensioners and their eligible dependent family members. The scheme has been formulated under the Ayushman Bharat-Arogya Karnataka (AB-ArK) framework. It will initially cover around 3.11 lakh State Government pensioners and their eligible dependents, taking the total number of beneficiaries to approximately 4.93 lakh. Under the scheme, eligible families will be entitled to cashless secondary, tertiary and emergency medical treatment of up to Rs 5 lakh per year on a family floater basis. Beneficiaries can avail themselves of treatment at hospitals empanelled under the scheme, with AB-ArK benefit packages and revised package rates applicable. Service pensioners will contribute 1.25 per cent of their basic pension, while family pensioners will contribute 0.75 per cent of their basic family pension. The scheme is expected to generate around Rs 117 crore annually through premium contributions.

Punjab BJP chief writes to World Bank head on rural economy

Chandigarh, Aug 18 : Punjab Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) President Kewal Singh Dhillon has written to World Bank Group President Ajay Banga, acknowledging his remarks on the state’s rural economy. In a letter, Dhillon said Banga’s observations had opened an important conversation on Punjab’s economic realities, one that deserved thoughtful engagement rather than political point-scoring. Referring to Banga’s remarks, Dhillon noted that Punjab’s youth faced economic vulnerability, cautioning that one-time wealth from land sales could not substitute for sustainable livelihoods and long-term rural transformation. Dhillon said this assessment

reflected ground realities that the BJP in Punjab had consistently raised and that demanded serious attention from the state government. He emphasised that the challenges faced by rural families in Punjab must not be reduced to narrow stereotypes but understood in the context of the deep economic and social transitions underway in rural society, which require political will and administrative action at the state level. The BJP chief pointed out that Punjab had played a historic role in ensuring India’s food security for generations, often at high personal, social, and environmental cost. He said its contribution to the nation deserved recognition, empathy, and decisive action – not silence from an Aam Aadmi Party

(AAP) government that had failed to deliver. “Punjab’s families are not facing an individual crisis in isolation; they are navigating a larger economic transition. Many rural communities are moving away from traditional agrarian systems without adequate alternative livelihoods, skill development



pathways, or financial support mechanisms. This is a failure of governance that the AAP government must own,” Dhillon said. Addressing concerns related to drug abuse, Dhillon reiterated the BJP’s firm commitment to eliminating the menace. He said the party viewed the issue not merely as a political concern but as a social responsibility requiring strong law enforcement, de-addiction support, and community participation – all of which remained absent under the current state government. Dhillon invited Banga to engage directly with him so that his understanding of the state’s challenges and strengths was grounded in its lived realities. Expressing confidence in Punjab’s future, Dhillon said the state had the resilience, capability.

SC stays Lokpal decision on power to entertain complaint against HC judges

New Delhi, Aug 18 : In an interim order passed on Tuesday, the Supreme Court stayed the operation of a decision of the Lokpal holding that the anti-corruption body can entertain complaints against High Court judges. A bench of Justices B.R. Gavai, Surya Kant and Abhay S. Oka was hearing a suo moto (on its own motion) after Lokpal referred the two complaints to the office of the Chief Justice of India (CJI) containing the allegations that a sitting additional judge of a high court influenced his colleague and an additional

district judge who had to deal with the suit filed against the complainant by a private company. “Something very very disturbing,” remarked Justice Gavai-led Bench as it issued notice to the Union government.



'Khet Bachao Abhiyan': CMFRI reaches out to farmers

Kochi, Aug 18 : As part of the nationwide Khet Bachao Abhiyan, ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) scientists engaged with more than 200 farmers, highlighting the need for balanced fertiliser application and a shift towards natural farming methods amid rising concerns over soil degradation caused by excessive chemical inputs. The awareness programme focused on the growing impact of indis-



criminate fertiliser use on soil health, water resources, and aquatic ecosystems. Experts said that overdependence on chemical fertilisers was disturbing nutrient balance and contributing to pollution.

Indraprastha Gas' Q1 profit drops 33 pc sequentially

New Delhi, Aug 18 : Indraprastha Gas Limited (IGL) on Tuesday reported a 33 per cent decline in profitability for the first quarter of the current financial year (Q1 FY27). The city gas distributor posted a net profit of Rs 186 crore in the June quarter, down 32.9 per cent quarter-on-quarter (QoQ) from Rs 277 crore reported in the preceding quarter (Q4 FY26), according to its stock exchange filing. Revenue from operations, however, rose 10.1 per cent sequentially to Rs 4,583 crore in Q1 FY27, compared with Rs 4,163 crore in the previous quarter. At the operating level, the company's earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA) declined 30.3 per cent to Rs 295 crore from Rs 423 crore in the earlier quarter. The weaker operating performance also weighed on margins. IGL's EBITDA margin contracted to 6.4 per cent in the June quarter from 10.2 per

cent in the preceding quarter, as per its regulatory filing. Following the earnings announcement, investor sentiment remained subdued. Shares of Indraprastha Gas were trading about 1 per cent lower at Rs 152.90 apiece at around 2:40 pm on Thursday. In comparison, the Sensex was trading largely flat with a negative bias at 77,918.06. Over the last five days, the company's stock has declined by 1.35 per cent, or Rs 2.07. Over the past month, the stock fell 0.86 per cent, or Rs 1.31. Over the last six months, the company's shares have declined by 8.88 per cent, or Rs 14.79. On a year-to-date basis, the stock has

fallen 20.94 per cent, or Rs 40.20. Over the past year, the company's shares have dropped 26.45 per cent, or Rs 54.49. Meanwhile, earlier this year, the gas distributor announced a fresh increase in compressed natural gas (CNG) prices, marking the fourth hike in less than two weeks. CNG prices in Delhi have been hiked by Rs 2 per kg on May 26. Following the latest revision by IGL, CNG in Delhi will now cost Rs 83.09 per kg, up from Rs 81.09 per kg.



Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles Q1 profit plunges 80 pc to Rs 775 crore

Mumbai, Aug 18 : Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles Limited on Tuesday reported a sharp decline in profitability for the first quarter of FY27, with consolidated net profit falling more than 80 per cent year-on-year (YoY). According to the company's regulatory filing, consolidated net profit dropped 80.3 per cent to Rs 775 crore in the June quarter from Rs 3,924 crore in the corresponding period last financial year (Q1 FY26). The automaker's revenue rose 9.3 per cent year-on-year (YoY)

to Rs 95,799 crore, compared with Rs 87,677 crore in the year-ago quarter, it added in its filing. At the operating level, performance remained under pressure. EBITDA declined 17.2 per cent to Rs 6,326 crore during the quarter from Rs 7,639 crore a year earlier. As a result, the company's EBITDA margin narrowed to 6.6 per cent, compared with 8.7 per cent in the corresponding quarter of the previous financial year, as per the filing. Commenting on the performance, Shailesh Chandra, Managing Director & CEO,

Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles Limited said that Q1 FY27 marked a strong start to the year for Tata Motors PV, with industry-beating 46 per cent YoY volume growth driven by robust customer demand and the success of our recent launches. "Our leadership in electric mobility strengthened further, with record quarterly EV volumes of over 34,000 units and 112 per cent YoY growth," he added. "The new avatars of Tiago and Punch have received a strong response, with robust bookings across powertrains.

Force Motors' Q4 profit drops 40 pc to Rs 278.5 crore

Mumbai, Aug 18 : Force Motors on Tuesday reported a sharp 40 per cent decline in profitability for the March quarter (Q4 FY26). The company's net profit fell to Rs 278.5 crore, compared to Rs 434.7 crore in the same period previous financial year (Q4 FY25), according to its stock exchange filing. Despite the drop in bottom line, the automaker maintained steady growth in its topline. Revenue for the quarter rose 8.2 per cent to Rs 2,550 crore from Rs 2,356 crore.

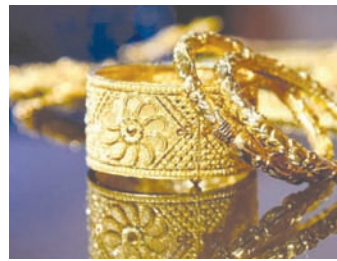


GMM Pfaudler's Q1 net profit falls 54 pc to Rs 10.1 crore

Mumbai, Aug 18 : Process equipment manufacturer GMM Pfaudler Limited on Tuesday reported a sharp decline of 53.7 per cent in its net profit for the April-June quarter (Q1) of FY26. The company's net profit fell to Rs 10.1 crore, compared to Rs 21.8 crore in the same period previous year, according to its stock exchange filing. While profits took a hit, the company posted a modest 1.1 per cent increase in revenue from operations, reaching Rs 794 crore for the quarter. On the operational front, however, GMM Pfaudler showed improvement.

Gold derivatives can boost financial markets, price discovery in India: Report

Mumbai, Aug 18 : The evolution of gold derivatives reflects a broader opportunity for India's commodity markets -- to build stronger domestic price references, enable businesses to hedge price risk within India, create investment avenues and develop a deeper risk-management ecosystem across commodities, a new report has said.



India's gold market is moving from physical ownership towards a more financialised market.



India needs quantum jump into manufacturing high-value pharma products: Economists

New Delhi, Aug 18 : India, which is one of the world's largest suppliers of generic medicines and a major provider of vaccines and essential drugs, needs to make a quantum jump into manufacturing high-value pharmaceuticals and Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (API), and there has to be strong Production Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes to achieve this, economists said on Tuesday. Commenting on the NITI Aayog report on pharmaceutical trade that came out on Tuesday, economist Ved Jain told IANS that the time is ripe to make a jump into exporting high-value pharmaceutical products. "We should invest in research innovation on basic drugs and facilities and for that, I believe there has to be a strong PLI scheme for valued products, like high basic drugs and API products," he mentioned. According to the NITI Aayog report, India's comparative advantage remains concentrated in formulations, particularly retail medicaments and generic drugs, where it remains highly competitive even in regulated markets such as the United States and Europe. Jain said that we need to further remove regulatory barriers, ramp up production and, at the same time, increase the production of high-value pharmaceutical products which can be exported.

Adani Portfolio clocks highest ever TTM EBITDA of Rs 86,789 crore, core infra biz surges

Ahmedabad, Aug 18 : Led by its core infrastructure business, the Adani Portfolio has delivered the highest-ever trailing-twelve-month (TTM) EBITDA of Rs 86,789 crore, the Adani Group said on Tuesday. The core infrastructure businesses (utility, transport, and incubating infra businesses under Adani Enterprises Ltd) accounted for 84 per cent of total EBITDA.



Maruti Suzuki's new mid-term plan aims to make India an export hub, launch more EVs

New Delhi, Aug 18 : The Suzuki Motor Corporation of Japan, the parent company of Maruti Suzuki India, on Tuesday announced a new mid-term plan with a "rethink" in its strategy as "the business environment has changed due to declining market share in India" and the growing electrical vehicles segment. In its new mid-term plan for

2025-30, the company has identified India as its "most important market". Maruti Suzuki aims to create a manufacturing capacity of producing 4 million cars annually to reclaim a 50 per cent market share in India and use the country as a global export hub as well. The auto major plans to expand its EV lineup starting with the e-Vitara, and is aiming to launch four new EV models by FY30 in a segment where its rivals like Tata Motors and Mahindra & Mahindra already have a varied EV portfolio in India.

Indiabulls' Q4 profit jumps 46.4 pc to Rs 194 crore

Mumbai, Aug 18 : Indiabulls Limited on Tuesday reported a 46.4 per cent rise in profitability for the March quarter (Q4 FY26), closing a transformational financial year marked by its merger and strategic shift towards a real estate-led business model supported by diversified financial services. The company posted a profit after tax of Rs 194 crore for the quarter ended March 31, according to the financial statement. Revenue during the quarter stood at Rs 418 crore, it added in its financial statement. For the full financial year FY26, Indiabulls reported a profit after tax of Rs 346 crore on revenue of Rs 880 crore, resulting in a healthy profit margin of 39.3 per cent. The performance reflects the company's successful repositioning and improved operational efficiency following its restructuring.



Prajwal a convict, no targeting him: K'taka HM Priyank Kharge

Bengaluru, Aug 18 : Karnataka Home Minister Priyank Kharge on Tuesday rejected allegations that the state government is targeting former MP and convicted offender Prajwal Revanna following the recovery of a mobile phone and pen drive from his prison cell and his subsequent transfer from the VIP cell to a normal barrack. Prajwal is the grandson of former Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda and son of JD-S MLA H.D. Revanna. Speaking to reporters in

Bengaluru, Kharge said there was no question of the Government targeting Prajwal, who is serving a life sentence following his conviction in a rape case. "The Government is targeting no one. Prajwal is a convict. Nothing is personal. The court has convicted Prajwal Revanna and, in that backdrop, he is in jail. When the facts are such, there is no question of targeting him," Kharge said. On the alleged lapses in the prison system, Kharge said action would be taken against anyone found responsible, irrespective of their rank or position. "If there are illegal activities inside

the prison, action should be initiated at any cost. The video that has come out in this connection is a little older. The investigation is on to find out who handed over the mobile phone to the cell. The investigation so far has revealed that there was no Wi-Fi usage," he said. Kharge said no officer found guilty would be protected, irrespective of whether the person was a constable or an IPS officer. "There is no question of protecting any officer from constable to IPS rank who is guilty. Raids have been conducted with the intention of rectifying lapses in the prison system. Action was initiated

after lapses were found during my visit to the prison," he said. He also said the investigation would examine whether action should be initiated against DGP (Prisons) Alok Kumar. "The investigation is on regarding initiating action against DGP Prisons Alok Kumar as well. We will initiate action against anyone guilty, from a constable to anyone," Kharge reiterated. Reacting to the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)'s allegation that prisons in Karnataka had been turned into "resorts", Kharge questioned whether BJP leaders had personally visited the prisons and wit-



nessed the alleged lapses. "Were the prisons resorts during the tenures of Araga Jnanendra and R. Ashoka under BJP governments? It is not tenable to make false allegations," he said. Kharge said

some prison officials had already been suspended and directions had been issued to conduct an audit of the digital systems in all prisons across the state.



VOC Port becomes a model for green maritime growth: Sarbananda Sonowal

New Delhi, Aug 18 : The VOC Chidambaranar Port Authority (VOCPA) has emerged as a model for sustainable maritime development in India, citing the port's significant progress in decarbonisation, renewable energy adoption and green infrastructure development, Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW), Sarbananda Sonowal, said on Tuesday. Sonowal highlighted the findings of the port's first Sustainability Report, which revealed that renewable energy now offsets nearly 94 per cent of the port's energy-consumption equivalent, while net carbon emissions have been reduced by around 45 per cent. The report also noted that carbon intensity per tonne of cargo has been reduced by nearly half over

the past four years, reinforcing VOC Port's position as a frontrunner in India's green maritime transition, according to the minister. "VOC Port is demonstrating what can be achieved when infrastructure development is guided by sustainability, innovation and community welfare. The port's achievement in reducing net carbon emissions by 45 per cent is a significant milestone in India's journey towards greener and more responsible maritime growth," said Sonowal. These initiatives reflect the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi for building modern, sustainable and future-ready infrastructure while investing in people, technology and the environment," Sarbananda Sonowal said.



Former Nagaland minister and BJP spokesperson Mmhonlumo Kikon quits party

Kohima, Aug 18 : BJP national spokesperson and former Nagaland minister Mmhonlumo Kikon has resigned from the primary and active membership of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and all party posts on Tuesday. The Nagaland BJP has not yet issued any official statement regarding his resignation. In a resignation letter addressed to the President of the BJP Nagaland state unit, Kikon, a former two-time MLA from the Bhandari assembly con-

stituency in Nagaland, expressed gratitude for the opportunities and responsibilities entrusted to him during his more than ten-year association with the party. "Since joining the BJP more than a decade ago, I have had the honour of serving the party and contributing to its growth and activities in various capacities and responsibilities entrusted to me. My association with the Party has been a deeply enriching experience.

Centre aims \$2 trillion export target by 2030-31

New Delhi, Aug 18 : India is targeting \$2 trillion in total exports by 2030-31, comprising \$1 trillion in merchandise exports and \$1 trillion in services exports, the government said on Tuesday. The Department of Commerce has developed a structured Export Monitoring Framework, which breaks down the national target into sector-wise actions across Engineering Goods, Textiles, Electronics, Pharmaceuticals, Chemicals and Services, said Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal who chaired a high-level review meeting here. Goyal stated that achievement of the target will be based on three key pillars. These include clearly defined and actionable points with timelines, where each sectoral action is assigned to a Nodal Joint Secretary, classified as supply-side or demand-side, linked to key performance indicators and aligned with short, medium

and long-term timelines. He also emphasised the importance of inter-departmental coordination, with supporting Ministries and Departments identified for each task to ensure effective resolution of exporter-related issues. In addition, Goyal highlighted the need for an IT-enabled monitoring platform to facilitate regular tracking of progress, with an automated escalation mechanism for review at the levels of Secretary and Minister. The Minister further directed that, in consultation with the concerned line Ministries, priority sectors be identified where a clearly defined import substitution strategy can be pursued alongside efforts to boost exports. He reviewed the implementation of the Export Promotion Mission, a flagship MSME-focused initiative aimed at addressing key bottlenecks faced by exporters and enabling broad-based, inclusive and sustainable export growth. The EPM is being implemented



through two integrated sub-schemes, 'Niryat Protsahan', focused on access to trade finance, and 'Niryat Disha', focused on market access. He noted that ten components under the EPM have been operationalised. These include Interest Subvention, Alternative Trade Finance (Export Factoring), Credit Assistance for E-Commerce Exporters, Collateral Support for Export Credit, Risk Sharing for Emerging Export Opportunities, Support for Testing, Inspection and Certification, Mar-

ket Access Support, Support for Export Warehousing and Logistics, Support for Inland Transport and Handling, and Support for Trade Facilitation and Intelligence. Goyal also took note of the Relief Scheme launched under the EPM to support exporters affected by the ongoing West Asia crisis. The Minister also underscored the importance of strengthening 'Brand India' as an overarching umbrella for India's export promotion efforts across sectors and markets.

Low demand a challenge for TRIFED : MoS

New Delhi, Aug 18 : Low demand of tribal products in the market, delayed utilisation of funds by state Implementing Agencies, and market linkages are the key challenges faced by the Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India, the Lok Sabha was informed on Tuesday. TRIFED, a national-level apex organisation under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, received a financial assistance of Rs 111.70 crore in 2024-25, said Union Minister of State for Tribal Affairs Durgadas Uikay in a reply. Its main goal is to improve the socio-economic well-being of tribal communities by facilitating the marketing of their products. He informed the House that the review of schemes and programmes implemented by TRIFED is a routine process which is undertaken from time to time. Claiming that no third-party review of the schemes implemented through TRIFED has been conducted recently, the MoS said that at present,



Bengal: ER highlights safety initiatives at Railway Board meet

Kolkata, Aug 18 : Satish Kumar, Chairman and CEO of the Railway Board, chaired the monthly high-level safety review meeting on Tuesday, during which Eastern Railway (ER) highlighted several critical operational safety and infrastructure monitoring initiatives. The meeting was attended by Gitika Pandey, General Manager, ER, and the Divisional Railway Managers of Howrah, Sealdah, Asansol and Malda through video conferencing. Officials said ER is paying utmost attention to safety in rail operations and at station premises. A senior official said detailed discussions were held on expanding CCTV coverage across passenger terminals to strengthen station security, as well as on the smooth opera-

tion of ER's 54 Electronic In-Motion Weighbridges (EIMWBs), which are vital for accurate load monitoring and protecting track integrity. Overloaded wagons can damage tracks and lead to accidents. As tracks across most of the railway network are shared by both freight and passenger trains, undetected faults can cause derailments, putting passengers' lives at risk. Rigorous track maintenance protocols and the execution of advanced signalling safety works were also discussed during the conference. "Tracks and signals are the two most important components of train operations. ER is placing significant stress on track maintenance, including renewals.



Govt taking effective measures to combat cybercrime: Rajasthan Home Minister

Jaipur, Aug 18 : Rajasthan Minister of State for Home Jawahar Singh Bedham said in the Assembly on Tuesday that the state government is taking continuous and effective measures to combat cybercrime by integrating new technologies and innovations. "Statewide initiatives such as the Cyber Shield and Anti-Virus campaigns have been launched to curb cyber fraud. The cyber security framework is being strengthened," the state Home Minister said. Highlighting past challenges, he pointed out that under the previous government, there were instances where police officers were attacked while attempting to take action against cybercriminals. "However, the current administration has taken strict action against these criminals, targeting their illegally acquired properties through the Yellow Panja campaign. These decisive steps have significantly weakened cyber fraud networks.

Trump announces up to 100 pc tariffs on drone imports, citing national security

Washington, Aug 18 : US President Donald Trump announced new tariffs of up to 100 per cent on imports of unmanned drones and their components, saying the move is aimed at reducing the United States' reliance on foreign suppliers in an industry largely dominated by China.

According to a White House statement, the decision was taken on national security grounds. The new measures include a 100 per cent tariff on certain unmanned aircraft systems, particularly larger drones weighing more than 25 kilograms and systems equipped with capabilities considered sensitive for national security.



Quad aligned in advancing closer collaboration, delivering results for free and open Indo-Pacific: US envoy Gor

New Delhi, Aug 18 : US Ambassador to India, Sergio Gor, said on Tuesday that Quad nations are aligned in advancing closer collaboration and delivering results for a free and open Indo-Pacific. Gor made the statement following his meeting with Australia's High Commissioner to India Philip Green and Japan's Ambassador to India Keiichi Ono, where they discussed upcoming Quad initiatives.

Quad brings together four countries - India, Australia, Japan, and the United States, with a com-

mitment to work as a force for global good and to support an open, free, and inclusive Indo-Pacific that is prosperous and resilient.

"Productive discussions today with Australia's High Commissioner to India Philip Green and Japan's Ambassador to India Ono Keiichi on upcoming Quad initiatives and meetings. Together with India, our four nations are aligned in advancing closer collaboration and delivering results for a free and open Indo-Pacific," Gor wrote on X following the meeting.

Last month, External Affairs Min-

ister (EAM) S Jaishankar, Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong, Japanese Foreign Minister Toshimitsu Motegi, and US Secretary of State Marco Rubio participated in the Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Manila.

The ministers reaffirmed their commitment to a free and open Indo-Pacific and underlined their strong support for ASEAN's unity and centrality in the region. In a joint statement, EAM Jaishankar, Wong, Motegi and Rubio underscored the Quad's strong resolve.



Maha minister Dhananjay Munde diagnosed with Bell's palsy

Mumbai, Aug 18 : Maharashtra food and civil supply minister and NCP leader Dhananjay Munde on Tuesday said he is suffering from Bell's palsy which is neurological disorder that causes temporary weakness or paralysis of the muscles on one side of the face. It's the most common type of facial paralysis.

In his post on X, Munde said: "I had surgery on both my eyes fifteen days ago. The surgery was done under the guidance of Dr TP Lahane.

For about ten days, he advised me to take care of my eyes, especially from strong light, dust and sun. Meanwhile, I was diagnosed with a disease called Bell's palsy. The treatment for it is currently underway under the guidance of the famous Dr Arun Shah of Reliance Hospital. Due to this disease, I am currently unable to speak properly for even two minutes continuously. Therefore, I have not been able to attend one or two cabinet meetings and party Janata Darbar programs."

MoS Singh's visit to Cote d'Ivoire part of India's broader engagement with Africa: MEA

New Delhi, Aug 18 : The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on Tuesday stated that Minister of State (MoS) for External Affairs, Kirit Vardhan Singh's recent visit to Cote d'Ivoire is expected to impart further impetus to the growing ties with the West African nation as part of India's broader engagement with Africa. MoS Singh undertook an offi-

cial visit to Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire, from August 6-8 at the invitation of the Government of Cote d'Ivoire, to attend the celebrations of the 66th National Day of the West African nation as the Guest of Honour. According to the MEA, the visit provided a "valuable opportunity" to further consolidate the momentum in India-Cote d'Ivoire relations and the warm reception accorded to the Minis-

ter of State and the visiting Indian Armed Forces contingent reflected the depth of goodwill and friendship between the two countries.

During the visit, the MoS attended the National Day celebrations and witnessed the participation of an Indian Armed Forces Marching Contingent in the National Day Parade. MoS Singh held substantive bilateral discussions with

Niale Kaba, Minister of State, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and also called on Alassane Ouattara, the President of the Cote d'Ivoire. According to the MEA, the discussions covered the entire gamut of bilateral relations, including economic and development partnership, defence and security co-operation and people-to-people ties.



South Korea: Parliamentary committee questions election watchdog officials over ballot shortages

Seoul, Aug 18 : A parliamentary special committee on Tuesday conducted its first inquiry into the National Election Commission (NEC) over an unprecedented shortage of ballots during the recent local elections in South Korea. Last week, the National Assembly launched a special 18-member committee to investigate the cause of the shortage of ballots at more than a dozen

polling stations in Seoul during the June 3 local elections. "As the chairperson, I feel a deep sense of responsibility for the shortcomings found in the NEC's oversight," former NEC Chairman Roh Tae-ak said at the session, Yonhap News Agency reported. The special committee is scheduled to receive a second round of reporting from the NEC and its regional offices, as well as the interior ministry and the National

Police Agency on July 1. The committee also approved plans to conduct an on-site probe on July 8, followed by two days of hearings on July 14 and July 22.

"I offer my sincere apologies to the voters who experienced significant confusion and inconvenience while exercising their precious right to vote, which should have been guaranteed," Wi Chulhwan, acting chairman of the



NEC, said at the session. Wi pledged to do his best to uncover the truth behind the ballot shortages and dismissed lawmakers' calls for his resignation, saying it would be "irresponsible" for him to resign at this stage. The committee earlier agreed to summon 43 witnesses, including 27 current and former NEC officials.

Vietnam's Ho Chi Minh City records surge in hand-foot-mouth disease cases

Hanoi, Aug 18 : Vietnam's southern hub Ho Chi Minh City has reported a surge in hand-foot-mouth disease, with 32,637 cases recorded since early this year, up 64 per cent year-on-year, local daily Tuoi Tre reported Tuesday.

From November 17 to 23, the city logged 1,547 cases, an increase of 15 per cent compared to the average of the previous four weeks, according to the municipal Department of Health.

Tang Chi Thuong, the

department's director, said the Enterovirus 71 (EV71) pathogen had re-emerged in November, linked to severe hand-foot-mouth disease cases.

Among 18 severe cases admitted to a children's hospital in Ho Chi Minh City, 10 tested positive for Enterovirus 71.



Clashes erupt in South Yemen as Houthis announce mobilisation

Aden (Yemen), Aug 18 : Fierce clashes erupted Tuesday between Houthi militants and troops affiliated with the pro-secession Yemen's Southern Transitional Council (STC) in the southern province of Al-Dhalea. The fighting began after Houthi militants launched coordinated attacks on STC positions in the Battar and Tabat Othman areas northwest of Al-Dhalea.



US lawmakers debate rapid spread of AI in schools

Washington, Aug 18 : US lawmakers debated the rapid spread of artificial intelligence in American classrooms, with teachers embracing time-saving tools but warning of risks to learning, privacy, and academic integrity.

At a Congressional hearing titled "Building an AI-Ready America: Teaching in the AI Age", Congressman Kevin Kiley said AI is already widely used in schools. He cited survey data showing "60 per cent of US public school teachers used an AI tool for their work during the 2024, 2025 academic year". He said teachers report clear benefits. "Teachers who use AI tools weekly estimate that they save about six hours a week," Kiley said. Over a year, he added, that equals "nearly six weeks of extra teaching time".

But he also pointed to gaps in preparation. "70 per cent of teachers admit they don't feel prepared to use the AI effectively in their classrooms," he said. He warned of student misuse, noting that "a staggering 85 % expressed concern about student use of AI".



Will re-establish Congress in MP, says party's state in-charge Harish Choudhary

Bhopal, Aug 18 : Newly appointed in-charge for Madhya Pradesh Congress Committee (MPCC), Harish Choudhary, on Tuesday said that re-establishing the party in the state would be his priority. Rajasthan-based leader Choudhary said the Congress leadership assigned him to work in Madhya Pradesh and he would try his best to meet the party's expectations. "Madhya Pradesh has rich history culture and I would try to learn social and political system of the state.

Manipur a symbol of unity and sporting excellence, says CM Khemchand Singh

Imphal, Aug 18 : Manipur Chief Minister Yumnam Khemchand Singh on Tuesday said that the state stands as a shining example of unity in diversity, with 36 communities living together in harmony, and has made an unparalleled contribution to Indian sports. Addressing an event, organised in connection with the International Olympic Day

Run, the Chief Minister said that Manipuri athletes have consistently brought glory to the nation and asserted that no Indian contingent participating in major international sporting events can be considered complete without players from Manipur. Singh on Tuesday attended the International Olympic Day Run and Tree Plantation programme.



Panchayats must emerge as centres of innovation, digital governance & public trust: J&K L-G

Srinagar, Aug 18 : Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said on Tuesday that panchayats must emerge as centres of innovation, digital governance and public trust. Addressing the "Seva Se Samriddhi: Regional Workshop on Panchayat-Led Service Delivery" at the Sher-e-Kashmir International Convention Centre (SKICC) here, the L-G welcomed delegates and panchayat representatives from across the country and thanked the Union Ministry of Panchayati Raj for organising the workshop in Jammu and Kashmir. Manoj Sinha said that Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) must evolve beyond administrative units and emerge as centres of innovation, equal opportunity, sustainable development and public trust, asserting

that grassroots governance will play a decisive role in realising Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of a 'Viksit Bharat' (Developed India). He added that seamless panchayat-led service delivery is a crucial pillar of governance and reiterated the Union Territory administration's commitment to strengthening local self-governance institutions. "I believe Panchayat-led service delivery is one of the most important components of the governance system and a subject very close to my heart," L-G Sinha said. The L-G added that Jammu and Kashmir lacked a fully functional three-tier Panchayati Raj system in the past, but significant efforts in recent years have empowered local bodies through the transfer of funds, functions and functionaries. "District plans were prepared jointly with elected repre-



sentatives, and development priorities identified at the grassroots level were implemented accordingly," he said, adding that locally-driven planning had enabled the execution of several impactful projects across villages. Recalling the early days of his tenure, L-G Sinha said governance in Jammu and Kashmir was heavily dependent on the physical movement of files under the Darbar Move system.

No shortage of funds for welfare, development of OBC community: Maha CM Fadnavis

Mumbai, Aug 18 : Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Tuesday highlighted a slew of initiatives towards the empowerment of the OBC community saying that there would be no shortage of funds for the implementation of welfare and development programmes for the OBC community. In his inaugural speech at the 10th National Convention of the National OBC Federation, he mentioned that after the OBC political reservation was struck down by the court in 2020, the government successfully fought in the Supreme Court to restore it in 2022. Now, a full 27 per cent political reservation has been imple-

mented in municipal corporations, municipalities, town panchayats, district councils, and gram panchayats. He said in 2004, a significant decision was made through the Legislative Assembly Request Committee to increase the non-creamy layer limit from Rs 1 lakh to Rs 2.5 lakh. He added that 50 significant decisions have been taken in the interest of the OBC community through the state government, and their implementation is underway. CM Fadnavis shared details of important decisions, such as 54 hostels for OBC boys and girls, overseas scholarships, and a scheme providing Rs 60,000 in financial assistance to students who could not secure hostel accommodation.



Additionally, he announced that Rs 38 crore has been allocated for constructing a grand OBC Bhavan in Nagpur for the national OBC community, assuring that the work will be completed soon. He highlighted seven historic decisions taken by the Central government under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the empowerment of the OBC community across the country. These include the process of caste-based census, granting constitutional status to the OBC Commission, reservation for doctors in the Central government, and the highest-ever representation of OBC ministers in the Union Cabinet in Independent India's history.



Controversial Pakistani community leader's asylum revoked in Greece : Report

Athens, Aug 18 : Javed Aslam, the highly controversial leader of the Pakistani community in Greece, is among those whose asylum is being revoked under a directive from the Greek Minister of Immigration and Asylum, Thanos Plevris, to reassess international protection cases. Aslam has been severely criticised in Greece for his alleged involvement in operating illegal mosques in the country and demanding legalisation of marriage between cousins. The Ministry published an update on February 16 outlining the number of asylum revocations initiated in recent years and their escalation, particularly after instructions from Plevris, a report said on Tuesday. According to a report in the 'Greek City Times', during the procedure, the Ministry's Asylum

Service sent summons to Aslam, notifying him of the revocation of his refugee status and inviting him to submit any objection within 15 working days as stipulated by law. If he chooses to challenge the decision, it said, then his case will be reviewed in the second instance. "The revocation of Javed Aslam's international protection is part of the line that the ministry has been following recently under Plevris, including the revocation of the asylum status of a Palestinian who was seen celebrating the massacres of Hamas and taking a photo next to Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh," the report mentioned.



Bihar: Tej Pratap-Motilal row intensifies as family raises safety concerns

Patna, Aug 18 : The dispute between Tej Pratap Yadav and his former personal assistant Motilal Yadav has intensified, with new allegations emerging from both sides. Tej Pratap Yadav has accused Motilal Yadav of fleeing after allegedly stealing cash, jewellery, electronic devices, and important documents from his official residence in Patna. An FIR has already been registered at the Secretariat Police Station regarding the alleged theft. Meanwhile, Motilal Yadav's wife, Preeti Bharti, has made separate allegations regarding events at her residence. She claimed that unidentified individuals entered their home, seized the mobile phones of family members, and repeatedly questioned

them about certain documents. She said the family currently has no information about Motilal Yadav's whereabouts and has been unable to contact him. Preeti Bharti expressed concern about her husband's safety and stated that the family is living in fear. She has sought protection from the administration. A technical team from the Superintendent of Police's office has reportedly visited Tej Pratap Yadav's official residence to examine the evidence. The investigation currently includes the examination of CCTV footage from the residence, the review of cameras installed in nearby areas, the collection of witness statements, the verification of the allegedly missing items, and the analysis of available digital evidence. Police officials are continuing to investigate all aspects of the case. According to the FIR, the alleged incident occurred on the night of June 22 at Tej Pratap Yadav's official residence on Harding Road in Patna.



'Not a minor defeat': K.K. Shailaja flags CPI-M crisis, calls for course correction

Thiruvananthapuram, Aug 18 : In a rare candid assessment from within the CPI-M leadership, Central Committee member K.K. Shailaja has described the party's defeat in the Kerala Assembly elections as a serious setback and warned that the Left cannot ignore the organisational and political challenges that have emerged. In an article titled 'A Comeback is Inevitable' in the CPI-M's ideological journal 'Chintha', Shailaja, a former state minister, said the defeat was not a routine electoral loss, as the Left suffered reverses even in its traditional strongholds. She called for a comprehensive review of the last three election defeats and said corrective steps must be taken without delay. Incidentally, Shailaja herself had to face successive defeats, with the first one coming at the 2024 Lok Sabha polls from the Vadakara seat and then when she was shunted out from her Mattannur assembly seat to neighbouring Peravoor when she lost to sitting Congress legislator Sunny Joseph. "Even those who stood firmly with the Left have moved away. Though the problems were noticed, efforts were not made to resolve them."



US paid leave fight shows split on safety net

Washington, Aug 18 : America's long-running gap in paid family and medical leave — routine in much of the developed world but still patchy in the United States — took centre stage on Capitol Hill, as lawmakers sparred over whether Washington should set a national standard or let states and employers chart their own course. At a hearing titled "Balancing Careers and Care: Examining Innovative Approaches to Paid Leave", Congressman Ryan Mackenzie.

Kerala: IRS official, his family members found dead in Kochi customs quarters

Kochi, Aug 18 : In what's believed to be a family suicide, the bodies of three people were found at the official customs quarters in Kochi on Tuesday. The dead have been identified as Manish Agarwal an IRS official from Jharkhand, his sister Shalini and their aged mother Shakunthala. Manish belongs to the 2011 IRS batch and was a top official at the GST Commissioner's office here. His sister Shalini has been staying with her brother and mother for the past few months.



Indian NCC delegation visits Presidential Palace in Vietnam, pays respects to Ho Chi Minh

Hanoi, Aug 18 : A 15-member National Cadet Corps (NCC) delegation, currently on a tour of Vietnam as part of the Annual Youth Exchange Programme, visited the Presidential Palace and the Mausoleum of President Ho Chi Minh in Hanoi on Tuesday. “Indian Cadet Corps delegation visits and exchanges in Vietnam: The Indian Cadet Corps delegation, during their visit to Hanoi, Vietnam, paid respects at the Mausoleum of President Ho Chi Minh, laid a wreath, and expressed their

reverence for Vietnam's beloved leader. Afterwards, the delegation visited the Presidential Palace, learning more about Vietnam's rich history and heritage,” the Indian Embassy in Vietnam wrote on X. According to the Embassy, the delegation also visited the Hanoi Children's Palace, where they had an exchange session with the Director regarding the Palace's activities, functions, and role in nurturing and educating the younger generation. “At the end of the day, the delegation stopped by the Vietnam Mili-



tary History Museum, where the cadets learned about Vietnam's remarkable military journey and history. A day of gratitude, learning, cultural exchange, and experiences — contributing to strengthening the friendship between Indian and Vietnamese

youth,” the Embassy noted. On Wednesday, the delegation visited the Indian Embassy in Hanoi and interacted with Ambassador Tshering W Sherpa. “India-Vietnam defence cooperation. A delegation from the National Cadet Corps consisting of 15 members from India is visiting Vietnam as part of the Annual Youth Exchange Programme.



India, UK hold 15th ESG talks to deepen defence cooperation

London, Aug 18 : India and the United Kingdom held the 15th Executive Steering Group (ESG) meeting in London, discussing ways to enhance defence cooperation and deepen the long-standing partnership between the Indian Army and the British Army. In a statement shared on X on Tuesday, the Indian Army said, “The 15th India-United Kingdom Executive Steering Group (ESG) was held in the United Kingdom.

US senators warn China's grip on critical minerals threatens defence industry

Washington, Aug 18 : US lawmakers warned that China's dominance over critical minerals could cripple American defence manufacturing in a crisis, as the Pentagon defended controversial equity investments and price guarantees aimed at rebuilding domestic supply chains. “It's no exaggeration to say that America's resilience on China's critical minerals represents one of our greatest strategic vulnerabilities,” Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman Roger Wicker said at a Congressional hearing on rebuilding supply chains. He cautioned that threats to cut exports of rare earths “would have brought American defense manufac-

turing to its knees and deeply damaged the US economy.” Pentagon industrial policy chief Michael Cadenazzi, Jr., Assistant Secretary of War for Industrial Base Policy, told senators the risk was immediate. “This is not a theoretical risk. It is a clear and present danger to our national security,” he said, warning that Beijing can “weaponize these supply chains, threatening to disrupt our defense industrial base and compromise military readiness in a crisis.” Cadenazzi said the department had invested “\$975 million in minerals through title three of the Defense Production Act and the Industrial Base Fund” and was pursuing a “comprehensive multiyear strategy” built on four pillars: reshoring production,

working with allies, investing in research and recycling, and modernising the National Defense Stockpile. He cited the “MP materials deal” to secure rare earth production and a “Korea Zinc effort” to build a US smelter producing “13 different nonferrous metals, including germanium, gallium, and antimony.” He also highlighted recycling efforts, including an investment “to recover gallium and scandium... from waste residue left over from aluminum refining.” However, lawmakers from both parties pressed the Pentagon on its decision to take a “15 per cent equity stake in MP materials, a rare earth mining company, in California at a cost of \$ 400 million.” Ranking member Jack Reed questioned the legal basis for such



investments, noting that the Defense Production Act “does not mention equity investments at all.” He sought clarity on the “legal basis, financial terms and strategic rationale” of the deal. Cadenazzi defended equity as “a catalyst for private investment” after what he described as “a failed market-based approach.” He argued that price floors were set using “a set of open market analyzes” to counter “the manipulated Chinese price floor.” Jeffrey Frankston, acting deputy assistant secretary for industrial base resilience, said the effort had been “turbocharged” by “full and unified interagency cooperation,” with officials working “on a daily, if not hourly basis” to map supply chains from “the raw material to the finished product.” The hearing also exposed tensions over permitting and environmental safeguards. Senator Dan Sullivan said environmental restrictions had been “a major point of contention for mining development.”

Five years of Taliban rule: World cannot abandon Afghanistan



New Delhi, Aug 18 : The Taliban regime in Afghanistan will be marking five years of rule since Kabul fell to them while US-led peace-keeping troops withdrew hastily. The regime remains officially unrecognised by the world, except Russia. A United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) report released Tuesday highlighted aspects of the current Taliban regime. It noted that Afghanistan has experienced improved security, while urging the de facto authorities to take significant steps that could contribute to lasting stability. The UNAMA stressed that a reduction in conflict has brought tangible benefits for many Afghans and created opportunities to focus on recovery, development and regional economic cooperation, with positive steps including a ban on opium poppy cultivation.

MEA reaffirms India-Liberia partnership as new embassy opens in Delhi

New Delhi, Aug 18 : The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on Tuesday said it is committed to advancing a mutually beneficial partnership with Liberia as the West African nation inaugurated its new Embassy in New Delhi. “Secretary (Economic Relations) Sudhakar Dalela participated in the inauguration of the new Embassy of the Republic of Liberia in New Delhi. The establishment of the Resident Mission is a significant milestone and further strengthens the close ties of friendship and cooperation between India and Liberia. Committed to working together to advance a mutually beneficial India-Liberia partnership,” the MEA stated on X. External Affairs Minister (EAM) S. Jaishankar on Thursday met Liberia's Foreign Minister Sara Beysolow Nyanti and discussed issues including safety and security of commercial shipping, mining, health, agriculture, water and training. He said on X that he was “delighted to meet Foreign Minister Sara Beysolow Nyanti of Liberia” and congratulated her on the inauguration of the new Embassy. He added that they had a productive conversation on multiple areas of cooperation. “Our meeting also focused on much-needed UNSC reforms. Confident that our South-South cooperation will continue to strengthen,” Jaishankar noted.



ISI's new Kashmir strategy: Teen recruits, pistol drops and jungle warfare

New Delhi, Aug 18 : The Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) has been restructuring its entire overground worker (OWG) network in Jammu and Kashmir following the setback Pakistan suffered during Operation Sindoor last year. The operation, launched by the Indian armed forces in response to the Pahalgam terror attack, destroyed terror infrastructure in both Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK). The setback prompted a major restructuring exercise by Pakistan, which also involved rebuilding the terror infrastructure of Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM), Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and Hizbul Mujahideen. Officials say that the OWG network in Jammu and Kashmir operates very differently today. The first step taken by the ISI was to dismantle its old guard. It then began recruiting young people, including girls, into its overground worker (OWG) network. Most of those recruited are teenagers, aged between 15 and 16 years. Unlike the new recruits, the old guard had been appointed organisation-wise. “For instance, Jaish and Lashkar would have independent networks of OWGs, and their work would never overlap,” the official explained. The old guard also had an ideological link to the terror group they were associated with. Moreover, these persons had extensive knowledge of the respective terror groups, including details about their leadership and local handlers, the official said. For the ISI, it was important to replace the old guard as almost all of them had police records, making it easier for secu-



rity agencies to identify and track them. Another aspect about the old guard was that they would be used for multiple assignments. Today's OWGs who have been recently appointed by the ISI carry out one task and then vanish. This makes detection hard. An Intelligence Bureau official said the new OWGs are given specific assignments and are primarily tasked with transporting small consignments containing one or two pistols. They are not assigned to carry larger firearms such as AK-47s, the official said. The official further explained that once an OWG is handed a weapon, he or she is given the location where it has to be delivered. Another OWG would be waiting at the designated spot to receive the weapon and then pass it on to

an agent. The agent would then be responsible for delivering it to the person tasked with carrying out the attack. Another official said that in some cases, a consignment changes hands three times, while in others, it could pass through four or even five different hands apparently to evade security checks. “This constant changing of hands has posed a big challenge for the security agencies. Keeping track of four to five hands becomes difficult. This strategy also helps the OWGs evade detection as they hardly leave any trail.

Public health situation in Gaza, West Bank on brink of collapse : Palestinian envoy

New Delhi, Aug 18 : Highlighting the miserable situation in the region, Palestinian Ambassador to India, Abdullah Abu Shawesh, said on Tuesday that the health system in Gaza and the West Bank is on the brink of collapse. Speaking with the IANS, Shawesh mentioned that amid shortage of medicines, surgeries are being postponed and the entire health system has collapsed in Palestine. He stated that the West Bank has been facing tens of terror attacks on a daily basis and there is no ceasefire in Gaza. “The health situation is in a miserable situation. The whole entire health system in Palestine is on the brink of collapse. Thousands of surgeries have been postponed and we are short of hundreds of different types of tablets and medicine. I already mentioned less than two months ago that approximately 11,000 surgeries have already been postponed.

Pant becomes first Indian player to hit 100 sixes in Test cricket

Galle, Aug 18 : Rishabh Pant has etched his name into the history books as he has become the first-ever Indian cricketer to have hit 100 sixes in Test cricket. The star wicketkeeper-batter achieved the milestone during Day 4 of the first Test match between India and Sri Lanka at the Galle International Stadium on Tuesday. Coming into the match, Pant had 97 sixes to his name and needed three to reach the elusive milestone. He had smashed one in the first innings when he hit 39 from 62 balls, an innings which had four fours as well. The Southpaw hit a couple of maximums in the second innings to reach the milestone. He smashed Lahiru Kumara for a maximum straight and out of the ground in the first session.

Pant had to wait for quite some time in the second session as he was tested by bouncers from Asitha Fernando and some good bowling from Keshara Nuwantha. He played smart to find regular boundaries before tonking a six off Lahiru Kumara over deep fine leg to get to his 100th six. The shot also brought up his fifty off 53 balls. While Pant is the first Indian cricketer to hit 100 sixes in the longest international format, he is also just the fourth one to bring up a century of maximums.



From village fields to national team: Khelo India strengthens Jharkhand's hockey ecosystem

Ranchi, Aug 18 : As the senior Indian women's team scripts its fortunes at the ongoing FIH World Cup Hockey Championships in the Netherlands and Belgium, three districts in Jharkhand – Simdega, Khunti and Gumla – are quietly pursuing a tradition that they have been practising over decades. Few states have shaped Indian hockey quite like Jharkhand. The current Indian captain, Salima Tete, is a glaring example and she is just one among many. From Olympic legends to members of today's Indian teams, the state's contribution has been remarkable. Yet, behind every international player lies an ecosystem built over decades—one that combines community passion, government support and, increasingly,



Zverev ousts Atmane; Jodar beats Tabilo to enter Round of 16 in Cincinnati

Cincinnati, Aug 18 : Alexander Zverev has advanced to the fourth round of the Cincinnati Open after a late twist to overcome Terence Atmane 7-6 (4), 7-6 (8). The German held two match points at 6/4 in the second-set tie-break. Atmane erased the first with an ace out wide, and Zverev committed a double fault on the second one to level the tie-break at 6/6. The 29-year-old, however, steadied himself, reeling off the next two points to seal a straight-sets victory in two hours and nine minutes, ATP reports. Meanwhile, the 19-year-old Rafael Jodar defeated Alejandro Tabilo 6-2, 6-1 and the fourth round at the ATP Masters 1000

event, continuing his spectacular 2026 season. With his 75-minute victory, Jodar joined Carlos Alcaraz and Ben Shelton as the only teenagers to reach the Round of 16 in Cincinnati this decade. The Spaniard will next meet World No. 10 Flavio Cobolli, who earlier found a late surge to overcome Alexander Blockx 7-5, 4-6, 7-5. The 24-year-old Italian won four consecutive games from 3-5 down in the final set to reach the

fourth round at a Masters 1000 event for the fourth time in his career. In other action, Arthur Fils survived a major test from Jiri Lehecka to upset the ninth seed 6-1, 6-7(7), 6-3. Fils held a match point at 7/6 in the second-set tie-break before Lehecka fended it off to force a third set. The Frenchman eventually overcame the wobble to seal the win in two hours and one minute. Fils will next face fifth seed Alex

de Minaur, who also survived some drama of his own earlier in the day to defeat Arthur Fery 7-5, 7-6(3). In a match that was thrice disrupted by rain delays, the Australian held a comfortable 5-1 lead in the second set before Fery reeled off six consecutive games to go ahead 6-5. But De Minaur held his nerve and stormed through a water-tight tie-break to seal a straight-sets triumph, ATP reports.



'We couldn't pick the game': Ashith Surya rues missed chances after losing Badminton World C'ships opener

New Delhi, Aug 18 : Ashith Surya was left to rue a string of missed opportunities after he and Amrutha Pramuthesh squandered multiple match points in a dramatic opening-round defeat to Turkey's Emre Sonmez and Yasemen Bektaş at the BWF World Championships at the Indira

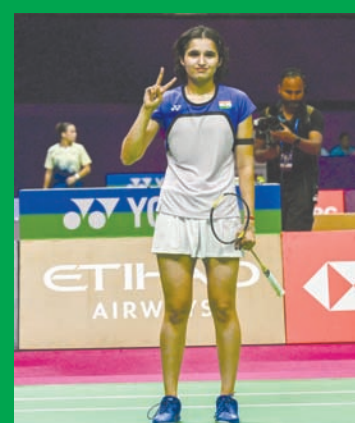
Gandhi Stadium on Tuesday. The Indian mixed doubles pair, making their World Championships debut, took the opening game 21-16 but could not close out the contest, eventually going down 29-30, 22-24 in the next two sets. For Surya, the manner of the defeat made the result particularly difficult to accept. The Indians had chances to finish the contest but were unable to convert them when it mattered most.

FIH Hockey WC: India-Pakistan rivalry takes centre stage SF spot beckons

Amstelveen, Aug 18 : Few contests in world hockey carry the weight, history and emotion of an India-Pakistan encounter; and when the two arch-rivals meet at the FIH Hockey World Cup 2026 on Wednesday, the stakes could hardly be higher. The pressure-cooker game at the Wagener Hockey Stadium will decide who stays in the race to the semi-finals as India and Pakistan renew one of hockey's most storied rivalries in a Pool D clash, knowing that there is little room for error. The equation is clear for both sides. India currently occupy second place in Pool D with three points, having opened their campaign with a 3-1 victory over Wales before suffering a 2-4 defeat



to England. Pakistan, meanwhile, have one point from their two matches after drawing against Wales and going down 1-4 to England.



'Strictly said, 'focus and play': Unnati reveals coach's words after win in BWF World C'ships opener

New Delhi, Aug 18 : Indian shuttler Unnati Hooda admitted she briefly took her foot off the pedal after building a commanding lead in the second game against Thet Htar Thuzar, prompting her coach to intervene and remind her to focus on finishing the match. Hooda went on to beat the Myanmar shuttler 22-20, 21-16 in the opening round of the BWF World Championships

at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium on Tuesday, recovering from a tight opening game to make a strong start to her campaign. With the youngster comfortably ahead in the second game.



Warner convicted and fined AUD 1500 for drink-driving case

Sydney, Aug 18 : Former Australia opener David Warner has been convicted in the drink-driving case in a Sydney court and will need an interlock device to drive a vehicle. The 39-year-old was also fined AUD 1500 for mid-range drink-driving after he tried to switch seats with a passenger

when approaching a random breath-testing site on Easter Sunday. The former Test opener was charged with mid-range drink driving after blowing more than twice the legal limit in a random breath test after he stopped short of a roadside test in Sydney's east on April 5. Last month, Warner

pleaded guilty to a drink-driving charge in a Sydney court. The incident unfolded when on April 5, also Easter Sunday, Warner, behind the wheel of a van, drew attention after stopping short of a random breath-testing site. The court had scheduled August 18 for handing down the final sen-

tence in the matter, where Warner faced penalties under local traffic laws for the mid-range drink-driving infraction. Warner's lawyer Awais Ahmad argued he should be spared conviction for the offence because he had suffered extra punishment as a result of media.