

THE INDIAN MAIL

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Football: Vasco sign Argentine forward Colidio
Vasco da Gama has reached an agreement with River Plate to sign Argentine forward Facundo Colidio, the Brazilian club has said. The 26-year-old agreed to a contract that runs until...

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Samsung on Saturday announced a new 30-month no-cost EMI programme for its latest foldable smartphones, aimed...

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KCR announces 2.25 crore aid to bereaved family of Peddi Sudarshan Reddy

Hyderabad, Aug 8 : Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) president K. Chandrashekar Rao on Saturday announced a financial assistance of ₹2.25 crore to the bereaved family of former Narsampet MLA Peddi Sudarshan Reddy. According to an official party statement, KCR finalised the decision following consulta-



tions with senior party leaders and key office-bearers of the Warangal district unit. Reaffirming the party's commitment, the BRS chief stated that the party stands firmly with the late leader's family during this difficult time. KCR is scheduled to visit Nallabelli village near Narsampet on Sunday to offer his condolences directly to the grieving family. During his visit, the BRS chief will also interact with local party leaders, cadres, and supporters across the Narsampet constituency to offer reassurance and bolster morale. Peddi Sudarshan Reddy passed away in the early hours of July 31st.



Komatireddy asks farmers to avoid paddy cultivation amid water shortage

Nalgonda, Aug 8 : Minister for Roads & Buildings and Cinematography Komatireddy Venkata Reddy has directed officials to create awareness among farmers and ensure that they do not cultivate paddy under any circumstances, citing

the acute shortage of water in the Nagarjuna Sagar reservoir and the low possibility of fresh inflows from upstream due to prevailing El Niño conditions. The Minister urged farmers to opt for dry crops and other water-saving crops requiring less irrigation,

stating that the water currently available in the Nagarjuna Sagar project would be sufficient only to meet drinking water requirements.

Rs 5,000 crore priority funding for irrigation land acquisition, R&R: Uttam

Hyderabad, Aug 8 : Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy said Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy had assured Rs 5,000 crore on priority for land acquisition and rehabilitation and resettlement (R&R) works related to irrigation projects across Telangana. Of this, around Rs 2,000 crore had already been released, while the remaining Rs 3,000 crore was under process, he said, making it clear that lack of funds would not be allowed to delay irrigation projects that were otherwise nearing completion. Addressing a comprehensive review of irrigation projects in Karimnagar, Jagtial, Peddapalli and Rajanna Sircilla districts at the Secretariat here on Saturday, Uttam Kumar Reddy directed District Collectors and Irrigation officials to accord top priority to land acquisition, R&R, forest



clearances and environmental approvals and resolve the pending issues on a war footing. Agriculture Minister and district In-charge Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao, IT and Industries Minister D. Sridhar Babu, Transport Minister Ponnambalam Prabhakar and Social Welfare and Tribal Welfare Minister Adhuri Laxman Kumar participated in the review along with elected representatives. The Minister asked Collectors to raise financial requirements and obtain the necessary tokens without delay. Compensation to landowners and rehabilitation of project-affected families should, wherever feasible.

The conspiracies of the 'Axe Party' must be thwarted at every turn: CM Chandrababu

Amaravati, Aug 8 : Training sessions for unit in-charges were held at the TDP central office. Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu attended the sessions and provided guidance regarding government schemes and party programs. He stated that the training was aimed at fostering leadership qualities among the party workers. He urged them to understand the party's ideology and to explain the government's good work to the public. He stated that if the government's good deeds are not highlighted, there is a risk that people might believe false propaganda. He directed that even a small snake should be struck with a large stick, emphasizing the need to constantly thwart the conspiracies hatched by the 'Axe Party'. The Chief Minister stated that the 'Axe Party' attempted to spread malicious propaganda regarding the conduct of the DSC exams, but they were able to effectively counter those claims. He noted that they successfully demonstrated that no errors occurred during the examination process.



Consequently, leaders from various parties—with the exception of the 'Axe Party'—are openly acknowledging that no irregularities took place. He noted that it was teachers recruited through the DSC who staged a protest on Saturday, criticizing the conduct of the 'Axe Party' (Goddali Party). He stated that if the government's good deeds are effectively communicated to the public, the people themselves will thwart the conspiracies of the 'Axe Party'. He cited the inauguration of the Bhogapuram Airport as proof that people cooperate and become partners when good work is done.

India's med-tech ecosystem gaining strength on domestic manufacturing, lower import dependence : PM Modi

New Delhi, Aug 8 : Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday highlighted India's growing self-reliant medical technology ecosystem, saying domestic manufacturing, reduced import dependence and government support are helping the country emerge as a trusted global med-tech partner. In a post on X, PM Modi shared an article written by Union Health and Family Wel-



fare Minister Jagat Prakash Nadda on India's progress in building a domestic medical devices ecosystem. "Union Health Minister JP Nadda highlights India's growing self-reliant med-tech ecosystem, driven by domestic manufacturing, reduced import dependence and schemes such as PLI and Medical Device Parks," Modi said. PM Modi further noted that India was steadily emerging as a trusted global med-tech partner focused on affordable and accessible healthcare.

They are sacrificing their own party workers for the sake of power : Minister Savitha lashes out at Jagan

Amaravati, Aug 8 : Minister Savitha stated that they have been delivering good governance with a focus on welfare and development over the past two years. Speaking to the media on Saturday, she noted that the state is moving forward thanks to the blessings of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the vision of CM Chandrababu, the cooperation of Deputy CM

Pawan Kalyan, and the hard work of Nara Lokesh. He stated that the construction of the Amaravati capital and the Polavaram project works—which had stalled under the previous government—are now being completed at a rapid pace. He remarked that the YCP, which had previously held power with 151 seats and devastated the state, is an 'axe-wielding party' and a 'criminal party'. The Minister stated that Jagan Mohan Reddy, the leader of the 'Axe Party' (Goddali Party), is sacrificing his own party workers and leaders in his pursuit of power. He cited incidents ranging from the murder of Y.S. Vivekananda Reddy to the cases of Sudhakar, Amarnath Goud, and the



'door-delivery' incident involving a Dalit youth as evidence of the previous government's atrocities. He listed Muneshwara Rao (Devarapalli), Danayya Yadav (Palasa), Singayya (Pentapadu), Dastagiri (Kadapa), Chenna Reddy (Macherla), and Bhargav (Ibrahimpatnam) as victims of these actions.

Viveka case: YS Sunitha's sensational letter to President Droupadi Murmu



Kadapa, Aug 8 : A significant development has occurred in the YS Vivekananda Reddy murder case. Dr. Sunitha Reddy, the daughter of the late YS Vivekananda Reddy, has written a sensational letter to President Droupadi Murmu.



Veldi Hariprasad's skill is inspiring

Rajanna Sircilla, Aug 8 : District Collector Garima Agrawal stated that the handloom weaving skills of Veldi Hariprasad, a native of Sircilla, are truly inspiring. Based in Jyothinagar

within the Sircilla municipal limits, Hariprasad demonstrates exceptional talent by creating intricate handloom products—such as a ‘Peethambaram’ (ceremonial silk cloth) and sarees that can fit

inside a matchbox or pass through a ring or a large needle—as well as textiles featuring the portraits of world leaders (created in the context of the G20 summit). On the occasion of National

The fame of the Sircilla textile industry must be further highlighted.

District Collector Garima Agrawal.

District Collector felicitates a handloom weaver on National Handloom Day.



Handloom Day, District Collector Garima Agrawal visited his workshop on Friday evening. She pre-

sented a bouquet and a shawl to Hariprasad and his wife to honor them. Hariprasad had a

‘Peethambaram’ and matchbox-sized sarees ready on his loom; the District Collector examined them and inquired about the manufacturing process. She asked about the time required to weave each saree, as well as details regarding raw materials and investment costs. Speaking on the occasion, District Collector Garima Agrawal remarked that Veldi Hariprasad’s expertise serves as a great inspiration to other workers in the handloom and textile industries. He praised the great skill with which sarees are being crafted on the loom and noted that the Sircilla textile industry.

National police seminar highlights need for tech-driven policing

Hyderabad, Aug 8 : A national police seminar on modernisation of the police

force, law and order, cybercrime, traffic management and emerging challenges was organised by the

Lakshyam Charitable Society at the TG ICCB Building, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad, on Saturday.

Former Haryana Governor Bandaru Dattatreya inaugurated the seminar.



CHANGE OF NAME

I, Komire Lasya, W/o Komire Chandu (Old Name) H.No.1-14, Mustipally, Sircilla Town, Rajanna Sircilla-505301, T.S. changing my name and henceforth in future I would be known as **SUDAGONI AKHILA, W/O KOMIRE CHANDU** (NEW NAME)

Aarambh' Investiture Ceremony Held Grandly at CMR School

Nadargul, Aug 8 : The Badge Pinning and Investiture Ceremony titled ‘Aarambh – The Beginning of a New Legacy’ was held grandly at CMR School, Nadargul. The ceremony formally entrusted student leaders with their responsibilities and encouraged them to uphold honesty, discipline, confidence and a spirit of service.

Adibatla Division ACP D.V. Pradeep Reddy, who attended as the Chief Guest, congratulated the newly appointed student leaders and extended his best wishes. He encouraged the students to develop strong leadership qualities and become responsible and disciplined citizens. CMR School Chairperson Soujanya, Academic Director Anuradha, Principal V. Prasoon, and other dignitaries attended the event. The programme featured an impressive Kuchipudi dance performance, which added cul-



tural grandeur to the ceremony. The Saree Drill and contingent March-Past showcased the students’ discipline, coordination and team spirit. The Badge Pinning and Oath-Taking Ceremony formally marked the assumption of responsibilities by the student leaders.



Ponnam calls for people's participation to keep Hyderabad mosquito-free

Hyderabad, Aug 8 : Minister for Transport and BC Welfare Ponnambalam Prabhakar said the GHMC Entomology department was undertaking extensive measures to prevent mosquito-borne diseases in Hyderabad. As part of the special monsoon drive scheduled from August 11 to 21, the Minister launched an IEC (Information, Education and Communication) programme on mosquito-control measures at the Minister’s Quarters in Hyderabad on Saturday. During the programme, Entomology department officials briefed the Minister on various awareness initiatives being undertaken to educate citizens on mosquito prevention. Ponnambalam Prabhakar also inspected the equipment being used for mosquito-control operations and enquired about their functioning, usage and effectiveness. Speaking on the occasion, the Minister said the GHMC was conducting door-to-door awareness programmes to educate people on maintaining cleanliness in and around their homes to safeguard public health. He appealed to citizens to take personal responsibility for keeping their homes and surroundings clean.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **PALLI ARUNA**, W/o Palli chinna govaraju, Resident of Door no. 3-140, Babanagar, Gadimoga Village & Panchayat, Tallarevu Mandal, Kakinada District, A.P. Have Changed my name from **CHELLE DURGA RATNAM**, D/o Chelli Venkatarana (Old name) to **PALLI ARUNA**, W/o Palli Chinna Govaraju (New name). Hence after all my documents (passport...etc) and correspondence will continue with my new name **PALLI ARUNA**, W/o Palli Chinna Govaraju.

INDIA SHELTER FINANCE CORPORATION LTD.
Regd. Office:- Plot-15.6th Floor, Sec-44, Institutional Area, Gurugram, Haryana-122002

POSSESSION NOTICE FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the India Shelter Finance Corporation Ltd., under the Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement (Security) Interest Act, 2002 and in Exercise of Power conferred under Section 13(2) Read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a Demand Notice on the date noted against the account as mentioned hereinafter, calling upon the borrower and also the owner of the Property/Surety to repay the Amount within 60 days from the date of the said notice. Whereas the owner of the Property and the other having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the under noted borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Possession of the property/ies described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said act read with Rules 8 & 9 of the said Rules on the dates mentioned against each account. Now, the borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property/ies and any dealing with the property/ies will be subject to the charge of India Shelter Finance Corporation Ltd. for an amount mentioned as below and interest thereon, costs, etc.

Name of the Borrower/Guarantor (Owner of the Property) & Loan Account Number	Description of the charged/ Mortgaged Property (All the Part & Parcel of the Property consisting of)	Dt. of Demand Notice, Amount Due as of Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession
1) Mr./Mrs. Manikala Venkateswaramma, 2) Mr./Mrs. Manikala Venkateswara Rao, 3) Mr./Mrs. Manikala Srinivasarao (Deceased), All are at: D.No.5-125, Kothuru Gogulampadu, Musunuru Mandal, Chintalavali Chintalavali, Krishna, Andhra Pradesh 521207. (Loan Account No. HLVSJVLONS00000515 9990/AP-10369279)	(Schedule of the Property Covered Under Regd Gift deed No. 18739/2024, dated: 17/12/2024): All that the land an extent of 388.00 Sq. Yards along with construction therein bearing door No. 5-125, Assessment No.725, situated at RS.No.259/3, of Chintalavali Silvaru, Gogulampadu Village, Gogulampadu Gram Panchayat, Musunuru Mandal, Nuzvid SRO, Eluru District being bounded by: Boundaries: North: Panchayath Road, South: Site belongs to Gangula Tirapati Rao, East: Site belongs to Manikala Dharmaraju, West: Panchayath Road.	Demand Notice Dated 12th Jan 2026 calling upon to all above mentioned in notice being Mr./ Mrs./ Mr./ Mrs. Manikala Venkateswara Rao & Mr./ Mrs. Manikala Srinivasarao to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs.7,78,809/- (Rupees Seven Lakh Seventy Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Nine Only) pertaining to loan Account No. HLVSJVLONS000005159990/AP-10369279 as of 10th Jan 2026 with further interest applicable from 11th Jan 2026 and cost till the date of the payment.	04-08-2026 (Symbolic Possession)

Place: Eluru Date: 04-08-2026

Sd/- (Authorized Officer) For India Shelter Finance Corporation Ltd.

For any query please Contact: Mr. Mandala Ramesh (+91 9908062299)

SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED
Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032
Administrative office: 6th Floor(level 2), Building No.Q2, Aurum Q parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Ghansoli, Navi Mumbai-400710.

POSSESSION NOTICE

Where as, the undersigned being the authorised officer of Shriram Finance Limited, (Shriram City Union Finance Limited, amalgamated with Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited, subsequently Shriram Transport Company Limited name Changed as Shriram Finance Limited, by it's Incorporation Certificate dt.13-11-2022) a corporate body registered and incorporated as a company under the Indian companies Act 1956, is doing Non-Banking financial activities, having its Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai - 600 032 and having its administrative office at 6th Floor (level 2), Building No.Q2, Aurum Q Parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Ghansoli, Navi Mumbai-400710, under the provisions of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (said Act) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (said Rules) issued demand notices to the Borrowers details of which are mentioned in the table below to repay the amount mentioned in the said demand notices. The Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said Rules, on this **07.08.2026**

Borrower Name and Address
1. Gourikar Raju, S/O:Gourikar Rajanna, H.No:9-69, Padmavathinagar, Vill:Khanapur, Dist:Nirmal, Pincode:504203. 2. Gourikar Renuka, W/O:Gourikar Raju, H.No:9-69, Padmavathinagar, Vill: Khanapur, Dist:Nirmal, Pincode:504203. 3. Kumbarkar Rajamouli, S/O: Kumbarkar Rajanna, H.No:9-141, Padmavathinagar, Vill: Khanapur, Dist:Nirmal, Pincode:504203. Amount due as per Demand Notice : Rs. 30,23,999/- (Thirty Lakhs Twenty Three Thousand Nine Hundred And Ninety Nine Rupees only)
Description of Property
MTPL1TF2308290009 - DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY (Property holder Name is Gourikar Raju, S/O:Gourikar Rajanna Mortgage deed dated 30.08.2023 Registered as Document No 1617/2023 on the file of the office of Sub-Registrar at Khanapur) SCHEDULE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY Gourikar Raju, S/O:Gourikar Rajanna, That The RCC Roofed And Country Tiles House Bearing Mpl.No.9-116(Assessment No.1237101583, Admeasuring Total Area 120.00 Sq.Yds Equal To 100.33 Sq.Mtrs Or In Detail 18'x60'=1080.00 Sq.Fts Situated At Padmavathi Nagar, Khanapur Town And Mandal, Nirmal District Within The Limits Of Municipality, Khanapur, Under The Jurisdiction Of Regn.Sub Dist Khanapur, Regn.Dist Adilabad / Subject Matter Of Regd.Sale Deed Doct No.1163/2017 Dtd.31.07.2017 SRO Khanapur) Plinth Area: RCC Ground Floor Plinth Area 288.00sq.Fts Country Tiles Plinth Area 396.00 Sq.Fts. Total 684.00 Sq.Fts. Boundaries Towards East: House And Open Place Of Doorishetty Srinivas Towards West : House Of Kalvakutla Narayana Towards North : R&B Road (Khanapur To Nirmal) Towards South : Gram Panchayat Road

This notice is also hereby to caution the general public at large that the authorized officer of SFL in the lawful Possession of the immovable property mentioned herein above and the Borrowers or any person shall not after receipt of this notice transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise deal with/ alienate any of the above mentioned secured assets referred to in this notice, without prior written consent of SFL.

Date: 07-08-2026, Place: Khanapur

Sd/- Authorised Officer, Shriram Finance Limited

SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED
Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032
Administrative Office: 6th Floor (Level 2), Building No.Q2, Aurum Q Park, gen.4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Ghansoli, Navi Mumbai-400710. Zonal Office Address:-SHRIRAM FINANCE LTD., Zonal Office, Wyra Road, SBI Buildings, Khammam-507001

Intendingsalenotice to the borrower informing about sale after 30 Days Under Rule 8(6) Of Security Interest (Enforcemtn) Rules, 2002.

S.no	Particulars of Borrowers / Guarantors
1.	Venu Gopal Gella, S/O Venkata Narayana, Age:42yrs, R/O:H.No.5-7-143/5, Pakabanda Bazar, Ayyappa Auto Mobiles, Khammam, Pincode:507001. And Also Venu Gopal Gella, S/O Venkata Narayana, Age:42yrs, The Open Plot Bearing No.30 Admeasuring To An Extent Of 256.66 Sq. Yards Or Equivalent To 214.60 Sq Mts In And Out Of Sy.No 465 A And 466 A New, H.No:5-2-248/14, Situated Khammam Survey Number , Khammam Urban Mandal Khammam City And Dist, With In The Limits Of Municipal Corporation
2.	Gella Swapna, W/O Venu Gopal, Age:37yrs, R/O:H.No.5-7-143/5, Pakabanda Bazar, Ayyappa Auto Mobiles, Khammam, Pincode:507001
3.	Daniyakula Rama Krishna S/O Pullaiah, Age:44yrs, R/O:Cheruvumadharam, Nelakondapalli, Khammam, Pincode:507169.

Sir/Madam, Sub: Sale of property belonging to VENU GOPAL GELLA in the account of KHAMMTF2107200004, for realization of amount due to Shriram Finance Limited under The Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002. Shriram Finance Limited, Wyra road, SBI Buildings, Khammam-I Branch, the secured creditor caused a demand notice dated 23.12.2025 under section 13(2) of The Securitization And Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, calling upon you to Rs. 38,23,035.90(thirty eight lakhs twenty three thousand thirty five rupees) as on date of 23.12.2025 along with subsequent interest / expenses within the time stipulated period therein. Since you failed to comply the said notice within the stipulated period, the Authorized Officer has taken symbolic possession of the immovable secured assets under Section 13(4) of the Act read with Rule 8 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on 28.03.2026. Even after taking possession of the secured asset, you have not paid the amount due to Shriram Finance Limited. As such, it has become necessary to sell the below mentioned property by holding public e-auction after 30 days from the date of receipt to this notice through online mode. The date and time of e-auction along with the Reserve Price of the property and the details of the service provider, in which the e-auction to be conducted, shall be informed to you separately. Therefore, if you pay the amount due to Shriram Finance Limited along with subsequent interest, costs, charges and expenses incurred by Shriram Finance Limited before the date of publication of sale notice, no further action shall be taken for sale of the property and you can redeem your property as stipulated in sec.13(8) of the Act. SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTY KHAMMTF2107200004- Description Of The Immovable Property Property Holder Name: Venu Gopal Gella With Document No: 10910/2021 The Open Plot Bearing No.30 Admeasuring To An Extent Of 256.66 Sq. Yards Or Equivalent To 214.60 Sq Mts In And Out Of Sy.No 465 A And 466 A New , H.No:5-2-248/14, Situated Khammam Survey Number, Khammam Urban Mandal Khammam City And Dist, With In The Limits Of Municipal Corporation Bounded By East: Plot No.42, West: 30-0 Feet Width Municipal Corporation Road, North: Plot No.31, South: Plot No.29

Note "It is informed that "SHRIRAM CITY UNION FINANCE LIMITED" has been amalgamated with "SHRIRAM TRANSPORT FINANCE LIMITED" as per order of NCLT, Chennai. Subsequently the name of "SHRIRAM TRANSPORT FINANCE LIMITED" was changed as "SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED" with effect from 30.11.2022 vide Certificate of Incorporation pursuant to change of name dated 30-11-2022."

Date: 07-08-2026, Place: Khammam.

Sd/- Authorized Officer, SHRIRAM FINANCE LTD

SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED
Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032. Administrative Office: 6th Floor (Level 2), Building No.Q2, Aurum Q Park, gen.4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Ghansoli, Navi Mumbai-400710. Branch Office Address: Main Road, Madhira. Zonal Office Address:-SHRIRAM FINANCE LTD., Zonal Office, Wyra Road, SBI Buildings, Khammam-507001

Intendingsalenotice to the borrower informing about sale after 30 Days Under Rule 8(6) Of Security Interest (Enforcemtn) Rules, 2002.

S.no	Particulars of Borrowers / Guarantors
1.	Sri Krishna Family Restaurant And Bar Represented By Madasu Venkata Subharaos/O Venkateswarlu, Age:55yrs, R/O:H.No:-1-780/2, Opp Bharath Petrol Bunk, Jilgamadu, Madhira, Khammam, Telangana, Pin:507203.
2.	Madasu Venkata Subha Rao, S/O Venkateswarlu, Age: 55yrs, R/O:H.No:-1-780/2, Opp Bharath Petrol Bunk, Jilgamadu, Madhira, Khammam, Telangana, Pin:507203.
3.	Madasu Mani Deepak , S/O Venkata Subarao, Age: 34yrs, R/O:H.No:-1-780/2, Opp Bharath Petrol Bunk, Jilgamadu, Madhira, Khammam, Telangana, Pin:507203.
4.	Addagiri Satish Kumar, S/O Murlikrishna, Age:29yrs, R/O:H.No:- 1-115b, Setyalapadu, Meduru(Po), Krishna, Pin:521401.

Sir/Madam, SUB:IntendingSale Notice about Sale of Properties belonging to MADASU MANI DEEPAK (Co-Borrower) for Realization of Amount Due to the Secured Creditor under the Securitization And Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest Act,2002 Read With Security Interest(Enforcement)Rules,2002. Ref:Loan AgreementNo. MDHR1TF2103150002.

1.This is to inform you that, we M/s. Shriram Finance Limited (Formerly known as Shriram City Union Finance Limited)"Shriram City Union Finance Limited" has been amalgamated with "Shriram Transport Finance Limited" as per order of Hon'ble NCLT, Chennai on 09.11.2022 in C.P. No: 69-76 of 2022, Subsequently, the name of M/s.Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited stands changed to M/s. Shriram Finance Limited with effect from 30.11.2022 as per "Certificate of Incorporation Pursuant to change of Name" as certified by Registrar of Companies under Ministry of Corporate Affairs. Having our Registered Office situated at SriTowers, PlotNo.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032, having Administrative Office at 6th Floor (level 2), Building No.Q2,Aurum Q Park, Gen.4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Ghansoli, Navi Mumbai-400710 and one of its Zonal/ Branch Office situated at Shriram Finance Ltd, Zonal Office, Wyra Road, SBI Buildings, Khammam-507001 issue the following notice asunder.

2.The secured creditor - Shriram Finance Limited, caused a demand notice dated 17-01-2024 and it is posted on 20-01-2024 under section 13(2)of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002, calling upon you to pay the dues of Rs.50,00,350/- (Rupees Fifty Lakh Three Hundred Fifty Only)as on 17-01-2024 along with subsequent interest / expenses within the time stipulatedtherein. Since you failed to comply the said notice within the period stipulated, the Authorised Officer, ShriramFinance Limited has taken Symbolic possession of the immovable secured assets under Section 13(4) of the Actread with Rule 8 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on 16.05.2024, and also after that the authorized officer filed Petition under Section 14(1) before the hon'ble C/JM Nalgonda with Cri. Mp No: 106/2024, for Rs. 51,67,509/- (Fifty one lakhs sixty seven thousand five hundred and nine rupees only) with further interest and also taken physical possession of the properties on 21.12.2024 with executive assistance under section14 of Act.

3.Even after taking possession of the secured asset, you have not paid the amount due to Shriram Finance Limited,assuch, it has become necessary to sell the below mentioned property by hold in publice-auctionafter 30 days, from the date of receipt of this notice/publication of this notice, through a separate e-auction sale notice. The date and time of e-auction along with the Reserve Price of the property and the details of the service provider, in which thee-auction to be conducted, shall be informed to you separately.

4.Therefore, we hereby request you to pay the amount due to Shriram Finance Limited along with subsequent interest ,costs, charges and expenses incurred by Shriram Finance Limited before the date of publication of sale notice, no further action shall be taken for sale of the property and you can redeem your property as stipulated under sec. 13 (8) of the Act. Please take notice that if you fail or neglect to pay the total outstanding dues within aforesaid statutory period of 30 (Thirty) days from the date of notice hereof, the undersigned will have no alternative except to proceed to sell the aforesaid secured property for realizing the outstanding dues of M/s. Shriram Finance Ltd., payable in respect of aforesaid loan facility.

This INTENDING SALE notice is being issued in compliance of Rule 8(6) of SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT RULES), 2002.

This notice is issued to you without pre judice to other rights and remedies available to our financial institution.

SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTY Property Holder Name: Madasu Mani Deepak With Document No:4378/2021 Item No: 1 Open Plots Bearing Nos.126 And 127 To An Extent Of 600sq.Yards Or 501.678 Sq.Mtrs In And Out Of Sy.No.162/A, AA, 163, 131/ AA Situated At Konda Bheemanapally Revenue Village, And GP Devarakonda Mandal Of Nalgonda District is Bounded By Towards East : Site Of Others, Towards West: Plot No. 128 And 129, Towards North: 50 Ft Width Internal Road, Towards South: 30 Ft Width Internal Road. Item No: 2 Open Plots Bearing Nos.128 And 129 To An Extent Of 600sq.Yards Or 501.678 Sq.Mtrs In And Out Of Sy.No.162/A, AA, 163, 131/AA Situated At Konda Bheemanapally Revenue Village, And GP Devarakonda Mandal Of Nalgonda District Is Bounded By Towards East: Plot No. 126, Towards West: Plot No.132, Towards North: Plot No.129, 131, Towards South: 30 Ft Width Internal Road..

Date: 07-08-2026, Place: Khammam.

Sd/- Authorized Officer, SHRIRAM FINANCE LTD



Scindia targets Rs 10,000 crore investments for Telecom Manufacturing Zone in Gwalior

Mumbai, Aug 8 : Union Communications Minister Jyotiraditya M. Scindia will convene an investors' meet and roadshow here on Saturday to mobilise greater industry participation and investments for India's first Telecom Manufacturing Zone (TMZ), which was launched last week in Madhya Pradesh's Gwalior, according to an official statement issued on Saturday.

The investment in India's first Telecom Manufacturing Zone is expected to cross the Rs 10,000 crore mark, the statement said. The TMZ launch was followed by the first Investors' Roundtable in the national capital. Scindia announced investment commitments of Rs 3,500 crore were secured with the potential to generate nearly 14,000 employment opportunities, reflect-

ing the strong confidence of industry in India's growing telecom manufacturing ecosystem. The Mumbai Investors' Meet and roadshow marks the next phase of this national initiative to mobilise greater industry participation and investments for India's first Telecom Manufacturing Zone. It will bring together leading telecom manufacturers, technology companies, infrastructure providers, component manufacturers and investors to accelerate the development of a world-class telecom manufacturing ecosystem in the country.

'I stand by my remarks', Minister defends Priyadarshini free bus travel scheme comments amid row

Thiruvananthapuram, Aug 8 : Refusing to back down despite mounting criticism, State Transport Minister, C.P. John, on Saturday stood firmly by his controversial remarks on the government's Priyadarshini free bus travel scheme for women, insisting that he was highlighting the poverty faced by many women and not questioning the welfare measure itself. "There are women who do not have the financial means even to travel. The tragedy is that the political leadership, including myself, failed to understand their poverty. That was the point I was making," John said, adding that his words had been taken out of context. He maintained that he had never suggested that people in Kerala were merely pretending to be poor and said those criticising him should first have sought a clarification before fuelling the controversy.



'A priceless treasure': Madurai shopkeeper cherishes personal letter from PM Modi

Madurai, Aug 8 : A small-scale businessman from Madurai has received a personal letter from Prime Minister Narendra Modi in response to a note of gratitude he wrote after benefiting from the Centre's street vendor loan scheme. He described this gesture as a "priceless treasure" and one he would never forget. Nationalam Mani, whose family has been running a small shop in Madurai since 1962, said the financial assistance received under the Central government's scheme enabled him to expand and sustain his business over the years. Speaking to IANS, Mani said his father started the shop in 1962, and it gradually grew along with the family's needs. He said that after the Prime Minister announced the opening of zero-balance bank accounts, he visited a bank to open an account.

Chennai cop held for extorting money from trader by threatening to link him with Armstrong's murder

Chennai, Aug 8 : An Inspector with the Greater Chennai Police (GCP) has been arrested following allegations that he extorted several lakhs of rupees from a businessman by threatening to implicate him in the 2024 murder of Tamil Nadu BSP leader K. Armstrong. The action was taken after Akil Kumar, 35, a share market trader, approached the Chennai City Police headquarters with a complaint against Inspector Muhammed Buhari. Kumar alleged that the officer had repeatedly demanded

money from him over the past two years by claiming that a mobile phone number linked to him had surfaced during the investigation into Armstrong's murder. According to the complaint, Kumar had earlier shared the mobile number with an acquaintance who is a lawyer. He maintained that he had no connection whatsoever with Armstrong's killing. Kumar alleged that Buhari used the phone number's purported link to the investigation to threaten him with being named as an accused unless he paid money. The Inspector allegedly initially demanded several lakhs of rupees



and subsequently collected additional amounts from the trader on different occasions. The latest alleged demand was made last Saturday when Buhari visited Kumar's residence and sought Rs 5 lakh. According to the complaint, the money was subsequently handed

over to a policeman near the Washermanpet Metro railway station. Following Kumar's complaint, senior police officers initiated an enquiry into the allegations. Buhari was subsequently arrested, and further investigation is underway to establish the extent of the alleged extortion and determine whether any other police personnel were involved. Buhari had earlier figured prominently in police operations connected with the Armstrong murder investigation. He was involved in the police shooting in which Thiruvankadam, one of the suspects in the case, was killed in July 2024. The Inspector was also involved in another police shooting in March 2025, when a suspect allegedly linked to a series of chain-snatching incidents in Chennai was shot dead. The development comes as the investigation into Armstrong's murder has moved to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

Caste-based census is mandatory: Maha Congress



Bhandara, Aug 8 : Congress Legislature Party Leader Vijay Wadetiwar on Saturday made a strong pitch for the rights of the Other Backwards Classes (OBC) community while launching a sharp attack on both the Central and State governments. Flagging off the Mandal Yatra 2026, Wadetiwar said the Yatra has been conducted continuously over the past five years to demand implementation of the Mandal Commission's recommendations.

Arunachal Guv honours Itanagar Mayor, calls for 'Zero Litter Mission' to make capital a sustainable tourism hub

Itanagar, Aug 8 : Arunachal Pradesh Governor Lt Gen K.T. Parnaik (Retd) on Saturday conferred the prestigious 'Land of the Rising Sun' Medallion for Excellence on Itanagar Municipal Corporation (IMC) Mayor Likha Nari Tadar in recognition of her outstanding contribution to improving urban infrastructure and making the state capital cleaner, greener and more citizen-friendly. Presenting the award at Lok Bhavan in Itanagar, the Governor lauded the Mayor's dedicated leadership in strength-

ening civic services, promoting cleanliness and sanitation, and implementing initiatives aimed at improving the quality of life for residents of the Capital Region. Congratulating Tadar and the IMC team for their commitment and proactive approach, Parnaik ap-

preciated the progress made in strengthening municipal services. He observed that a clean and well-managed city reflects the collective responsibility of citizens and civic authorities and plays a crucial role in enhancing the quality of urban life. The Governor encouraged the civic body to continue its people-centric initiatives while embracing innovative and technology-driven solutions to improve urban governance.



ABVP to step up campus campaigns across Kerala

Kochi, Aug 8 : The Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) has decided to intensify its 'Campus to Campus Vande Mataram' and 'Screen Time to Activity Time' campaigns across Kerala. The decision was taken at the organisation's two-day Central Working Committee meeting held in Ernakulam. The meeting discussed education, student issues and the organisational road map for the coming year. ABVP said Kerala would receive special attention in the months ahead. The two campaigns will be



expanded across colleges and educational institutions. The organisation said the initiatives aim to promote patriotism, physical activity, leadership and constructive campus engage-

ment among students. As part of the nationwide 'Vande Mataram @150 Years' campaign, ABVP will organise Tiranga Rallies.

PGI-Chandigarh gets national award for organ transplant for third year

Chandigarh, Aug 8 : The Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER) here has scripted history by winning the National Award for Best Regional Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (ROTTO) for the third consecutive year, besides securing its fourth overall national title since the inception of the award in 2019. The honour was conferred at the 16th Indian Organ Donation Day celebrations in New Delhi, under the aegis of the National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO), by Union Minister of State for



Health Anupriya Patel. She congratulated the award-winning institutions for their outstanding contribution towards strengthening India's organ donation movement and promoting ethical, transparent and equitable organ transplantation across the country.

The award was received on behalf of PGIMER Director Prof Vivek Lal, besides a senior delegation comprising Medical Superintendent Prof Ashok Kumar, Prof Dheeraj Khurana, Prof Hemant Bhagat, Dr Vijay Tadia and Saryu D. Madra.

Opinion Mail



Over 50 lakh households benefit from PM Surya Ghar rooftop solar scheme

The PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana -- the world's largest domestic rooftop solar programme -- has crossed the milestone of benefiting more than 50.06 lakh households across the country, the government said on Tuesday. According to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, the achievement comes just over two years after the launch of the scheme and marks a sharp acceleration compared with the 7.94 lakh rooftop solar installations recorded during the previous decade. The scheme has an outlay of Rs 75,021 crore and is emerging as one of the fastest-growing clean energy initiatives globally. It is now benefiting around one lakh households every six days, the government said. In addition, the pace of installations has increased more than three-fold over the last nine months, rising from 5,038 installations per day in October 2025 to nearly 16,328 installations per day in July 2026. July 2026 alone witnessed a record 5.06 lakh households benefiting under the scheme, the highest monthly figure since its launch. To support the expansion, the government has released Rs 28,024 crore in subsidies directly to beneficiaries through the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mechanism. As a result, nearly 19 lakh households are now receiving zero electricity bills, while more than 12 lakh households earned a combined Rs 421 crore through the sale of surplus power during FY25 and generated an average additional income of around Rs 3,500 annually per household. Around 1.6 lakh installations have been completed for PMAY, BPL and SC/ST households across four states, with the model approved for rollout in 12 states, according to the government. It further highlighted that the programme has also generated employment and business opportunities across the solar value chain. Additionally, 34,219 vendors have been registered under the scheme, of which 29,469 are currently active and more than 2.32 lakh people have been trained under various capacity-building initiatives. Cumulatively, 14.8 GW of rooftop solar capacity has been commissioned under the scheme so far.



Trump says US-Iran talks underway, calls it 'last chance'

Washington, Aug 8 : US President Donald Trump said that talks with Iran are "going on right now," adding that "this is a last chance." "We're talking and we're talking at the request of Iran, backed by Saudi Arabia, backed by UAE and backed by Qatar in particular, but others also," Trump told reporters at the White House Oval Office after signing an executive order on military spouse. "This is a last chance for them to sign a good document," Trump continued. "I think we're going to maybe get something, but I want to give them every last chance before

decapitation," he said. When asked about progress, Trump told reporters "you find out today or tomorrow ... they're going to go quickly one way or the other." He said that the two sides are talking about the reopening of the Strait of Hormuz, "having it open literally by tomorrow, completely open, and that's phase one." "And phase two is we then will talk about the nuclear capacity ... the de-nuclearization of Iran has to happen," he continued, adding that "that'll take a little while."



Party to review Datia defeat, act against indiscipline if found: MP BJP chief

Bhopal/Datia, Aug 8 : Madhya Pradesh BJP president Hemant Khandelwal on Saturday said that the party would undertake a comprehensive review of its defeat in the Datia Assembly bypoll and take action if any instance of indiscipline was found, while the Congress projected the result as the beginning of a political shift in the state ahead of the 2028 Assembly elections. The BJP accepted the verdict after Congress candidate Ghanshyam Singh retained the Datia seat.

'Pakistan can never match India': Rights activist Tasleema Akhter condemns PoK crackdown

Srinagar, Aug 8 : Human rights defender and Association of Terror Victims of Kashmir (ATVK) Chairperson Tasleema Akhter has strongly criticised Pakistan over its handling of the ongoing unrest in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK), accusing the Pakistani government of suppressing dissent, violating human rights and using force against protesters. Speaking in Srinagar, Akhter alleged that the people of PoK were being denied their basic rights and urged Pakistan to address their grievances instead of resorting to violence. "They have created graveyards stretching from Rawalakot to Mirpur. And look at the elections taking place in Muzaffarabad -- they are neither transparent nor fair. For God's sake, let your people

live. For God's sake, acknowledge the rights they are demanding; they are asking for their due rights, not begging for charity. It is their own land; they have a right to it," she said. Akhter further accused the Pakistani government of behaving like a dictatorship while claiming to champion freedom. "You are a dictatorship government, and you speak about freedom. You are a bloodthirsty government. The whole world is watching how you are spilling people's blood. Protests are being held against this government because the truth is now out. The dictatorship has been exposed. Listen to their demands and give them what they want," she said. Drawing a comparison with governance in India, Akhter said democratic institutions in the country respond to public concerns. "In our locality there were protests, but it was commendable that our government heard us. Recently, our Union



Education Minister resigned in the interests of the youth. Pakistan should learn how a government should function. Pakistan can never be compared with India," she added. PoK has witnessed escalating protests in recent weeks, with demonstrators alleging excessive use of force by Pakistani authorities. According to reports, PoK is currently witnessing one of the most extensive confrontations between the local population and the Pakistani state in decades. The protests reportedly began on June 5 and have continued to intensify. Protesters have alleged that Pakistani security forces launched a severe crackdown in which more than 50 people have been killed and hundreds injured over the past several weeks.

Dilapidated grave of Maharani Moran demonstrates crisis faced by Sikh heritage in Pakistan: Report

Islamabad, Aug 8 : The dilapidated grave of Maharaja Ranjit Singh's queen, Maharani Moran, is not only a monument neglected by the local authorities but demonstrates the broader crisis being faced by Sikh heritage in Pakistan for decades. Decaying walls, overgrown vegetation and years of neglect raises question on whether Pakistan is really committed to preserving Sikh history and heritage as it showcases itself on the global stage, a report has detailed. Maharani Moran died in 1867, and her grave is located in Miani Sahib Cemetery in Lahore. However, its worsening condition demonstrates the situ-

ation of several Sikh monuments in Pakistan which have historical significance. Many sites related to Sikh history, including places linked to the Sikh Gurus, the Sikh empire, and the legendary Sikh warriors who sacrificed their lives defending faith, human rights, and their nation, are located in Pakistan. Over 400 historic Sikh gurdwaras linked to the lives of Guru Nanak Dev and the other Sikh Gurus are located in Pakistan presently. However, many of these historic sites have either disappeared or have been left in ruins in Pakistan's provinces like Balochistan, Sindh and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, a report in Khalsa Vox mentioned. Pakistan frequently describes Gurdwara Janam Asthan Nankana Sahib and



Gurdwara Darbar Sahib Kartarpur as examples of its commitment to preserving Sikh heritage. However, it has become difficult to hide the reality in the present time as each year Pakistani Sikh leaders raise funds from the global Sikh diaspora for maintaining gurdwaras in Pakistan while the condition of several unpopular historic sites continues to worsen. "The memories of great Sikh warriors such as Hari Singh Nalwa,

Akali Phula Singh, Sardar Sham Singh Attariwala, and many others remain rooted in this land. Unfortunately, many monuments associated with them have fallen victim to neglect, encroachments, illegal construction, and the natural decay of time," the report said. In June, 125-year-old Gurdwara Sri Guru Singh Sabha Sahib in Pakistan's Farooqabad was demolished.

Meghalaya Police vow strict action in petrol bomb case

Shillong, Aug 8 : Hours after unidentified masked men hurled a petrol bomb at the office of the Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board (MSPCB) in Shillong, the East Khasi Hills district administration on Saturday assured that the culprits would face stringent legal action and appealed to the public not to spread rumours about the incident. In an official statement, the administration said it had taken serious note of the attack at Lumpyngngad, where two masked individuals threw a petrol bomb towards the premises at around 12.10 p.m. According to preliminary findings shared by the district police.



China pressurised Nepal over conference on Tibetan studies: Report

Lhasa, Aug 8 : Just weeks after China's new 'Ethnic Unity and Progress Law' came into effect, the country has pressured Nepal over an upcoming Tibetan studies conference in Kathmandu, a report has revealed. "This development is the latest sign that Beijing is expanding its campaign of transnational repression into academic discourse as part of its broader efforts to turn Tibetology into an ideological tool that reinforces the state's vision of a unified Chinese national identity, while silencing scholarship that challenges its official narrative," a report by the International Campaign for Tibet (ICT) mentioned.

Kathmandu is set to host the 17th Seminar of the International Association for Tibetan Studies (IATS) from August 23 to August 29; however, according to media reports, the Dharamshala-based Central Tibetan Administration (CTA) has decided not to send its researchers in an official capacity to the seminar to 'avoid jeopardising the conference and to ease Chinese pressure on Nepal.' According to the report, Nepal's Foreign Secretary Amrit Bahadur Rai and Chinese Ambassador to Nepal Zhang Maoming met on July 21, where Zhang raised China's concerns about presumed statements critical of China. "Citing a senior Nepalese foreign

ministry official, the Kathmandu Post on July 22 reported that the Chinese Ambassador raised concerns that 'some individuals could speak against China and in support of Tibet and urged officials to make sure that no such things happen,' it stated. There was no formal diplomatic protest or written demand for cancellation; the report stressed that China's actions led to the withdrawal of CTA researchers. "The significance of this incident extends well beyond a single academic conference. Beijing is institutionalising a system in which diplomacy, repressive domestic legislation implemented outside China's borders.

Silencing guns remains challenge in Africa: AUC chief

Addis Ababa, Aug 8 : Chairperson of the African Union Commission (AUC) Mahmoud Ali Youssouf on Saturday expressed concern over Africa's inability to address peace and security perils across different parts of the continent. The AUC chief

made the remarks during the opening session of the 39th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the AU, which runs on Saturday and Sunday at the AU headquarters in Addis Ababa, the capital of Ethiopia. "Our summit is taking place in a geopolitical context of crisis,

both on the continent and throughout the world. Silencing the Guns on our continent remains a challenge," Youssouf told African leaders. Acknowledging the political and institutional fragility of several African countries as a source of continental concern, he said "open and latent conflicts are

becoming chronic." "Unconstitutional changes of government are resurfacing, reminding us of the dark days following independence," he said, Xinhua news agency reported. Highlighting the situation in Sudan, eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Somalia, among others, Youssouf said "our peoples continue to pay a heavy price for instability." Meanwhile, the chairperson of the 55-member continental organisation.



Germany preparing long-range weapons for Ukraine, says Merz

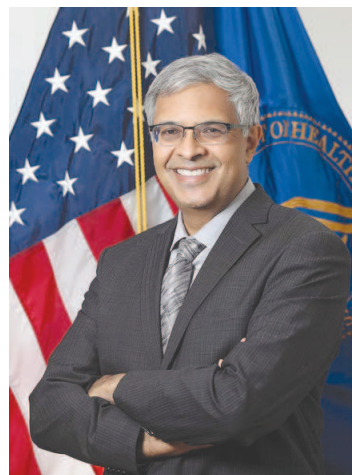
Berlin, Aug 8 : German Chancellor Friedrich Merz said that Germany is actively working to provide the Ukrainian army with long-range weapon systems. Speaking at a joint press conference with Swedish Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson in Berlin on Saturday.

Indian-American takes office as head of top US medical research body

Washington, Aug 8 : Jayanta 'Jay' Bhattacharya on Saturday took over as the 18th Director of the US National Institutes of Health, which is the country's premier medical research agency. Dr Bhattacharya is one of the senior-most Indian-Americans in the Donald Trump administration. He was nominated to the position in November and was confirmed by the US Senate on March 25. The top Indian-American in this administration is Second Lady Usha Vance. He will "play an instrumental role in shaping the agency's activities and outlook and ensuring they align with the President's Make America Healthy Again agenda", the NIH said. "Under Dr Bhattacharya's lead-

ership, NIH will restore its commitment to gold-standard science," Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy, Jr, said. "I'm excited to work with Dr. Bhattacharya to ensure NIH research aligns with our Administration's priorities - especially tackling the chronic disease epidemic and helping to Make America Healthy Again." Dr Bhattacharya said: "Chronic diseases such as cancer, heart disease, diabetes and obesity continue to cause poor health outcomes in every community across

the United States. Novel biomedical discoveries that enhance health and lengthen life are more vital than ever to our country's future." "As NIH Director, I will build on the agency's long and illustrious history of supporting breakthroughs in biology and medicine by fostering gold-standard research and innovation to address the chronic disease crisis." Born in Kolkata, he earned BA and MA degrees in economics at Stanford University and then went on to earn a doctorate in medicine and a PhD in economics from the



same university. Dr Bhattacharya caught national attention in the aftermath of the Covid-19 outbreak when he publicly opposed the lockdowns and the mask mandate."



North Korea blasts South Korea-EU statement on 'illegal' military cooperation with Russia

Seoul, Aug 8 : North Korea on Saturday blasted a recent joint statement adopted by South Korea and the European Union (EU) that condemned Pyongyang's military cooperation with Russia, saying it will continue to treat Seoul as "a hostile state."

In a press statement issued on the state-run Korean Central News Agency, the North Korean foreign ministry said South Korea is "an invariable enemy state obsessed with hostility and confrontation." South Korean President Lee Jae Myung and EU leaders adopted their joint statement on Wednesday during Lee's summit talks with Ursula von der Leyen, president of the European Commission, and Antonio Costa, president of the European Council, held at the EU headquarters in Brussels, Yonhap news agency reported. The South Korea-EU statement described the North-Russia military cooperation during the war in Ukraine as "illegal" and urged the two countries "to immediately cease all such activities and abide by the United Nations Charter and all relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions." Lee and EU leaders also expressed "grave concerns" over North Korea's nuclear and missile programs. In response, the North Korean foreign ministry claimed the joint statement was "a clear infringement on the sovereignty of our state and a grave hostile act."



Taiwan's survival relies on forging defence partnership with Japan: Report

Taipei, Aug 8 : The possibility of China's invasion of Taiwan is a scenario openly practised in military exercises launched by Beijing and based in its political doctrine. Taiwan cannot depend only on its distant allies, and its survival relies on having a defence partnership with Japan, a report has detailed. "For Taiwan, survival depends not only on its own resilience but on the strength of its alliances. Among potential partners, Japan stands out as the most proximate, capable and politically aligned actor. Taiwan must therefore deepen its defence linkages with Japan, not as a symbolic gesture, but as a strategic necessity," Khedroob Thondup, nephew of Tibetan spiritual leader Dalai Lama, wrote in a report in the European Times. Taiwan and Japan are bound geographically. The Ryukyu Islands stretch from Kyushu to Taiwan.

Khalistan movement fragmented ecosystem cannibalising itself: Report

Ottawa, Aug 8 : The broader Khalistan landscape — ranging from terror outfits such as Babbar Khalsa International (BKI) and the Sikhs for Justice (SFJ) to various Akali factions and the network linked to imprisoned leader Amritpal Singh — does not reflect a unified political movement. Instead, it remains fragmented into competing entities, each claiming legitimacy while discrediting the

others as compromised or "cowardly". These factions are operating under the influence of handlers based in Islamabad pursuing interests unrelated to Sikh welfare, a report has highlighted. According to a 'Khalsa Vox' report, the Operation Blue Star anniversary statement from BKI chief Wadhawa Singh Babbar does not function as a rallying cry; instead, it comes across as an inadvertent confession of failure. "Every June, the anniversaries around Operation Blue Star are



used by a handful of overseas-based extremists to reignite a separatist cause that the vast majority of India's Sikh community has long since moved past. This year was no different. Wadhawa Singh Babbar, chief of the Pakistan-based Babbar Khalsa International — a designated terrorist organisation — issued his customary statement.

MoS Singh and Tajikistan FM discuss ways to further strengthen bilateral cooperation

Dushanbe, Aug 8 : Minister of State (MoS) for External Affairs, Kirti Vardhan Singh, on Saturday discussed ways to further strengthen bilateral cooperation in the areas of mutual interest with Sirojiddin Muhriddin, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Tajikistan, in Dushanbe. "Pleased to meet H.E. Mr. Sirojiddin Muhriddin, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan, in Dushanbe," MoS Singh wrote on X. "Reviewed the entire spectrum of India-Tajikistan bilateral relations and discussed ways to further strengthen bilateral cooperation in the areas of mutual interest," he added.

The MoS requested high-level participation from Tajikistan in the 1st Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Civilizational Dialogue, to be hosted by India in Kolkata next month. "Reaffirmed the longstanding friendship and strategic partnership between India and Tajikistan," Singh highlighted. Earlier in the day, he reaffirmed India's commitment to its partnership with Central Asia and the SCO and highlighted India's priorities in the grouping while attending the SCO Conference on 'Central Asia – The Core of SCO: A Space of Peace and Joint Development' in Dushanbe.



US Justice Department seeks to revoke citizenship of Pakistani man who used fake IDs for immigration

New York, Aug 8 : The US government is seeking to take away the citizenship of a Pakistani who used fake IDs to become a citizen. The Department of Justice said on Saturday (local time) that it had asked a court in Delaware State to denaturalise or cancel the citizenship of Zia Murad Bhatti, a 59-year-old Pakistani, who illegally entered the US in 1992 using the name Raza Moorad and was ordered to leave the country. But he instead married a US citizen using the Bhatti name and eventually received citizenship. The Justice Department, in its complaint in an Arkansas court, accused him of perjury, concealment of facts, willful misrepresentations, and providing false testimony.

Indian-origin tech leader Soma honoured in US Congress

Washington, Aug 8 : Indian-born technology executive and entrepreneur Sivaramakrishnan "Soma" Somasegar, who helped shape Microsoft's rise and later became a leading venture capitalist in the US Pacific Northwest, was honoured in the US House of Representatives this

week for his contributions to technology, entrepreneurship and community service. Speaking on the House floor, Congresswoman Suzan DelBene of Washington remembered Somasegar as "an incredible technologist, entrepreneur, leader, and friend in our community." Born and raised in southern India, Somasegar moved



to the United States to study at Louisiana State University before joining Microsoft in 1989. He went on to play a key role in the development of Windows NT, one of the most significant products in the company's history.

Ram temple donation theft played with the sentiments of people, says Dimple Yadav

New Delhi, Aug 8 : Samajwadi Party MP Dimple Yadav on Saturday termed the alleged theft of donations from the Ram Temple a serious issue, saying it has hurt the sentiments of people across the country.

Speaking to reporters outside Parliament, Dimple Yadav said questions need to be answered regarding the alleged theft of donations, precious metals, and ornaments from the temple.

"The issue is how much donation, how many metals, and how many ornaments were stolen from the Ram Temple. There were also allegations of land scams. The question is where the money went and who benefited from it. Nobody knows how many crores of rupees may have been involved in these land deals. This is indeed a very serious matter because it has, somewhere, played with the sentiments of the country," she said.

Samajwadi Party MP Dimple Yadav further said, "We will continuously make this demand because Ram Mandir is connected to people's emo-

tions, and this is the heritage of our country... We want whatever devotion and emotion with which people have given this money to be used in the right way."

Samajwadi Party MLA Shivpal Yadav also criticised the BJP government, alleging financial mismanagement.

"This government presents a flawed budget every year and is unable to utilise nearly 30 per cent of it. What kind of government is this? It allows theft of donations, temple offerings, and even fails to properly utilise public funds," he said.

Earlier in the day, Rajya Sabha was adjourned briefly amid chaos and protests from both the NDA

and Opposition MPs, who accused each other of disrespecting Lord Ram, with the treasury benches demanding an apology.

NDA members erupted in protest in the Rajya Sabha on Tuesday after Congress president and Leader of Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge raised the alleged Ram Temple donation theft issue during Zero Hour, triggering a major ruckus that disrupted proceedings.

Opposition MPs began sloganeering over the matter involving the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust.



TN set to revise auto-rickshaw fares after 13 years, unions submit representations

Chennai, Aug 8 : Auto-rickshaw fares in Tamil Nadu are set to be revised after a gap of 13 years, with the State Transport Authority submitting a detailed proposal to the government following consultations with trade unions and passenger representatives. Transport Authority officials said the report recommending a revision of fares has been forwarded to the Tamil Nadu Home Department and a decision on the new tariff is expected shortly. Tamil Nadu has around 3.46 lakh auto-rickshaws, and the existing fare structure has remained unchanged for nearly 13 years. Auto drivers and trade unions have been pressing the govern-

ment for a revision, citing the sharp increase in fuel prices, maintenance expenses, insurance premiums and other operational costs during the period. As part of the exercise to determine a revised fare structure, a tripartite meeting involving government officials, auto-rickshaw trade unions and passenger organisations was held in Chennai on July 9. More than 30 representatives and office-bearers of trade unions participated in the consultation, along with around 90 representatives from passenger organisations. The two sides, however, put forward differing proposals on the minimum fare. Auto-rickshaw trade unions sought an increase in the minimum fare to Rs 70, arguing

that the existing tariff was no longer viable considering the substantial rise in operating expenses over the past decade. Passenger organisations, while acknowledging the need for a revision, urged the government to keep the minimum fare at Rs 50 to ensure that auto travel remained affordable, particularly for daily commuters. Following the consultations, Transport Authority officials examined the proposals submitted by both sides and prepared a comprehensive report for the government's consideration. Officials said the report takes into account the major points raised during the tripartite discussions as well as several factors that influence auto-rickshaw operating costs.

Collective fight against addiction vital to safeguard youth: Arunachal HM

Itanagar, Aug 8 : Arunachal Pradesh Home Minister Mama Natung has called for sustained and collective efforts to combat drug abuse, stressing that awareness, family support, community participation and coordinated institutional action are essential to protect

the younger generation and build an addiction-free society. The minister made the remarks while addressing the state-level launch of the '10 Crore Addiction-Free Pledge Mega Campaign' under the theme Nasha Mukh Bharat, Nasha Mukh Arunachal, organised by the Brahma Kumaris at its

RajYoga Centre in Jollang near Itanagar. Natung said the battle against illegal drug trade and substance abuse cannot succeed through government action alone and requires the active involvement of families, educational institutions, civil society and youth organisations, law enforcement

agencies, spiritual bodies and every responsible citizen. An official statement quoted him as saying that a united social response is indispensable for building a healthier, more disciplined, resilient and empowered Arunachal Pradesh. The Home Minister urged people

from all sections of society to actively support the Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan and Mission SPANDAN (Spiritual Partnership Against Narcotic Drug Abuse), saying that preventing addiction among young people is a shared responsibility. He said awareness campaigns,



value-based education and community engagement are key to ensuring a drug-free future for the state.

No cause for concern over Lower Subansiri Dam: Assam Minister

Guwahati, Aug 8 : Assam Education and Information Technology Minister Ranoj Pegu on Saturday sought to allay concerns over the safety of the NHPC Lower Subansiri Hydroelectric Project, stating that the dam is structurally safe and is being operated under stringent monitoring and national safety protocols. Pegu visited the 2,000 MW Lower Subansiri Hydroelectric Project at Gerukamukh to review its operational preparedness amid concerns raised by downstream residents following the recent floods in Assam.

During the inspection, the minister reviewed the dam structure, reservoir, control room and the Early Warning System installed at the project. He also held discussions with NHPC engineers and officials regarding the operational mechanisms and flood management measures being followed at the hydroelectric facility.



Facing local pushback, DCM Shinde directs outreach to resolve objections against Thane internal Metro

Mumbai, Aug 8 : Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister and Urban Development Minister Eknath Shinde on Saturday directed MahaRail authorities to launch a wide-reaching public awareness drive and conduct local seminars to clear misunderstandings around the Rs 12,200-crore Thane Internal Metro Project. The decision follows objections raised by residents and local public representatives regarding the ongoing work. During a virtual review meeting, DCM Shinde instructed officials to resolve public grievances immediately and take all stakeholders into confidence. He mandated MahaRail to organise interactive workshops and display informative hoardings during the upcoming

Ganeshotsav festival to explain the project's scope and address concerns directly. Approved to ease severe traffic congestion and streamline daily commutes to Thane railway station, the 29-kilometre internal Metro line includes 26 km of elevated route across key areas of Thane City and 3 km of underground route connecting the existing Thane station to the proposed new Thane station. Currently, 9.5% of the overall construction is complete, with work on stations and casting yards progressing steadily. The line will integrate with Metro Line 4 at Rayladevi and Metro Line 5 at Balkum Naka, providing seamless connectivity across different parts of the city. During the meeting, Transport Minister Pratap Sarnaik



advocated rerouting the line through Samata Nagar, Lokmanya Nagar, and Aai Mata Temple toward Shivai Nagar, noting that the adjustment would directly benefit over 100,000 residents. Responding to the proposal, DCM Shinde directed MahaRail to complete a comparative study within three

weeks to evaluate passenger benefits and minimise residential displacement. Addressing specific objections raised by residents of Eden Woods, Hiranandani Estate, and Chendani Koliwada, DCM Shinde instructed officials to find quick, actionable solutions to resolve their localised concerns.

RSS chief set for dialogue with Gen Z, Gen Alpha in Mumbai; to share nation-building thoughts

Mumbai, Aug 8 : International Movement to Unite Nations (IIMUN) founder Rishabh Shah on Saturday announced that Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) Sarsanghchalak Mohan Bhagwat will participate in one of the world's largest youth-led conferences on August 6, where he is scheduled to interact with members of Gen Z and Gen Alpha on leadership, nation-building and India's role in uniting

the world. The inaugural session of the conference will revolve around 'The Role of Youth in Uniting the World, the Indian Way'. The annual gathering will bring together students aged 15 to 19 years with participants representing schools and colleges from different parts of the country. The event comes at a time when young people across India are becoming increasingly active in discussions on democracy, leadership, governance and nation-building.



Bhagwat is expected to engage with more than 2,000 students from over 100 cities at the event in Mumbai on August 6, which is being described as one of the world's largest

youth-led conferences. The interaction with the RSS chief will be held at the Nita Mukesh Ambani Cultural Centre (NMACC).

Assam govt tightens Aadhaar rules for adults to curb illegal immigration

Guwahati, June 15 : In a major policy decision aimed at strengthening identity verification and preventing illegal immigrants from obtaining Aadhaar cards, the Assam Cabinet on Saturday decided to discontinue the routine Aadhaar enrolment process for individuals above 18 years of age. Announcing the Cabinet decision, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said

the state government has introduced additional safeguards to ensure that the Aadhaar enrolment system is not misused by illegal immigrants seeking to establish identity documents fraudulently.



Samsung introduces 30-month no-cost EMI plans for new Galaxy foldables in India

New Delhi, Aug 8 : Samsung on Saturday announced a new 30-month no-cost EMI programme for its latest foldable smartphones, aimed at making premium devices more affordable for consumers in India. The financing offer covers the recently launched Galaxy Z Fold8 Ultra, Galaxy Z Fold8 and Galaxy Z Flip8, allowing customers to purchase the devices with zero down payment. The company said the initiative is designed to lower the monthly cost of owner-

ship and expand access to its newest foldable smartphones, which come equipped with Galaxy AI features and the latest advancements in design, durability and performance. Samsung's latest Galaxy Z series builds on seven generations of foldable innovation and incorporates user feedback to deliver a more refined foldable experience. The company said the devices combine improvements in hinge technology, display engineering, durability and flagship-

level performance with AI-powered capabilities. Under the new financing scheme, the Galaxy Z Fold8 Ultra can be purchased at a monthly EMI starting from Rs 6,667. Samsung said this monthly payment is around 9 per cent lower than that of the previous-generation Galaxy Z Fold7. The Galaxy Z Fold8 is available at EMIs starting from Rs 6,000 per month, while the Galaxy Z Flip8 can be owned for as little as Rs 4,167 per month. The 30-month

no-cost EMI option is being offered through Samsung Finance+ powered by DMI Finance, TVS Credit, IDFC FIRST Bank and Poonawalla Fincorp. According to the company, the longer repayment tenure provides greater flexibility to consumers while enabling them to access premium foldable technology without a significant upfront payment. Samsung said the financing proposition complements the technological innovations of its latest



devices by making them easier to own and helping more users experience Galaxy AI-powered features. In terms of pricing, the Galaxy Z Fold8 Ultra starts at Rs

1,99,999 and is available in Violet Shadow, Graphite, Cream and Green Shadow, with the latter offered as an online-exclusive colour.

KIMS Q1 net profit plunges 47 pc to Rs 41.5 crore

Mumbai, Aug 8 : Krishna Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS) on Saturday reported a sharp 47.2 per cent year-on-year (YoY) decline in its consolidated net profit for the first quarter ended June 30 (Q1 FY27), even as the hospital chain posted strong double-digit growth in revenue and operating

profit, supported by network expansion and higher patient volumes. The hospital chain posted a consolidated net profit of Rs 41.5 crore in the first quarter of FY27, down from Rs 78.6 crore in the corresponding period of the previous financial year (Q1 FY26).



Symphony Q1 net profit slips 5 pc to Rs 40 crore

Mumbai, Aug 8 : Air cooler maker Symphony Limited on Saturday reported a 5 per cent year-on-year (YoY) decline in net profit for the quarter ended June 2026 (Q1 FY27). The company's profit after tax stood at Rs 40 crore, compared with Rs 42 crore in the corresponding quarter last financial year (Q1 FY26). Despite the drop in profit, Symphony registered strong growth in its top line. Revenue from operations rose 8 per cent year-on-year to Rs 378 crore during the quarter, up from Rs 350 crore in the year-ago period.

The Ahmedabad-headquartered company also witnessed a sharp improvement in operating performance. Earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA) increased 28 per cent to Rs 46 crore in the June quarter from Rs 36 crore a year earlier, as per its regulatory filing. Reflecting the stronger operating efficiency, EBITDA margin expanded to 12.2 per cent from 10.3 per cent in the corresponding quarter of the previous financial year. Founded in 1988 by Achal Bakeri, Symphony is a leading player in the evaporative cooling segment



and operates in more than 60 countries. The company offers residential, commercial and industrial cooling solutions and follows a light-asset business model, focusing on research and development, product design and brand building while outsourcing a significant portion of manufacturing. Symphony's products are positioned as energy-efficient and en-

vironmentally friendly alternatives to conventional air-conditioning systems. The company is listed on both the BSE and NSE under the ticker symbol SYMPHONY. Following the result announcement, the shares of the cooler maker were trading at Rs 675.85, down 1.01 per cent or Rs 6.90 during noon trade.

SEBI has made Indian markets safer, more transparent than US: Experts on SpaceX shares

New Delhi, Aug 8 : Zerodha founder Nithin Kamath and Capitalmind Mutual Fund CEO Deepak Shenoy have drawn attention to restrictions imposed by US brokerage Fidelity on investors seeking to sell shares acquired in the recent SpaceX IPO, contrasting the practice with India's regulatory framework. Under Fidelity's policy, investors who sell their allotted SpaceX shares within 15 calendar days of the stock's trading debut -- a practice known as flipping -- risk losing access

to future IPO allocations through the brokerage. Reacting to the policy, Kamath on Saturday praised India's capital market ecosystem and the regulatory safeguards put in place by market regulator SEBI and stock exchanges. "Sure, things can be better, but it's crazy how transparent and safe the Indian markets are compared to the US, all thanks to SEBI and the exchanges," Kamath said in a post on X. He added that Fidelity is not the only brokerage to impose such conditions, noting that similar re-



strictions appear to exist among other large US brokers as well. Capitalmind founder and portfolio manager Deepak Shenoy also questioned the practice, suggesting that such restrictions would be difficult to justify under India's regulatory regime. "How is this legal? Imagine a broker telling you that you can't sell a stock you got in an IPO in the first 15 days. SEBI will shut them down in a second in India," Shenoy said in a post on X.

China-linked operators manipulating debate around American AI, wider tech policies: OpenAI

New Delhi, Aug 8 : AI company OpenAI has revealed two clusters of ChatGPT accounts, likely originating from China, that used its models in support of apparent covert influence operations that promoted narratives in an attempt to manipulate a legitimate debate about American AI and wider

tech policies. The first cluster generated social media comments and images claiming that data center buildouts for AI were increasing electricity prices for average families.



Emami Q1 net profit falls 16 pc to Rs 137 crore

Mumbai, Aug 8 : FMCG major Emami Limited on Saturday reported a 16.38 per cent year-on-year (YoY) decline in net profit for the quarter ended June 2026 (Q1 FY27). The Kolkata-based FMCG company posted a net profit of Rs 137.3 crore for the quarter, compared with Rs 164.2 crore in the corresponding period last financial year (Q1 FY26), ac-

cording to its stock exchange filing. Despite the decline in profit, the maker of popular brands such as BoroPlus, Navratna and Zandu recorded healthy growth in revenue. Revenue from operations rose 14.9 per cent year-on-year to Rs 1,039.2 crore in the June quarter, up from Rs 904.1 crore a year ago.

Apple expands AppleCare+ in India, introduces Theft and Loss coverage with new flexible plans

New Delhi, Aug 8 : Apple on Saturday expanded its AppleCare+ protection plans for customers in India, introducing more flexible options, including AppleCare+ with theft and loss for iPhone. With new monthly and annual subscription choices, users now have greater freedom in how they protect

their Apple devices and can keep coverage for as long as they want. Apple said the updated plans aim to make device protection easier and more affordable. "AppleCare gives our customers peace of mind knowing that their products are protected and supported by Apple experts," said Kaiann Drance, Apple's vice president of Worldwide iPhone Product Marketing.



India highlights strong economic partnership with Kenya, untapped potential for further growth

Nairobi, Aug 8 : The Indian High Commissioner to Kenya on Saturday highlighted the strong economic partnership between India and Kenya and the untapped potential for further growth at a business event in Eldoret.

"High Commission, in association with India-Kenya Chamber of Commerce (IKCC), organised a business event in Eldoret to promote trade and investments between India and Kenya," the High Commission of India, Nairobi wrote on X.



Despite challenges, peace returning to Manipur, says CM Khemchand Singh

Imphal, Aug 8 : Manipur Chief Minister Yumnam Khemchand Singh on Saturday said that although the state continues to face multiple challenges, the government, with the active support of the people, is making sincere efforts to restore lasting peace, adding that encouraging signs of improvement have already begun to emerge.

Attending the inaugural ceremony of the 10 crores Addiction-Free Pledge Mega Campaign under the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan and Mission SPANDAN (Spiritual Partnership Against Narcotic Drug Abuse), the Chief Minister said that every ordinary citizen who has no interest in conflict desires only peace and normalcy. The event was organised by the Brahma Kumaris, Manipur, in col-

laboration with its Medical Wing (Rajyoga Education and Research Foundation), at Pheidinga, Imphal. Khemchand Singh said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has envisioned Viksit Bharat 2047, with the goal of making India one of the most developed nations in the world. He stated that this vision can only be realised if the country's youth remain free from the menace of drugs. He

noted that the nationwide drug-free campaign commenced yesterday (August 2) across the country and that Manipur is proud to be part of this national movement. Sharing his personal experiences from visits across Manipur, the Chief Minister said he had travelled to several parts of the state, including Litan in Ukhrul district, even during the most challenging periods.



Gujarat: Six arrested in over Rs 210-crore cyber fraud linked to 273 cases nationwide

Gandhinagar/Vadodara, Aug 8 : A cyber fraud network linked to transactions worth more than Rs 210 crore has been uncovered, with six individuals arrested in a coordinated operation by the Cyber Centre of Excellence of Criminal Investigation Department (CID) Crime in Gujarat, officials said on Saturday. The arrests were made after a targeted raid in Vadodara based on specific intelligence, as part of intensified efforts to tackle rising cyber crime. According to officials, the ac-

cused operated as part of an organised network with a common intention of financial gain. They opened or facilitated the opening of multiple bank accounts in their own names as well as in the names of other individuals, and provided these accounts for routing funds linked to cyber crime and online gaming activities. They obtained bank account kits and SIM cards from account holders and used them to withdraw money through banks and ATMs using cheques and debit cards. "The accused acted in a coordinated manner with a common

intention of financial gain by opening or procuring multiple bank accounts and facilitating the transfer and withdrawal of funds obtained through cyber fraud," officials added. "They also provided bank accounts and SIM cards to their associates to enable the siphoning of fraud proceeds," officials said. The six arrested have been identified as Abdul Kabir Mohammad Ilyas Pathan, Vivek Vanzara, Mayank Bairwa, Rohit Varma, Mohit Rawal and Dipesh Rajpurohit, also known as Montu. Police said Pathan opened multiple bank accounts and withdrew



fraudulent funds for others, while Vanzara opened accounts in his own and his associates' names and earned commissions. Bairwa assisted in operating bank accounts, Varma withdrew money and earned commissions, and Rawal facilitated links through a mobile shop. Rajpurohit was identified as the main operator handling a network of around 40 bank accounts. During the operation, officers seized 11 mobile phones, 12 cheque books, five passbooks, 39 debit cards, a laptop, and 10 QR codes used for bank payments.

Military-civil integration key to robust defence ecosystem: Rajnath Singh

New Delhi, Aug 8 : Union Minister Rajnath Singh on Saturday underlined the need to deepen integration between the military and civil components of the Ministry to foster greater synergy within the defence ecosystem. Addressing the 85th Armed Forces Headquarters (AFHQ) Civilian Services Day celebrations in Delhi, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh emphasised that both the uniformed and civil services share the same commitment of 'Nation First'. He said that when the objective of both the military and civil components of the Ministry is singular, every element of the system transforms into national strength. He said deeper integration between the military and civil components of the Ministry of Defence will help to tackle evolving security and technological challenges, while en-

suring institutional memory, stability, and the effective application of rules and regulations. He said that military and administrative integration cannot proceed along separate paths as there will be a need for continuity and expertise across all areas - policy, administration, human resource management, financial processes, logistics, and institutional knowledge. Rajnath Singh highlighted the importance of further enhancing structured cross-exposure between civilian and military officers, suggesting joint training programmes and developmental assignments for both sides to learn from each other's experiences. "Military officers bring operational experience, a command perspective, and an understanding of warfare, while civilian officers contribute through administrative continuity, policy experience, an understanding of government processes, and institutional memory.



When these strengths combine, decision-making becomes more informed, balanced, and effective," stated Rajnath Singh. Explaining with the example of 'cyber warfare', the Defence Minister stated that if officers of the AFHQ Civilian Services develop defence-specific common cyber tools leveraging their expertise, it could prove beneficial to the Defence Forces. Rajnath Singh called upon the AFHQ Civilian Services to evolve into the "strategic brain" of India's defence management architecture by developing a comprehensive understanding of the defence sector.

The Defence Minister also launched several digital initiatives of the office of Joint Secretary and Chief Administrative Officer (JS & CAO) and its Revised Vision & Mission Statement. He also released the 34th issue of the 'Samvad' magazine that contains travelogues, essays, articles.

Congress violated Constitution by announcing presiding officers' names, claims Karnataka BJP

Bengaluru, Aug 8 : Senior BJP leader and Leader of the Opposition in the Karnataka Legislative Council, Chalavadi Narayanawamy, on Saturday accused the state government of acting in violation of the Constitution by announcing names for the posts of Speaker, Deputy Speaker, Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council, even though the posts are not vacant. It can be noted that along with Cabinet ministers.



Gujarat simplifies passport verification process, ends police station visits

Gandhinagar, Aug 8 : The Gujarat Police on Saturday introduced a simplified passport verification process under which applicants will no longer be required to visit police stations as part of routine verification, with the exercise now limited to checking citizenship and criminal antecedents except in exceptional cases.

The new directions have been issued by Director General of Police (DGP) Gyanendra Singh Malik to all police stations and police officers across the state with the aim of making passport verification more transparent, efficient and citizen-friendly while reducing unnecessary inconvenience to applicants.

According to the instructions, passport applicants will not be called to police stations for verification.

During the verification process, police officers are required only to verify the applicant's citizenship and criminal antecedents.

The directions also clarify that the police are not required to conduct a separate verification of the applicant's residential address. In addition, officers do not need to meet applicants in person or obtain their signatures as part of the routine verification process.

The police will visit an applicant's residence only in exceptional cases where they identify a suspicious issue or consider further verification necessary.

Even in such circumstances, applicants will not be required to appear at the police station. Announcing the revised procedure, the Gujarat Police said the changes have been introduced to ensure citizens do not have to make unnecessary visits during passport verification and to simplify the administrative process.

Delhi: Centre puts up notice at Jaipur Polo Ground to declare it as govt land

New Delhi, Aug 8 : Moving swiftly, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) on Saturday put up a public notice at the Jaipur Polo Ground, near the Delhi Race Club, declaring the over 15-acre land parcel as government land. The MoHUA notice, which came a day after a favourable judicial decision, comes with a warning against unauthorised

occupation. The re-possession of the Polo Ground development comes amid an ongoing dispute between the Union government and the Indian Polo Association (IPA), which manages the Ground, over possession of the land in the heart of the Capital. On Friday, Patiala House Court's Vacation Judge Dharendra Rana said that he was not inclined to stay the execution of the eviction order issued to Jaipur Polo

Ground by the government on May 20. "As far as staying of execution of impugned order till next date of hearing is concerned, I am not inclined to accept this request. Similar kind of request was moved before Principal District & Sessions Judge, PHC and Delhi High Court and no relief was granted to the appellant. Therefore, keeping in view the judicial discipline and proprietary, I am not inclined to stay the execution

of impugned order even till next date," the court said. Referring to the proceedings before the Delhi High Court, the court observed that the High Court had disposed of the IPA's writ petition on June 8 and had not granted any ad-interim protection against eviction. The Central government has sought to take possession of the Jaipur Polo Ground to organise important governmental and de-



fence-related functions in the area. In a similar case of repossession of leased land in the high-security area close to the official residence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi,

the MoHUA last month issued a notice through the Land and Development Office (L&DO) to the Delhi Gymkhana Club.

Global inaction enables
Pakistan's proxy warfare
against neighbours: Report

Islamabad, Aug 8 : India must continue exposing Rawalpindi's nexus with terrorist groups and its tendency to pursue proxy war against neighbouring countries as Pakistan has long evaded accountability due to global apathy. At the same time, India also needs to bolster its counter-terrorism apparatus to effectively confront the menace of Pakistan-sponsored terrorism single-handedly and, in addition to military retribution, adopt "non-kinetic measures that impose a prohibitive cost on Islamabad", a report said on Saturday. Writing for Eurasia Review, former army officer Nilesh Kunwar said, "While its designation may sound impressive, the UN Analytical Support.



Rohingya refugee camps in Bangladesh
enter more dangerous phase amid rising militancy

Dhaka, Aug 8 : The Rohingya refugee crisis in Bangladesh is slipping into a more dangerous phase, evolving from a large-scale humanitarian emergency into a serious security concern with implications extending from local communities to the broader region. The rise of militancy in and around the Rohingya camps is not merely a law-and-order challenge but reflects a prolonged humanitarian crisis shaped by stalled repatriation, continuing instability in Myanmar, and the absence of viable prospects for a displaced population. Bangladesh now faces the complex task of ensuring security within the camps while upholding essential humanitarian safeguards, a report has stated. "Bangladesh's Rohingya refugee camps, especially those in Cox's Bazar, are increasingly becoming spaces where humanitarian vulnerability and armed-group violence overlap. Recent incidents in 2026 point to a troubling pattern: the camps are no longer affected only by isolated criminal rivalries but by a more sustained and fragmented contest

among multiple Rohingya armed groups seeking territorial control, influence, recruitment networks, and access to illicit economies," a report in Stringer Asia detailed. The report noted that the level of violence in these camps remains a cause of concern. Citing partial data compiled by the Institute for Conflict Management, the report said that at least four people had been killed and three injured in Rohingya-insurgency-linked incidents in Bangladesh up to May 24 this year. It added that 37 were killed in 2025, while 42 deaths were recorded in 2024. Raising further concerns over the possible emergence of transnational extremist linkages, the report said, "In May 2026, Bangladeshi police arrested a Rohingya youth in Teknaf for alleged involvement with Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan through an Urdu-language WhatsApp group accused of encouraging terrorist activity. Earlier, in April, four ARSA cadres were arrested in Dhaka for alleged links with TTP." "These cases do not yet prove the existence of a formal TTP infrastructure inside the Rohingya



camps, but they do reveal the vulnerability of displaced Rohingya youth to online radicalization and external extremist narratives. Prolonged statelessness, unemployment, insecurity, and frustration create conditions in which digital propaganda can find receptive audiences," it added. The report noted that at the heart of the crisis is the unresolved status of the Rohingya people. It cited United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) 2026 data indicating that around 149,769 Rohingya refugees were newly registered in Bangladesh between December 2024 and March 31, 2026, taking the total registered Rohingya refugee population in Bangladesh's camps to approximately 1,194,123. "This continued displacement reflects the failure to create safe, dignified, and voluntary conditions for return to Myanmar," it added.

Armed clashes between Afghan
tribes over disputed area continue for fourth day

Kabul, Aug 8 : Armed clashes between two tribes over the ownership of a mountainous area along the border of Khost and Paktia provinces in Southeastern Afghanistan continued for the fourth day on Saturday, local media reported. The clashes erupted between the members of the Bori Khail tribe from Khost's Spira district and the Giyan Khail tribe from Paktika's Giyan district, Afghanistan's leading Khaama Press Agency reported. Citing local reports, it said light and heavy weapons were used by both sides dur-

ing the confrontation, raising concerns over further escalations in the long-running land dispute. The disputed mountain is located between Spira and Giyan districts, according to local residents. The area is covered with forests, including valuable pine nut trees, which they said have intensified disagreements over ownership, access and control of the land. For decades, the dispute has resulted in armed confrontations. "Shah Mir Khan, a resident of Spira district, said that previous clashes over the mountain had caused significant casualties.



Italian FM Tajani cites
data to counter Spanish criticism on migrant entries

Rome, Aug 8 : Italian Foreign Minister Antonio Tajani on Saturday responded to remarks by Spanish Foreign Minister Jose Manuel Albares, who had claimed that Italy recorded the highest number of irregular migrant entries in Europe. "I do not respond to the Spanish Foreign Minister; the numbers do," Tajani stated on

X. He said irregular migrants in Italy had decreased by 60 per cent annually since 2023, with landings between January and July 2026 dropping by 80 per cent compared to the same period in 2023. He added that irregular sea arrivals as of July 15 totalled 15,323, down 54 per cent compared to 2025 and 50 per cent compared to 2024. Tajani attributed the decline to bilateral agreements with eight

countries of origin and transit, which he said promoted regular and safe migratory flows and combated human trafficking. He also noted that the new EU Pact on asylum and migration bore a strong Italian imprint, in line with the tradition of former Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi's governments. Albares, speaking to broadcaster RTVE, said Italy had not lived up

to expectations in responding to the Ceuta migration crisis. He described Italy as the country with the highest number of irregular entries in Europe, while Spain had the lowest. He added that Italy would like to



resolve the situation in Lampedusa as Spain had resolved the one in Ceuta. Albares said at least 50,000 people from Morocco had arrived irregularly in Ceuta between last Thursday and Friday, calling it an "unprecedented event." He stressed that the repatriation of thousands of people within 48 hours was achieved with the "full collaboration" of Morocco.



India and Uzbekistan
review strategic partnership,
discuss regional challenges

New Delhi, Aug 8 : External Affairs Minister (EAM) S Jaishankar and Uzbekistan Foreign Minister Bakhtiyor Saidov on Saturday undertook a detailed review of bilateral strategic partnership during the latter's ongoing three-day visit to New Delhi. "Great to meet my friend, Foreign Minister Bakhtiyor Saidov of Uzbekistan. Undertook a detailed review of our Strategic Partnership, with particular focus on energy, infrastructure, trade, defence, education and culture.

We also discussed key regional challenges and exchanged views on expanding our multilateral cooperation."



Forget London and Paris,
connect with your roots first:
OP Rajbhar's jibe at Akhilesh

New Delhi, Aug 8 : Uttar Pradesh cabinet minister OP Rajbhar took a scathing jibe at Samajwadi Party (SP) supremo Akhilesh Yadav over his foreign travels on Saturday and advised him to prioritise domestic tourism over going abroad. The Suheldev Bhartiya Samaj Party (SBSP) national president penned a long post on X, mocking the SP chief over his foreign trips and asking him to explore diverse tourist spots in the country rather than frequently heading to London and Paris for vacation.

EU chief calls for tighter
border checks amid Ceuta migrant crisis

Brussels, Aug 8 : European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen on Saturday called for physical barriers and stronger border control at critical points along European Union (EU) borders amid the migrant crisis in Ceuta. Local authorities said some 60,000 migrants had entered Ceuta, Spain's autonomous city on the North African coast bordering Morocco, illegally in recent days by land and sea. In a letter to Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez, von der Leyen sought tighter security along critical points of the EU border and referred to

an ongoing EU-Morocco deal on migration aimed at preventing similar situations. A meeting of EU Interior Ministers on the emergency has been convened for August 4. The request was made in a letter signed by 22 European countries, led by Italy and Denmark, but without France and Portugal, the two countries bordering Spain. On Sunday, von der Leyen received the letter from the 22 countries and from Sanchez, accepting the request for an emergency videoconference to assess the crisis. She reiterated that combating illegal migration required solidarity and a united European response.

Prime Minister Sanchez, in his communication to the EU, criticised the positions of some countries on the Ceuta migration crisis and requested an urgent summit of Interior Ministers. The move followed Italy's suspension of Schengen with Spain. He asked the Irish Presidency for an extraordinary meeting, stressing that the security of external borders was a shared responsibility. Sanchez asserted that Madrid had re-established border control, assisted migrants, repatriated "practically all" irregular arrivals and prevented movements to other countries with little European support. He defended Spain's migration policy, saying irregular entries had reduced, making Spain the "second safest external border of the EU."



Power use of data centres in Russia
to more than triple this decade : Putin

Moscow, Aug 8 : Russian President Vladimir Putin has said that the power consumption of data centres will more than triple in the current decade and the country will build more nuclear power units. "The most important and fundamental task is to ensure the constant, stable and reliable supply of large volumes of energy to data centres," Putin said at the "AI Journey" conference in Moscow on Saturday. "Therefore, plans for their location must be closely aligned with the further development of the entire national energy infrastructure, including advanced, modern and eco-friendly coal-fired power generation, as well as other clean energy sources such as nuclear power," he said. Putin noted that Russia will continue building data centres at existing nuclear power plant sites, reports Xinhua. "As for forward-looking initiatives, within less than two decades, we plan to construct 38 nuclear power units, primarily in the Urals, Siberia, and the Russian Far East," he said. "Their combined capacity will be practically equal to our current nuclear power generation capacity." Putin emphasised in his speech that, by various estimates, the development of AI is likely one of the largest technological undertakings in history.

PM-AJAY promoting development of SC communities in 47,328 villages: Ramdas Athawale

New Delhi, Aug 8 : The Central government is implementing the Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana (PM-AJAY) to promote the socio-economic development of Scheduled Caste communities, and 47,328 villages have been selected across the country under its Adarsh Gram Component, the Rajya Sabha was informed on Saturday. Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment Ramdas Athawale, in a written reply to Anil Kumar Yadav Mandadi in the Rajya Sabha, informed out of the 47,328 villages selected across the country under the Adarsh Gram Component of PM-AJAY 435 are in Telangana. The Minister of State said that the Adarsh Gram Component

focuses on the integrated development of selected villages through the saturation of 50 monitorable socio-economic indicators across 10 development sectors, including education. A Need Assessment Survey is conducted to establish the baseline status of these indicators. The identified gaps are addressed through convergence with Central and State Government schemes or through interventions supported under PM-AJAY, he said. The progress made by States and Union Territories is regularly updated through the PMAGY Portal, said Athawale. He said across the country, 3.28 lakh development works and 1.10 crore beneficiaries have been identified under the scheme. Of these, 46,642 development works have been completed, while 47.59 lakh beneficiaries have already



been saturated through various interventions. About Telangana, the written reply stated that under the education sector, 3,529 beneficiaries have been identified, of whom 472 beneficiaries have already received benefits under the scheme. Replying to a query regarding third-party audit, Athawale informed that States and Union Territories have been directed to verify the self-declaration of Adarsh Gram villages under the PM-AJAY Adarsh Gram Component. Accordingly, valida-

tion is being undertaken by the respective State and UT Governments. The PM-AJAY Adarsh Gram Component continues to promote inclusive and sustainable rural development by improving access to education, infrastructure, livelihoods and essential services, thereby contributing to the socio-economic empowerment of Scheduled Caste communities across the country, he said.

Raj SI recruitment row: Selected candidates move SC against cancellation, seek action against guilty

Jaipur, Aug 8 : The controversy surrounding the Sub-Inspector (SI) Recruitment Examination-2021 in Rajasthan has reached the Supreme Court, with selected candidates filing a Special Leave Petition (SLP) challenging the cancellation of the entire recruitment process. The petitioners have challenged the Rajasthan High Court decision, which annulled the recruitment citing irregularities such as paper leaks and rigging. They have urged the apex court to uphold the recruitment and argued that candidates selected through fair means should not be penalised for the wrongdoing of a few. In their plea, the selected Sub-Inspectors contended that while strict action must be taken against those involved in malpractice, cancelling the entire recruitment is unjust. "Those who secured selection

through honesty and hard work should be allowed to continue in service," the petition states, adding that the High Court's verdict has left their future uncertain. The recruitment was first cancelled by a single-judge bench on August 28, 2025. Later, on April 4, 2026, a Division Bench upheld the decision, reinforcing the cancellation. The court had cited large-scale irregularities, including allegations of paper leaks, as the basis for its ruling. A hearing in the Supreme Court on this issue is likely in the second week of May.



Maha govt mandates 5 process reforms to streamline services

Mumbai, Aug 8 : The Maharashtra government has mandated five major process re-engineering reforms across all administrative departments to eliminate physical office visits, drastically cut approval layers and accelerate public service delivery. Issued through a Government Resolution (GR) by the state planning department on Saturday, the Government Process Re-engineering (GPR) initiative seeks to make government welfare schemes and daily administrative services transparent, accessible and digital-first. According to the GR, departments must rely exclusively on online verification and digital validation systems so citizens no longer need to visit government offices. Forms will be simplified by auto-fetching

citizen data directly from established databases such as Aadhaar and Maha-Samanvay. Physical document submissions are phased out where digital records exist. Departments will utilise DigiLocker and API interoperability, relying heavily on self-declarations. The GR further said that decision-making chains are restricted to a maximum of three administrative tiers, with strictly defined roles at every step to eliminate bureaucratic delays. Processing times will be compressed through expanded tech integration, backed by updated statutory timelines under the Right to Services (RTS) Act. A state-level GPR Approval Committee chaired by the Chief Secretary will oversee the transition.



PL Gautam to head expert panel on Agrobiodiversity: Environment Ministry

New Delhi, Aug 8 : Agricultural scientist and former Chairperson of the National Biodiversity Authority P. L. Gautam has been appointed as chairperson of an Expert Committee on Agrobiodiversity, an official said on Saturday. The NBA reconstituted the Expert Committee on Agrobiodiversity under Section 13(1) of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002.



'Every insult to PM Modi an insult to 140 crore Indians': BJP hits back at Sanjay Raut

New Delhi, Aug 8 : The BJP on Saturday launched a sharp attack on Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut over his remarks against Prime Minister Narendra Modi, accusing the opposition INDIA bloc of repeatedly targeting the Prime Minister because it has failed to challenge him electorally. BJP National Spokesperson Pradeep Bhandari took to X to condemn Raut's comments, saying the opposition's criticism of the Prime Minister amounted to disrespecting the mandate of millions of Indians.

Crime branch raids several places in J&K over birth date manipulation probe

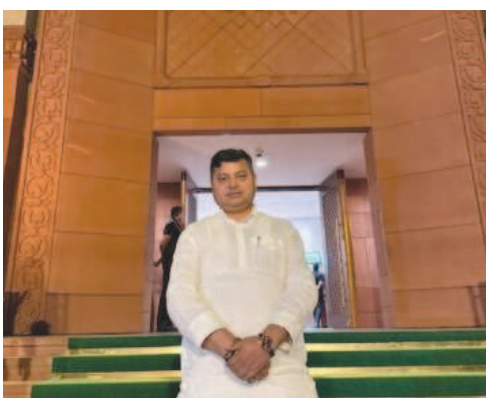
Srinagar, Aug 8 : The Crime Branch officials on Saturday conducted searches at multiple locations in Shopian and Pulwama districts of Jammu and Kashmir as part of an ongoing investigation into the alleged manipulation of date-of-birth entries in government service records. According to an official statement, the Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of the Kashmir Crime Branch carried out searches at the office and residence of a senior Health Department.



Centre gave Rs 2,536 crore for flood control projects in NE: MoS Jal Shakti

New Delhi, Aug 8 : Since March 2026, Central assistance amounting to Rs 2,536.96 crore has been provided under the "Flood Management and Border Areas Programme" (FMBAP) for 263 flood management projects in the North Eastern States, including Sikkim, the Rajya Sabha was informed on

Saturday. Minister of State for Jal Shakti Raj Bhushan Choudhary, in a written reply to a question, said the Brahmaputra Board has prepared 52 Master Plans for the North-Eastern States, which include short, medium, and long-term measures, both structural and non-structural, for flood management. The State Governments undertake assessment of damages



caused by the 12 notified natural calamities, including rain and floods, and provide relief assistance from the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF).

Dedicated parking is mandatory at every Metro Station: MP Minister

Indore, Aug 8 : Madhya Pradesh Urban Affairs Minister Kailash Vijayavargiya on Saturday said that there should be a dedicated parking space near every metro station so that commuters won't hesitate to use the metro for daily travel. The Minister made a statement during an inspection at metro stations in Indore. The inspection was carried out in the presence of the city's Mayor Pushyamitara Bhargava, offi-

cials from the Urban Department and Indore Metro Rail Corporation (IMRC) and others. "We are conducting inspections along with officials of the Indore Development Authority and other departments because Metro operations are about to begin. The issues that are coming up are being brought to the attention of the Metro authorities," Vijayavargiya said, talking to media persons. Pointing out concerns rising over the lack of parking facilities near



metro stations in Indore, where the first phase of Metro Rail has already been started, Vijayavargiya said that the Metro department is facing a shortage of adequate space for developing dedicated parking lots at some stations. "When the design for Indore Railway Metro was made, I had stressed for adequate parking space at each metro station.



Gujarat Dy CM launches Rs 509cr development projects, e-bus service in Bhavnagar

Bhavnagar, Aug 8 : Deputy Chief Minister Harsh Sanghavi on Saturday launched and inaugurated development projects worth Rs 509.23 crore in Bhavnagar, including the rollout of electric buses under the Centre's PM e-Bus Sewa scheme. The programme was held in the virtual presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The works undertaken by the Bhavnagar Municipal Corporation comprise the foundation laying of 35 projects costing Rs 140.83 crore and the inauguration of one project valued at Rs 368.40 crore. The initiatives are intended to strengthen civic infrastructure and improve public amenities across the city. Addressing the gathering, Sanghavi said 50 electric buses have been allocated to Bhavnagar to make the urban transport system more efficient and environmentally sustainable. A modern depot has been completed at Adhewada for the operation and maintenance of the buses. He said Bhavnagar has become the first city in Gujarat to commence electric bus services under the second phase of the scheme. "The new buses will become the lifeline of Bhavnagar," he said, adding that the air-conditioned service would provide relief to commuters during the summer months.

ECI seeks papers from Sunetra Pawar over party constitution amendments

New Delhi/Mumbai, Aug 8 : The Election Commission of India (ECI) has issued a notice to Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) president Sunetra Pawar, seeking valid documentation and formal resolutions approving amendments made to the party's constitution. According to the ECI, communications sent by Sunetra Pawar on March 10 and April 7, 2026, informed the Commission of modifications to Articles 6, 7, 12, 18(i), 32 and 36 of the party's constitution. However, scrutiny revealed that the compliance documents submitted contained only the resolution passed during the National Executive meeting on February 26, 2026, which pertained exclusively to Article 18(i). In its directive dated July 27, 2026, the Commission said formal proposals and resolutions approving changes to Articles 6.





Sheikh Hasina should not make political statements: B'Desh PM advisor to Indian High Commissioner

Dhaka, Aug 8 : Bangladesh Prime Minister's Foreign Affairs Advisor Humayun Kabir on Saturday sought the Indian government's cooperation to ensure that no one from the Awami League, including former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, can use Indian territory to make political statements, local media reported. According to Bangladesh's Prothom Alo newspaper, Advisor Kabir stated this during a courtesy call by the Indian High Commissioner to Dhaka, Dinesh Trivedi, on Monday afternoon. Citing a statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh, Prothom Alo said that the social media news about Sheikh Hasina making a public speech on August 5 came up during the discussion. "In this regard, the Foreign Advisor informed the High

Commissioner that Bangladesh expects India's cooperation in ensuring that any person from the banned organisation, including the fugitive Sheikh Hasina, cannot use Indian territory to make political statements or conduct any activities aimed at creating instability within Bangladesh," the statement said, according to the newspaper. It also stated that "the Indian High Commissioner assured that he would take the matter into due consideration and make necessary inquiries and remain vigilant in this regard," citing the statement. According to the High Commission of India in Dhaka, the discussion during the courtesy call focused on increasing people-centric cooperation between India and Bangladesh, based on mutual interest and mutual benefit.

US Embassy advises citizens in South Korea to avoid large gatherings ahead of Yoon's impeachment verdict

Seoul, Aug 8 : The US Embassy in Seoul advised American citizens in South Korea on Saturday to avoid large crowds or demonstrations ahead of the Constitutional Court's verdict on President Yoon Suk Yeol's impeachment. The notice came as the top court is set to rule on Yoon's impeachment over his brief imposition of martial law on December 3, Yonhap news agency reported. "In connection with the Constitutional Court's verdict on the impeachment of President

Yoon, US citizens should anticipate large-scale demonstrations and an increased police presence," the embassy said in a posting on X. "Avoid areas where demonstrations are taking place, and exercise caution in the vicinity of any large crowds, gatherings, protests, or rallies," it said. The advisory follows a similar notice issued by the Chinese Embassy in Seoul the previous day, in which it called for its citizens to take caution regarding safety and security. The Chinese Em-



bassy warned of "possible extreme incidents" and advised its people to "keep their distance from" and "not participate in, stay near, or watch" political demonstrations near the court and other areas in Seoul. Earlier South Korean police have decided to deploy some 14,000 personnel in Seoul, according to sources familiar with the matter on Tuesday, as the Con-

stitutional Court is poised to rule on South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol's impeachment case. The court said it will deliver its verdict on whether to dismiss or reinstate Yoon over his failed martial law bid on Friday. For months, political polarisation has deepened between supporters and opponents of Yoon's impeachment over his failed martial law bid.



National Defence College delegation calls on Indian Ambassador in Moscow

Moscow, Aug 8 : The visiting Indian National Defence College (NDC) delegation called on Ambassador of India to Russia on Saturday during their ongoing 'Foreign Country Study Tour'.

Uganda engages Congo following attack on humanitarian aircraft

Kampala, Aug 8 : Uganda is engaging with the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) after militants fired at a humanitarian aircraft in eastern DRC, killing one person, a military spokesperson said. Chris Magezi, a Ugandan military spokesperson, said in a statement issued late Friday that the International Committee of the Red Cross had contracted the Ocean Heights Aviation Training Centre in

Uganda to evacuate its humanitarian staff caught in the conflict in South Kivu province in eastern DRC. As the aircraft, a Cessna Caravan flying from Uganda's Entebbe International Airport to Kavumu Airport in Bukavu, the capital of South Kivu province, approached its destination on Monday, it came under attack, Magezi said. "They (the pilots) flew there but landed when the security situation had dramatically changed. Re-



ports suggest that one person on the aircraft was shot and succumbed to the injuries. The government of Uganda, through relevant diplomatic channels, is following up on this matter," Magezi said. "The Uganda Peoples' Defence Forces are not involved in this at all.

Africa CDC hails Uganda for Ebola containment

Kampala, Aug 8 : The Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) on Saturday praised Uganda for successfully containing its latest Ebola outbreak, attributing the achievement to strong national leadership and coordinated action. Africa CDC Director-General Jean Kaseya made the remarks on social media platform X after co-chairing a meeting in Kampala with World Health Organisation (WHO) Regional Director for Africa Mohamed Yakub Janabi and officials from Uganda's Ministry of Health. "We commended

Uganda for successfully containing the Ebola outbreak through strong national leadership and coordinated action," wrote Kaseya. "This progress must be protected. Sustained preparedness, vigilant surveillance, and strong cross-border coordination remain essential to prevent further transmission and strengthen health security across the region," he added. Uganda declared the end of the Ebola outbreak on July 28, Xinhua News Agency reported. The announcement came before the completion of the WHO's standard 42-day countdown following the discharge of the last patient. Uganda discharged its

last Ebola patient on July 16 after the individual tested negative for the virus. The ongoing Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) has become the largest ever recorded in the country, surpassing the 2018-2020 epidemic, the World Health Organisation (WHO) said Saturday. As of Thursday, the DRC had reported 3,605 confirmed cases of Ebola disease caused by the Bundibugyo virus, including 1,587 deaths, representing a case fatality rate of 44 per cent, the WHO said in its latest disease outbreak report. The previous



largest outbreak, which struck the country's east between 2018 and 2020, recorded 3,317 confirmed cases. The current outbreak, initially confined to the Mongbwalu health zone in the province of Ituri, has spread over the past two months to 49 health zones across five provinces: Ituri, North Kivu, South Kivu, Haut-Uele and Tshopo. The outbreak has also taken a growing toll on health workers, with 151 infections and 44 deaths reported so far, highlighting persistent gaps in infection prevention and control at health facilities, the WHO said.

Shrinking civic space in Pakistan fuels concerns over democratic sliding: Report

Colombo, Aug 8 : Pakistan's shrinking civic space reflects a wider struggle over dissent, accountability and state authority in an increasingly polarised political climate. The growing use of cybercrime laws, counterterrorism legislation and digital restrictions has raised alarm among journalists, activists and civil society groups, who see these measures as part of a steady erosion of democratic freedoms, a report has stated. According to a recent report in Sri Lankan newspaper 'Daily Mirror', the pressure is evident across several fronts, including eroding media independence, tighter controls on online expression, curbs on public as-

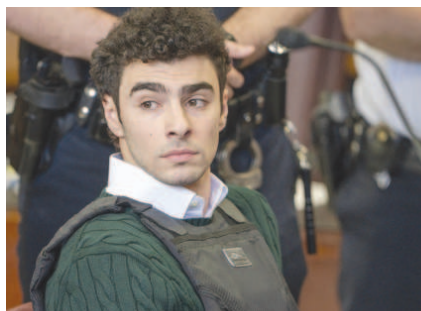
sembly and heightened scrutiny of civil society activities. "The silence in Pakistan is becoming increasingly political. Protest slogans disappear before they gather momentum. Journalists weigh every sentence against the risk of legal retaliation. Human rights activists operate under growing surveillance. Social media users face arrests for posts that challenge official narratives, while public gatherings encounter mounting restrictions under security laws and emergency powers," the report detailed. "Across Pakistan, dissent is no longer merely contested; it is increasingly criminalised. What many observers once described as isolated pressure on political opponents or media organisations



has evolved into a broader contraction of civic space that now affects journalists, activists, lawyers, students and ordinary citizens alike," it added. The report highlighted repeated warnings from human rights organisations, international watchdogs and civil society groups that Pakistan is experiencing one of its most severe democratic regressions in recent years, marked by "expanding state powers, weakening judicial independence and shrinking protections for freedom of expression". It added that these concerns have deepened amid growing political instability, economic hardship and security challenges.

US Attorney-General wants death penalty for killer of health insurance CEO

New York, Aug 8 : Attorney-General Pam Bondi is seeking the death penalty for Luigi Mangione, who is charged with killing a health insurance CEO, but has emerged as a sort of folk hero in some circles. Calling the killing of UnitedHealthcare CEO Brian Thompson "a premeditated, cold-blooded assassination that shocked America".



Strong Indian community turnout at Riyadh blood donation camp

Riyadh, Aug 8 : The Indian Embassy in Saudi Arabia on Saturday organised a blood donation camp in association with the Central Blood Bank, Riyadh. "Counsellor Shri Sharique Badr inaugurated a Blood Donation Camp organised by the Overseas Indian Cultural Congress (OICC) in association with the Central Blood Bank, Riyadh," the Embassy wrote on X. According to the Embassy, a strong turnout from the Indian community made the initiative a great success. "The Embassy of India continues to encourage and support meaningful social and humanitarian initiatives undertaken by community organisations. Thanks to all donors and volunteers for supporting this noble cause," noted the Embassy. According to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), the Indian community in Saudi Arabia numbers approximately 2.74 million and is a living bridge between the two countries. The contributions made by the Indian community to the development of Saudi Arabia are well acknowledged. On Friday, the Embassy of India in Kuwait organised a blood donation camp at the Adan Hospital and Blood Bank. "On the occasion of World Blood Donor Day, the Embassy of India in Kuwait, in collaboration with the Blood Donors Kerala (BDK) and the Federation of Indian Doctors (FID), organised a blood donation camp at Adan Hospital and Blood Bank today," the Embassy wrote on X. The camp was inaugurated by Ambassador Paramita Tripathi and Sheikh Hamoud Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, Governor of Al Ahmadi Governorate.



Hamstring injury rules Jemimah out of The Hundred, casts doubt over Asia Cup participation

London, Aug 8 : India batter Jemimah Rodrigues has been ruled out of the remainder of The Hundred due to a hamstring injury, which also places her participation in the upcoming Women's T20 Asia Cup in serious jeopardy. Playing for Southern Brave in the 100-ball competition, Jemimah made 143 runs in six innings at an average of 35.75 and a strike rate of 131.19, before the hamstring injury cut short her time in the competition. The franchise has now signed Australian all-rounder Charli Knott as her replacement for the rest of the tournament. "We can confirm that due to an injury suffered by Jemimah Rodrigues, we've signed Charli Knott as our injury replacement for the remainder of The Hundred. Wishing you a speedy recovery, Jemi," the franchise announced in an official statement on Saturday. The side is in second spot in the competition with 20 points and just behind table-toppers Trent Rockets.



Football: Vasco sign Argentine forward Colidio

Rio de Janeiro, Aug 8 : Vasco da Gama has reached an agreement with River Plate to sign Argentine forward Facundo Colidio, the Brazilian club has said. The 26-year-old agreed to a contract that runs until December 2029 after undergoing a medical in Rio de Janeiro. Vasco confirmed the news on Friday on social media along with a photo of Colidio wearing the club's black and white shirt, reports Xinhua. Local media reported that Vasco will pay 4.5 million U.S. dollars for 50 percent of the attacker's economic rights, with an option to purchase the remaining 50 percent. Colidio made 86 appearances for River Plate across all competitions following his 2023 move from Inter Milan. The move comes a few weeks after Vasco appointed Pedro Emanuel as their new manager. The 51-year-old signed a deal that runs until December 2027 and will be joined by assistant coaches Rui Gomes and Pedro Correia. "The coach will begin working on Saturday to accompany the daily activities and will hold his first press conference on Monday," Vasco said in a statement.



Jr Boys' NFC: Dr BC Roy Trophy to kick off in Bengaluru, Narainpur on Aug 25

New Delhi, Aug 7 : The 2026 edition of the Junior Boys' National Football Championship (NFC) for Dr BC Roy Trophy, Tiers 1 and 2, will be held from August 25 to September 9, 2026. Tier 1 will be hosted at the Bangalore Football Stadium in Bengaluru, while Tier 2 will take place at the RK Ashram Ground in Narainpur, Chhattisgarh. Both tiers will see 16 teams divided into four groups of four, with the group winners qualifying for the semi-finals. Continuing with the promotion-relegation system implemented three seasons ago, the two finalists from 2025-26 — Uttar Pradesh and Assam — have been promoted to Tier 1 for 2026-27.

Ashmita Chaliha storms into final of Korea Masters Super 300

New Delhi, Aug 8 : India's Ashmita Chaliha showcased brilliant resilience to book her spot in the women's singles final of the Korea Masters Super 300, beating compatriot Rakshmitha Ramraj in the semifinal played at the Asan Yi Sun-sin Gymnasium in Asan, Korea, on Saturday. In a thrilling all-Indian semifinal, Ashmita overcame compatriot Rakshitha 21-13, 16-21, 21-13. After dropping a tight second game, Chaliha bounced back aggressively to dictate the decider, continuing the Indian contingent's stellar run at the tournament. She will now battle China's Han Qianxi for the title in the summit clash.



APL 2026: Everything clicked at right time, says Denish Das after leading Barpeta Braves comeback

Guwahati, Aug 8 : Captain Denish Das has expressed his happiness over how things have clicked for Barpeta Braves after his unbeaten 72 off just 45 balls set the tone for their 70-run win over Nagaon Rangers in the Assam Premier League (APL) 2026. The result continued the side's turnaround after a slow start to the campaign, and Das is satisfied with playing a role in the change in their fortunes. Having lost their opening two fixtures, Barpeta Braves have now strung together back-to-back victories, with the bowlers making light work of the chase on the day - Bikiran Das (4/13) and Shubham Kumar Gupta (3/8) sharing seven wickets to bowl Nagaon Rangers out for 100. For Das, the result was as much about the collective effort as his own innings.



Canadian Open: Fernandez beats Andreeva for first Top-10 win after seven defeats

Montreal, Aug 8 : The 2021 US Open finalist Leylah Fernandez ended a streak of seven defeats to Top 10 opponents by getting past Roland Garros champion Mirra Andreeva in the third round of the WTA section of the Canadian Open. Fernandez entered her match against fifth seed Andreeva and snapped her streak of defeats in a big way, matching her best-ever result at her country's signature event. The win left the 30th-ranked Fernandez primed for a Round of 16 clash with former US Open winner Naomi Osaka, the 11th seed getting the better of 20th seed Elise Mertens of Belgium 6-1, 6-4. The Canadian star routed the No. 5 seed 6-1, 6-4 in 1 hour and 21 minutes to return to not just the Round of 16 in Toronto, a result she previously recorded in Montreal in 2023.