

THE INDIAN MAIL

HYDERABAD **FRIDAY, 21 AUGUST 2026** VOL : 16 No : 357 PAGES : 12 ₹ 2 PUBLISHED FROM HYDERABAD & VIJAYAWADA



Tributes to Former PM Rajiv Gandhi in Sircilla

Celebrations marking the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi were held on a grand scale in Sircilla town. On Thursday, tributes were paid to the late leader at the local...

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Zydus Lifesciences Q1 profit slides 36 pc to Rs 940 crore

Zydus Lifesciences on Thursday reported a 36 per cent year-on-year (YoY) decline in its consolidated net profit for the first quarter of the current....

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'Takes a lot of effort to stay for long': Jadeja reflects on memories of Galle 2017 win

Veteran left-arm spin bowling all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja has expressed deep gratitude for his on-going decade-plus stint...

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Bhatti calls for fair, lawful solutions to Centre-State disputes

Hyderabad, Aug 20 : Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka said the spirit of cooperative federalism lies in resolving issues between the Centre and the States amicably and ensuring the speedy implementation of decisions taken. He said the true test of a federal system was its ability to find fair and lawful solutions when the interests of different States come into conflict.

Bhatti Vikramarka made these remarks at the 31st Southern Zonal Council meeting held at Mahabalipuram in Tamil Nadu on Thursday. The meeting was chaired by Union Home Minister Amit Shah and attended by Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, Karnataka Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, Kerala Chief Minister V.D. Satheesan, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin, and other leaders.



My daughter's remarks were personal : Konda Surekha

Hyderabad, Aug 20 : Minister for Forests, Environment and Endowments Konda Surekha on Thursday responded to the show-cause notice issued by the TPCC Disciplinary Action Committee (DAC) seeking an explanation over remarks made by her daughter, Susmitha.

BJP warns of intensified stir over fee reimbursement dues



Karimnagar, Aug 20 : Telangana state BJP president N. Ramchander Rao on Thursday warned that the party would in-

tensify its agitation if the Congress government failed to immediately clear pending fee reimbursement dues and scholarships for students. Addressing a BJYM-led "Fee Bakayi - BJP Ladayi" Maha Dharna in Karimnagar.

Uttam cautions farmers amid rainfall deficit, urges prudent crop planning

Huzurnagar, Aug 20 : Minister for Irrigation and Civil Supplies N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on Thursday cautioned farmers to exercise care while planning crops as the rainfall deficit continues, warning that the situation could worsen if rainfall remains deficient in September and October, as projected by meteorological authorities.

During a review of irrigation works and the prevailing water situation in Suryapet district, the Minister, along with irrigation officials, took stock of the progress of the Mahatma Gandhi Muktyala Branch Canal Lift Irrigation Scheme. Uttam Kumar Reddy said the State government was closely monitoring rainfall, reservoir levels.



Rains in AP: Major alert for residents of those two districts

Amaravati, Aug 20: The Andhra Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority has announced that rains are expected in several parts of the state on

Friday. It stated that moderate rains accompanied by lightning.



Jagan is running away without attending the Assembly : Minister Lokesh

Amaravati, Aug 20: Nara Lokesh, Minister for Education and IT, criticized YCP chief and former CM Y.S. Jagan for lacking an understanding of the examination system in Andhra Pradesh. Minister

Lokesh countered Jagan's remarks on Thursday, questioning the YCP chief if he believed that the APPSC and DSC were the same thing.



The southern region must emerge as a key economic powerhouse in the building of a 'Viksit Bharat': CM Chandrababu

Amaravati, Aug 20 : Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu expressed his aspiration for the southern region to emerge as a key economic powerhouse in the building of a 'Viksit Bharat' (Developed India). The Southern Zonal Council meeting was held on Thursday in Mahabalipuram, Tamil Nadu, under the chairmanship of Union

Home Minister Amit Shah. Chief Ministers from the southern states attended the meeting. Speaking on the occasion, CM Chandrababu discussed the development of the southern states, including Andhra Pradesh, and emphasized that fostering cooperation among these states is the primary objective. The AP Chief Minister emphasized that issues should be resolved

through trust and mutual cooperation between the Centre and the states. In this context, he proposed a bullet train corridor connecting Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu. He suggested that the bullet train should run via Kuppam and stressed that this transport system should connect the capital city of Amaravati with Bengaluru and Chennai.



Tragedy in Visakhapatnam: Boy collapses in classroom

Visakhapatnam, Aug 20 : A tragic incident occurred in Visakhapatnam, where a six-year-old boy named Pranay Tej collapsed in the classroom after being struck by a teacher. The incident took place at Little Garden School in the Visakhapatnam One Town area. The boy, who had lost consciousness, was immediately rushed to the hospital; however, doctors declared him dead upon arrival. Subsequently, the child's body was shifted to KGH for a post-mortem examination. Upon learning of the incident.

CM Chandrababu is delivering exemplary governance : MP Sri Bharat

Visakhapatnam, Aug 20 : MP Sri Bharat welcomed the State Cabinet's decision to conduct Zilla Parishad (ZP) elections via the direct election method during the local body polls. On Thursday, he visited a photo exhibition organized by the Visakha Photo Journalists Association at the museum. Speaking on the occasion, he expressed confidence that the alliance would emerge victorious in the local body elections. They stated that the people in the state have been living peacefully

since the alliance government came to power. They praised CM Chandrababu for providing exemplary governance. The MP stated that the state has not yet fully recovered from the misdeeds of the previous government. He remarked that the state lacks a proper opposition and that those in the opposition do not understand their role. He noted that water scarcity is arising due to El Niño, and lashed out at certain forces for exploiting this situation to spread propaganda claiming that data centers are the cause of the water crisis.



CMR must be delivered within the deadline : District Collector Garima Agrawal.

Rajanna Sircilla, Aug 20 : District Collector Garima Agrawal has directed that CMR (Custom Milled Rice) deliveries pertaining to the last three seasons be completed within the stipulated deadline. On Thursday, District Collector Garima Agrawal, along with Additional Collector Gaddam Nagesh and Civil Supplies Department officials, held a review meeting at the District Integrated Offices Complex. The meeting covered issues such as CMR delivery, payment of ‘action paddy’ dues, and arrangements for grain procurement during the Kharif season. Collector Garima Agrawal instructed rice millers in the district to deliver the CMR for the past three seasons on time. She also directed them to clear outstanding ‘action paddy’ dues within the deadline.





बैंक ऑफ बरोडा
Bank of Baroda

HANAMKONDA CHOWRASTA
BRANCH: H.No:3-14-10/3/1/3 Yadav
Nagar, Near Petrol Pump Hanamkonda
506001, Mob: 8367788539 Email: VJHAKO@BANKOFBARODA.

E-AUCTION – SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 6 (2) & 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), Mortgagor(s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of **Bank of Baroda, Hanamkonda Branch**, Secured Creditor will be sold on “As is where is”, “As is what is”, and “Whatever there is” basis for recovery of dues in below mentioned account/s. The details of Borrower(s)/Mortgagor (s)/ Guarantor (s) /Secured Asset/s/Dues/Reserve Price/ e-Auction date & Time, EMD and Bid Increase Amount are mentioned below -

Name And Address Of Borrower/S,Guarantor/S And Mortgagor/S: Mr Bonagiri Suresh (Borrower) H.No 4-7-144/A, Kumarapally , Hanamkonda, Hanamkonda District, Telangana Pincode 506001. Mobile No: 9248091112

Due to the Bank: Rs.43,21,047/- (Rupees forty three lakh twenty one thousand forty seven only) as on 09-02-2026 together with further interest thereon with effect from 09-02-2026 at the contractual rate plus costs, charges and expenses till date of payment

Known Encumbrances: NIL **Type of Possession:** Physical Possession

Date & Time of E-auction: 22.09.2026 **From 10.00 AM to 05.00 PM**
AUCTION ID : 337428 **Property Inspection Date & time:** Up to 21.09.2026 **From 11.00 AM to 01.00 PM**

Description of the Immovable Property/s
All that the Open Plot No.14 to an extent of 2668.00Sq.Yds., or 2330.71Sq.Mts., in finished multistoried building (Stillt+5 Upper Floors) named as Mythri Residency in Sy.No.215/G3(Old), 215/G3/1(New) of Gorrekunta Revenue Village (Reddypalem), Geesugonda Mandal, Warangal District, within the limits of GWMC, Warangal and within the Registration District, Warangal and Sub-Registrar, Warangal (Rural) and bounded by **Boundaries:** East : 30'-0" Wide Road, **West:** 33'-0" Wide Road, **North:** 30'-0" Wide Road, **South:** Plot No.13 **SCHEDULE-B (Flat)** All that the residential Flat bearing No.302 on Third Floor in the multistoried building named as **MYTHRI RESIDENCY**, Block-A, out of Sy.No.215/G3(Old), 215/G3/1(New) of Gorrekunta Revenue Village (Reddypalem) to the extent of 44.46Sq.Yds., being undivided, unspecified and undivisible share of right in total extent of 2668.00Sq.Yds., apartments building complex therein the plinth area covered by 1140.00Sq.Fts., inclusive of common areas and one car parking slot area of 100Sq.Fts., situated at Gorrekunta Revenue Village (Reddypalem), Geesugonda Mandal, Warangal District, within the limits of GWMC, Warangal and within the Registration District, Warangal and Sub-Registrar, **Boundaries:** East: Open to sky, **West:** Corridor & Staircase **North:** Open to sky, **South:** Open to sky.

Reserve Price: Rs.55,17,000/- **Earnest Money Deposit:** Rs.5,51,700/- **Bid Increase Amount:** Rs.10,000/-

Note: For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer/visit to the website link <https://www.bankofbaroda.in/e-auction> and online auction portal **Baanknet.com**. Also, prospective bidders may contact the Authorized Officer on Tel No: 0870 2448501 & Mobile No: 7993316630

Date: 20.08.2026 **Sr.Manager (G Charan Barik)**
Place: Hanamkonda **Chief Manager & Authorised Officer**



बैंक ऑफ महाराष्ट्र
Bank of Maharashtra

BANK OF MAHARASHTRA
ECIL ROAD KAPRA BRANCH (1266)
Branch Office: D.No.1-1-258/7,Plot No 167,Opp Sai Ganga Kalyana
Mandapam,Srinivas Nagar Colony Kapra,Hyderabad 500062

POSSESSION NOTICE
(Rule 8(1)) (For immovable property)

WHEREAS the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Bank of Maharashtra under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under Sec. 13(2) read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a **demand notice dated 03.12.2025** calling upon the borrowers M/s Sri Lalitha Prasanna Fabrication Works Proprietor Mathi Phanesb Babu to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs.1,42,72,999.93/(One Crore Forty Two Lakhs Seventy Two Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety Nine and Ninety Three Paise only) Plus Interest at prevailing rate from date of default.

The borrowers having failed to repay the total amount due, notice is hereby given to the borrowers, guarantors and the public in general that the undersigned has **taken possession** of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on 19.08.2026

The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of Bank of Maharashtra for an amount hereinabove mentioned.

The details of the properties mortgaged to the Bank and taken possession by the Bank are as follows:

Property Details : 1.Equitable Mortgage of Residential Property on Survey No 276/1 Plot No 59 LP No 10/2014 Brundavanam Layout Opp to Harsh Nines Gudivada Road Telaprolu Village Unguturu Mandal Krishna District North: Plot No 58 South: 40 Ft Wide Road, East: Plot No 60, West: 60 Ft Wide Road.

At SRO :- Sur Registrar, Unguturu **CERSAI Asset Id :-** 200083057366

Place: Hyderabad **Sd/- Chief Manager & Authorised Officer**
Date: 19.08.2026 **Bank of Maharashtra**



बैंक ऑफ महाराष्ट्र
Bank of Maharashtra

Bank of Maharashtra
SAFILGUDA BRANCH
(Branch Code-0955), Hyderabad Zone,
22-102,G.F., Kamalagiri Plaza, R.K.Nagar, Safilguda Hyderabad -
500047. Tele- 8087950955 Email-brmgr955@mahabank.co.in

DEMAND NOTICE

Under Section 13 (2) of Securitisation & Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002.
The accounts of the following borrowers with Bank of Maharashtra having been classified as NPA, the Bank has issued notice under S.13(2) of the SARFAESI Act on the date mentioned below. In view of the non service of the notice on the last known address of below mentioned borrowers/Guarantors, this public notice is being published for information of all concerned. The below mentioned Borrowers/Guarantors are called upon to pay to **Bank of Maharashtra** within **60 days** from the date of publication of this Notice the amounts indicated below due on the dates together with future interest at contractual rates, till the date of payment, under the loan/and other agreements and documents executed by the concerned persons. As security for the borrowers' obligation under the said agreements and documents, the respective assets shown against the names have been charged to **Bank of Maharashtra**.

1. Name & Address of the Borrower/Co-Borrower: 1. Mr. Kammani Kamalakara (Borrower), Address: Flat No 402 Fourth Floor Sree Gayathri Niwas on Plot No 18 and 19/Part in Survey Nos 119, 120/Part, 121/A and 121/Aa situated at Brindavan Colony, Jeedimetla Village Quthbullapur Mandal Near Suchitra Medchal Malkajgiri District - 500055 **(Borrower), 2. Mr. Kammani Vamsi (Co-Borrower)** Address: Flat No 402 Fourth Floor Sree Gayathri Niwas on Plot No 18 and 19/Part in Survey Nos 119, 120/Part, 121/A and 121/Aa situated at Brindavan Colony, Jeedimetla Village Quthbullapur Mandal Near Suchitra Medchal Malkajgiri District-500055 **(Co-Borrower).**
Total Outstanding Balance: Rs.58,66,766.13 (Rupees Fifty-Eight Lakhs Sixty Six Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty-Six and Paise Thirteen only) plus un-applied interest at prevailing rate from the date of default along with charges, other cost and expenses. **MAHA New HSG Sal. Non - Pri -bearing Account No. 60518202899 & NEW MAHA TOPUP QTH NON-PRI - bearing Account No. 60522861812**
NPA Date on 16/08/2026 **Demand Notice Date: 17.08.2026**

Description of the Immovable Properties: Equitable mortgage Residential Flat No.- 402 (in Fourth Floor), of “Sree Gayathri Niwas” alongwith it's built up area of 1200 sq.ft. (including common area and Car Parking), along with its undivided share of land 42.60 sq. yards (Of 418.80 sq. yards), on Plot Nos.-18 & 19/Part in Survey Nos 119, 120/Part, 121/A and 121/Aa, situated at Brindavan Colony, Jeedimetla village, Quthbullapur Mandal & under GHMC circle, Quthbullapur Medchal-Malkajgiri, Telangana and is bounded as follows: **Boundaries for Plots: North:** 9' Mtrs Road, **South:** Plot No 22 and 41, **East:** Plot No 19/Part, **West:** Neighbours Land, **Boundaries for Flat: North:** Corridor, **South:** Open to Sky, **East:** Open to Sky, **West:** Open to Sky.
CERSAI ASSET ID 200087994727

2. Name & Address of the Borrower/Co-Borrower: 1. Mr. Panuganti Murali Mohan Rao (Borrower) Address: Flat No 2 Srinivasa Residency H No-24-86/17/2/F2 Anandbagh Malkajgiri Hyderabad **(Borrower), 2. Mrs. Panuganti Nivedita (Borrower),** Address: Flat No 2 Srinivasa Residency H No-24-86/17/2/F2 Anandbagh Malkajgiri Hyderabad **(Co-Borrower).**
Total Outstanding Balance: Rs.4,28,190.15 (Rupees Four Lakh Twenty-Eight Thousand One Hundred Ninety and Paise Fifteen only) plus un-applied interest at prevailing rate from the date of default along with charges, other cost and expenses. **TL-LN Agnst Property-Ret -bearing Account No. 60325632956**
NPA Date on 28/04/2025 **Demand Notice Date: 05.08.2026**

Description of the Immovable Properties: Equitable mortgage of Flat No 2 on the first Floor of the Building Srinivasa Residency constructed on Plot no 31 and 24 situated in Survey No 56.57 and 58 admeasuring 980 sq ft carpet and built-up area situated at Anandbagh village in the registration district Medchal-Malkajgiri, Malkajgiri Circle and Mandal, Hyderabad 500047 and is bounded as follows: **North:** Flat No F.3, **South:** Flat No F.1, **East:** 4' Wide Corridor, **West:** Open to Sky, **CERSAI ASSET ID 200027615879**

If the concerned Borrowers/Guarantors shall fail to make payment to **Bank of Maharashtra** as aforesaid, then the **Bank of Maharashtra** shall be entitled to proceed against the above secured assets under Section 13(4) of the Act and the applicable Rules entirely at the risks of the concerned Borrowers/ Guarantors as to the costs and consequences. In terms of provisions of SARFAESI ACT, the Concerned Borrowers/Guarantors are prohibited from transferring the above said assets, in any manner, whether by way of sale, lease or otherwise without the prior written consent of **Bank of Maharashtra**. Any contravention of the said provisions will render the concerned persons liable for punishment and/or penalty in accordance with the SARFAESI Act. For more details notice may collect the unserved returned notices from the undersigned.

Date: 21.08.2026 **Sd/- Chief Manager &**
Place: Hyderabad **Authorised Officer, Bank of Maharashtra**

Polytechnic restructuring to strengthen skills, jobs: Vivek

Hyderabad, Aug 20 : Minister for SHAKTI (Labour, Employment, Training & Factories) and Mines G. Vivek Venkataswamy said the State government had undertaken administrative restructuring to strengthen polytechnic education, provide students with industry-aligned skill training and create better employment opportunities. Speaking to the media at the Secretariat on Thursday, the Minister said the government had issued GO 97 on June 16, 2026, bringing polytechnics under the Commissionerate of Employment and Training (CET), which were earlier under the Commissionerate of Technical Education (CTE). He clarified that the decision was not intended to weaken polytechnic education or alter its identity, but was purely an administrative restructuring exercise. Bringing polytechnics, ITIs/Advanced Technology Centres (ATCs) and the Young India Skills University (YISU) under CET would help integrate technical education, skill development and industry requirements into a comprehensive system, he said. Vivek Venkataswamy said the government had held discussions with representatives of the Joint Action Committee (JAC) on the restructuring and extensively deliberated on measures to implement the changes without affecting the interests of students, faculty members or employees. He made it clear that the existing three-year AICTE-recognised diploma courses would continue unchanged. The existing provision allowing polytechnic diploma holders to secure lateral entry into engineering colleges through TG ECET would also continue, he said. The State Board of Technical Education and Training (SBTET) would, however, be reorganised into two divisions. The polytechnic division would function as a separate unit under CET and continue to oversee polytechnic admissions, ex-



aminations, diploma examinations and other academic matters, Vivek Venkataswamy said. “There will be no change in the examination system for students,” the Minister clarified. He said the existing cadre and sanctioned strength of employees in the polytechnic division would be retained and there would be no job cuts. The government would fully protect the service conditions of polytechnic employees, he assured. Their status as government employees, pay scales, DA, increments, seniority, promotions, GPF, PRAN, gratuity and other pensionary benefits would continue unchanged, he said. As part of efforts to strengthen industry linkages in polytechnic education, the government had entered into a 10-year MoU with Tata Technologies Limited involving an investment of Rs 2,300 crore, the Minister said. He added that 65 ITIs in Telangana had already been developed as Advanced Technology Centres. More than 200 MoUs had also been signed with

industries covering placements, training, apprenticeships, internships and curriculum upgradation, he said. The Minister announced that a dedicated placement cell would be established in every polytechnic college in the State. Through YISU, the government would leverage partnerships with various countries to create international employment opportunities for polytechnic students, he said. Vivek Venkataswamy said four clusters in Telangana had been selected under the Prime Minister's PM SETU scheme to promote skill development through the public-private partnership (PPP) model.

Tributes to Former PM Rajiv Gandhi in Sircilla

Grand tribute paid under the aegis of the Town Congress

Rajanna Sircilla, Aug 20: Celebrations marking the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi were held on a grand scale in Sircilla town. On Thursday, tributes were paid to the late leader at the local Gandhi Chowk under the leadership of Sircilla Town Congress President Sura Devaraju. To mark the occasion, forms for new voter registration were distributed to youths who had attained the age of 18. Speaking at the event, District Congress Presi-

dent Sangeetham Srinivas and District Library Chairman Nagula Satyanarayana Goud highlighted Rajiv Gandhi’s numerous reforms and his steadfast support for the downtrodden and weaker sections of society. They noted that he ushered in the computer and telecom revolution in India, thereby laying a strong foundation for the country’s current IT sector. It was noted that significant prominence was given to women in politics by providing 33% reservation in local



bodies, and that the voting age was lowered from 21 to 18 to create political opportunities for the youth. Participants in the event included Market Committee Chairperson Velumala Swarupa, SC Cell State General Secretary Akunuri Balaraju, Congress Party District Women’s President Kamuni Vanitha.



District Secures Second Place at State Level for Anti-Drug Awareness Efforts : District SP Mahesh B. Githe

Rajanna Sircilla, Aug 20: District SP Mahesh B. Githe stated that the district police force is moving forward with a coordinated approach to transform Rajanna Sircilla into a district free from ganja and other drugs. Extensive awareness programs were conducted by the police department as part of the anti-drug awareness week observed across the state from June 22 to 26, coinciding with the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. Campaigns were carried out to educate the public about the harmful effects of drug abuse and to prevent the youth from falling prey to drugs, actively involving schools, colleges, the youth, and the general public. The State ‘Eagle Force’ selected the district for second place at the state level in recognition of the effective execution of anti-drug awareness programs and the successful creation of widespread public awareness. Speaking on the oc-

casional, District SP Mahesh B. Githe stated that eradicating drug abuse is not possible for the police department alone and urged the public, parents, students, and the youth to actively participate and cooperate. He specifically called upon the youth to stay away from drugs, emphasized the need for everyone to be aware of the harmful consequences of drug use.

Possession Notice				
Whereas, IFL-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, IFL-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 IFL-HFL, Bank to borrower/ guarantor(s) alongwith the underlying Immovable Property to Asset Reconstruction Company (India) Limited acting in its capacity as Trustee of Arcil Arcil - Trust-2026 - 015 for the benefit of the holders of Security Receipts. Therefore, in view of the said assignment, Arcil now stands substituted in the place of IFL-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 availed 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 the Secured Asset (Immovable Property)	Total Outstanding Dues (IN Rs.)	Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession
Mr. Kistiah Matta Mrs. Pushpa Rani Matta (Prospect No IL10159450)	All that piece & parcel of: 305, Floor No. 3, T. Thirumala Ashoka Arcade, Sy No.10,Medipally Village And Mandal Medchal-Malkajgiri District 500098 Area Admeasuring (In Sq. Ft.): Property Type: Saleable Area, Carpet Area Property Area: 1057.00, 813.00 Bounded By: North: As Per The Title Documents And Technical Reports South: As Per The Title Documents And Technical Reports East: As Per The Title Documents And Technical Reports West: As Per The Title Documents And Technical Reports	Rs.2963445.1/-Rupees Twenty Nine Lakh Eighty Three Thousand Four Hundred Forty Five & paise Fifty Three Only	06-01-2026	17-08-2026
Mr. Madhu Kondam Mrs. Thokala Deepika (Prospect No IL10229622)	All that piece & parcel of Plot No.15 Middle Part, Part A, in Sy.No.222 Situated At Block No.3, Shatnathi Nagar, Uppal Bagayath Village, Uppal Mandal, Medchal Malkajgiri Dist. T.S 500039 Area Admeasuring (in Sq. Ft.): Property Type: Area, Admeasuring Property Area: 639 Bounded By: Plot No.15 Northern Part South: Plot No.15 Southern Part East: Plot Nos.13 & 14 West: 40 Wide Road	Rs.3348828.53/-Rupees Thirty Three Lakh Forty Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty Eight & paise Fifty Three Only	06-01-2026	17-08-2026
Mr. Subbarao Kamisetty Mr.Sai Kiran Kamisetty Mrs.Nagamani Kamisetty Erect Construction Building Material Supplier (Prospect No IL10323273)	All that piece & parcel of H.No.4-6-137/31c1, Plot No.102, Sy.Nos.181, 182, Mossapet Village, Kukatpally Mandal, Medchal-Malkajgiri District, Telangana 500015 Area Admeasuring (In Sq. Ft.): Property Type: Land, Area, Built up, Area Property Area: 846.00, 2520.00 Bounded By: North: House No.4-6-137/31a1, On Plot No.101 South: Part Of House No.4-6-137/31c1 On Part Of Plot No. East: 20feet Wide Road West: House No.4-6-137/C On Plot No.102/1	Rs.3140266.92/-Rupees Thirty One Lakh Forty Thousand Two Hundred Sixty Six & paise ninety two Only	05-01-2026	18-08-2026
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 (6) of Section 13 of the said Act, in respect of time available to redeem the above-mentioned Immovable Property.				
Place: Telangana Date: 21-08-2026 Sd/- Authorised Officer, Asset Reconstruction Company (India) Ltd. (In capacity as Trustee)				
ASSET RECONSTRUCTION COMPANY (INDIA) LTD. CIN No.-U65999MH2002PLC134884 Registered Office: The Ruby, 10th Floor, 29 Senapati Bapat Marg, Dadar (West), Mumbai-400028. Tel: +91 226581300. Website: www.arcil.co.in				



VISTAAR FINANCE
Your Growth. Our Pride

Vistaar Financial Services Private Limited Regd Office:-
Plot No.59&60-23, 22nd Cross, 29th Main, BTM Layout Stage 2,
Bengaluru-560076. www.vistaarfinance.com

DEMAND NOTICE

The following Borrower(s) and Co-borrower(s) has/have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest towards the Loan facility(ies) availed from Vistaar Financial Services Private Limited. The Loan(s) has/have been classified as Non-Performing Asset(s) (NPA). A notice was issued to them under section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 of their last known addresses; However, it has not been served and are therefore being notified by way if this Public Notice.

Customer's Information

1: Loan No- 0301SBML00071: Date of Demand Notice- 14/08/2026 : Borrower Name - Mr./Ms. Kolthuri Srinivas C/O KolthuriChander. Co-Borrower Name -Mr./Ms. Kolthuri Vinoda C/O KolthuriPochaiah: Total Outstanding- ₹20, 70, 781/- as on 07/08/2026. Description of the Property- Open Place Mg.PH.No: 2-22/9 Parkiband Village, Manoharabad Mandal, Medak Distl and bounded as follows: On or towards the East by- Open Place of Burt Yadaiah On or towards the West by- Road On or towards the North by- Open Place OIB. Mallesh. On or towards the South by- Open Place Of T. Anja Goud

Notice, is therefore given to the Borrower(s) and Co-borrower(s), as mentioned herein above, calling upon them to make payment of the total outstanding amount as shown herein above against the respective Borrower(s) and Co-Borrower(s), within 60 days of publication of this notice. Failure to make payment of the total outstanding amount together with further interest by the respective Borrower(s) and Co-Borrower(s), Vistaar shall be constrained to take u/s 13(4) for enforcement of security interest upon properties as described above, steps are also being taken for service of notice in other manners as prescribed under the Act and the rules made hereunder. You are put to notice that the said mortgage can be redeemed upon payment of the entire amount due together with costs, charges and expenses incurred by Vistaar at any time before the date of publication of notice for public auction or private treaty for transfer by way of sale, as detailed under subsection (4) of Section 13 of SARFAESI Act.

Vistaar Financial Services Private Limited
SD/- Authorised Officer

Date: 21-08-2026 **Place:** Medak



Chennai corporation sets September 30 deadline for employers to remit professional tax

Chennai, Aug 20 : The Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC) has directed all public and private sector employers operating within the city limits to deduct professional tax from the salaries of eligible employees for August and remit the amount to the civic body by September 30. The directive is mandatory for establishments covered under the professional tax provisions, and employers have been asked to ensure that deductions and payments are completed within the prescribed deadline. Professional tax is collected on a half-yearly basis according to the gross income of employees. The levy is governed by Section 117-C of the Tamil Nadu Urban Local Bodies Act.

Cong leader's 'similar sentiment in India' swipe over US shooting sparks row, BJP slams 'anti-India' mindset

New Delhi, Aug 20 : A political controversy erupted after Congress MLA Vijay Wadettiwar commented on the recent shooting incident at the White House Correspondents' Dinner, with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) accusing him of appearing to justify the attack on US President Donald Trump. Drawing a connection between the incident and what he described as public anger against those in power, Wadettiwar said such reactions were "bound to happen" when governments act against public interest. He further claimed that a similar sentiment exists in India, even though it may

not be visible through protests on the streets, drawing sharp criticism from the ruling party. Responding to the remarks, the BJP stated that such statements reflected deep-rooted hostility towards Prime Minister Narendra Modi, indicating a broader "anti-national mindset". BJP National Spokesperson C. R. Kesavan told IANS, "The Congress Party's prejudiced hatred against Prime Minister Narendra Modi and its virulent anti-Modi mindset have now dangerously decayed into an anti-India mindset and sheer hatred for our own country. Congress leader Vijay Wadettiwar's alarming remarks justifying the shooting incident in connection with President Trump,

HIMTEX 2026 opens in Hyd, showcasing next-gen manufacturing technology

Hyderabad, Aug 20 : The ninth edition of the Hyderabad International Machine Tool & Engineering Exhibition (HIMTEX) 2026 opened at the HITEX Exhibition Centre in Madhapur, bringing together around 300 exhibitors from the manufacturing and engineering sectors. The five-day exhibition, which will continue until August 24, is expected to attract more than 20,000 visitors from across India. It showcases the latest developments

in machine tools, robotics, industrial automation, engineering solutions and smart manufacturing. The exhibition was inaugurated by Swathi Chalamalasetty, director of Ace urban group and AM Green, and Rajesh Kumar Yadav, additional director, MSME DFO, Hyderabad.



MP Cabinet clears National Soya Institute, major projects worth Rs 48,000 cr

Bhopal, Aug 20 : The Madhya Pradesh Council of Ministers has approved a series of significant decisions covering road infrastructure, public health, farmers' welfare and women's empowerment, with total proposals valued at nearly Rs 48,000 crore. As a special initiative during the 'Year of the Farmer,' the Cabinet approved the permanent lease of 20 hectares of land in Bhaukhedi village, Ichhawar tehsil of Sehore district, for the National Soybean Research Institute.



The land will be used to establish a Krishi Vigyan Kendra to strengthen soybean research and benefit farmers across the state, a press release issued here on Tuesday said.



and also insinuating that such an incident could happen in India with PM Modi, are vile, most condemnable, and deplorable." He further attacked Wadettiwar's past statements, saying, "What more can you expect from this disgraceful Congress leader? This was the same leader who gave a clean chit to Pakistan and its terrorists in the 26/11 attacks when

he said that Hemant Karkare was not killed by Ajmal Kasab." "This is the pattern of not just Wadettiwar's but of how the Congress party works. This is the same party which raised the atrocious slogans against the Prime Minister, and its chief, Kharage, called PM Modi a terrorist.

Komatireddy urges voters to verify names in electoral rolls

Nalgonda, Aug 20 : Minister for Roads & Buildings and Cinematography Komatireddy Venkat Reddy urged people to remain vigilant about the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls and ensure that their names are duly registered. The Minister advised voters to carefully verify their names in the electoral rolls. If a

name is missing from the draft electoral roll, the voter can file a claim or objection and seek restoration of their vote with the assistance of local Booth Level Agents (BLAs) and Booth Level Officers (BLOs), he said. "Voting is a constitutional right guaranteed to every citizen. I urge leaders to pay special attention to the issue and ensure that no eligible voter is left out," the Minister said.



Komatireddy Venkat Reddy was speaking after paying floral tributes to the statue of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in Nalgonda town on Thursday.

बैंक ऑफ बड़ोदा
Bank of Baroda

HANAMKONDA CHOWRASTA BRANCH: H.NO.3-14-10/31/3 Yadav
Nagar, Near Petrol Pump Hanamkonda 506001, Mob: 8367788539
Email: VJHAKO@BANKOFFBARODA.COM

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES
"APPENDIX- IV-A [See proviso to Rule 6 (2) & 8 (6)]
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 6 (2) & 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 constructive/ physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Bank of Baroda, Kadipikonda Branch Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" for recovery of below mentioned accounts. The details of Borrower/s/Guarantor/s/Secured Asset/s/Dues/Reserve Price/e-Auction date & Time, EMD and Bid Increase Amount are mentioned below-

Sr. No.	Name & address of Borrower/s / Guarantor / Mortgage/s	Give short description of the immovable property with known encumbrances, if any	Total Dues	Date & Time of E-auction	Reserve Price, EMD, & Bid Increase Amount	Status of Possession (Constructive/ Physical)	Property Inspection date & Time
1	Sri Bommakanti Eshwaraiah H No:11-25-291, Kothawada, Waranagall Telanagana 506002	EMDTD of land and building constructed in sy 78 plot no 19 near h no 45-9-2 at AP housing board colony, Keerthi nagar colony, Gorekunta, Warangal 506002 and it is bounded by East: H.no. 45-9-2 H.no. 2 LIG -1 West: 45-9-1 H.no.1 LIG 1, North: 25 wide road South: 30 wide road.	Rs. 41,04,811/-	08.09.2026 Auction ID: 345308 Time 09:30 AM to 05:00 PM	RP: Rs.25,17,966/- and EMD: Rs.2,51,796/-	Physical	Up to 07.09.2026 from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM

For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer to the link provided in <https://www.bankoffbaroda.in/e-auction.html> and <https://fbapi.in>. Also, Mobile 8367788539.

Date: 21-08-2026, Place: Warangal

Sd/- Chief Manager & Authorised Officer, Bank of Baroda

VISTAAR FINANCE
Your Growth. Our Pride

Vistaar Financial Services Private Limited Regd Office:-
Plot No.59&60-23, 22nd Cross, 29th Main, BTM Layout Stage 2, Bengaluru-560076. www.vistaarfinance.com

DEMAND NOTICE
The following Borrower(s) and Co-borrower(s) has/have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest towards the Loan facility(ies) availed from Vistaar Financial Services Private Limited. The Loan(s) has/have been classified as Non-Performing Asset(s) (NPA). A notice was issued to them under section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 of their last known addresses; However, it has not been served and are therefore being notified by way of this Public Notice.

Customer's Information
1: Loan No- 0273SBML00036: **Date of Demand Notice-** 14/08/2026 : **Borrower Name -** Mr./Ms. Abdulla Shaik C/O Nyamath Shaik: **Co-Borrower Name -** Mr./Ms. Nyamath Shaik C/O Moddin Shaik, Mr./Ms. Shaik Khairun Bi C/O Shaik Nyamath: **Total Outstanding-** ₹21,93,072/- as on 07/08/2026: **Description of the Property-** The House Situated Old House Bearing Nos.11-34, 11-34A, 11-34B, Now The Municipal Door Numbers 4-289, 4-288 And 4-287, In Survey Number 472, And Situated At In Nandikotkur Town, Kurnool District, With In The Sub Registration Of Nandikotkur And District Registration Of Kurnool, All The House Numbers Is Having One Boundary. Boundaries Mentioned In Sale Deed Doct No. 3116/2018 and bounded as follows: On or towards the East by- House Of Prakash Patel On or towards the West by-Two Yards Rashtra On or towards the North by- Talaaq Office Road On or towards the South by- House Of Charukondachinnachandrudu
Notice, is therefore given to the Borrower(s) and Co-borrower(s), as mentioned herein above, calling upon them to make payment of the total outstanding amount as shown herein above against the respective Borrower(s) and Co-Borrower(s), within 60 days of publication of this notice. Failure to make payment of the total outstanding amount together with further interest by the respective Borrower(s) and Co-Borrower(s), Vistaar shall be constrained to take u/s 13(4) for enforcement of security interest upon properties as described above, steps are also being taken for service of notice in other manners as prescribed under the Act and the rules made hereunder. You are put to notice that the said mortgage can be redeemed upon payment of the entire amount due together with costs, charges and expenses incurred by Vistaar at any time before the date of publication of notice for public auction or private treaty for transfer by way of sale, as detailed under subsection (4) of Section 13 of SARFAESI Act.
Vistaar Financial Services Private Limited
SD/- Authorised Officer

Date: 21-08-2026 Place: Kurnool

JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK
(A Scheduled Commercial Bank)

Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 &12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangala Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071.

E-AUCTION NOTICE
PUBLIC NOTICE FOR SALE THROUGH E-AUCTION UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT (SARFAESI ACT) 2002, READ WITH PROVISIO RULE 8(6) & 9 OF SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES 2002.
The undersigned as authorised officer of Jana Small Finance Bank Limited has taken possession of the following property in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(4) of the SARFAESI ACT. The Borrower in particular and public at large are informed that online auction (e-auction) of the mortgage property in the below mentioned account for realisation of dues of the Bank will be held on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS " and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" on the date as prescribed as here under.

Sr. No.	Loan Account Number	Name of Original Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor	Date of 13-2 Notice	Date of Possession	Present Outstanding balance as on 11.08.2026	Date & Time of Inspection of the property	Reserve Price in INR	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in INR	Date and Time of E-Auction	Last Date Time & Place for submission of Bid
1	47489420000731	1) Mr. Kompalli Surendra, S/o. Kompalli Prakash Rao, 2) Mrs. Kompalli Sarojini, W/o. Mr. Kompalli Surendra	12-03-2026	21-05-2026	Rs. 48,99,424.89 (Rupees Forty Eight Lakh Ninety Nine Thousand Four Hundred Twenty Four and Eighty Nine Paise Only)	03.09.2026 Time 09:30 AM to 05:00 PM	Rs.40,40,000/- (Rupees Forty Lakh Forty Thousand Only)	Rs.4,04,000/- (Rupees Four Lakh Four Thousand Only)	09.09.2026 @ 02:00 PM	08.09.2026 Till 5.00 PM Jana Small Finance Bank, Head Office - The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No. 10/1,11/2 &12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangala Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore -560071.

Details of Secured Assets: All that the semi-Finished Residential Flat Bearing No.401, in the Fourth Floor, with built up area 960.00 Square Feet, and car parking area 100.00 Square Feet, (including common areas), along with an undivided shre of land measuring 33.00 Square yards or equivalent to 27.58 square meters, (out of 891.55 Square Yards), in the building known as "JK RESIDENCY", constructed on premises bearing plot no's 31,32 &33, In SY No's 1, 1/A, 1/AA, 1/E, 2, 2/A, 2/AA,2/E,2/AA,31,31/A,31/AA,31/E,(vide layout proceedings No.108788/22/12/2016/HO/171, dated 19-02-2018) situated at MAHADEVPUR VILLAGE, Under Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation, Alwal Circle, the then Malkajigiri Mandal, Ranga Reddy District, now newly formed as alwal mandal, Medchal - Malkajigiri District and bounded as follows: North By: Flat No.402, South By: Open To Sky, East By: Corridor, West By: Open To Sky.
The properties are being held on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" & "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" and the E-Auction will be conducted "On Line". The auction will be conducted through the Bank's approved service provider M/s. Auctionbazaar.com at the web portal contact@auctionbazaar.com, support@auctionbazaar.com, eauctions@auctionbazaar.com. For more information and For details, help, procedure and online training on e-auction, prospective bidders may contact M/s. Auctionbazaar.com; Contact Auctionbazaar Contact Number: 8377969696/ 7997043999. Email id: contact@auctionbazaar.com, support@auctionbazaar.com.
For further details on terms and conditions to take part in e-auction proceedings and any for any query relating to property please contact Jana Small Finance Bank authorised officers Mr. Umesh (Mob. No.8050149617), Mr. Ranjan Naik (Mob. No.6362952653) & Mr. Kaushik B (Mob. No.7019949040). To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorised Officer, there are no encumbrances on the properties. However the intending bidders should make their own independent inquiries regarding the encumbrances, title of property put on prior to submitting their bid. No conditional bid will be accepted. This is also a notice to the above named Borrowers/ Guarantor/s/ Mortgage/s about e-auction scheduled for the mortgaged properties. The Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgage/s are hereby notified to pay the sum as mentioned above along with up to date interest and ancillary expenses before the date of auction, failing which the property will be sold and balance dues if any will be recovered with interest and cost.
Date: 20.08.2026, Place: Hyderabad
Sd/- Authorized Officer, Jana Small Finance Bank Limited

OPINIONmail



India, Namibia agree to boost trade and investment ties

India and Namibia have agreed to strengthen bilateral trade beyond a raw-material-based composition towards value addition, set up investment focal points and new working groups on pharmaceuticals and services at a two-day meeting between official delegations of the two countries, which concluded here on Tuesday. The two countries have also identified structured cooperation across exploration, offtake, processing and downstream beneficiation of critical minerals such as lithium, graphite, copper, cobalt, and rare earth elements, in line with Namibia's priorities of value addition and local employment creation. The two sides have designated Invest India and the Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board as Joint Trade Committee (JTC) investment focal points, with a named official on each side, according to an official statement issued after the meeting. Closer cooperation has been identified in railways and rolling stock, solar and wind power, battery storage, transmission, green hydrogen, biofuels, and desalination. A dedicated Services Working Group will also be constituted, which will meet no later than February 2027 and submit its work plan to the JTC. Namibian participation has been invited in India's Special Notified Zones at Surat and Mumbai and in the India Rough Gemstones Sourcing Show, together with training support in diamond cutting, polishing and jewellery design. The first Joint Working Group under the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the Field of Health and Medicine will be convened by December 2026, while the Janaushadhi cooperation agreement with HLL Lifecare Limited is at an advanced stage of finalisation. A decision was taken for the continued rollout of the instant payment system built on India's Unified Payments Interface, unveiled in Namibia as "Wayame" on 15 June 2026, with proposals for a FinTech Cooperation Framework between the Reserve Bank of India and the Bank of Namibia. Besides, the terms of reference have been finalised for the India-SACU PTA and scheduled for signature on 12 August 2026, with negotiations to commence within one month of signature and to conclude within one year, the statement added. Cooperation was also taken forward at the session on agriculture and food security, MSMEs, textiles, tourism, and sports. The Fifth Session of the JTC will be held in Namibia in 2028 on dates to be mutually agreed through diplomatic channels, the statement added. The Indian delegation at the India-Namibia Joint Trade Committee (JTC) was led by Amit Kumar, Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce, while the Namibian delegation was headed by Ndiitah Nghipondoka-Robiati. The bilateral merchandise trade between India and Namibia rose to \$592.94 million in 2025-26 from \$568.40 million in 2024-25, with India's exports at \$349.09 million and imports at \$243.85 million. Trade in services grew by 7.34 per cent to \$380 million in calendar year 2024. India's engineering exports grew by 124.06 per cent to \$30.24 million, led by motor vehicles and components. Exports of pharmaceuticals and medical devices reached \$36.50 million, with India being Namibia's second-largest pharmaceutical source with a 16.4 per cent share.

South Korean President Lee says state's primary duty is to protect people's lives, safety

Seoul, Aug 20 : South Korean President Lee Jae Myung on Thursday reiterated that the state's primary duty is to ensure the safety of the people and protect their lives. Lee made the remarks in a ceremony marking the opening of the country's first hospital dedicated to treating first responders. "The primary duty of the state is to protect its people's lives and safety," Lee said in a speech, Yonhap News Agency reported.



Firefighters are at the forefront of carrying out this duty at accident sites and in disasters, the president noted, highlighting that thanks to their efforts, the public can go about their daily lives safely and peacefully.

EDITORIAL
the indian mail

Texas court orders care for surrogate baby

Washington, Aug 20 : A Texas court has ordered that life-saving medical care be provided to a baby diagnosed before birth with a serious heart condition, after the state intervened in a dispute involving a surrogate mother and the child's intended parents. Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton announced Saturday that his office had secured the emergency order in a Dallas County parentage case involving the unborn child, identified as baby Gabriel. The child has been diagnosed in utero with hypoplastic left heart syndrome, which requires surgical intervention shortly after birth, according to the Texas Attorney General's Office. The surrogate mother travelled to Texas to seek protection and medical care for the baby.



Nepal: Eight community projects to be implemented with Indian assistance

Kathmandu, Aug 20 : The Embassy of India in Nepal and several Nepali government agencies on Thursday signed Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) to implement eight projects in the education, health and agriculture sectors with Indian grant assistance, the Indian Embassy said. The eight projects, with a combined estimated cost of NPR 803 million, will be implemented through local authorities and institutions of the Government of Nepal. The projects, selected under India's High Impact Community Development Projects (HICDPs), will be implemented in various parts of the country, according to the Embassy. The MoUs were signed between the Embassy of India in Kathmandu, Nepal's Ministry of Land Management, Cooperatives, Federal Affairs and General Administration, and the project implementing agencies of the Nepali government. The projects include the digitalisation of B P Koirala Institute of Health and Sciences (BPKIHS) in Dharan, Sunsari District; construction of a Krishi Utpadan Sankalan Tatha Bikri Kendra in Temkemaityung Rural Municipality, Bhojpur District; and construction of a Municipal Agricultural and Livestock Center Building in Jwalamukhi Ru-



ral Municipality, Dhading District. Similarly, the projects include construction of the building of Belbari Multiple Campus in Belbari Municipality, Morang District; a 10-bed hospital in Dungeshwor Rural Municipality, Dailekh District; an Agriculture Promotion Centre in Sarkegad Rural Municipality, Humla District; a cold store in Kaligandaki Rural Municipality, Syangja District; and a 15-bed hospital building in Barju Rural Municipality, Sunsari District. According to the Embassy of India, the projects are aimed at supporting development in priority sectors, including health, education and agriculture. Since 2003, the Government of India has undertaken 605 HICDPs across Nepal, including the eight projects covered by the latest MoUs, the Embassy said. Of the total projects, 512 have

been completed in areas including health, education, agriculture, drinking water, connectivity, sanitation and the creation of public utilities, while the remaining projects are at various stages of implementation. The Embassy said the implementation of HICDPs reflects India's continued support for Nepal's development efforts and infrastructure enhancement in priority sectors. India and Nepal, as close neighbours, are engaged in wide-ranging and multi-sectoral cooperation, the Embassy said, adding that HICDPs are part of the ongoing development cooperation between the two countries. "For over seven decades, India and Nepal have been partners in efforts towards shared progress and prosperity. A key pillar of this partnership is the High Impact Community Development Projects (HICDPs) programme.

Working to hold institutions accountable: Afghanistan on UNAMA's call for transparency

Kabul, Aug 20 : The Taliban regime in Afghanistan on Thursday responded to the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) report on the lack of transparency and accountability in Afghan security institutions, attributing the current secure and stable situation in the war-torn country to the work being done by the security forces. Zabihullah Mujahid, spokesman for the Afghan National Security Agency, said that there may be problems in some cases but activities of the security forces have resulted in the current 'security

and stability' in the country, Afghanistan-based Khaama Press reported. He was responding to the 38-page UNAMA's report on Security Sector Accountability in Afghanistan which was released on Monday and examined efforts taken by the 'de facto' authorities since August 2021 to provide oversight and accountability of its primary security institutions, while identifying gaps in transparency and actions. The report noted the steps taken by the authorities to promote discipline and oversight, including through directives and internal monitoring units within the main security institutions and by



establishing new bodies mandated to address misconduct of security personnel. "UNAMA found that while such steps have been taken, they have not been accompanied by sufficient transparency on oversight and accountability measures by de facto security institutions. These include by bodies established for this purpose, namely the de facto

Security and Filtration Commission, the de facto High Directorate of Supervision and Monitoring of Decrees and Edicts, the de facto Ministry of Propagation of Virtue and Prevention of Vice (MPVPV) Commission for Hearing Complaints, and the de facto Supreme Court," UNAMA said in a press statement.

Indian Navy Chief holds talks with top Mauritian officials, discusses maritime security cooperation



Port Louis, Aug 20 : Indian Navy Chief Admiral Krishna Swaminathan on Thursday held a series of talks with senior officials of the Mauritian government, discussing ways to strengthen bilateral maritime security cooperation between the two countries. The officials included Rampersad Sooroojebally, Commissioner of Police, Mauritius Police Force and Kan Oye Fong Weng-Poorun, Secretary for Home and Defence Affairs, Government of Mauritius. Admiral Swaminathan also met India's High Commissioner to Mauritius, Anurag Srivastava, exploring new avenues for collaboration between the two countries.

Japan: 11 injured after fire erupts at elementary school in Tokyo

Tokyo, Aug 20 : As many as 11 people, including eight children, were injured after a fire erupted at an elementary school in Japan's Tokyo on Thursday, local media reported citing authorities. Majority of the injured suffered smoke inhalation at the school in Kita Ward while two students broke their arms and a female teacher fractured her pelvis, authorities said. The fire incident was reported at around 11 am (local time), according to the local fire department. The fire erupted in a storage room next to the music classroom of the school building and the blaze was contained by around 1:45 pm (local time), Japan-based Kyodo News reported. No sprinkler system was installed in the room where the fire broke out. Classes were being conducted when the fire erupted. Fifth class students, including eight, who were taken to the hospital were in the music classroom while firefighters rescued three students and a female teacher. The authorities said all students were evacuated to the schoolyard, Kyodo News reported. An 11-year-old boy who was taking a class when the fire erupted said, "We

called out 'Calm down' with teachers, but it was very scary." Earlier in February, five people were killed after a fire erupted at a temple in Yamaguchi prefecture of Japan. Local fire authorities received an emergency call, which reported that fire had erupted at a two-storey wooden temple in Shimonoseki, which has a residential area connected to it, Xinhua News Agency had reported, citing public broadcaster NHK. Three buildings, including the temple's main hall and residential quarters were destroyed in the fire.



**In the Court of Honorable
III Senior Civil Judge City
Civil Court
At: Secunderabad
O.S. No. 245 of 2026**

Between:

1) **Manoj Bhagwandas Rawlani** (alias
**Manoj Kumar S/o Late Sri
Bhagandas Rawlani** alias **Sri
Bhagandas Chaturmal**,
2) **Kishore Kumar, S/o Late Sri
Bhagandas Rawlani** alias **Sri
Bhagandas Chaturmal**, Both R/o -
8-264/17, Plot No. 19, Sindhi Colony,
S.P. Road, Secunderabad-500003.

3) **Ms. Sneha Gabba** (alias **Ms. Marjula
Bhagabhat**),
Bhagandas Rawlani alias **Sri
Bhagandas Chaturmal**, R/o 28,
West, Shalimar Bagh S.O. North West
Delhi, Delhi-110088. **...PLAINTIFFS**

All Concerned
MRO/Secunderabad ...DEFENDANTS
Sir,

Please take notice that the above Suit is
filed for declaration of Plaintiffs as legal
heirs of the deceased late **Sri Bhagandas
Chaturmal** in respect of the Property men-
tioned in the Schedule. The above case is
posted on **29.09.2026 at 10.30 AM** before
the Honorable III Senior Civil Judge Court at
Secunderabad. If any person or persons
have any objections in respect of the above
Suit, they may appear in person or through
Advocate. In case of none appear then the
matter will be decided as ex-parte.

SCHEDULE **Property:** All at 1/3rd
share in Bunglow located No.146/A, on
Plot bearing No. 3, in the Layout of the
Hyderabad Displaced persons Housing
Co-operative Society Ltd., admeasuring
276.66 Sq.Yds. or 232.15 Sq.Mtrs. situated
at Prenderghast Road, Secunderabad
bounded by: Boundaries: North: House
on Bunglow No.146/A, South: Plot No.8 &
9, East: House on Plot No.4, West: 25 ft
road.

**Sd/- Devakar P.
Advocate,**
Plot No. 180/P, Phase 2, Block No.4,
Trimruthy Colony, Mahendra Hills,
Secunderabad-500026

Gujarat govt transfers Surat civic chief M Nagarajan amid Nasirnagar demolition controversy

Gandhinagar/Surat, Aug 20 : The Gujarat government on Thursday transferred Surat Municipal Commissioner M. Nagarajan, more than two months after the demolition of nearly 100 homes in the city's Nasirnagar area triggered a probe and scrutiny from the Gujarat High Court. According to a notification issued by the General Administration Department on Tuesday, Nagarajan, a 2009-batch IAS officer, has been appointed as State Project Di-

rector of the Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan in Gandhinagar. He will replace Ranjeeth Kumar J., IAS, who has been transferred and placed at the disposal of the Energy and Petrochemicals Department for appointment as Secretary of the Gujarat Electricity Regulatory Commission (GERC). Nagarajan's post in Surat will be taken over on an additional-charge basis by Surat Collector Tejas Parmar, a 2016-batch IAS officer.



Tejashwi Yadav targets Bihar govt over Siwan police action against students

Patna, Aug 20 : The controversy surrounding police action against students protesting alleged examination irregularities and paper leaks in Siwan has once again become a major political issue in Bihar. Leader of the Opposition (LoP) in Lok Sabha Rahul

Gandhi has been requested by RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav to visit Bihar, as Yadav criticised the state government and announced that he will raise the matter with the Governor. Speaking to the media, Yadav said he had not yet received a satisfactory explanation regarding the alleged firing during the police.



Modi Govt has ensured equitable distribution of welfare benefits: Jitendra Singh

Chandigarh, Aug 20 : Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Dr Jitendra Singh said on Thursday that the defining feature of the last 12 years of the Modi Government has been the equitable distribution of welfare benefits to every deserving citizen without discrimination based on caste, creed, religion or considerations of vote-bank politics. Addressing a press conference here, on the completion of 12 years of the Government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the minister said that this tenure has witnessed a fundamental transformation in the delivery of governance, with transparency, accountability and technology-driven implementation ensuring that public resources reach intended beneficiaries directly. The schemes relating to housing, sanitation, healthcare, financial inclusion, food security, clean cooking fuel and social security have collectively im-

proved the quality of life of millions of families across the country, he added. Welfare initiatives have reached the last mile through a saturation-based approach, ensuring that benefits are delivered solely based on eligibility and need, the minister observed. Referring to India's socio-economic progress during this period, Dr Jitendra Singh said that nearly 25 crore people have moved out of multidimensional poverty, reflecting the impact of sustained welfare interventions and inclusive growth policies. He said that the benefits of development have reached sections of society that had remained underserved for decades, thereby strengthening social equity and economic participation. The minister said that the democratisation of resources and opportunities has enabled wider participation in the development process.

BJP opposes TN resolution against NEET citing SC order; Cong, DMK extend support

Chennai, Aug 20 : Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) Tamil Nadu leaders on Thursday opposed the adoption of a resolution by the state Assembly, urging the Centre to abolish the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET) for admission to undergraduate medical courses, saying that the examination is conducted as per the Supreme Court order and has benefited poor students. However, the Congress and the DMK backed the resolution. Talking to IANS, BJP chief state spokesperson Narayanan Thirupathy said: "Whoever wants to oppose NEET, they are always hitting the wrong door. They have to go to the Supreme Court as under its direction only, the NEET examinations are conducted." He claimed that it is only because of NEET that poor government school students and rural students have qualified

for medical education in the last seven-eight years. "So NEET is definitely needed for ordinary, poor and rural students," he stressed. Echoing similar views, BJP Mahila Morcha national president Vanathi Srinivasan said: "It is based on the Supreme Court's judgment that NEET has been implemented across the country. In Tamil Nadu, various political parties have demanded the abolition of NEET and the new government also has passed a resolution similar to many previous ones, but it is a Supreme Court order." She noted that if at all the TVK-led Tamil Nadu government wants to modify NEET, it has to approach the apex court. BJP leader Tamilisai Soundararajan said: "Today one of the Tamil papers has carried an editorial that Tamil Nadu students are performing very well in NEET. So, the government should not disappoint the new aspirants."



Zero-tolerance policy against corruption in flood-control projects: Assam minister

Guwahati, Aug 20 : Assam Water Resources Minister Sushanta Borgohain on Thursday asserted that the state government would adopt a zero-tolerance approach against corruption and substandard work in embankment and flood-control projects, warning that even influential contractors would face strict action if found guilty of wrongdoing. Speaking to reporters here, Borgohain said the Water Resources Department has been closely monitoring ongoing anti-erosion and flood-protection works across the state and would not hesitate to lodge FIRs, blacklist contractors and initiate other puni-

tive measures against those involved in irregularities. "Even if a very well-known or influential person is found carrying out poor-quality work, we will take action. FIRs will be filed and the contractors will be blacklisted. Our objective is to ensure that the department remains trustworthy in the eyes of the people," the minister said.



Akali Dal slams Punjab CM for publicly challenging Akal Takht authority

Chandigarh, Aug 20 : The Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) working committee on Thursday condemned Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann for challenging the authority of the Akal Takht in public forums while asserting this was hurting the religious feelings of the people. The working committee, chaired by party President Sukhbir Badal, noted that the Chief Minister was deliberately creating fissures in the Sikh community. It said there was an overwhelming feeling in the community that Mann had not only committed a heinous crime against the Guru Sahiban but was compounding his sins by challenging the Akal Takht, which had pointed out the same with due evidence. Giving details, party leader Daljit Singh Cheema said the working committee passed a resolution demanding the immediate resignation of the Chief Minister. He said the committee also discussed how the Chief Minister was trying

to cover up his sins by presenting self-procured reports from laboratories within 24 hours after the Akal Takht ruled that the blasphemous video of the Chief Minister was real and was not a work of artificial intelligence. "In such a situation, Bhagwant Mann does not deserve to remain in his chair for even one minute more," he said. Later, Badal also discussed the issue with Shiromani committee members. The members said the Chief Minister had tried to befool the Sikh sangat by claiming the controversial video depicting him was generated through artificial intelligence. They said the Akal Takht only got the video verified forensi-

cally after the Chief Minister failed to do the same for five months despite reminders from the Takht. Meanwhile, the working committee reviewed the organisation structure with particular emphasis on the booth-level committees. The SAD President said the entire organisational structure should be complete in another fortnight. The working committee also took note of the unprovoked cane-charge and suppression of democratic protests by the AAP government, besides the complete breakdown in the law and order situation.



Assam strengthens PM POSHAN focussing on child health

Guwahati, Aug 20 : The Assam government is expanding its school nutrition programme with a sharper focus on dietary diversity and child health, covering nearly 28.97 lakh children under the PM POSHAN scheme during 2026-27, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said on Thursday. According to Chief Minister Sarma, the initiative seeks to ensure that children do not have to choose between education and adequate nutrition, while strengthening the nutritional support available to students attending government and government-aided schools across the state. As part of the enhanced nutrition strategy, the state government has introduced a range of additional measures, including Nutrition Gardens in schools, ragi-based health drinks and additional eggs in weekly meals. According to the latest figures, as many as 43,670 schools across the state have established Nutrition Gardens. The gardens are aimed at pro-

moting the availability and consumption of locally grown nutritious food while also creating awareness among students about healthy diets and sustainable food practices. The state has also expanded the distribution of ragi-based health drinks, with around 11.75 lakh children currently benefiting from the initiative. Ragi, known for its nutritional value and rich mineral content, is being incorporated into the school nutrition programme as part of efforts to improve dietary diversity among children. Another major component of the expanded programme is the provision of two additional eggs every week to eligible children. Around 4.75 lakh children are receiving the additional eggs under the initiative. Chief Minister Sarma said that the measures are intended to supplement the existing PM POSHAN programme and address nutritional requirements through locally relevant and protein-rich food options. The Assam government has been emphasising the need to link school education with child



health and nutrition, particularly for children from economically vulnerable families. Officials added that strengthening nutrition support can contribute to improved school attendance, concentration and overall learning outcomes while helping address nutritional deficiencies among children. The expanded approach also places emphasis on community participation through school-based Nutrition Gardens, enabling students and local communities to engage more closely with food production and healthy eating practices. With 28.97 lakh children covered under PM POSHAN in 2026-27, the state is seeking to further strengthen the programme by combining regular school meals with targeted nutritional interventions. The initiatives underline Assam's focus on ensuring that nutritional support remains an integral part of the school education system.



TN petrol pump dealers threaten to halt UPI payments over account freezes

Chennai, Aug 20 : Petrol pump operators across Tamil Nadu have threatened to stop accepting UPI and other digital payments, raising concerns over bank account freezes and police action triggered by transactions later linked to cybercrime complaints. The

Tamil Nadu Petroleum Dealers Association (TNPDA), which represents around 5,000 fuel outlets in the state, has sought the intervention of Chief Minister C. Joseph Vijay, warning that the growing risks associated with digital transactions are making it increas-

ingly difficult for dealers to continue offering cashless payment facilities. In a letter to the Chief Minister, TNPDA president K.P. Murali said fuel dealers were being drawn into cybercrime investigations even though they had no role in

the transactions beyond receiving legitimate payments from customers purchasing petrol or diesel. According to the association, petrol pumps have no mechanism to verify the identity of every customer making a digital payment.

Govt asks Meta to align content policies with Indian laws, tighten deepfake safeguards

New Delhi, Aug 20 : The government has asked Meta to align its content policies and enforcement mechanisms with Indian laws and the country's cultural context, while making it clear that it has not sought any overhaul of the social media giant's algorithms. The discussions between the government and Meta are expected to continue, with a strong focus on strengthening safeguards against harmful content, im-

proving regulatory compliance and enhancing transparency around the platform's content moderation and recommendation systems, according to NDTV Profit report. A key area of concern for the government is the growing threat posed by deepfake content. Reports said authorities have urged Meta to introduce a "human-in-the-loop" review mechanism for suspected deepfakes, ensuring that decisions on takedowns are not based solely on automated systems. The gov-



ernment believes human oversight is necessary to prevent erroneous moderation actions and improve accountability. The government has also conveyed that content

shared by prominent verified accounts should not be automatically classified as deepfakes. Instead, such content should undergo appropriate human review

before any enforcement action is taken, reports said. In addition, Meta has been asked to put in place specific measures to ensure.



Udaan's financial woes continue despite new fundraise, revenue stagnates

Bengaluru, Aug 20 : B2B e-commerce platform Udaan is facing serious financial challenges despite securing fresh funds as the company's revenue remained almost flat in FY26.

India's office REITs penetration to rise to 30 pc by 2030: Report

New Delhi, Aug 20 : Real estate investment trusts and infrastructure investment trusts in India have expanded rapidly over nearly six years and could see office REIT and industrial & warehousing InvIT penetration touch 30 per cent and 10 per cent, respectively, by 2030, a report said on Thursday. The rapid surge in the REIT penetration levels in the office market is supported by influx of high quality green-certified assets, strong occupier demand

and sustained investor appetite, the report from Colliers said. The existing portfolio across listed REITs and InvITs surpassed 195 million sq ft with an upcoming pipeline of roughly 37 million sq ft as of March 2026. While the office segment continues to dominate with around 84 per cent share in the operational portfolio of existing Indian REIT/InvIT, retail and industrial & warehousing segments are gaining momentum. REITs and InvITs are accelerating the institutionalisation and democratisation of India's real estate sector, driven by rising investor participation, strong operational performance of underlying assets, asset acquisition and supportive policies.



Zydus Lifesciences Q1 profit slides 36 pc to Rs 940 crore

Mumbai, Aug 20 : Zydus Lifesciences on Thursday reported a 36 per cent year-on-year (YoY) decline in its consolidated net profit for the first quarter of the current financial year (Q1 FY27). The Ahmedabad-based drugmaker said its net profit fell 35.9 per cent year-on-year to Rs 940 crore in the June quarter, compared with Rs 1,467 crore in the corresponding period last financial year (Q1 FY26), according to its stock exchange filing. The pharmaceutical major's revenue from operations rose 22 per cent to Rs 8,017 crore during the quarter, up from Rs 6,574 crore a year ago. However, profitability came under pressure. Earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA) slipped 7.6 per cent to Rs 1,930 crore from Rs 2,089 crore in the year-ago period. Consequently, the EBITDA margin contracted significantly to 24.1 per cent from 31.8 per cent in the corresponding quarter of the previous financial year. Despite the weaker earnings performance, investors appeared largely unfazed. Following the results announcement, shares of Zydus Lifesciences were trading at Rs 1,126, up 0.63 per cent.



Signature Global's shares drop nearly 15 pc in a week, stock down 19 pc in 1 year

Mumbai, Aug 20 : The shares of Signature Global India Limited on Thursday further declined by 2.03 per cent at Rs 1,102.40 during the intra-day trading session, as investors remain cautious about the company's financial health. The stock is on a downward spree over the past week. It has fallen by 14.52 per cent and 13.84 per cent in the last two weeks. Over the past month, Signature Global's share price has dropped by 2.32 per cent on the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE). The decline extends further over longer periods, with the stock down 14.58 per cent in the last three months and 27.89 per cent in the past six months. Year to date, the stock has fallen by 18.62 per cent while over the past year, it has registered a 19.1 per cent decline.

Outlook for Indian textile industry increasingly favourable amid key FTAs: Govt officials

New Delhi, Aug 20 : After a year marked by resilience amid global headwinds, the outlook for the Indian textile industry is increasingly favourable, a senior government official has said, adding that key Free Trade Agreements (FTAs), now in place, are opening significant new market opportunities for Indian exporters, enhancing tariff competitiveness and strengthening India's position in global value chains. Neelam Shami Rao, Secretary (Textiles), emphasised that the convergence of these trade agreements with a distinctly textile-centric Union Budget creates a timely and strategic advantage for the sector. With expanded market access, policy clarity and focused government support, she stated

that the industry is well-positioned to scale up production, attract investments and deepen its footprint in global markets. She was addressing the first post-budget national industry consultation here, that brought together senior government officials, industry leaders, financial institutions, development partners and representatives from across the textile value chain to deliberate on implementation priorities following the Union Budget 2026 announcements. The consultation focused on operationalising two key initiatives announced in the Budget -- the Textile Expansion and Employment (TEEM) Scheme and the Tex Eco Initiative -- aimed at strengthening competitiveness, modernisation, sustainability and employment generation across the



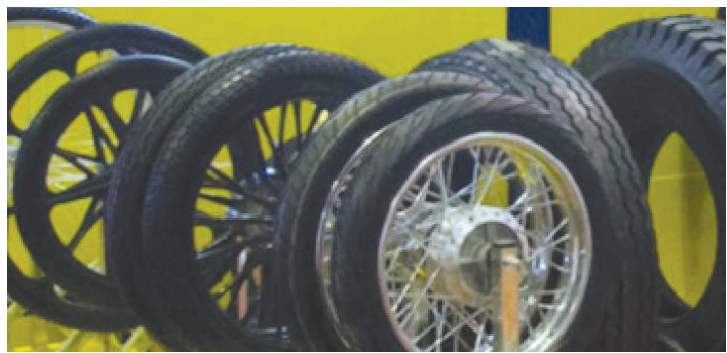
textile and apparel sector. According to Rohit Kansal, Additional Secretary (Textiles), the Union Budget has been distinctly textile-centric, with a strong focus on employment generation and manufacturing growth. He noted that the announcement of an integrated programme for the textile sector provides a comprehensive framework to align investments, policy support and institutional efforts across the value

chain. Kansal further underlined that the Budget signals a clear intent to scale manufacturing, strengthen domestic capabilities and position textiles as a key driver of inclusive growth and job creation. Kansal also reaffirmed the Ministry's commitment to a collaborative approach to translate policy intent into tangible, measurable results on the ground.

India launches anti-dumping probe against chemical exported by China, Japan

New Delhi, Aug 20 : India has launched an anti-dumping investigation against imports of a chemical, used in tyre and rubber products, from China and Japan which are allegedly being exported by these countries at prices that are below the fair market value of these goods, according to a notification issued by the Ministry of Commerce on Thursday. The investigation follows a complaint lodged by Atul Limited to the Directorate General of

Trade Remedies (DGTR) which alleged the flood of cheap imports of 'Resorcinol' are causing significant harm to India's domestic industry. The DGTR's notification said: "On the basis of the duly substantiated application filed by the applicant and having satisfied itself, on the basis of the prima facie evidence submitted by the applicant, regarding dumping of the subject goods... the authority hereby initiates an anti-dumping investigation."





Rajasthan HC quashes criminal case against former Gujarat Gov Kamla Beniwal

Jaipur, Aug 20 : The Rajasthan High Court has quashed criminal proceedings pending before the trial court against late Kamla Beniwal, former Governor of Gujarat, and 16 other accused in a case involving alleged irregularities in the allotment and compensation of government land. A bench headed by Justice Ganesh Ram Meena passed the order while hearing a petition filed by the accused. The High Court observed that disputes concerning land rights already pending before competent civil and revenue authorities cannot be given a criminal colour. The court noted that the matter primarily concerns lease, ownership and khatedari rights

over agricultural land, which fall within civil and revenue jurisdictions. Attempting to convert such disputes into criminal cases would amount to an abuse of the process of law, the bench held. Consequently, the High Court set aside the trial court's order taking cognisance of the case as well as the subsequent revisional order passed by the Additional District Judge (ADJ). The court noted that proceedings concerning the disputed land are pending before different legal forums. These include questions relating to tenancy rights granted to the petitioners in 1958, acquisition of the land by the Jaipur Development Authority (JDA), and refer-

ences and distribution of compensation under the Land Revenue Act. The court observed that unless competent civil or revenue courts set aside the rights in question, allegations of fraud and forgery based on those rights cannot be sustained in criminal proceedings. Sanjay Kishore Agarwal filed the complaint in the matter on August 16, 2012. According to the complaint, the government had introduced a scheme in 1951 to lease unused agricultural land for cultivation for 20 years. The tenure was subsequently extended to 25 years, after which the land was to revert to the state government.



Schools in MP failing to comply govt's norms may lose recognition: Minister

Bhopal, Aug 20 : The Madhya Pradesh School Education Minister, Uday Pratap Singh, said on Thursday that private schools failing to comply with the state government's norms may face tough action, including cancellation of their recognition or registration. The Minister made this statement responding to a query raised by the Opposition Congress during the ongoing Monsoon session of the Assembly. The Congress has sought state government's response on private schools in Madhya Pradesh increasing annual fees abruptly without following mandatory guidelines issued by the government. "The schools that do not fulfill prescribed norms will not be allowed to operate. The institutions failing to meet standard set up under the government's rule will be blacklisted."

Karnataka to decide on 12,000 cusecs Cauvery water release to TN based on reservoir levels : CM Shivakumar

Bengaluru, Aug 20 : Karnataka Chief Minister, D.K. Shivakumar, on Thursday said the state government would take a decision on releasing Cauvery water to Tamil Nadu based on the water availability in its reservoirs, following Cauvery Water Regulation Committee's (CWRC) recommendation for the state to release 12,000 cusecs daily for 15 days. Speaking to reporters in Bengaluru, he stated a high-level meeting with ministers and experts would be fixed to discuss the matter. CM Shivakumar further said the government was closely monitoring the inflow into

the state's reservoirs and would ensure that the interests of Karnataka's farmers were protected. "An order has come to release 12,000 cusecs of water to Tamil Nadu. I am continuously monitoring the inflow into our reservoirs. We will take a decision based on the availability of water in the dams. Farmers need not be agitated over the order to release water. I appeal to farmers to remain patient and maintain harmony," CM Shivakumar said. He said the government would respect court orders while making every effort to protect the crops of Karnataka's farmers.



UP quack, two aides held for murdering medical equipment dealer in Delhi

New Delhi, Aug 20 : After analysing around 300 CCTV cameras' footage, three murderers, including a quack from Uttar Pradesh, were arrested for killing a medical equipment seller in North Delhi's Sarai Rohilla earlier this month, said a police official on Thursday. Ranbir Singh, 68, resident of East Moti Bagh, Sarai Rohilla, Delhi, was stabbed to death and robbed of an ultrasound machine, laptop and other articles, police said. The quack and his associates killed the victim as they wanted to rob his ultrasound machine and use it at his outlet, police said. Deputy Commissioner of Police Raja Banthia identified the accused as Md. Parvez Alam, 27, resident of district Muzaffarnagar.



BJP's RP Singh slams Canada over alleged 'Khalistan Embassy' in Surrey, calls it 'Serpentarium'

New Delhi, Aug 20 : Bharatiya Janata Party's national spokesperson and former Delhi MLA, RP Singh, on Thursday issued a scathing statement against Canada, accusing it of enabling extremism by allowing the establishment of a so-called "Khalistan Embassy" in Surrey, British Columbia. Calling it a "Serpentarium," Singh likened the development to creating a breeding ground for separatist forces and warned that Canada's actions pose a serious threat to international diplomatic norms. "This goes beyond poor judgment," Singh said, "It is a direct violation of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, which recognises only missions of sovereign nations - not imaginary separatist states." He referenced Hillary Clinton's famous warning to Pakistan, saying: "You can't keep snakes in your backyard and expect them only to bite your neighbours. Eventually, those snakes are going to turn on you." Singh claimed that under the guise of "freedom of expression," Canada is harbouring extremist elements who have glorified terrorism, incited violence



against India, and were even linked to past assassinations of Indian diplomats. "This is not free speech," Singh added. "It is state-enabled sedition against a friendly democracy." Calling for immediate action, he urged External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar to register a strong diplomatic protest with the Canadian government. Singh also demanded: "An official clarification on the alleged 'Khalistan Embassy', 'withdrawal of any funding or support to such separatist entities', and 'swift action against individuals promoting violence against Indian institutions.'" "India has always shown diplomatic maturity," he said, "but there must be zero tolerance for states that give oxygen to separatist agendas." Closing his statement with a strong message to Canada, Singh asked.



Two state ministers to sit in party HQs for better coordination: MP BJP

Bhopal, Aug 20 : To ensure better coordination between the Madhya Pradesh government and party workers, the state BJP unit has come with a decision that two Cabinet Ministers will sit in the party office at least for two hours in a day. The development came after Chief Minister Mohan Yadav and State BJP Chief and Betul MLA Hemant Khandelwal along with some other organisational leaders held a meeting few days ago. The first of its kind of initiative also started from Saturday, nearly two weeks before CM Yadav-led BJP government is set to complete two years of governance in the state. Two Cabinet Ministers will be sitting at the BJP headquarters in Bhopal from Monday to Friday between 2 to 4 p.m. Deputy Chief Minister Jagdish

Devda, who also heads the state's Finance department along with Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Skill Development and Employment, Gautam Tetwal visited the BJP headquarters in Bhopal and held discussion with party workers. Talking to IANS later late Monday evening, State BJP Chief Khandelwal said, "Idea is to make a better coordination between the Ministers and the party workers and to understand each and every policy. The in-depth knowledge of any scheme would help party workers to explain when they would meet the people on the ground." State BJP Chief Khandelwal also confirmed that he had proposed this idea with Chief Minister Yadav, and he not only agreed, and it was decided that it should be implemented without any delay.



Delhi CM Rekha Gupta presents CAG report in Assembly, exposes AAP govt's lapses

New Delhi, Aug 20 : Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Thursday presented a CAG report and hit out at the previous AAP government for its alleged mismanagement of public resources, reiterating that every rupee of public money will now be used transparently. Presenting the CAG report during the Monsoon Session of the Legislative Assembly, the Chief Minister brought into focus serious questions over the previous government's management of public resources, calling it a report card that has exposed the AAP government's loot of public money.

Maha govt sets up enforcement cell to curb illegal fishing, increase maritime safety

Mumbai, Aug 20 : The Maharashtra Fisheries Department has set up an enforcement cell to take strict action against unauthorised fishing boats and thereby ensure sustainable fishing and maritime security in the maritime areas, officials said. State Fisheries and Ports Minister Nitesh Rane on Thursday said that the department's move to launch drone patrol-

ling in coastal areas for maritime security is showing good results. The enforcement cell will be headed by the Commissioner of Fisheries Department.



Virendra Sachdeva meets L-G on eve of Delhi BJP legislature party meeting

New Delhi, Aug 20 : Ahead of the BJP legislature party's meeting, Delhi BJP chief Virendra Sachdeva and National BJP General Secretary Vinod Tawde called on Lieutenant Governor (L-G) V.K. Saxena on Saturday, adding to the suspense of the name of the new Chief Minister. The BJP legislature party's meeting is likely to take place around 7 pm on Thursday, said a Delhi BJP leader, adding that soon after the meeting a signed letter of support from all the MLAs in favour of the new Chief Minister and Leader of the House will be presented to Saxena.

The leader said the formality of giving the letter of support to the L-G must be completed on the eve of the swearing-in ceremony of the new Chief Minister and the Cabinet scheduled for February 20 at the historic Ram Lila Maidan. The swearing-in is expected to take place around 11.30 am,



said a BJP functionary who accompanied Sachdeva and BJP spokesperson Tarun Chugh to the Ram Lila Maidan to take stock of the arrangement for the grand ceremony to be addressed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

India, UK discuss advancing collaborations in AI, emerging technologies

London, Aug 20 : India and UK discussed advancing collaboration in Artificial Intelligence (AI), emerging technologies, research and innovation and leveraging the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement to have new opportunities, foster innovation, and drive shared economic growth. The discussions were held during a meeting between

India's High Commissioner to the UK, P Kumaran, and Permanent Secretary, UK's Department for Science, Innovation and Technology, Emran Mian, the High Commission of India in London announced on Thursday. "High Commissioner P. Kumaran had a constructive meeting yesterday with Emran Mian, Permanent Secretary, DSIT. They discussed advancing India-UK collaboration in AI, emerging technologies,

research and innovation, and leveraging the India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement to unlock new opportunities, foster innovation, and drive shared economic growth," the High Commission of India in London posted on X. On Monday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced that the India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) will formally enter into



force on July 15, marking what he described as a "historic milestone" in bilateral relations. PM Modi stated that the agreement will sig-

nificant boost bilateral ties and investment. "A historic milestone for India-UK relations. Delighted to note that the India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement will enter into force on 15th July 2026. This agreement will significantly boost our bilateral trade and investment," PM Modi posted on X. "It will also unlock numerous opportunities for Indian farmers, workers, MSMEs, startups and innovators and contribute meaningfully to the realisation of Viksit Bharat 2047. Both PM Starmer and I, who are in Evian for the G7 Summit, are naturally very happy

with the significant momentum being added to our economic ties," he added. On June 4, External Affairs Minister (EAM) S Jaishankar held a meeting with UK Foreign Secretary Yvette Cooper in New Delhi, where both leaders reviewed ongoing progress in bilateral cooperation focusing on trade, technology, supply chains, defence, climate, education and people-to-people ties. The two leaders also discussed global developments. Following the meeting, EAM Jaishankar wrote on X.



Europe should continue supporting Ukraine, reject peace of dictate, says Scholz

Paris, Aug 20 : German Chancellor Olaf Scholz said that Europe should continue to support Ukraine, emphasising that no peace of dictate can be imposed on the country. "Ukraine should have confidence in us. It is clear that we should continue to support Ukraine," Scholz said on Thursday after attending an emergency meeting convened by French President Emmanuel Macron on the eve of the Russian-US talks set to take place Saturday in Riyadh. "No peace of dictate can be imposed on Ukraine... Ukraine cannot accept everything that is presented to it under any conditions," he added. The German chancellor urged Europe and the United States to act together for collective security. "There must be no division of security and responsibility between Europe and the US," he said. "NATO is based on the fact that we always act together and share

the risks... This must not be called into question." Regarding reports on the possibility of European countries sending ground troops to Ukraine as part of a "peacekeeping" mission, Scholz dismissed these discussions as "totally premature." However, he stated that European nations are prepared to "spend at least two per cent" of their gross domestic product on strengthening Europe's defence. "If European states spend more, Germany supports ensuring that this expenditure is not factored into European budget deficits calculations," he added. Monday's gathering brought together leaders of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and the European Commission, along with representatives from European countries including France, Germany, Britain, Poland, Spain, Italy, Denmark and the Netherlands.

Nepali general injured in UN peacekeeping operation in Lebanon back home

United Nations, Aug 20 : The Nepali general who was wounded in an attack on peacekeepers in Lebanon has returned home after he was released from hospital, according to Secretary-General Antonio Guterres's Spokesperson Stephane Dujarric. He said on Thursday that Major General Chok Dhakal, who completed his term as the deputy force commander of the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), went back to Nepal on Wednesday. Dhakal, who was wrapping up his assignment, was injured on the way to Beirut airport in an attack on his convoy on the way to Beirut airport on Friday. He was taken to a hospital along with a Nepali peacekeeper and released after treatment. The attack took place where supporters of the militant group Hezbollah were holding a protest against the Lebanon government.



US senators move to secure Tibet's future

Washington, Aug 20 : A bipartisan group of US senators introduced legislation to deepen engagement with Tibet's government-in-exile and ensure American support continues beyond the lifetime of the 14th Dalai Lama. The Assuring the Future of Tibet Act would recognise the Central Tibetan Administration as the legitimate representative of the Tibetan people. It would also affirm that resolving the Tibet-China dispute is a US strategic interest. Democratic Senator Jeff Merkley and Republican Senator Jim Risch, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, introduced the bill. Senators Jacky Rosen, Todd Young, Tim Kaine and Rick Scott are original co-sponsors. "Human rights and basic dignity for the people of Tibet cannot be ignored. Our bipartisan bill sends

a clear message that the United States will stand with Tibet in its fight for these fundamental freedoms and the promise of tomorrow," Merkley said. "As long as the People's Republic of China continues to ignore the rights of Tibet under international law, America will not abandon the Tibetan people," he added. The bill would direct the US secretary of state to engage at the most senior levels with the Sikyong, the elected head of the Central Tibetan Administration, and other designated representatives. It would require Washington to advocate for observer status for the administration at the United Nations and equal access across the UN system. The measure also calls for its inclusion in relevant international bodies and seeks to mobilise US allies behind that effort. "The Chinese Communist Party has sought to erase Ti-

betan culture, religion, and language, among other grievous actions. What Beijing has done to Tibet, they want to do elsewhere to anyone who defies the CCP," Risch said. "This bill supports the Tibetan people, key partners in pushing back against China's authoritarianism, and counters China's malign influence at the United Nations," he added. The legislation would extend appropriate diplomatic courtesies to the Sikyong. These could include security consistent with that provided to a head of government. It also calls for consideration of privileges and immunities for officials of the Tibetan administration. The measure names the Gaden Phodrang Trust as the sole authority to recognise Dalai Lamas. The provision is intended to ensure that US support for Tibetan religious leadership continues beyond the current Dalai Lama.

Court sentences former Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, other officials to death

Damascus, Aug 20 : Former Syrian President Bashar al-Assad and several former officials have been sentenced to death after a court convicted them of crimes, including arbitrary detention, premeditated murder, torture and crimes against humanity, local media reported on Thursday. Judge Fakhr al-Din al-Aryan said that the court convicted Assad of crimes against humanity and other offences, citing his post as the highest decision-maker and his role in issuing orders to state institutions involved in the violations. The court also sentenced Bashar al-Assad's cousin and former political security chief in Daraa city, Atef Najib, to death, Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA) reported. The court also announced death sentences against "fugitives" Louay Ali al-Ali, Maher

Hafez al-Assad, Fahd Jassem al-Frej, Mohammad Ayman Ayoush, Qusay Ibrahim Mahyoub, Wafiq Saleh Nasser and Talal Fares al-Aysami. Al-Aryan said the court convicted the defendants of premeditated, intentional murder and torture, which caused death, SANA reported. Former Syrian President Assad's government collapsed on December 8, 2024 following a 12-day offensive spearheaded by the Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) and allied militant groups. Bashar al-Assad along with his family flew to Moscow after his government collapsed in Syria. After leaving Damascus in December 2024, Bashar al-Assad released a public statement, in which he mentioned about the chaotic moments leading up to his departure for Russia. He released the statement through Syrian Presidency's Telegram account, addressing rumours surrounding al-Assad's departure and the collapse of his government after over



13 years of civil conflict. Bashar al-Assad said that he did not plan to depart and remained in Damascus until the early morning hours of December 8, performing his duties. When militant groups entered Damascus, he coordinated with "Russian friends" to relocate to Latakia, aiming to continue directing military operations from there. Upon his arrival at Russia's Hmeimim Air Base, he realised that all remaining Syrian army positions had collapsed, and that ground forces had withdrawn from the front lines, according to the statement. As the situation worsened and the Russian base itself faced drone attacks, al-Assad said Moscow arranged an immediate evacuation to Russia on the evening of December 8. He claimed that the idea of seeking asylum or relinquishing his post never arose before, saying his sole option had been to continue fighting, Xinhua news agency reported. Bashar al-Assad rejected any notion that he would leave the people of Syria.



Australia to vaccinate vulnerable species against H5N1 bird flu

Canberra, Aug 20 : The Australian government on Thursday announced it will begin vaccinating high-risk birds in captivity against the H5N1 strain of avian influenza amid an ongoing surge in cases. Australia's Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Minister Julie Collins said in Canberra that the government has acquired an initial 1,500 vials of the H5N1 vaccine and will begin administering it to species in captivity based on their vulnerability and risk of contracting the highly pathogenic strain. "We've been very clear that we cannot stop the H5 bird flu from spreading amongst wild birds, but we can take action to protect the species most at risk, and the vaccination is now part of that response," she said, Xinhua News Agency reported.

India hands over assistance for cultural, heritage preservation in Tuvalu

Funafuti, Aug 20 : Union Minister of State for External Affairs Pabitra Margherita has handed over a cheque for the preservation of cultural and heritage sites during his official visit to the South Pacific nation of Tuvalu. The minister attended the State Banquet hosted by the Govt of Tuvalu during his first official visit to the country. He handed over the first tranche of assistance to preserve cultural heritage sites under the Quick Impact Project (QIP). He also announced India's support, including the provision of a sea ambulance, food grain assistance, and sponsorship of 10 patients for specialised medical treatment.



Study compares crime rates across Atlantic to assess safety

New Delhi, Aug 20 : Is Europe safer than America? “Each side of the Atlantic thinks the other is lawless,” a recent report notes while attempting to answer the question through a novel study by criminologists associated with University College London (UCL). They compared crime statistics across 20 rich-world cities.

The dataset was curated by Matt Ashby, Associate Professor of Crime Science at UCL’s Jill Dando Institute of Security and Crime Science, along with colleagues. Ashby’s expertise lies in crime science, criminology and policing, with a focus on data-driven approaches to crime reduction. His work spans the UK, US and Europe, particularly in forecasting crime patterns, evaluating police data usage and addressing organised crime concerns. The team selected 20 cities with populations of at least 2.5 million that publish annual crime statistics. Boundaries were adjusted to ensure similar population densities; for example, Paris included the whole Île-de-France region. Definitions were harmonised so categories of crime were broadly comparable to Britain’s.

Murder, or homicide, was used as a cross-border measure. Chicago, with a population of 2.74 million,



was found to be the “most deadly city” with 587 homicides in 2024, a rate of 22 per 100,000 residents, 2.7 times that of Los Angeles. Meanwhile, the average rate among 10 European cities was 1.7 per 100,000.

Other categories showed less clear divides. Personal robberies with force occurred about as often in both regions, with London and Paris recording more than 300 per 100,000 annually. Vehicle thefts were common in Chicago and Los Angeles, while New York fared better than most European cities. Domestic burglaries were more frequent in Europe.

The Economist report noted that Europe’s social-safety net may reduce incentives to steal, while America’s robust policing and higher incarceration rates could balance crime levels.

India to assume Vice-Presidency of Financial Action Task Force for 1st time

New Delhi, Aug 20 : In a significant development, Vivek Aggarwal, Secretary, Ministry of Culture, has been elected and appointed Vice-President of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), according to an official statement.

This is the first time that India will hold the Vice-Presidency of the FATF. Aggarwal will work towards solidifying India’s leadership in the FATF forum, the statement added. “This appointment is a recognition of India’s collective effort and of the strength of our anti-money-laundering and counter-terrorist-financing framework. I am deeply



honoured to serve, and look forward to working with the FATF Global Network to keep the international financial system safe, inclusive and resilient,” said Aggarwal. Aggarwal is a 1994-batch officer of the Indian Administrative Service (Madhya Pradesh cadre).

US forces disable ship accused of breaching Iran blockade

Washington, Aug 20 : US forces disabled the steering gear of a Panamanian-flagged cargo vessel as it allegedly tried to breach the US blockade of Iranian ports, according to a statement from the US military's Central Command (CENTCOM). "CENTCOM forces disabled the steering gear of Panama-flagged M/V Vela Nova as the cargo vessel attempted to transit the Gulf of Oman and violate the US blockade against Iran by sailing toward an Iranian port," the statement said. A US Navy MH-60 helicopter fired two missiles into the

Vela Nova's engine room, according to the command.

"A U.S. Navy MH-60 helicopter fired two hellfire missiles into the Vela Nova’s engine room after the ship’s civilian crew ignored repeated warnings from American forces. The ship is no longer transiting to Iran in violation of the U.S. blockade, which remains in full effect."

"The missile struck the vessel, causing a fire that was subsequently extinguished," maritime security firm Vanguard said in an initial report on the incident.

"As of Aug. 11, CENTCOM has redirected 55 commercial vessels attempting to run the blockade, disabled three non-compliant ves-



sels, and boarded two," the command said.

Meanwhile, Combined Joint Task Force–Operation Inherent Resolve (CJTF-OIR) underwent a formal change of command in the Middle East on August 11, as Maj. Gen. Kevin Lambert handed over leadership to Rear Adm. Liam Hulin. The ceremony marked the official transfer of command of the US-led task force responsible for

supporting efforts against ISIS in Iraq and Syria.

Established in 2014 by US CENTCOM, CJTF-OIR advises, assists and enables partner forces in countering ISIS. CENTCOM commander Adm. Brad Cooper presided over the ceremony and highlighted the task force’s role in “countering terrorism, strengthening partnerships.

UN says 106.6 million USD urgently needed for Sudanese refugees in Libya

Tripoli, Aug 20 : The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) announced that \$106.6 million are needed urgently to assist Sudanese refugees in Libya. In a press release, the UN refugee agency says the funds will be used to support 375,000 Sudanese refugees, 70,000 people in host communities, and 1,000 third-country nationals.

The funds aim to "provide essential assistance, from emergency relief to longer-term solutions," according to the UNHCR.

"This plan is a crucial step to ensure that refugees have access to protection, healthcare, and basic dignity," Aeneas Chuma.



Andras Baka elected as Hungary's new President

Budapest, Aug 20 : Hungary's parliament on Thursday elected former Supreme Court chief Andras Baka as the country's new President.

Baka, 73, the sole candidate in the election, received 140 votes in a secret ballot. He was nominated by the ruling Tisza party on Thursday, which holds the two-thirds parliamentary majority needed to elect the President without opposition support.

The party's parliamentary faction chose Baka in a secret ballot from a three-person shortlist, the Tisza said in a statement. Under Hungarian law, a presidential nominee requires the backing of at least one-fifth of lawmakers,

or 40 MPs, to enter the ballot.

Baka served as a judge at the European Court of Human Rights from 1991 to 2008 before Hungary's parliament elected him president of the Supreme Court in 2009, Xinhua News Agency reported.

His mandate was cut short in 2011 following judicial reforms introduced by then Prime Minister Viktor Orban's Fidesz government. Baka subsequently continued working as a judge at Hungary's top court.

Tisza said Baka had consistently defended the rule of law, judicial independence and the separation of powers. Former President Tamas Sulyok's mandate ended at

midnight on July 20 under the 17th amendment to Hungary's Fundamental Law. Speaker of Parliament Agnes Forsthofer is currently serving as acting president. Under the Fundamental Law, parliament must elect a new president within 30 days.

In a document published on the parliament's website last week, Tisza group leader Andrea Bujdosó requested that the presidential election be added to the agenda of an extraordinary parliamentary session scheduled for Aug. 10-11. The group also proposed holding the vote on Aug. 11. Also on Wednesday, Prime Minister Peter Magyar said he had met Baka.



Top strategic experts, diplomats discuss changing world order at Maharana Pratap Geopolitics Dialogue

Jaipur, Aug 20 : Minister of State for External Affairs Kirti Vardhan Singh, Israel's Ambassador to India Reuven Azar, Armenian Ambassador to India Vahagn Afyan, top leaders and diplomats shed their insights on the transitional phase of the changing world order at the fourth edition of the Maharana Pratap Annual Geopolitics Dialogue (MPAGD) held in Jaipur. The two-day dialogue, organised by the Usanas Foun-

dation and co-hosted by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) under the theme of 'Building Tomorrow: Shaping the Future', saw participation of several distinguished speakers from across the globe.

The keynote address of the conference was delivered by Minister of State for External Affairs and Environment Kirti Vardhan Singh who, while paying tribute to Maharana Pratap, highlighted his diplomacy and commitment in maintaining the sovereignty of the

state. He also shared insights on technology, multipolarity, mutual respect and the role of ancient civilizations in the modern world system. In his address, Israel's Ambassador to India Reuven Azar described terrorism as one of the most serious issues in the world right now and also emphasised the importance of strengthening bilateral relations between India and Israel.

Armenian Ambassador to India, Vahagn Afyan, discussed India's relations with Armenia across various areas, including defence, technology, trade, and education, particularly regarding student exchange programmes. He also spoke about the need for a balanced foreign policy to help nations reach their full potential. Usanas Foundation founder Abhinav Pandya facilitated discussions on pressing global issues, including terrorism, instability in Europe, cyber diplomacy, and intensive climate change consultations. He also addressed the benefits and emerging challenges of Artificial Intelligence (AI). Pandya also discussed the Deobandi movement, tracing the origins of the first Deobandi-

linked Taliban group. He then examined the history of militancy in Kashmir, providing details on how it has evolved over time. He highlighted the critical role of Jamaat-e-Islami in radicalising sections of the population and fostering insurgency. Furthermore, he touched upon the challenges posed by Islamic extremism in Bangladesh and being a route, facilitating the propagating of extremist ideologies in the region. He also stated that West Asian extremists are joining hands with South Asian groups. During the session titled, 'Making sense of the transitional world order', Andrey Kortunov, Academic Director of the Russian International Affairs Council, argued that a new world order typically emerges after major wars. He also highlighted crucial challenges in the contemporary global landscape, particularly issues of legitimacy and the growing influence of non-state actors.

India urges international community to hold Pakistan accountable for human rights violations in PoK

New Delhi, Aug 20 : India on Thursday once again slammed Pakistan over the human rights violations committed in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) and other parts of the country while urging the international community to hold Islamabad accountable for its repeated abuses and misdeeds.

Addressing a bi-weekly media briefing in New Delhi on Tuesday, Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said that 90 people have been killed and several others injured in PoK as the Pakistani authorities have responded to public discontent in the occupied territory with bullets, blackouts, oppression and repression. When asked about Pakistan committing atrocities in Balochistan, a province celebrating Independence Day on Tuesday, Jaiswal said, "We continue to follow developments across the world. At the same time, I would like to highlight that we have seen the kind of human rights violations that were committed in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir and other



parts of the country. We call upon the international community to hold Pakistan accountable for its misdeeds, for its abuses and for its flagrant violations of human rights." Balochistan is observing the 79th Independence Day on Tuesday, continuing an annual tradition that defies what Baloch human rights groups call Pakistan's "illegal occupation" of the region. During the media briefing, the MEA spokesperson was also asked about 'Americans of Kashmiri heritage' requesting UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres to intervene and stop the ongoing bloodbath in PoK.

Indian Ambassador meets Greek military chief

Athens, Aug 20 : India's Ambassador to Greece, Ravi Shankar, on Thursday met the Chief of the Hellenic National Defence General Staff, HNDGS, General Dimitrios Choupis, the Indian Embassy in Athens said.

"Meeting between the Chief of the Hellenic National Defence General Staff, HNDGS, General Dimitrios Choupis, and the Ambassador of India to Greece, Mr. Ravi Shankar," the Indian Embassy wrote on X, sharing a glimpse of the meeting.

Last month, the Ambassador met Lt. Gen. Demosthenes Grigoriadis, Chief of Hellenic Air Force General Staff and discussed the ongoing initiatives of cooperation between the two air forces. According to the Indian Embassy in Greece, India's participation in INIOCHOS - a major annual multinational air combat training exercise hosted by the Hellenic Air Force - and Greece's participation in Tarang Shakti - the Indian Air Force's (IAF).



Lebanon extends suspension of flights to and from Iran

Beirut, Aug 20 : The Lebanese government decided to extend the suspension of flights to and from Iran, without clarifying the duration of the extension. According to a statement from Lebanon's presidency, the decision was made during a ministerial meeting chaired by President Joseph Aoun, with the participation of the prime minister and ministers of defence, foreign affairs, interior, and transport. The discussions centered on security developments at Beirut's Rafic Hariri International Airport and measures to enhance safety in the surrounding area, Xinhua news agency reported.

The Lebanese government also reaffirmed that all existing security procedures for aircraft inspections would remain in place, instructing airport security to ensure full compliance with the necessary protocols.

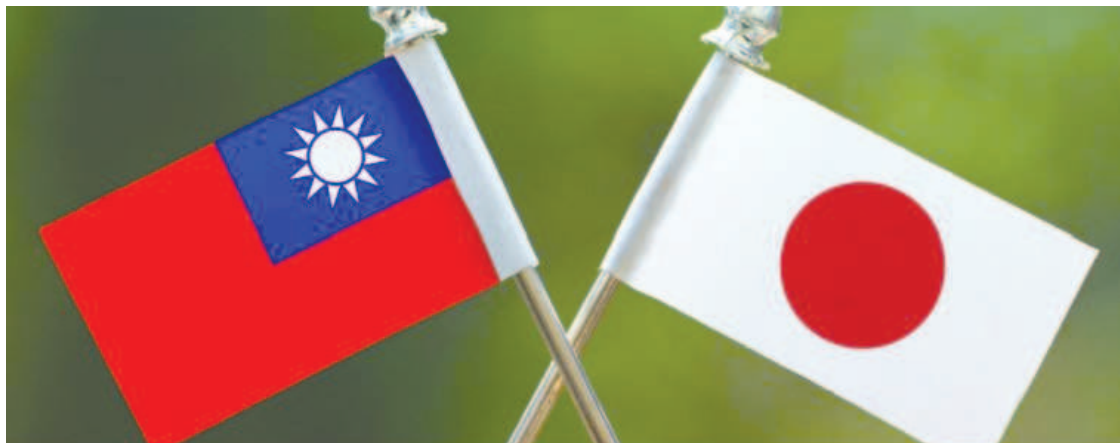


Top South Korean expert calls for creation of Asian NATO to enhance regional peace

Seoul, Aug 20 : Chung Mong-Joon, founder and honorary chair of the Asian Institute for Policy Studies and former politician in South Korea, has advocated for an Asian NATO, also suggesting redeploying tactical nuclear weapons in South Korea to enhance regional peace and security.

"The United States and its allies and partners also need to show credible resolve to deter North Korean, Chinese and Russian military adventurism. We need an Asian version of NATO. We may call it the Indo-Pacific Treaty Organisation (IPTO)," leading South Korean daily 'The Korean Herald' quoted Chung Mong-Joon as saying at an event at the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies

in Washington. Chung further suggested that the US and its allies South Korea, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, the Philippines and Thailand along with partners like India and Indonesia should strengthen security cooperation, and ensure the sovereignty of all countries in the Indo-Pacific, the report detailed. South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol had joined the NATO summit in Washington for the third time in July 2025 along with other allies of the Indo-Pacific region.



Japan to recognise Taiwan as place of origin for naturalised citizens

Tokyo, Aug 20 : In a clear indication of policy shift and snub to China, Taiwan-origin naturalized citizens of Japan will now be able to list their country of origin as Taiwan in their family register, the Japanese government announced. Japan's Minister of Justice revised an ordinance allowing people to list regions, not just countries, a move that has been welcomed by Taiwan but triggered a sharp reaction from China. The Japanese government will allow the names of both countries and regions to be listed in the nationality column of family registries.

This would also allow people from Taiwan married to Japanese nationals to list Taiwan in the registry in place of China. The Japanese ministry decided to change an ordinance to add 'region' to the current 'nationality' entry of the family registry, in a sign of greater consideration for identity, the country's media reported. Earlier, the only option in the family registry for Chinese and Taiwanese individuals was China. When a person from Taiwan registered for naturalized Japanese citizenship, his or her country of origin was registered as China. Following the revised system that will be introduced in May, this

provision will also be changed, and Taiwanese people's country of origin will be registered as Taiwan. This will also apply to cases before the implementation of the ordinance revision if requests are submitted, it was reported. Taiwan's Foreign Minister Lin Chia-lung expressed gratitude for what he called "the long-term efforts made by various actors in Japan". In a statement, Lin said "Taiwan "believes that the rights and interests of overseas Taiwanese in Japan will be further protected through the correct descriptions on Japanese family registers".

Norway reiterates rejection of Trump's 'Board of Peace' after US claim

Helsinki, Aug 20 : Norway will not join US President Donald Trump's so-called "Board of Peace," the country's foreign ministry said.

Speaking at the inaugural meeting of the "Board of Peace" at the US Institute of Peace, Trump said the United States would contribute \$10

billion to the initiative and claimed that Norway would host a board event, Xinhua news agency reported.

Ane Jorem, a spokesperson for Norway's foreign ministry, rejected the claim and reiterated that Norway would not become a board member, the Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation (NRK) reported.



Mongolian PM thanks India for facilitating construction of strategic oil refinery project

Ulaanbaatar, Aug 20 : Mongolian Prime Minister N Uchral visited the oil refinery project site in Dornogovi province and thanked the government of India for facilitating construction of the strategic project, the Indian Embassy in Mongolia stated on Thursday. According to the Embassy, Uchral visited the refinery project construction site on Thursday. He was accompanied by Mongolia's Road and Transport Minister B Delgersaikhan, Finance Minister Z Mendsaikhan, Dornogovi Governor O Batjargal and senior officials of the government. He was welcomed at the site by Atul Malhari Gotsurve, Ambassador of India to Mongolia and DAltantsetseg, CEO of the Mongol Refinery.

"During the visit, HE Mr Uchral thanked the Government of In-

dia for facilitating the construction of the strategic Oil Refinery Project in Mongolia. He appreciated the contribution of the 3,700 Indian workforce comprising engineers and Workers, who are working at the Project site," the Embassy posted on X.

The Mongolian leader stated that the country will take all the necessary measures to complete the refinery construction at the earliest. He announced to give the status of Technological Industrial Park to the Oil Refinery Project. "Till date 60 per cent of the construction is completed. The EPC-I (work package I) of the Refinery was commissioned with the active intervention of HE Mr Uchral who was then the Chief of the Cabinet in November 2024. The construction of EPC-II, III and IV is progressing well," noted the Embassy.

Italian minister cancels US visit over Trump's comments on Meloni

Rome, Aug 20 : Italian Foreign Minister and Deputy Prime Minister Antonio Tajani on Thursday announced the cancellation of his planned visit to Miami for a business forum, after the controversy over US President Donald Trump's comments on Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni. "The serious and offensive words of President Trump towards Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni offend all of Italy. For this reason, I have decided to cancel my visit to

the United States scheduled for the next 21 and 22 June," Tajani wrote on X.

"Trump's rants about Giorgia Meloni are just the latest episode of attacks and insults directed at European leaders. It is unclear whether by will or ineptitude, he is ruining the historical relations between the United States and Europe. With his inappropriate statements, he has succeeded in the not-so-easy task of making the US unpopular throughout the European continent.



Indian Naval Ship arrives in Singapore under IOS SAGAR mission

Singapore, Aug 20 : Indian Naval Ship Sunayna arrived at Singapore's Changi Naval Base for a port call as part of the IOS SAGAR initiative, said the High Commission of India in Singapore on Thursday. The High Commissioner visited IOS SAGAR and interacted with members from partner navies of the Indian Ocean Region onboard IOS SAGAR.

He appreciated their role in strengthening maritime partnerships and fostering interoperability under the

SAGAR vision. The IOS Sagar mission is a unique programme enabling naval personnel from partner navies to train and sail together onboard an Indian Naval Ship, the High Commission of India in Singapore wrote on X. IOS SAGAR is a practical expression of vision MAHASAGAR (Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions), bringing together partner countries for collaboration towards effective maritime security, it mentioned.

With the theme "One Ocean, One Mission", IOS SAGAR brings to-

gether naval personnel from 16 partner navies, including Singapore, to train and sail together onboard an Indian Naval Ship, reinforcing India's commitment to strengthening maritime security collaboration. It highlighted that 2026 is being celebrated as the year of India-ASEAN countries, and the participation of naval officers from ASEAN countries is a testimony to the robust defence cooperation and growing India-ASEAN maritime cooperation.

On April 21, INS Sunayana arrived at Indonesia's state capital



Jakarta, marking the third port call of its operation deployment to the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).

The Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV) is deployed with a multinational crew from 16 friendly foreign countries on board.

INS Sunayna departed Phuket (Thailand) on April 17 on completion of a high-tempo three-day Operational Turnaround, marking the successful culmination of her second port call during the ongoing deployment.



India, Iran women's kabaddi team trains together at SAI Sonepet ahead of Asiad

Sonepat, Aug 20 : Iran women's kabaddi team took part in a series of practice matches against the Indian side at the Sports Authority of India (SAI) Sonepat centre ahead of the upcoming Asian Games 2026. The purpose of the six-day practice camp was to ensure a valuable cross-border learning ground for both nations, looking forward to strong performances at the games in Aichi-Nagoya. The Iranian team arrived in Sonepat on August 13, playing practice games against the Indian women's kabaddi team as well as other local sides at the SAI campus. The practice

games, while primarily intended to prepare Iran for the Asian Games, also provided Indian players with the opportunity to test themselves against an international side and gain experience of different playing styles and tactics. Iran women's team head coach Gholamreza Mazandarani said the camp had been particularly useful for his young squad, with more than 80 per cent of the team changed since the previous Asian Games. "For us, it is a very good chance to play friendly matches, improve the players and improve our team tactics. We want to show a better team in the Asian Games. It has been a good experience for our team because our team is very young now and we have changed maybe more than 80 per cent of the team from the last Asian Games," Mazandarani told SAI Media.

Bejlek stuns Sabalenka in Cincinnati to reach first WTA 1000 QF

Cincinnati, Aug 19 : World No. 35 Sara Bejlek registered a major upset at the Cincinnati Open by eliminating Aryna Sabalenka with a 7-6 (7), 6-4 win over World No. 1. With a win, Bejlek advanced to the first quarterfinals of WTA 1000 tournament, earning her first win of a top ranked player on the WTA Tour. Bejlek is through to her first WTA 1000 quarterfinal and just her fifth at WTA level overall, following quarterfinal appearances in Prague in 2025 and 2026, Abu Dhabi and Athens in 2026. She is also the only quarterfinalist at this year's tournament who has not won a WTA 1000 event. Bejlek started the match down an early break as Sabalenka took a 2-0 lead.



'The crowd was carrying us': Treesa-Gayatri embrace home support as World C'ships medal beckons

New Delhi, Aug 20 : Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand are refusing to let the prospect of a World Championships medal alter their approach after the Indian women's doubles pair reached the quarterfinals on Thursday, with the duo crediting the home crowd for helping them overcome seventh seeds Rin Iwanaga and Kie Nakanishi of Japan at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium. The 21-16, 21-12 victory moved the 39th-ranked Indians to within one win of a guaranteed medal. But for Gayatri, the pressure of playing a seeded opponent in front of a packed home

crowd is one she would rather embrace than avoid. "I think getting on court, definitely there's a little pressure, but it's the kind of pressure you enjoy because you're playing in Delhi. So I think yeah, even in the first set we were down 13-16.



'Takes a lot of effort to stay for long': Jadeja reflects on memories of Galle 2017 win

Galle, Aug 20 : Veteran left-arm spin bowling all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja has expressed deep gratitude for his ongoing decade-plus stint with the Indian team, adding that sustaining a long career at the highest level requires immense hard work and perseverance. Jadeja took four wickets in India's recent 165-run win over Sri Lanka at the Galle International Stadium, which propelled the visitors to take a 1-0 lead in the ongoing two-game series. He was in the reflective tone when shown a picture of him being a part of the Indian team winning the 2017 Galle Test, where he grabbed a six-for match haul. "Yes, it's from here. Barring the colour which has changed, the rest is the same. The last series we played here was in 2017. Obviously playing for India for 10 years means a lot because it takes a lot of effort to stay for a longer period of time.



Tiafoe upsets Auger-Aliassime; Paul stuns Zverev in Cincinnati

Cincinnati, Aug 20 : Frances Tiafoe notched a milestone victory at the Cincinnati Open when he upset second seed Felix Auger-Aliassime 6-3, 6-4 to advance to his second Masters 1000 quarter-final of the season. Having also reached the last eight in Miami, it is the first time in his career that Tiafoe has reached multiple Masters 1000 quarter-finals in a single season. Tiafoe capitalised on Auger-Aliassime's uncharacteristic lapses throughout the clash, with the Canadian committing 37 unforced errors to Tiafoe's 16. Despite landing only 44 per cent (28/64) of his first



serves, according to ATP Stats, Tiafoe stamped his authority from the baseline to return to the last eight in Cincinnati for the first time since 2024, when he reached the final. Tiafoe will next play 10th seed Lorenzo Musetti, who earlier in the day defeated Portuguese qualifier Jaime Faria 7-5, 6-2 in 75 minutes. With the triumph, the Italian advanced to the quarter-finals at a Masters 1000 event for the first time since Rome last year. In another match, Tommy Paul staged an impressive upset in a stop-start fourth-round quarter-final encounter with Alexander Zverev.

Green eyes repeat of Australia's successful 2023 as gruelling schedule looms



Mackay, Aug 20 : Australia all-rounder Cameron Green believes the team can draw inspiration from their historic 2023 campaign as they prepare for a demanding international schedule featuring challenging Test tours of South Africa, India and England, followed by the 2027 ODI World Cup. Australia resumed their World Test Championship campaign with a disappointing nine-wicket defeat against Bangladesh in Darwin, but will have an immediate opportunity to bounce back when the two sides meet in the second and final Test in Mackay from Saturday. Green feels the upcoming schedule bears similarities to the one Australia successfully navigated in 2023, when they won their maiden World Test Championship title and followed it by lifting the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup for a record sixth time. "It's going to be a really tough 12 months. We've got the three hardest away tours, South Africa, India

and England coming up as well as a World Cup, so it's reasonably daunting, but also exciting for this group. We had a pretty similar schedule in 2023 and had a really successful year, so we're hoping for the same," Green said in Mackay on Thursday. Green played an important role in Australia's 2023 WTC triumph and has recently rediscovered his best form in Test cricket. The 27-year-old scored a century in the first Test against Bangladesh, strengthening his position in Australia's preferred XI. However, Green acknowledged that maintaining consistency becomes more difficult during lengthy overseas assignments. "(Away tours) can be really exhausting, so it's just taking it game by game, not looking too far ahead and just enjoying it. They can be really long tours, and hopefully, you can drag your family across and just enjoy the moment," he said.



MLS: Messi scores as Inter Miami draw 2-2 with Philadelphia Union

Chester, Aug 20 : Inter Miami CF secured a point with a 2-2 draw on the road against the Philadelphia Union in MLS regular season action. Daniel Pinter and captain Leo Messi scored the team's goals tonight at Subaru Park. The home side opened the scoring in the 11th minute through a goal from Indiana Vassilev. Inter Miami levelled the scoring in the 21st minute through Academy product Pinter's first MLS goal. Messi delivered a ball for Suarez down the left side of the box, who redirected the pass with a header to find Pinter down the middle where he tucked the ball in from close range. The assist took Messi's tally to nine and Suarez's to eight. Messi then turned the match around for the visitors in the 26th minute with his 13th strike this regular season. The Argentine maestro received a ball from Fray on the right end of the box, before cutting in and curling the ball at the far post.