THE NEW
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TVK chief and actor Vijay leaves the CBI headquarters in New Delhi after the second round of questioning over the Karur stampede on Monday | PTI | P7

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Nitin Nabin unopposed candidate for BJP prez

The 45-year-old leader is youngest ever to take the hot seat

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR
@ New Delhi

Outgoing BJP chief J P Nadda, Union Ministers Amit Shah, Rajnath Singh, Nitin Gadkari and Kiren Rijiju, and other senior leaders proposing the name of Nitin Nabin for BJP National President during the nomination process, at the BJP headquarters in New Delhi on Monday | PTI

NITIN Nabin, 45, on Monday emerged as the unopposed candidate for the BJP national president. A formal announcement on his election will be made on Tuesday. A five-term Bihar MLA and currently the party's national working president, Nabin will be the youngest to occupy the top seat. He will succeed veteran leader J P Nadda.

His candidature was backed by top leaders including Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah. On Monday, in line with organisational rules, outgoing party chief Nadda and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh handed over Nabin's nomination papers to K Laxman, the returning officer for the election, at the party's central office. Thereafter, Arunachal CM Pema Khandu and BJP leaders from Bihar, Andhra, Maharashtra, Assam, and Jharkhand submitted papers in his support. In all, 37 sets of papers favouring Nabin were filed, paving the way for his unopposed election as the BJP's 12th national president.

Nabin is taking over at a crucial time as he will have to lead the party through the Assembly elections in West Bengal, Assam, Tamil Nadu, and Kerala.

The first BJP chief to hail from Bihar, Nabin has travelled extensively across states since becoming BJP working president on December 14, 2025. During his interactions with cadre, his common message has been to become full-time politicians and give their 100% to serve people.

He entered mainstream politics in 2006, when the BJP fielded him from the Patna West Assembly constituency following the death of his father Navin Kishore Sinha, who had close ties with the RSS.

Reveal logical discrepancy list in WB: SC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ New Delhi/Kolkata

THE Supreme Court on Monday directed the Election Commission of India to publicly display names of 1.25 crore voters flagged for "logical discrepancies" at gram panchayat offices, block headquarters, and ward offices in the state.

Logical discrepancies, linked to the 2002 voter list, include mismatches in parents' names and biologically implausible age gaps between voters and their parents (less than 15 years or exceeding 50 years).

A three-judge bench of Chief Justice Surya Kant and justices Dipankar Datta and Joymalya Bagchi said those likely to be affected by the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the electoral rolls in West Bengal should be allowed to submit their documents or objections.

Directing that the exercise be conducted smoothly, the bench said, "Let us ensure that this exercise runs smoothly, it is timely completed by ensuring a transparent measure giving fair opportunity to all those who feel because of some discrepancy they are under unnecessary doubt."

Speaking at a rally in Barasat, TMC leader Abhishek Banerjee interpreted the Supreme Court's direction to the Election Commission as "slaps on faces of those who tried to deprive people of the fundamental right to vote."

A video grab purportedly showing DGP K Ramachandra Rao with a woman inside his chamber

DGP lands in trouble over sleazy video

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

THE Karnataka police were left red-faced after a video of a top cop in a compromising position with a woman in his office during duty hours went viral on Monday.

Director General of Police (DGP) K Ramachandra Rao, heading the Directorate of Civil Rights Enforcement (DCRE), was caught on camera while allegedly engaging in an intimate act with a woman while he was in uniform.

As the video went viral, the senior IPS officer termed the video "fabricated" and rushed to the residence of Home Minister Dr G Parameshwara. P7

JAISHANKAR WARNS POLAND

'Don't fuel terror in our neighbourhood'

JAYANTH JACOB @ New Delhi

EXTERNAL Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Monday delivered a blunt message to Poland, warning it not to take actions that help fuel terrorist infrastructure in India's neighbourhood.

"You are no stranger to our region and are certainly familiar with the long-standing challenge of cross-border terrorism," Jaishankar said in his televised opening remarks during talks with his Polish counterpart Radoslaw Sikorski in New Delhi. "Poland should display zero tolerance for terrorism and not help fuel the terrorist infrastructure in our neighbourhood."

The remarks reflect New Delhi's unease over a reference to Kashmir in a Poland-Pakistan joint statement, issued during Sikorski's visit to Islamabad in October, which went against India's position on the issue.

Jaishankar also criticised the West's "selective targeting" of India over New Delhi's energy ties with Moscow. Sikorski's three-day visit to India comes days ahead of a visit by the EU's top leadership to New Delhi.

RFO found dead on road, friend missing

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Mysuru

A range forest officer (RFO) was found dead under mysterious circumstances on the crossroad near a private lodge on Mother Teresa Road near KSRTC Suburban Bus-stand here on Monday morning.

The police said the deceased, **Kantharaj Chauhan** (32), who hailed from Vijayapura, was serving at the Social Forestry Wing in T Narasipura. Chauhan was transferred to T Narasipura just 15 days ago and had recently rented a house at Sardar Vallabhai Patel Nagar in the city. P4

It's ballot papers for GBA polls

MOHAMMED YACOOB
@ Bengaluru

IN a big development on local body elections to Bengaluru city, which is without an elected body since September 11, 2020, State Election Commissioner GS Sangreshi stated that ballot papers will be used for the elections to the five city corporations under the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA).

Releasing the draft voters' list to the five city corporations on Monday, he said the Supreme Court has upheld its decision to conduct elections through Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs). At the same time, the ruling has not gone against the ballot system.

He appealed to eligible, unregistered voters to register themselves as there is a provision to do so till the last day of filing nomination papers by candidates.

Sangreshi said the Election Commission is an independent body and it is within its discretion to hold the elections under the ballot system. "I won't undermine EVMs, which are used for Assembly and parliament elections. After discussions with all the stakeholders, we decided to go for the ballot system. Even developed countries like the US use ballot paper," he explained. P2

88 lakh voters in city

As per the ward-wise draft voters' list for the five city corporations, released by the GBA on Monday, there are 88,91,411 voters in the city.

NEXT ICC OPTIONS

Forfeiture or Scotland in place of B'desh

SWAROOP SWAMINATHAN
@ Chennai

THE International Cricket Council (ICC) continues to juggle multiple T20 World Cup related issues even though the event is now less than three weeks away. It's understood that multiple stakeholders are deep in conversation with respect to Bangladesh's insistence on not playing their games in India. If in case the ICC doesn't relent and Bangladesh withdraw, the world governing body has to consider the way forward. And time is very limited before the first set of matches on February 7.

It's understood that one of the ways could be a last minute invitation to Scotland to fill the Bangladesh-sized hole in Group C. Scotland, by virtue of being the highest-ranked team to not qualify for the event, will be one of the first teams to get a call. What adds to the intrigue is that when contacted by this daily, a Cricket Scotland source said they 'aren't commenting' on the matter. But do remember that Jersey finished higher than Scotland in the actual qualifiers but they are not expected to be an option.

The other option ICC has is a straightforward forfeit. That would mean that the other four teams in Group C essentially beginning the tournament with a win against their names. But that may not be palatable to the broadcasters who have spent a lot of money to secure the rights for this event. Lack of four live games results in a loss of revenue. If Scotland does come, the very lopsided nature of Group C — the other teams are England, West Indies, Nepal and Italy — could give a potential advantage to two of the former champions.

ALMANAC TODAY
• **Tuesday:** 20.01.2026 • **Year:** Vishwavasu • **Ayana:** Uttharayana
• **Ritu:** Sisira • **Masa:** Magha • **Paksha:** Sukla • **Tithi:** Dwitheeya 2.13 am
• **Nakshatra:** Shravana1.13 pm • Moon in Kumbha Rashi • **Rahukaala:** 03:00 am to 04:30 am
• **Gulikakala:** 12:00 pm to 01:30 pm • **Yamaganda**: 09:00 am to 10:30 am

WEATHER
MIN 14°C | MAX 29°C
FORECAST Sunny

Sunrise	06.46 am
Sunset	06.15 pm
Moonrise	07.51 am
Moonset	07.40 pm

88,91,411 VOTERS IN GBA'S DRAFT LIST

Voter house verification from Jan 20 to Feb 3; Final list to be published on March 16

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

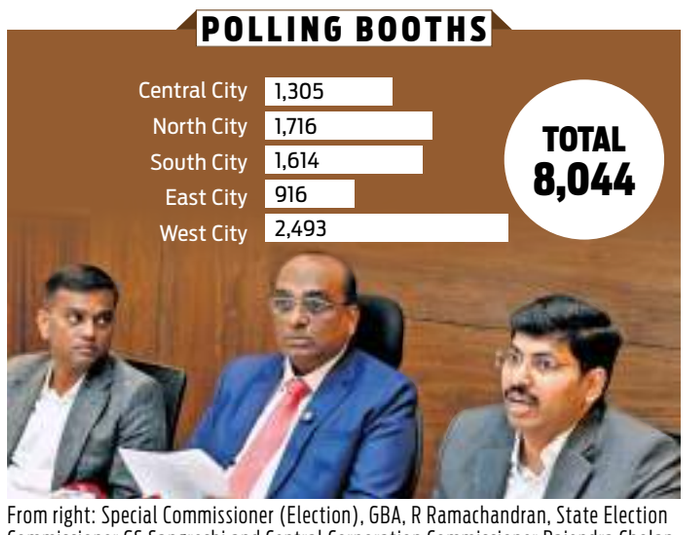
NAMMA Bengaluru has 88,91,411 voters, according to the ward-wise draft voters' list for five city corporations released here on Monday by the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA).

R Ramachandran, Special Commissioner (Election), GBA, said of the 88,91,411 voters in 369 wards, 45,69,193 are men, 43,20,583 women and 1,635 others. The draft voters' list was prepared for GBA elections based on details collected till October 1, 2025, he said.

He said from January 20 to February 3, booth-level officers (BLOs) will visit voters' houses for verification. During this period, they can submit claims and objections. Disposal of claims and objections will be done from February 4 to 18. The final voters' list will be published on March 16.

He said Ward 23 of Bengaluru West City Corporation has the highest number of 49,530 voters, while Ward 16 of Bengaluru East City Corporation has the lowest number of 10,926 voters. In all, 8,044 polling stations will be set up in 369 wards.

POLLING BOOTHS



From right: Special Commissioner (Election), GBA, R Ramachandran, State Election Commissioner GS Sangreshi and Central Corporation Commissioner Rajendra Cholan announce the draft voters' list on Monday | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

NEARLY 10 LAKH NEW VOTERS ADDED IN 3 YEARS

The State Election Commission said over 10 lakh new voters have been added since October 2022. Then, the list had 79,19,563 voters - 41,16,383 male, 38,03,747 female and 1,433 others. As per the October 1, 2025 draft list, the city has 88,91,411 voters, including 45,69,193 males, 43,20,583 females and 1,635 others.

ELECTORAL ROLLS ON WEBSITE

The ward-wise draft electoral rolls will be published in the PDF format on the official GBA website: https://gba.karnataka.gov.in/home. Citizens can verify and confirm the inclusion of their names in the electoral rolls.

VOTER HELPLINE

CENTRAL	080-22975803
NORTH	080-22975936
SOUTH	9480685704
EAST	9480685706
WEST	9480685703

Our officers are equipped to conduct free and fair elections on time. We will succeed
GS Sangreshi, SEC

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

As per the Greater Bengaluru Administration (Voter Registration) Rules, 2025, for the preparation of ward-wise electoral rolls, applications along with necessary documents may be submitted in prescribed forms to the Electoral Registration Officer / Assistant Electoral Registration Officer / Booth Level Officer appointed by the Commission.

Form-4	Form-5	Form-6	Form-7	Form-8
For inclusion of name	Objection to inclusion of name	For correction of name	For change of address	For deletion of name

Polling date likely to be announced in April: SEC

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"GRAM panchayat and cooperative elections too are held under the ballot system," the State Election Commissioner said. The other reason for the decision is to make the younger generation and new voters aware of the ballot paper system.

Asked about the possibility of rigging under the system and the likely delays in counting of votes as compared to EVMs, he said there will be no room for rigging and malpractice. CCTVs will be installed and police protection will be in place.

"The ballot system is returning to the city after a gap of nearly 15 years. The GBA Act specifies holding elections using ballots. Our officers are equipped to conduct free and fair elections on time. We will succeed," he said.

The Supreme Court recently directed the state government and State Election Commission to complete the civic body election in Bengaluru by June 30. "A notification will be issued after May 25 after SSLC and PUC exams," he noted.

On the likely polling date and challenges the SEC could face, Sangreshi said it is too early to say now as the commission is yet to release the final list of voters. He said the polling date is likely to be announced in April.

JUST ANOTHER DAY

The setting sun casts a golden hue on the evening sky — as seen from Malleswaram on Monday | KEVIN NASHON

ELCITA a public body, comes under RTI Act: Info panel

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

THE Karnataka Information Commission (KIC) has ruled that the Electronics City Industrial Township Authority (ELCITA) is a "public authority" under Section 2(h) of the Right to Information (RTI) Act, 2005, directing it to furnish information sought under the Act and comply with statutory transparency requirements.

The order was passed in an appeal filed by Ganesh Kumar M against the Public Information Officer (PIO) and First Appellate Authority of ELCITA. The appellant had sought detailed information in February 2025 regarding works undertaken by the authority, tender documents, bidder details, and payment records related to tender processes.

During the hearing, ELCITA argued that it did not fall under the definition of a public authority, citing Supreme Court and High Court judgments related to cooperative societies, contending that it was neither substantially financed nor controlled by the government. The authority maintained that regulatory or supervisory control alone would not bring an institution under the RTI Act.

Rejecting these arguments, the Commission observed that Electronics City was developed by the Karnataka government through KEONICS in 1970, and that ELCITA is a statutory body constituted under Section 364-A of the Karnataka Municipalities Act, 1964, through a government notification issued in 2013. The Commission noted that ELCITA performs core civic functions such as providing roads, water supply, sanitation, and crucially, collecting property tax – a function of the government.

It also highlighted that ELCITA collects taxes as per government guidelines and transfers 30 per cent of the revenue to three gram panchayats within its jurisdiction. Government officials from multiple departments are members of ELCITA's board, and the authority operates under laws enacted by the State Legislature.

Citing constitutional provisions and multiple judicial precedents, the Commission ruled that ELCITA exercises municipal powers and is, therefore, a statutory public body. The Commission directed ELCITA to appoint a Public Information Officer, Assistant PIO and First Appellate Authority, and ordered it to provide the requested information within 10 days, warning of penalties and disciplinary action for non-compliance.

8th Yellow Line trainset reaches depot, testing to begin soon

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

ALL six coaches of an eighth trainset meant for Namma Metro's Yellow Line reached the Hebbagodi Depot on Monday, marking another step towards enhancing the passenger services on the corridor.

A senior official of the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) said the coaches will first be assembled into a full trainset and then subjected to a series of mandatory tests.

"The train will undergo comprehensive static and dynamic trials, including signalling integration and running for a stipulated minimum number of kilometres. These tests will be conducted during night hours after passenger services are halted for the day," the official said.

Only after successful completion of these trials will the train be inducted into commercial operations.

On the proposed improvement in train frequency, the official said a decision would be taken once the timetable is finalised. "We will assess whether the additional trainset will be deployed to enhance services during peak hours or non-peak hours. Details on any frequency enhancement will be announced before the train is introduced into passenger service," the official added.

Law passed by BJP govt allows ballot: DKS

BENGALURU: Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister DK Shivakumar said the State Election Commission is an independent body and has powers to decide on using ballot papers instead of electronic voting machines (EVMs) for the Greater Bengaluru Authority polls. "Legislation introduced by the BJP government in 2020 allows the use of ballot papers in elections; we are only taking it forward. There is nothing wrong with using ballot papers. The State Election Commission will work within the legal framework," he said. There is a plan to conduct all local body elections — zilla, taluk and gram panchayat polls — together, he said. **ENS**

BJP flags rigging risk, delay in result

AKNISREE KARTHIK @ Bengaluru

THE BJP has opposed holding elections to the five corporations of Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) using ballot papers, while Congress leaders said they do not see any problem and are open to face elections with the ballot system. However, leaders from both parties said a lot of manpower will be needed for the ballot system, and counting would take more time.

Former opposition leader in BBMP and BJP leader NR Ramesh alleged that the ballot system favours poll rigging. "Till 2001, the Congress party had a hold on Bengaluru city. It was possible as elections were held using the ballot system. Post this, Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) were used, and in the 2010 and 2015 elections, of 198 wards, BJP won 112 and 100 wards respectively," Ramesh said. He added that except for Bengaluru Central City Corporation, the BJP is confident of sweeping the elections and alleged that to prevent this, ballots are being used.

Former mayor and Congress leader Gangambike Mallikarjun said there are both advantages and disadvantages in going back to the ballot system. "There has been a lot of confusion among the people and public representatives about EVMs. They feel EVMs can be tampered with, and have doubts whether the votes they cast are going to their chosen candidates. So returning to the ballot system would do away with their doubts, and they can be confident," Gangambike said.

On the drawbacks, she said the ballot system would need more manpower. "Unlike EVMs which give results quickly, the ballot system will take more time to announce results," she said.

Former corporator M Shivaraj, who faced his first election to Bangalore Mahanagara Palike in 2001 with the ballot system, said he doesn't see any problem in using ballots. "The State Election Commission, after discussions with stakeholders, has decided to hold elections using the ballot system. Before we oppose anything, I feel we should face the first GBA elections and in the next elections, we can take a firm decision if we want ballots or EVMs," Shivaraj said. Ballot or EVM, it is people who will decide who wins and we have to respect the voters, he said.

EXPRESS READ

UCO BANK REPORTS NET PROFIT OF RS 739 CRORE IN DEC 2025

Bengaluru: UCO Bank reported a net profit of Rs 739 crore for the quarter ending December 31, 2025. The bank's total business stood at Rs 5,53,680 crore, signifying a year-on-year growth of 13.25%. Of this, total credit grew by 16.74% year-on-year to Rs 2,43,594 crore and total deposits grew by 10.64% year-on-year to Rs 3,10,086 crore. Net interest income as of December 31 was Rs 2,646 crore. The bank's net non-performing assets (NPA) ratio improved to 0.36% as of December 31. Operating profit of the bank now stands at Rs 1,680 crore, a press release stated. **ENS**

Horoscopes By Holiday

HOLIDAY MATHIS

20th January : Mercury Follows the Sun Mercury follows the sun into Aquarius, and communication is like a forward-thinking group chat where someone suddenly drops a brilliant idea that makes everyone start seeing the future. Big ideas, social change, technology and unconventional solutions will come together in the weeks ahead. Skip the sentiment in favor of insight or principle.

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
You've been a bit detached, which has served you well. Think of it as protection. But today, nothing feels stormy or overwhelming. The emotional climate is gentle enough to set your defenses down and experience things more directly.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 - May 20)
The majority won't get it, and that's actually a good thing. Relish your moment. Originality makes the world go round. Better to be truly seen as yourself by one person than to blend into the background.

GEMINI (May 21 - June 21)
Your high standards aren't just about turning in good work or making lifestyle choices. You extend your expectations to matters of character and attitude. You seek the company of those who are considerate, fair and compassionate, like you.

CANCER (June 22 - July 22)
Even though you know intellectually that feelings are neutral -- not wrong, not right, just information -- you still judge yourself for having certain emotions. Instead of analyzing your process, just give yourself credit for having one.

LEO (July 23 - Aug. 22)
The one you care for could get attention from different directions, but there is no care quite like yours, and this will become increasingly obvious. Let it be a source of pride to you. You will keep the relationship in balance by never forgetting the value of your love.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)
Achievements will magically spill over from one domain to another because the way progress is made stays consistent. Skills grow through sequencing, patience and repetition. Break it into manageable pieces and build them one at a time.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 - Oct. 23)
Scorekeeping turns giving and receiving into an accounting job instead of a spiritual or pleasurable gesture. Share without worrying about who gave what. The real benefit happens inside your heart as you give.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 21)
You'll gather insight and construct a few stronger boundaries, not to keep people or experiences out of your life but to protect yourself from their effects the way a wetsuit allows the diver to explore depths.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)
You are loyal to the ones who are loyal to you. You are also loyal to the ones who are (SET ITAL)not(END ITAL) loyal to you. Because to you, loyalty is a value, and the rules do not change when circumstances do.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)
It's hard enough to resist the influence you can feel. But what about the influence that is so much a part of the culture, you don't even notice it? Awareness keeps you in charge. Ask, "What am I missing?"

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)
People react well when they understand the full scope of the situation. Many just don't have the experience to know the layers and depths in play. This is why it's important to have the right mentor. Such a person is coming into your life.

PISCES (Feb. 19 - Mar 20)
We change. We are changed by one another. To interact with someone is to change them, and to change yourself. Today, you make extra efforts to be sure people are lighter, brighter and better for knowing you.

Solutions to Yesterday's puzzle

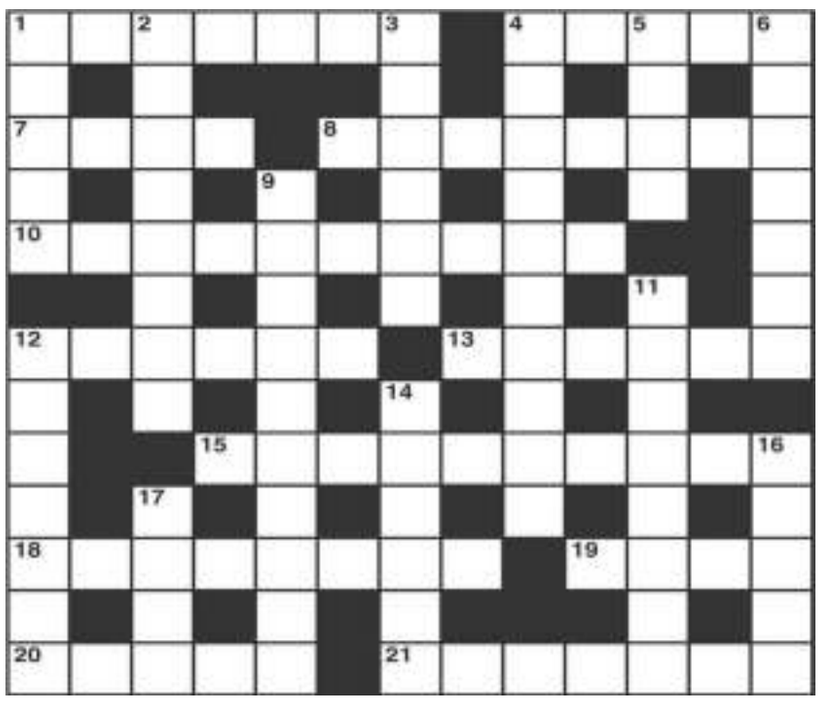
				5			9	2
				8	4	3		7
3	1							
		3	8				7	
	6						2	
	9				1	6		
							3	4
1		4	5	2				
2	7			9				

3	9	7	2	6	5	8	4	1
6	1	2	8	4	7	5	9	3
5	8	4	3	9	1	6	2	7
9	4	8	5	1	2	3	7	6
1	3	6	7	8	9	2	5	4
7	2	5	6	3	4	9	1	8
4	5	3	1	2	8	7	6	9
2	6	1	9	7	3	4	8	5
8	7	9	4	5	6	1	3	2

SUDOKU EVIL

TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



CROSS WORD

ACROSS
1 Do away with Basil? Oh that's wrong! (7)
4 Rowed about an endowment (5)
7 The boy's in a whirl (4)
8 Entrance qualification for Yale? (8)
10 Though possibly original it is less than novel (5,5)
12 About eleven the ship moves off (6)
13 Sandy hair? (6)
15 Robust shoes may be (4,2,4)
18 It may be hard pressed to gain an admission (8)
19 Capital punishment (4)
20 Woman unaffected by reversal (5)
21 Storm created by Shakespeare (7)

DOWN
1 Declares a piece of poetry lacks point (5)
2 Godly foe disposed to be reactionary (3,5)
3 They beat a complete suit (6)
4 Road notice perhaps a job for a painter (10)
5 Come to some backwater (4)
6 He's right to take Monday off (7)
9 Its owner will have impressions of many countries (5,5)
11 Periodical may include explosive material (8)
12 Dreams of working without a life of slavery (7)
14 Not a big shot in the gunnery world (6)
16 Negotiate for free entertainment (5)
17 Utterly rude and cross (4)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Considerate, 9 Garbage, 10 Cupid, 11 Inst, 12 Traverse, 14 Sector, 16 Brides, 18 Thespian, 19 Star, 22 Mores, 23 Hirsute, 24 Sports clubs.

Down: 2 Ogres, 3 Soap, 4 Dreary, 5 Recovery, 6 Tapered, 7 Against time, 8 Adversaries, 13 Composer, 15 Clear up, 17 Pathos, 20 Thumb, 21 Oral.

JUMBLE

UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

CEEEM

TDOIT

UGTAOE

SFLISO

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Ans. here: " " (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: BANJO KITTY HUDDLE CIRCUS
Answer: To avoid helping clean up, the mallard decided to — DUCK OUT

The Greater Bengaluru Authority on Monday launched the fortnightly Measles-Rubella vaccination campaign at urban primary health centres and outreach areas of the five city corporations. The campaign will continue till January 31

KARNATAKA BATS FOR QR CODES ON MEDs, TO SEND PROPOSAL TO CENTRE

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Mysuru

HEALTH Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao said that the state government will send a proposal to the Centre seeking mandatory QR codes on medicine strips to help visually impaired persons access drug information using smartphones.

Speaking at the 'Investigation of Medication Practices and Care Technology for Visually Impaired Persons (IMPACT-VIP)' roundtable discussion and stakeholders' meet organised by JSS Academy of Higher Education and Research (JSS AHER) at Sri Rajendra Auditorium on Monday, Rao appreciated the collaboration between JSS AHER and Japan-based Export Japan Inc for introducing technology that enables visually impaired users to scan QR codes on medicine strips and receive details such as the drug name, manufacturer, expiry date, batch number and authenticity through voice output.

Noting that QR code technology is widely used in restaurants, hotels and government departments, Rao said its adoption in pharmaceuticals would significantly benefit the visually impaired.

Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao greets delegates from Japan during the IMPACT-VIP Round Table Discussion in Mysuru on Monday | UDAYASHANKAR S

"If pharma companies implement QR codes on medicine strips, visually challenged persons can independently identify and verify medicines through voice-enabled information. This will also help people with language barriers, those who cannot read, and the elderly to use the right medicines," he said. As such decisions must be taken at the national level, Rao said the state would forward a proposal to the government of India and also attempt to bring pharmaceutical companies on board.

Dr T M Pramod Kumar, Principal of JSS College of Pharmacy, said medication errors, unclear labels and inaccessible instructions pose serious risks to visually impaired patients. "This meeting aims to listen to those experiences, analyse evidence collected across Karnataka, Kerala, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, and explore how technology and policy together can improve medication safety and independence," he said.

Representatives from Export Japan Inc, Tokuhiro Arakawa and Brittany Partin, and from Deloitte Tohmatsu Financial Advisory, Jotaro Sunahara and Kenta Miyamoto, were also present.

Man who cheated techie of ₹1.53cr nabbed

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

A 32-year-old married civil engineer, against whom a software engineer had filed a complaint accusing him of cheating her of Rs 1.53 crore under the pretext of marriage, has been arrested by the Kengeri police.

The accused met the victim on a matrimonial website, claiming to be a businessman and introducing his wife as his sister to dupe her.

The accused has been identified as Vijesh B, alias Vijay Raj Gowda, a resident of Kengeri and a native of Tumakuru.

The police said a 29-year-old software engineer filed a complaint stating that she was cheated of Rs 1.53 crore by Vijay Raj, whom she met on a matrimonial website in 2024. He claimed to be running multiple businesses in the city and reportedly told her that he owned assets worth Rs 715 crore in Bengaluru. He persuaded her to invest in a joint business venture, through which he allegedly collected Rs 1.75 crore from her in phases, while also promising to marry her. He claimed that cases had been registered against him following ED raids and that his bank accounts had been frozen. He allegedly showed her fake court documents to support his claims and continued to extort money, police said.

The police added that Vijay Raj later took the victim to his house to introduce her to his family members, during which he introduced his wife as his sister. The victim later learnt that the woman was his wife and that he also had a child. When the victim demanded the return of her money, he allegedly paid Rs 22 lakh but later threatened to kill her and her friends if she continued to demand the remaining amount.

COLLEGE BUS MOWS DOWN WOMAN, SON

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

A 37-year-old woman and her eight-year-old son were mowed down by a college bus when they were crossing the road near Viveknagar Junction in Ashoknagar traffic police limits at 6.30 am on Monday.

The deceased have been identified as Sangeetha and her son Partha, residents of Ejipura. Sangeetha was working as a non-teaching staff in a school in Viveknagar and her son was also a student there. Her husband stays in Andhra Pradesh. Sangeetha has another child. The bus driver abandoned the vehicle and escaped.

Teen with 18 fake email IDs held for blackmailing women in Bhatkal

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bhatkal (Uttara Kannada)

THE Bhatkal police have arrested a 19-year-old youth on charges of sending obscene messages to women and blackmailing them through fake social media accounts. The accused has been identified as Mehran Mehtab Shabandari, a resident of Tulsi Katte, Kumta, and a native of Manki in Honnavar taluk, near Bhatkal. He is a student pursuing BCA in a private college in Mangaluru.

Police said the accused would select his victims in social gatherings like weddings of unknown persons. "He would secretly take their pictures and upload them on social media and send obscene messages via email to them. He had 18 email IDs," an officer said.

The accused used to harass the women by pressuring them to send nude photographs. It was also revealed that he had allegedly threatened a woman with dire consequences, including getting her killed by invoking the names of Hindu religious leaders.

The case came to light after a woman from Bhatkal lodged a complaint with the Bhatkal Town police station. The matter was then referred to the cyber crime wing. Following a probe, the accused was arrested.

Police said many victims suffered silently as the identity of the accused remained unknown. However, following his arrest, many have now come forward with complaints to the police. A case has been registered at Bhatkal Town Police Station and further investigation is on. After being produced before a court, the accused was remanded in judicial custody and is now shifted to Karwar jail.

WARM TRIBUTES

Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy and others at an event organised to mark Mahayogi Vemana Jayanti in Bengaluru on Monday | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

EXPRESS READ

65-yr-old seer alleges extortion by woman

Bengaluru: A 65-year-old seer from a Tiptur-based mutt has filed a complaint with the Central Crime Branch, alleging extortion and life threats by a woman and her associates. According to the FIR registered on Sunday, Rudramuni Swami of Sri Padakshara Mutt stated that four to five months ago the accused, Spoorthi, who hails from Tiptur, contacted him claiming to be unemployed. She allegedly demanded Rs 4.5 lakh and threatened to defame him by spreading false allegations and damaging his reputation if the money is not paid. She also allegedly issued death threats and extorted the amount through multiple bank transfers. The accused and her associates later reportedly demanded an additional Rs 1 crore, threatening further harm. Following the harassment, the victim approached the police. A case has been registered under Sections 308 (extortion), 61 (criminal conspiracy) of the BNS. **ENS**

Pillion rider killed as speeding bike skids

Bengaluru: A 36-year-old pillion rider died when the two-wheeler he was on skidded on the road in Sanjaynagar traffic police station limits in the wee hours of Monday. The deceased, identified as Pradyumna from Uttar Pradesh, was riding with his friend Guru Singh Yadav when the latter lost control over the speeding bike and crashed at Bhadrappa Layout on the Outer Ring Road around 1.30 am. The victim was staying at Devi Nagar in the city and was a construction labourer. Pradyumna died on the way to a hospital. **ENS**

Ganja, exotic animals seized at KIA

Bengaluru: Customs officials intercepted two major illegal shipments -- a consignment of 35 wild animals and 4.96 kg of hydroponic ganja -- at Terminal 2 of Kempegowda International Airport on January 17. Three individuals were arrested under the Customs Act, 1962, for attempting to import 35 wild species from Bangkok without valid documents in violation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) and Wildlife Protection Act (WPA) rules. Unfortunately, many of the animals, including squirrel monkeys, green iguanas, blue iguanas, yellow iguanas, Abert's squirrels and Patagonian hares, were found dead on arrival. The hydroponic ganja, valued around Rs 1.73 crore, was seized from a passenger who arrived from Kuala Lumpur. The accused was arrested under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act of 1985. **ENS**

PUBLIC NOTICE

WANTED SECRETARY
For Surya Elegance Apartments
category - General Graduate preferred.
Must speak Kannada English and Hindi
Knowledge of Karnataka Apartment Ownership Act & Rules preferable
Send resumes to : seesti2024@gmail.com.
Walk-in Interview:
25/01/2026, 10:30 AM-05:00 PM
Venue: Surya Elegance Apartments, Iggluru opposite to Apollo pharmacy Chandapura anekal tq
Mobile: +91 63680 48518

Mumbai Port Authority
Notice Inviting Tender

Tender No. MEED/EDP/234/2025 is invited for the work of **Build, Operate and Maintain Integrated Access Control and Surveillance System of Mumbai Port Authority** on revenue share basis for a Period of 10 Years. Details of the tenders are available on MbPA's website **www.mumbaiport.gov.in** AND **https://gem.gov.in**

Chief Mechanical Engineer
Mumbai Port Authority
MbPA-42-2025

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Vazhuthacaud, Thiruvananthapuram 695014
Phone 2722748, 2722235
TENDER NOTICE
Name of Work: Re-tender for construction of Rejuvenation pond as part of TDA's vertical horizontal development Project
Agreed pac: 7,20,26,717/-
EMD: Rs 10000/-
Time of Completion: 18 Months
Tender Id: 2026- Tnda -838569-1
Security Deposit: 2,00,000/
Last date of receipt of tender: 07.02.2026 at 11.30 AM
For more details contact TDA during office hours or visit.
No. 81 (17/2026) Tnda
17.01.2026 03/02/2026 at 3PM
Sd/-
CHIEF ENGINEER

BENGALURU EAST CITY CORPORATION
The Assistant Executive Engineer, BECC,
K.R Puram Sub Division, K.R Puram, Bengaluru - 560 036
No: AEE/KRP/Sub-Div/Qp-106/2025-26 Date: 20-01-2026
INVITATION FOR QUOTATION (IFT)
(Short Term Notification)
(Through GOK KPP Portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in only)
The Assistant Executive Engineer, BECC K. R. Puram Sub Division invites Item Rate Quotation for the works details in the table given below. The bidder may submit quotation for any or all of the works given in the table.

Sl No.	Name of the work
1.	Providing Shamiyana, Stage, Furniture, Sound System & Genarator for Republic Day Programme on 26-01-2026 at K R Puram Approx. Value of Work: ₹.4.99 Lakhs,

Calendar of Events - (1) Submission of quotation 21-01-2026 onwards. (2) Last date submission of quotations on or before at 23-01-2026, 4:00 pm (3) Date of opening of quotations is at 23-01-2026, 4:00 pm onwards. (4) Before submission of quotations, bidders must ensure that all the necessary documents have been attached with quote
Sd/- Assistant Executive Engineer
BECC, K.R.Puram Sub Division

BAJAJ BeYOND
JAMNALAL BAJAJ AWARDS

Nominations Invited

48th JAMNALAL BAJAJ NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL AWARDS - 2026 FOR GANDHIAN 'WARRIORS'

National Award for Constructive Work
For contribution in any of or all the development areas of Mahatma Gandhi's Constructive Programmes, to create a self-reliant community in rural India.

The Man - Jamnalal Bajaj was among the stalwarts who gave of himself completely - mind, body and soul to India's freedom movement. Jamnalal Bajaj overreached himself in making words into deeds and in implementing the Constructive Programme of Mahatma Gandhi, be it Khadi, Dalit - welfare, women emancipation, ethics in business, or preservation of cattle-wealth through Goseva. So much so that Mahatma Gandhi adopted him as his 'fifth son'.

The Awards - To promote and propagate Jamnalal Bajaj's philanthropic vision as also Gandhian ideology of rural development, the Jamnalal Bajaj Foundation instituted four Awards, which have come to be regarded as most coveted in respective fields.

EACH AWARD COMPRISES
Cash Prize ₹ 20 Lakhs | Trophy | Citation

National Award for Application of Science & Technology for Rural Development
For contribution through adaptable, affordable, replicable appropriate grassroots technologies, which has resulted in economic, social and ecological development of rural people.

National Award for Development & Welfare of Women & Children
Only to a woman.
For contribution towards education, skills training, healthcare, literacy, livelihood activities, holistic development, advocacy, etc. of women and children.

International Award for Promoting Gandhian Values Outside India
Only to a foreign national.
For contribution outside India in promoting Gandhian principles like vision for peace, non-violence, harmony of human life with nature and moral conscience.

12 Days left for Nominations

National & International Awards: 31st January, 2026
Online Submission: www.jamnalalbajajawards.org/nomination-forms
Email (for nomination): nominations@jamnalalbajajfoundation.org

Jamnalal Bajaj Foundation
Bajaj Bhawan, Jamnalal Bajaj Marg,
226 Nariman Point, Mumbai 400 021
Phone: 022 - 69424200 / 22023626

Visit
www.jamnalalbajajfoundation.org
www.jamnalalbajajawards.org
www.bajajgroup.company
www.bajajbeyond.co.in

The foundation stone for the Indian Reserve Battalion (IRB) Training Centre and Battalion headquarters will be laid by Home Minister Dr G Parameshwara in Kolar Gold Fields on Tuesday. The IRB, raised by the Union Government for states and UTs to support local police forces in maintaining law and order, especially during emergencies, will commence operations with a manpower of 1,100 personnel

(Left) Former minister and MLA Gali Janardhana Reddy addresses the media at the BJP office in Bengaluru on Monday; CM Siddaramaiah at the foundation laying ceremony to erect a statue of Chalukyan emperor Immadi Pulakeshi II at Badami in Bagalkot district | EXPRESS

JANARDHANA REDDY, CM TRADE BARBS OVER BALLARI FIRING

Reddy urges CM to refer probe to CBI...

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

FORMER minister Gali Janardhana Reddy on Monday urged Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to hand over the probe into the recent violent clashes in Ballari to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). During the violent clashes between Congress and BJP workers, a Congress worker was killed, allegedly when a Congress leader's gunman opened fire.

Speaking to media here, Reddy asked Siddaramaiah why he was hesitating to hand over the investigation into the case to the CBI. Accusing the CM of trying to protect the Congress MLA, Reddy said Siddaramaiah is aware that the legislator was responsible for the Congress worker's death. "The CM is trying to hoodwink people by getting three private gunmen arrested and handing over the case to the CID," he said.

Reddy said an innocent person died in the clash when Congress MLA Bharat Reddy, along with 5000 people, tried to target him by throwing Molotov cocktails at his residence, leading to the gunman opening fire. Reddy also claimed that it was an attempt to kill him.

...Allegations baseless, says Siddaramaiah

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Belagavi

CHIEF Minister Siddaramaiah made a sharp attack on BJP MLA G Janardhana Reddy, questioning his credibility and dismissing his allegations against the State Government.

Addressing reporters at Nandgad in Belagavi on Monday, Siddaramaiah said Reddy, who had previously been imprisoned in connection with illegal mining, lacked the moral standing to accuse others of corruption. The CM was reacting to Janardhana Reddy urging him to hand over the probe into the recent violent clashes in Ballari to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

The CM recalled that Reddy had once even been barred from entering Ballari and pointed out that legal cases against him are still pending before the Supreme Court. Responding to Reddy's charge that the CM and 12 ministers are looting the state, Siddaramaiah said opposition thrives on falsehoods and attempts to mislead the public. "The Assembly session is about to begin. Let him raise these issues there. We are ready to respond," he said.

Sriramulu booked for disclosing minor rape survivor's identity

KIRAN BALANNANAVAR @ Ballari

A case has been registered against former minister and BJP leader B Sriramulu for allegedly disclosing the identity of a minor sexual assault survivor while addressing the public.

The complaint was filed after Sriramulu, while speaking at a BJP protest meeting held at the APMC Yard in the city on January 17, reportedly made the remarks that revealed sensitive details of a rape survivor, including her name, caste, school and class. The incident he referred to involved the alleged sexual assault of a Class 9 student at a private school in the city.

He claimed that drugs are being sold openly in the city and students who consumed the substance committed the crime against their classmate. He allegedly disclosed particulars that could lead to the identification of the survivor, which is prohibited under law.

B Sriramulu addresses the public at a rally held in Ballari last week

The inspector from the Women's Police Station registered a case under Section 23 of the POCSO Act, which bars the disclosure of a child victim's identity in any form, including through public statements.

Police sources said that revealing the identity of a minor survivor, directly or indirectly, constitutes a punishable offence, irrespective of intent. "The law is very clear that the dignity and privacy of the child must be protected at all costs," an officer said. Superintendent of Police Suman D Pennekar said the offence attracts punishment of up to seven years imprisonment and is non-bailable. "We registered the case based on the complaint received. Probe will be conducted and further legal action will be taken in accordance with the law," she said.

Legal experts said public representatives bear greater responsibility while addressing sensitive issues, especially those involving children. Civil rights groups criticised Sriramulu and called for strict enforcement of victim protection laws to prevent secondary trauma to survivors.

> **We registered the case based on the complaint received. A detailed investigation will be conducted and further legal action will be taken**
>
> Ballari Superintendent of Police Suman D Pennekar

Maha has no legal basis to pursue case: CM

BORDER ROW

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Belagavi

ON the Karnataka-Maharashtra border dispute, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said that hearings in the Supreme Court will begin on January 21. He asserted that Maharashtra has no legal basis to pursue the case and said Karnataka would be represented by competent legal counsel. According to him, the key issue is determining which authority has jurisdiction to resolve the dispute, and Karnataka will continue on the judicial path.

On voter list revisions, Siddaramaiah said the Congress has instructed party workers and booth-level agents to be cautious during the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process. He said that the exercise should not be politicised and that no genuine voter should be excluded.

The CM also said the government would clarify issues raised by the Governor on certain Bills during the upcoming Assembly session.

CM and I will abide by top brass' call, reiterates DKS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

KARNATAKA Deputy Chief Minister **DK Shivakumar**, who returned to Bengaluru after his three-day visit to Delhi on Monday, said that Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and he are bound to follow the Congress high command's decision on leadership change. "The CM and I have reached an agreement that we will abide by the decision of the high command. You (media) are worried about your TRP," Shivakumar hit back at media persons.

Shivakumar, who is also the state Congress president, said that the high command will take a decision at an appropriate time. "The MLAs will have their desires... there is nothing wrong with it," he said when asked about a section of legislators backing him for the top post.

Shivakumar said that the party came to power not just because of his hard work, but also because of every worker who burned the midnight oil in all 224 constituencies. "All 140 MLAs are also my supporters. CM Siddaramaiah is also supporting me. Do you know what the CM and I have spoken about? We know what we spoke in the presence of Rahul Gandhi, high command... what we have decided after sitting together (over breakfast meetings). Can we discuss this issue openly in front of you (media)? Only time will answer everything," Shivakumar said.

He took exception to news reports that claimed that he did not meet Rahul Gandhi in Delhi, though it was earlier reported that he met the latter on the sidelines of the preparatory meeting held to discuss the upcoming Assam Assembly polls. "The media unnecessarily wrote that Rahul Gandhi did not meet me. The other day you (media) carried a photograph of me and Rahul Gandhi sitting together and discussing, and the next day you are saying that there was no meeting. The high command will take the final decision. The CM and I have made it clear many times. So, there should be no confusion," Shivakumar said.

On his brother and former MP DK Suresh's reported statement that the high command would give his brother the "good news", he said, "My brother, our workers, and the media are also saying it. Coming together is good news, discussing together is good news. Since we have whispered in their ears, the expectations of MLAs are high."

Siddaramaiah's clear message on his tenure

In a significant political signal, CM Siddaramaiah asserted that he would complete his full term as chief minister, indirectly brushing aside speculation about leadership change. Responding to questions on local problems at Badami, particularly the long-pending issue of relocating houses near the ancient cave monuments and the heritage Basadis, Siddaramaiah said the Tourism Department has already granted clearance for relocation.

"I am the CM, and during our tenure itself, these houses will be relocated," he assured, adding that residents have been suffering for years due to delays. He promised that the relocation would be completed before the end of his term, giving much-needed relief to affected families.

Light-hearted remark on DKS' Delhi visit

Reacting with humour to questions about Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar's visit to Delhi, Siddaramaiah quipped, drawing laughter from the media. "DK Shivakumar has come back from Delhi. I will speak to him myself," he said with a smile, downplaying political speculation.

CHALUKYA UTSAV RETURNS

CM Siddaramaiah inaugurates the 3-day Chalukya Utsav in Badami on Monday, marking the fest's return after a gap of nearly 10 years. The festival, announced in the state budget, is being held at the Veera Pulakeshi Sports Complex, underscoring the government's focus on heritage, tourism, and regional development. "We are celebrating Chalukya Utsav with great happiness. This was announced in the budget. It was not held for the last 10 years, and now we have revived it," the CM said | EXPRESS

BJP excise licence charge motivated, Priyank Kharge defends Timmapur

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

RDPR and IT/BT Minister Priyank Kharge on Monday termed the BJP's allegation of a massive liquor licence bribery scam in the Excise Department as "politically motivated". Defending Excise Minister RB Timmapur, Kharge challenged the BJP to substantiate its allegation. Responding to Leader of Opposition in the Assembly R Ashoka's allegation, Kharge said, "Produce documentary evidence or back off."

Kharge asserted that the Congress government would not be cowed down by such baseless allegation.

He declared that Thimmapur would resign if the allegation against him is proved.

Addressing reporters earlier, Ashoka accused the Excise Department of running a Rs 2,500-cr bribery racket linked to liquor licences' auction. Ashoka alleged that the money collected as bribe is being diverted to meet the Congress' election expenses in Assam and Maharashtra. Ashoka claimed to have obtained some audio recordings purportedly linking bribes paid to Timmapur or his son.

Ashoka accused the Congress government of ignoring Gandhian values and promoting corruption. He demanded that Timmapur resign as minister and held the government responsible for the alleged racket.

Kharge said that it is an attempt to defame the Congress government. The issue gained traction following the recent arrest of excise deputy commissioner Jagadish Nayak and two others for allegedly accepting Rs 25 lakh as bribe for granting bar and microbrewery licences.

Ashoka described the Lokayukta action against Nayak and other accused as evidence of deep-rooted corruption in the department. The Congress, however, maintained that the arrest demonstrated the government's commitment to act against corruption.

Stating that law will take its course, Kharge said no one will be shielded in the case.

DKS to fly to Davos, miss 2 days of session

ENS @ Bengaluru

DEPUTY CM DK Shivakumar, who cancelled his tour of Davos to take part in the annual meeting of the 2026 World Economic Forum scheduled on Monday, has decided to go on Tuesday. He will be joining the state delegation led by Industries Minister MB Patil. As Shivakumar is expected to return only on January 25, he will miss two days of the seven-day joint session scheduled to begin on January 22.

Shivakumar earlier attributed the cancellation of his Davos tour due to a series of AICC meetings with regard to Assam Assembly elections, and spearheading a campaign against the Centre over the MGNREGA issue in the session. The BJP slammed him for his stance as he kept political interests above the state's development. He told reporters he will adhere to the advice of both the Opposition and ruling parties. "There is meaning in what they say. I will not say it is wrong. Ask this question tomorrow morning," he quipped."Yes, I have received permission from Delhi for my trip. CM Siddaramaiah has also told me to go. I am getting calls to attend the Davos meeting. Our opposition friends are also advising me, that's why I am going. Shouldn't we sometimes accept their advice in the interest of the state?" he said.

RFO's friend missing

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

THE deceased officer has young twin children. Chauhan had booked a room at Yuvaraj Galaxy Lodge behind Sree Kumaran Jewellers on Sunday afternoon. He stayed there with his friend Mallanagouda Patil from Indi in Vijayapura. Chauhan had told his family that he would not come home at night.

On Monday morning, his body was found behind the jewellers showroom and blood had oozed from his nose. Chauhan's friend Patil is missing and his cellphone is switched off.

Lashkar Mohalla police shifted the body to MMCRI mortuary. A police complaint was filed by Chauhan's friend Manu.

'Op Blue Star' veteran gets due with Upa Lokayukta's help

YATHIRAJU @ Bengaluru

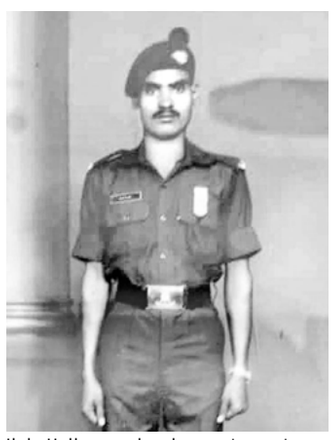
A former solider who was injured in Operation Blue Star at Suvarna Mandir in Amritsar in 1984, has fought and won a longer battle. After 41 years, **Ilala Hullappa** (65) was granted two acres of land in Koppal, but only due to the intervention of Upa Lokayukta Justice B Veerappa.

Unable to work due to injuries sustained in Operation Blue Star, Hullappa, a native of Guddada Devalapura in Kushtagi taluk, opted for retirement. He was sanctioned two acres of land at Kaatapoora village in Kushtagi taluk of Koppal district for agricultural purposes by the Deputy Commissioner of Koppal, under the Karnataka Land Revenue Act, 1964. He had applied for it in 1985, and finally got it on January 11, 2026.

Hullappa told *The New Indian Express* that during the bloody operation, a bullet shell opened and pierced his chest, leg and left hand. "Fortunately, I survived with pieces of shell in my chest and leg, which were removed successfully. But the one in the left hand could not be removed as my hand would have had to be amputated. Without removing it, doctors managed to retain the hand. Unable to continue work, I opted out of service after the operation."

"In fact, when I was injured, then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and then Karnataka chief minister lauded me with an appreciation letter in 1984. Attaching this letter, I submitted an application for grant of land to the Kushtagi tahsildar in 1985, in the hope that my service to the nation would be considered. However, despite repeated requests, successful governments did not allot the land. Now, with the intervention of Upa Lokayukta Justice Veerappa, two acres were sanctioned within five months after registration of a suo motu case in August 2025," said Hullappa.

"I am very grateful for having got the land after 40 years, and thankful to Upa Lokayukta Justice B Veerappa, who is very generous and has a good heart. He is fighting against injustice for the cause of soldiers who fought for the country," he said. Narrating the agony of family members of soldiers who sacrifice lives and limbs for the nation, Hullappa said it is only male family members who can run from office to office for land or a site, after the soldier is killed or injured during battle. Women members are not in a position to run from pillar to post to claim such compensation, he said. "At least I got land for my sacrifice for the nation, and can eke out a livelihood," he added.



Ilala Hullappa when he was in service

> **I am very grateful for having got the land after 40 years, and thankful to Upa Lokayukta Justice B Veerappa, who is very generous and has a good heart**
>
> Ilala Hullappa

EXPRESS READ

K'buragi ZP ranks first in e-office implementation

KALABURAGI: Kalaburagi Zilla Panchayat has secured the number one position in the state in implementing the e-Office system, owing to its emphasis on the effective use of technology for the speedy disposal of files in government offices, official sources said. During the 2025 calendar year, as many as 2,938 e-files were created in Kalaburagi district, while 54,381 files were disposed of through the e-Office platform. Similarly, 13,664 letters received from the public were registered under the e-receipt system, and 3,52,221 e-receipts were disposed of during the same period. RDPR and IT/BT Minister Priyank Kharge hailed Kalaburagi district for its achievement in implementation of e-office **ENS**

Two boys were killed in an accident after their car rammed an electric pole on National Highway 66, on Sunday near Hanifabad Cross in Bhatkal. The car was overspeeding. The deceased are Bilal Ashraf Shipai (15), a resident of Azad Nagar, and Ayan Abdul Salam Akrami (19), a resident of Goodluck Road, Bhatkal. While Bilal died on the spot, Ayan succumbed to his injuries while being shifted to a hospital in Udupi

River pollution: NGT seeks report

Takes note of sewage flowing into Sauparnika, directs DC, KUWSDB chief to appear before it

PRAKASH SAMAGA @ Udupi

LISTING the matter for next hearing on February 9, 2026, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) Southern Zone, Chennai recently issued an order, directing Udupi DC Swaroopa T K and Chairman of Karnataka Urban Water Supply and Drainage Board (KUWSDB) to file a detailed report outlining proposed action along with approximate estimates and timelines to stop the flow of waste water into Sauparnika River in Kollur.

Judicial Member-Justice Pushpa Sathyanarayana and Expert Member- Dr Prashant Gargava issued the order while hearing the application by Social Activist Harish Tholar of Kollur. Due to the alleged discharge of sewage and sullage water by commercial establishments- lodges and hotels in and around Sri Mookambika Temple, Kollur, the river has been contaminated for many years now.

A view of the contaminated Sauparnika river in Kollur

Even though the Underground Sewerage Scheme (UGSS) work was initiated in Kollur for Rs 19.97 crore in 2015 and completed in 2020, the water contamination has not stopped. NGT observed that though Udupi DC's report was filed before it, on November 25, 2025, after two years of its instruction, the same was not exhaustive.

NGT observed in the report submitted before it that the district administration issued certain directions to KUWSDB and PDO regarding the functioning of the Sewage Treatment Plant (STP). NGT objected to Udupi DC not providing details regarding the volume of waste generated, carrying capacity of the existing UGSS, the extent to which capacity must be enhanced, the estimated cost, and the timelines for such improvements, if needed.

NGT then asked the Udupi DC and the KUWSDB Chairman to appear before it through video conferencing. Karnataka State Pollution Control Board has been directed by NGT to file a detailed report identifying the violators and specifying in it the action taken to prevent such violations. Social Activist Harish Tholar told *The New Indian Express* that due to the discharge of sewage water into the Sauparnika River, the water is contaminated, and devotees are facing the problem. Despite the UGSS being implemented in Kollur, commercial establishments continue to contaminate the river, he said.

ARTISTIC VISION

Visitors check out an exhibit at the Jaragandi Art Exhibition at Karnataka Chitrakala Parishat in Bengaluru on Monday | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

Abandoned baby bitten by dog found alive

MALLIKARJUN HIREMATH @ Dharwad

A newborn baby that was abandoned in an agriculture field was bitten by a dog. The baby was shifted to KMCRI Hospital in Hubballi.

The baby was discovered when people heard its cries and traced it to a field located in Byhatti village, around 30 km from Dharwad city on Monday. The baby cried loudly in pain when the dog started biting it and the people in the fields rushed to the spot and rescued it with the help of ASHA workers.

It was taken to a PHC where it was administered first aid. The left leg hallux toe (big toe) of the baby has been completely chewed up by the dog.

The newborn, weighing around 2.6 kg, is being treated in a NICU, and is said to be stable. Superintendent of Police (SP) Gunjan Arya confirmed that the injured baby was found in the field in the morning. A case has been registered at Hubballi Rural police station. Police are searching for the mother and the people who abandoned the baby.

Dress code enforced at Sri Krishna Mutt

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Udupi

SRI Vedavardhana Theertha Swamiji of Sri Shiroor Mutt made it mandatory for men to enter the 800-year-old Sri Krishna Mutt without wearing shirts. Further, guidelines were issued to devotees regarding the dress code that should be strictly followed while visiting the temple.

Earlier, the rule required men to remove their shirts while entering the temple only during the puja hours. Shiroor Mutt Diwan Udaya Kumar Saralatthaya said that devotees should visit the mutt with utmost Krishna consciousness by following the new dress code.

"The first Paryaya of Sri Vedavardhana Theertha Swamiji of Shiroor Mutt commenced. The Pontiff advised men devotees not to arrive in Bermuda shorts, and they should remove shirts before entering the mutt. Similarly, women devotees are also asked not to come wearing attire like half skirts and Bermuda shorts while visiting the shrine. The mutt wants people to visit the shrine as devotees of Sri Krishna," Saralathaya said, quoting the Paryaya Pontiff.

He added that men may wear a shawl after removing the shirt. The dress code that existed only for the afternoon puja was extended for the whole day, as there are several pujas and rituals taking place inside the shrine from morning till night. Devotees should ensure that they follow the dress code before entering the shrine through the 'Maha Dhwara', the main entrance, on the eastern side of the temple.

Eng-medium schools demand two-level Maths exam in SSLC

Bengaluru: The Associated Managements of English Medium Schools in Karnataka (KAMS) has written to Minister for School Education and Literacy Madhu Bangarappa, to introduce two levels in the Maths exam for SSLC students for 2027-28. It includes standard and basic levels in the Maths exam. KAMS General Secretary Shashikumar D said, "Across Karnataka State Board examinations, Mathematics has consistently remained one of the most difficult subjects and a major contributor to student failure. This is seen year after year in SSLC results, where Mathematics records lower pass percentage, compared to most other subjects." **ENS**

India launches open-source platform to build private 5G mobile networks

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

INDIA has launched an open-source platform to help organisations build private 5G networks. Developed by the Indian Open Source for Mobile Communication Networks (IOS-MCN) consortium, led by Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, the platform enables low-cost, secure and high-speed 5G deployment for factories, campuses and enterprises, marking a major step towards industry-ready private 5G solutions.

The newly released platform, named Agartala 0.4.0, enables organisations such as factories, campuses, research institutions and startups to build and operate their own private 5G networks. These networks are designed to offer faster speeds, lower latency, improved reliability and stronger security compared to conventional Wi-Fi and public mobile networks, while remaining cost-effective, a press release said.

The platform is being developed by the IOS-MCN consortium, led by IISc, Bengaluru, along with IIT Delhi and Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), with funding from the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY). The initiative aims to strengthen India's telecom and digital infrastructure.

Early pilot deployments led by ecosystem partners are expected to begin in the second half of 2026 across multiple sectors, marking a key milestone in India's private 5G ecosystem, the release added.

EXPRESS READ

5kg silver stolen from jewellery shop in B'gavi

Belagavi: A jeweller's shop near Waghavade Cross in Machhe village was broken into and silver jewellery weighing 5kgs, worth around 12L, was stolen on Sunday. Mahesh Gokul Kaktikar, the owner of Ganesh Jewellers, reported at Belagavi Rural police station. It was found that thieves got in after cutting the shutter in a gas cutter. Police have launched an intensive investigation to trace the culprits.

PUBLIC NOTICE

General public are hereby informed that, my client is intending to purchase the schedule property from its lawful owner Sri. Rakesh K. S/o Sri. Kantha Rajappa, aged about 29 years, No.19, 2nd 'A' Cross, 1st Stage, KHB Colony, Basaveshwara Nagar, Bangalore - 560 079, who claims to have purchased the same under the Sale Deed dated 17.05.2012 from Sri. M. Kiran Kumar Reddy S/o Sri. M. Gopalaiah Rama Reddy, No 766, 4th Cross, RMV 2nd Stage, Opp. Ramaiah Hospital, 80 feet Road, Bangalore - 560 094, registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Gandhinagara (Vishwanath) Bangalore as Document No.YDN-1-04674/2012-13, Book No 1, stored in CD No.YAND430, dated 17.05.2012.

Whereas, Sri. M. Kiran Kumar Reddy in turn claims to have acquired title to the schedule property by virtue of Sale Deed dated 28.01.2004, executed by Sri.R.Venkatarap S/o Late Alapu Raju as the Vendor & Mrs. Vishwaprabhatu Developers Pvt. Ltd., as the Confirming Party herein, at No 100, Prabhubazaar, Kogilu Road, Yelahanka, Bangalore - 560064, registered in the office of the Senior Sub-Registrar, Yelahanka, Bangalore, as Document No.YDN-1-12232/2004-05, Book No.1, stored in CD No.YAND82, dated 28.05.2004. However, Sri. M. Kiran Kumar Reddy claims to have lost the aforesaid original Sale Deed dated 28.01.2004 and in this regard he had lodged a Complaint dated 01.02.2012 before the Sub Inspector Sanjaynagar Police Station Sanjaynagar, Bangalore, which was duly acknowledged by them and also took Paper Publication in "Samyukta Karnataka" daily newspaper dated 11.03.2012.

Under these circumstances the general public are hereby informed that in case if they found the aforementioned original Sale Deed dated 28.01.2004, then the same may kindly be handed over to the undersigned or our client or to the undersigned.

Further, any person having any claims, rights, title, interest, objections of whatsoever nature towards schedule property or its transaction, then they can No than objections along with all necessary documents with undersigned within 10 days from the date of this notice failing which it shall be deemed that there is no objection of whatsoever kind or any one claiming with the property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the vacant Site bearing No.B-70, BBMP assessment No 441/74 B/B 70, Khatha No 344/BS3/B 74, New BPID No.55401 35243, measuring East to West 40 feet (12.19 meters) and North to South 60 feet (18.28 meters), in all 2400 Sq. feet (222.97 Sq. meters), situated at 4th Cross, Prabhubangara, Kogilu Main Road, Yelahanka, Bangalore - 560 064 and bounded on

East by: Site bearing No B-71, West by: Site bearing No B-69
North by: 30 feet wide Road, South by: Site bearing No B-39

Sd/-A. Vishwanatha, Advocate,
Koorlappa Complex, Marathahalli, Kodigehalli Post, Yelahanka,
Bangalore-560 064. Mob: 9845025748
Bangalore Date: 18.01.2026

Equitas Small Finance Bank Ltd

(FORMERLY KNOWN AS EQUITAS FINANCE LTD)

Registered Office: No 769, Spencer Plaza, 4th Floor, Phase II, Anna Salai, Chennai - 600002

DEMAND NOTICE

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13 (2) OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002

NOTICE is hereby given that the following borrower(s) have availed loan from Equitas Housing Finance Limited (EHFL) / Equitas Finance Limited (EFL) / Equitas Small Finance Bank Ltd (ESFB). The said borrower(s) had agreed to pay monthly dues and loan account has been classified as Non-Performing Asset as per the guidelines issued by RBI. The security of the secured immovable properties, kept and the amounts outstanding as on date payable by the borrowers are mentioned below. The borrowers and the public in general are informed that the undersigned being the Authorised Officer, has proceed action against the following borrowers under the provisions of the SARFAESI Act, 2002 and rules thereunder for the said property on failure to repay the outstanding dues and overall liability thereunder within 60 (Sixty) days of the notice, the undersigned will exercise any one or more of the powers under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of the SARFAESI Act, including power to take possession of the property described herein below.

SL NO. 1 - , BRANCH - Chandapura, L No. - SECHR0039062/200001/00128
Borrowers/Co-Borrowers - HASINA FAB, ALIAFAKSH, AYSHA
Demand Notice Date - 28.11.2025 & Outstanding Amount - 782651

Description of Secured Asset - (Immovable Property) - All the piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing sharia Survey no.7 and property no.18/7, new property no.50/3 Situated at Bidari Bandi Vargadanur Gramapanchayat, Kallubalu gramapanchayath, Anekal taluk, Bangalore urban district, Measuring East to west 33 feet and north to south 31 feet, North By: Govt Road South By: Govt. Road, East By: Site belongs to Ashwath, West By: Gen. Beede

SL NO 2 - , BRANCH - Malur, L No - 5844010364997/200001/00323
Borrowers/Co-Borrowers - LAKSHMIPRASAD GN, RAMAMULA H P
Demand Notice Date - 28.11.2025 & Outstanding Amount - 296478

Description of Secured Asset - (Immovable Property) - All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing Grampanchayat khatha extract no 74/162/1, E-Property no.150000700500157, Situated at Begur village, Hasabi Hobli, Hebbagodi Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, Bangalore, measuring East to West 9.8 m(32.14 ft), North to South 11 m(36.08 ft) Total Extent 107.8 sqmtr (1160 sqft) North By: 50/177, 74/1-78, 74/173, House, South By: Road, East By: House of Kalegowda, West By: Ramappa's property.

Date - 20.01.2026, Place - Bangalore Authorised officer, Equitas Small Finance Bank Ltd

Government of Karnataka

DIRECTORATE OF URBAN LAND TRANSPORT
URBAN DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER URBAN LAND TRANSPORT
BMTC, [illegible] Bangalore-560027 Ph: [illegible]

No. DULT-TECH/2 2020 Date: 19.01.2026

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Directorate of Urban Land Transport (DULT) invites e-bids from qualified consultancies for the services of preparation of Comprehensive Mobility Plan (CMP) for the Bengaluru, Karnataka. The last date for the receipt of e-bid on the KPPP portal for tender is 20.03.2026, 5.30pm. The bidders may download the tender documents for from https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in web portal. Tender Number is as follows. DULT/2025-26/SE0043

Sd/- Joint Director(Admin)
Directorate of Urban Land Transport
Urban Development Department.

DIPR/CP/5118/3/DULT DA/2025-26

KARNATAKA MINING ENVIRONMENT RESTORATION CORPORATION

[illegible]

No.KMERC/TECH/7371 5/2025-26/1511 Dated: 19.01.2026

E-TENDER RE-NOTIFICATION

Tenders are invited by Karnataka Mining Environment Restoration Corporation through e-Procurement Portal for "Consultancy Services", for vetting of reports to be prepared by KITES from time to time, for feasibility study of new Broad-Gauge line between existing Vestment Nagar (YTG) Railway siding in Bellari District to the proposed Dharmapura railway siding through railway tunnel.

The details can be downloaded from https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in Last date for uploading the tender is 21.01.2026. For any clarification, contact on telephone KMERC 080-22354737/22354738 and KPPP Mobile: 9046010000/8065894777)

Sd/-
Deputy General Manager (T)
KMERC

DIPR/CP/5113/CGL/2025-26

Government of Karnataka

CITY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL HARAPANAHALLI-583131.
Vijayanagara Dist.

Telephone No : 08398-280258 Email: kaharapanahalli tmc@gmail.com
FAX: 08398-280581 Website: harapanahallitown.mrc.gov.in

SL: CMC/H.Halli Layout Date: 07.01.2026

"Public Notification"

This is to inform the public of Harapanahalli city that the Assistant Executive Engineer working in Harapanahalli town has submitted a proposal to provide a site for the construction of its own office building and warehouse to the Karnataka Rural Infrastructure Development Corporation (KRIDL) Sub-Division in a meeting held on 30.10.2025 under the chairmanship of the Honorable Chairman of the Harapanahalli Municipality, R.SNo 68/A within the Harapanahalli city limits. It has been unanimously decided in the meeting to allocate a plot measuring [12.00-24.00]/2 X [43.09+40.00/2] of land reserved for public purpose in 68/A with an area of 3-39 acres to the Assistant Executive Engineer, Karnataka Rural Infrastructure Development Corporation (KRIDL) Sub-Division for the construction of its own office building and warehouse and to take action in this regard as per the rules.

Therefore, the size of the plot reserved for public purpose in the area of 3-39 acres of land in R.SNo. 68/A within the limits of Harapanahalli city is [12.00+24.00]/2 X [43.09+40.00/2 total area is 745.75 sq.m. The Assistant Executive Engineer, Karnataka Rural Infrastructure Development Corporation (KRIDL) has requested that any objections to the handover of the site on lease basis to the Government of Karnataka for the construction of its own office building and warehouse should be submitted to this office within 15 days of the date of publication of this advertisement along with written & relevant documents. Applications received after the deadline will not be considered.

Chekkubandi

(The total area of the site reserved for public purposes in the residential development land of R.S.No. 68/A, measuring 3-39 acres, in Harapanahalli city, is 745.75 sq.m. only)

East: Private land of R.S. No. 67/1 North: land reserved for a park
West: 9.0 m Layout road South: Road.

Sd/-
Commissioner,
CMC, Harapanahalli.

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED

(CIN: U40109KA2009SOC049371)

CAUTION NOTICE

1. No.VJP/Pro.Div/EEE/2025-26/F-2457/3443 Date. 13.01.2026

Construction of 110kV SC line on DC tower from proposed 110kV Yankanchi substation to proposed 110kV substation Gubbewad for a distance of 10.422Kms along with construction of 110kV Terminal Bay at proposed 110kV Yankanchi substation in Sindagi Taluk, Vijayapur District. The line work is nearing completion and line will be charged on or after the date: 25.01.2026. The power line passes through Yankanchi, Madabal, Gubbewad and Bamanhalli village limit.

2. No.VJP/Pro.Div/EEE/2025-26/F-2537/3444 Date: 13.01.2026

Construction of 110kV SC line on DC towers with Lynx conductor from 110kV Inchagen Sub Station to proposed 110kV Kannur Sub-station for a distance of 9.745Kms along with construction of 110kV terminal Bay at 110kV Sub Station Inchagen in Vijayapur Taluk, Vijayapur District. The line work is nearing completion and line will be charged on or after the date: 25.01.2026. The power line passes through Kannur and Inchagen village limit.

The general public are hereby requested to keep away from this line and they are also requested not to tie the animals to the towers, not to throw green sticks, wires on the line, and not to climb towers of the line. KPTCL will not be held responsible for any accidents which may occur due to violation of the above said instruction.

Sd/- Executive Engineer (Elec.)
Project Division, KPTCL, Division Office Complex,
Bagalkot Road, Vijayapur-586108.

बैंक ऑफ़ बड़ौदा Bank of Baroda

ROSARB - Bangalore South, 4th Floor, Vijaya Tower, Bank of Baroda, Trinity Circle, Bangalore-560001. Tel Phone: 080-25011441, Extn-128, E-mail : sarbes@bankofbaroda.co.in

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES (APPENDIX IV A)[See proviso to Rule 6 (2) & 8 (6)]

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 6 (2) & 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s), Mortgagor (s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Bank of Baroda, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" for recovery of below mentioned account's. The details of Borrowers/Guarantors/Secured Assets/Dues/Reserve Price/e-Auction date & Time, EMD and Bid Increase Amount are mentioned below.

Name & address of Borrowers, Guarantors and Mortgagors	Short Description of the Immovable Property With Known Encumbrances, if Any	A. Branch Name B. Account Number C. Total Dues	Date & Time of e-Auction	A.Reserve Price. B. EMD Amount C. Bid Increase Amount	Status of Possession (Constructive / Physical)	Property Inspection Date And Time (with Prior Permission From Authorised Officer)
(1) M/s. Sagar Enterprises Reg Off: Prop. Mr. Sagar Having Reg Address at: No 35, 2nd Cross, Mylasandra Mokambika Layout, Bangalore-560062. (2) Mr. Sagar (Borrower) Residing At: No 15 Gnanabharathi BDA Layout 3rd Block, Nagadevanahalli Bangalore-560056.	All that piece and parcel of southern portion of site no 7 formed out of converted and measuring 0-05 guntas out of 1 acre 10 guntas in sy no 209 duly converted by the deputy commissioner bangalore district bangalore vide order no aln/sns/54/1995-96 on 18-11-1995 situated at Kengeri Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk comprising under administrative jurisdiction of TM BBMP having BBMP khata no 1425/200900 in ward no 159. Known Encumbrances : Nil. Area of Both Properties: Mr. Sagar Enterprises (Southern Portion) — East to West: As per Notice 40, Actual 40, As per Sale Deed 40; North to South: As per Notice 15, Actual 15, As per Sale Deed 15; Area in Total: As per Notice 600, Actual 600, As per Sale Deed 600	A. ROSARB B. 41006010000053 C. Rs 44,66,083/- as on 16.01.2026 and with further interest thereon at the contractual rate plus costs charges and expenses till date of payment	03.02.2026 2 to PM TO 5:00 PM	A.Rs.60,40,000/- B.Rs 6,04,000/- C.Rs 10,000/-	Open Plot (SYMBOLIC POSSESSION)	AFTER 20.01.2026
	All that piece and parcel of Northern portion of site no 7 formed out of converted and measuring 0-05 guntas out of 1 acre 10 guntas in sy no 209 duly converted by the deputy commissioner bangalore district bangalore vide order bearing no aln/sns/54/1995-96 on 18-11-1995 situated at Kengeri Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk comprising under administrative jurisdiction of TM BBMP having BBMP khata no 1425/200900 in ward no 159. Known Encumbrances : Nil. Area of Both Properties: Mr. Sagar (Northern Portion) — East to West: As per Notice 30, Actual 40, As per Sale Deed 34; North to South: As per Notice 20, Actual 15, As per Sale Deed 17.7; Area in Total: As per Notice 600, Actual 600, As per Sale Deed 601.8	A.ROSARB B.41006010001455 & 41006010001458 C.Rs 60,60,195/- & Rs.2,41,031/- TOTAL Rs.63,01,226/- as on 16.01.2026 and with further interest thereon at the contractual rate plus costs charges and expenses till date of payment.				

For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer/visit to the website link https://www.bankofbaroda.in/e-auction and online auction portal Baanknet.com. Also, prospective bidders may contact the Authorised officer on Tel No. 080-25011441 and Mobile No.8137080132.

Date: 19.01.2026
Place: Bengaluru

Sd/- Authorised Officer,
Bank of Baroda

Vice-President CP Radhakrishnan will take part in the 7th Punya Sansmaranotsava (death anniversary) of Sri Shivakumar Swamy, who lived for 111 years, at the Siddaganga Mutt in Tumakuru at 11am on Monday. Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot will preside over the function and Union Minister of State for Railways and Jal Shakti V Somanna and Home Minister Dr G Parameshwara will be the chief guests

STIGMA DOGS AMBITIOUS PROJECT

Menstrual cups safe to use, do not affect virginity, fertility: Experts

GAYATHRI M KURUP @Bengaluru

AS Karnataka prepares to roll out menstrual cups for girls in government schools, educators, parents and health experts caution that the initiative's success depends on busting myths and deep-rooted stigma around menstruation, particularly in rural and marginalised communities. Teachers in government schools say many girls hesitate to speak openly about menstruation due to family restrictions and social norms. Civil society organisations working at the grassroots say peer-led approaches have shown promise, but parental acceptance remains a challenge. Educators pointed out parental resistance driven by myths linking internal menstrual products to virginity, marriage prospects and fertility issues among schoolgirls.

Highlighting the health benefits, gynaecologist Dr Pallavi Prasad said, "Menstrual cups are safe for adolescents, do not affect virginity or future fertility, reduce rashes and allergies, allow participation in sports and swimming, and create less biological waste,making them ideal for school-going girls."

Saraswathi K, director of Rural Literacy and Health Program (RLHP), an NGO working in urban slums and rural villages, said adolescent girls are more open to trying menstrual cups when discussions take place within peer groups. "Some girls discontinue the use due to discomfort, while others adapt and encourage their peers", she said.

Parents hesitate even though there is no medical basis for it. "Fear and misinformation are still strong, in rural areas primarily. Parents lack exposure and access to information. But after a few awareness sessions, they realise that girls using it are safe, and the fear slowly begins to fade", said Sowmya, a parent. Mental health professionals say resistance is rooted more in cultural anxiety than health concerns. Denita Thomson, a trainee counselling psychologist who conducts sessions for adolescent girls in schools, said menstrual cups challenge long-held beliefs around purity. "Anything involving vaginal insertion is often wrongly linked to sexual activity. Menstrual cups encourage girls to have a direct relationship with their bodies, it may feel threatening in settings where bodily autonomy is still questioned," she said.

Educationist Niranjanaradhya V P stressed the need to focus on parents. "This stigma is more prevalent in rural and marginalised communities. While the government and NGOs have worked on adolescent and reproductive health programmes, educating parents at scale is crucial," he said.

Ideally women use 10-15 sanitary pads a month, 180 a year and 1,800 in 10 years

One menstrual cup replaces **1,800** sanitary pads

Menstrual cups, made of silicon, can be washed and reused

One sanitary pad holds 5ml blood

One menstrual cup holds 23ml blood

Plastic is used to make sanitary pads leak proof, it does not disintegrate and lands up in landfills most of the time

Fear and misinformation are still strong, in rural areas primarily. Parents lack access to information. But after a few awareness sessions, they realise that it is safe to use

Sowmya, a parent

Anything involving vaginal insertion is often wrongly linked to sexual activity. Menstrual cups encourage girls to have a direct relationship with their bodies, it may feel threatening in settings where bodily autonomy is still questioned

Denita Thomson, trainee psychologist

Health department educating teachers and mothers about benefits

BOSKY KHANNA @ Bengaluru

TO address the issue of menstrual hygiene and ensure sustainability, the health department is now promoting women to use menstrual cups, particularly students from Grades 9–12. In the next two months, the department will start supplying menstrual cups to students in educational institutions. To make them comfortable and get used to the cups, they will be distributing sanitary pads and cups in such a manner than each will suffice for six months.

The department is also working with NGOs to train teachers and mothers in using menstrual cups, so children are aware and fell comfortable on the usage. Health department officials said this addresses the issue of sanitary pad incinerators and vending machines at all educational institutions.

Harsh Gupta, Principal Secretary at Health and Family Welfare Department said, orders have been placed for supplying menstrual cups to children studying in Grades 9–12. Tenders have been finalised and supply will start in the next two months. In the meantime money has been given to all the divisions to buy the menstrual cups and supply it to children.

Health department officials said there were a few complaints regarding proper supply of pads. This issue has been addressed by NGOs, working with the education department at the school level, by distributing it with a head count of students and staffers.

The health department has allocated Rs 71 crore for the procurement of menstrual cups and sanitary pads, without involving middlemen in the supply chain.

Dr Meenkashi Bharath, gynaecologist, now involved in civic advocacy said, mothers are the major influencers of sanitary hygiene. So if they are educated, then children will feel comfortable on their approval. In the meantime, efforts are also being done to train anganwadis and teachers on the use of menstrual cups. This method was tried earlier and had seen a little success. She said, a lot of awareness is needed on this and so far 50% success has been attained.

Left: A rooftop support stone called Bodhi Kambaha and what appears to be a stone-age weapon found at Lakkundi on Monday
Above: Minister HK Patil at the press conference in Gadag

UNESCO TAG LIKELY FOR LAKKUNDI SOON: PATIL

RAGHOTTAM KOPPAR @ Gadag

THE tourism department and Lakkundi Development Authority (LDA) are working towards historic Lakkundi village being listed under a UNESCO heritage site soon. In addition, 44 sites in the village will soon come under the protection of the state government, Tourism minister HK Patil said on Monday.

A rooftop support stone called Bodhi Kambaha and what appeared like a stone-age weapon were found on the 4th day of excavation at Lakkundi on Monday.

As many as 16 sites in the historic village have already been declared as state-protected monuments. In addition, 8 more temples will be declared as protected monuments by the state government by the end of February, Patil told reporters after a meeting of the High Level Advisory Committee of the Lakkundi Heritage Area Development Authority (LHADA).

"In addition, the LHADA Commissioner of the authority has been instructed to submit a comprehensive proposal to the government within a month for including 20 more temples and wells in Lakkundi in the list of state-protected monuments. With this, a total of 44 sites in Lakkundi will come under the direct supervision of the government and more funds will be made available for their development and protection," Patil said.

"Rs 10 crores has already been released for the development of five temples and an ancient well in Lakkundi. The tender process has been completed and work orders will be issued in February. Excavations will begin by March to identify the temples that are buried under soil and revive them. Rs 1.65 crore has been released for the construction of an open-air museum to showcase the artistic splendour of Lakkundi," the minister said.

Ritti family to get govt job, house

Tourism minister HK Patil on Monday announced that the government has decided to provide employment and a house to Prajwal Ritti, who recently handed over the gold ornaments and artefacts found on their land in Lakkundi to the state government. An official order in this regard will be handed over to the family on Republic Day, he said. After discussing with legal experts, considering this as a special case, the amount of the incentive money will be determined, Patil said.

EXPRESS READ

Adigas Yatra marks 32 years with new logo

Bengaluru: Travel and tourism brand Adigas Yatra on Sunday unveiled its new logo to mark its 32nd anniversary. The function was attended by Karnataka Legislative Council Chairperson Basavaraj Horatti, Panchamasali Jagadguru Sri Vachananda Mahaswami of Harihar, Karnataka State Tourism Organisation President K Radhakrishna Holla, Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation Chairman M Srinivasan and actress-cum-classical dancer Aditi Prabhudeva. The brand's founder Nagaraj Adiga said, "The new logo marks the beginning of a fresh and vibrant chapter in Adigas Yatra's growth story." He said travellers can access their services via www.adigasyatranews.com.

Tumakuru hopes to emerge as new sports hub

Bengaluru: By hosting the week-long Karnataka Games from last Friday under the aegis of Karnataka Olympic Association (KOA), Tumakuru hopes to emerge as the new sports hub. Except for hockey and swimming the international standard facilities for other sports including a turf for football with flood lights mesmerised the participants. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's announcement of Rs 6 crore to set up sports facilities has raised hopes. "Tumakuru has a lot of potential to become a sports hub to produce talents for national, international and Olympic Games. A shooting range will be inaugurated in February," said Deputy Commissioner Subha Kalyan.

CISF to launch cyclothon from Jan 28

Bengaluru: The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) on Monday announced that it will launch its second edition of 'CISF Vande Mataram Coastal Cyclothon 2026', a national-level initiative aimed at strengthening coastal security awareness, on January 28. Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityanand Rai will virtually flag off the cyclothon at Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium, New Delhi. It will be a 25-day, 6,553-km event covering the entire coastline of the country.

A GOLDEN SALUTE

Members of the Associated Managements of Primary and Secondary Schools in Karnataka felicitate School Education and Literacy Minister Madhu Bangarappa at the Vision-Mission conference in Bengaluru on Sunday. In honour of his contributions to the education sector, Bangarappa was also bestowed with the title of 'Shikshana Bangara' on the occasion | EXPRESS

D'ballapur saree cloning: State to seek Centre's help

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru:

KARNATAKA Textile Minister Shivanand Patil along with weavers delegation from Doddaballapur are flying to Delhi, to meet Union Textile Minister Giriraj Singh, seeking Centre's intervention for Surat mills manufacturing Doddaballapur lookalike sarees.

B G Hemanth Raju, President of Weavers' Rights Forum, Doddaballapur, said they were invited to take part in the meeting on Monday. "Minister assured us to take our delegation to Union Textile Ministry. He will also be writing to them about Surat sarees putting our weavers into distress" he said. He also said the weavers urged Minister Patil about bringing the Power Loom Reservation Act to restricts mills from copying power loom sarees.

Textile department said they are bringing Textile Policy 2025-30, where the state government is stressing on helping weavers. They are planning to start a textile mela, similar to farmers mela, where weavers get a platform to sell. Minister Patil said the Textile Policy is in the finishing stage. He has also received suggestions to pay stipend to youths who take up weaving as profession, as it is on a decline. Patil also said they are going to call for global tender to develop a textile park. The Centre intends to develop seven such textile park across the country. In Karnataka, with lack of basic amenities, the project was delayed and now they are taking up the work to fasten the process of developing the textile park in Kalaburgi' he assured.

Women street vendors seek social security, better infra

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

THE Karnataka State Federation of Women Street Vendors was inaugurated on Monday during celebrations of Women Street Vendors' Day. The initiative aims to support the welfare and overall development of women vendors, who face daily hardships while providing affordable essentials to the public. They demand complete implementation of the Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014.

Highlighting their role in the urban economy, the Federation said women constitute nearly 53 per cent of the total street vendors in the State. Many women vendors shoulder multiple responsibilities – managing households, caring for children and elderly family members, and earning daily incomes by selling vegetables, fruits, flowers, clothes, toys, utensils and other essential goods from pavements and roadside stalls.

The federation noted that street vendors work in difficult conditions, braving heat, rain, cold and dust, and played a critical role during the Covid-19 pandemic by ensuring food reached citizens despite severe disruptions.

The organisation has demanded complete implementation of the Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014, calling for the creation of vending zones, eviction protection, and harassment-free working environment. It stressed that vendors must be seen as contributors to nation-building, not as encroachers, and urged governments to adopt supportive policies rather than punitive measures.

While acknowledging schemes like PM SVANidhi as vital for financial assistance, the Federation sought improved infrastructure, skill training and financial literacy programmes to help vendors grow into sustainable micro-entrepreneurs. It also called for integrating street vendors into urban planning by providing safe, recognised vending spaces.

The Federation urged the government to act swiftly to ensure dignity, livelihood security and social protection for women street vendors across Karnataka.

CM inaugurates Rayanna statue at Nandgad

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Belagavi

CHIEF Minister Siddaramaiah on Monday said Nandgad and Sangolli will be developed into prominent tourist destinations, preserving the legacy of freedom fighter and valiant warrior Krantiveer Sangolli Rayanna, who had raised the banner of revolt against the British.

The CM inaugurated the Krantiveer Sangolli Rayanna Museum (Veerabhumi), unveiled Rayanna's statue near his memorial lake and performed the bhoomi puja for various development works at the Nandgad Rural Education Society grounds in Khanapur taluk of Belagavi district on Monday.

Siddaramaiah said that along with Rayanna, the memorial sites of six other freedom fighters who were hanged to death at Nandgad would also be developed on similar lines.

"Even today, the name of Rayanna sends a thrill through our veins. In 2024, we inaugurated the Shaurya Bhoomi and a Sainik School at Sangolli. The birthplace of Rayanna and Nandgad, where he was martyred, are being developed with great reverence. Remembering such patriots is our collective duty," Siddaramaiah said.

The CM the Veerabhoomi museum depicts the life, struggles and revolutionary phases of Rayanna through sculptures and installations. The government aims to transform Sangolli and Nandgad into heritage and tourism hubs of national importance, he said.

Highlighting the role of education, the CM said equality of opportunity has been made possible through education, which along with self-respect and knowledge, is essential for overall development.

"We must uproot the mindset of slavery and protect democracy and the Constitution," he said, adding that 388 students are currently studying at the Sainik School in Sangolli. Emphasising linguistic pride, Siddaramaiah said efforts must be made to create an environment where everyone living in Karnataka speaks Kannada.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah at the unveiling of a statue of Sangolli Rayanna at Nandgad on Monday

Belagavi District In-charge Minister Satish Jarkiholi recalled that the foundation stone for Veera Bhoomi was laid in 2013 to showcase Rayanna's historic struggle. "Today that dream has become a reality. Nandgad will now find a special place on India's map as a national-level tourist destination," he said, adding that several public works including the construction of three bridges in Khanapur taluk are underway.

Women and Child Development Minister Lakshmi Hebbalkar said the museum will help future generations understand Rayanna's life and ideals. "Rayanna symbolises patriotism, courage and self-respect. Veerabhoomi should emerge as a national memorial," she said. Backward Classes

Welfare and Kannada and Culture Minister Shivraj Tangadagi termed the day as a historic one for Nandgad, stating that Rayanna was a great warrior who fought the British even before the 1857 revolt.

Emergency session stirs up talk of Siddu's exit

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Shivamogga

BJP MLA SN Channabasappa on Monday expressed the sentiment that the forthcoming special emergency Assembly session could serve as a platform for Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to deliver a farewell address. He said the Congress government is merely postponing discussions on the MGNREGA and VB-RAM-G schemes.

Channabasappa contended that there is no justification for convening a special session to deliberate on this scheme, suggesting that it is unlikely anyone would assemble for such a trivial matter. Instead, he speculated that this might be the final session for the CM Siddaramaiah.

He further remarked that should there be a change in leadership within the government, the incoming official should prioritise the development of the state.

In response to inquiries regarding the BJP's stance on local body elections, MLA Channabasappa stated that the BJP has consistently championed the decentralization of power and the necessity of conducting elections for local bodies. Conversely, he suggested that the Congress party is hesitant to proceed with elections due to fears of potential failure. By citing judicial directives, he accused the government of postponing elections and distracting the populace.

Quoting the BJP's recent triumph in the local body elections in Mumbai, he asserted that the BJP and its members are perpetually prepared to confront electoral challenges.

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin on Monday laid the foundation stone for Chennai's sixth reservoir, 'Mamallan', along the East Coast Road in Chengalpattu. The dam to be built at a cost of Rs 342.6 crore will provide 170 million litres of water per day to 13 lakh people

CBI questions Vijay for over six hours; no fresh summons

AGENCIES @ New Delhi

THE CBI questioned TVK chief and actor **Vijay** for over six hours at its headquarters here for the second time in connection with the Karur stampede case, officials said.

Vijay came out of the CBI headquarters in his luxury SUV at around 5 pm. He was earlier quizzed by CBI on January 12.

"We all know what happened in Karur...When last time the Home Minister was in Tamil Nadu, the state president of the BJP, Nainar Nagenthran, had mentioned that Senthil Balaji who is sitting MLA from Karur was responsible for the death of 41 people and you who needs to be summoned and enquired," TVK Joint General Secretary C T Nirmal Kumar told outside the headquarters.

Several questions related to decision-making about the rally, reasons for his delay, continuation of the speech, his knowledge about the chaos, turnout and mismanagement of the crowd were put forth to him, they said. He said they are cooperating fully, and no summons for further questioning has been issued. The call on attributing the role of individuals in the chargesheet will be taken only after a thorough analysis of the statements of the actor, senior political officials of his party, and police and district administration officials involved in the process, they said.

Vijay was questioned by a team of officials led by a deputy superintendent rank officer drawn from the agency's anti-corruption wing, officials said.

UDF will repeat local body poll show: Rahul Gandhi

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Kochi

SENIOR Congress leader and Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, on Monday expressed confidence that the Congress-led UDF will return to power in Kerala with a "thumping majority" in the upcoming Assembly elections, replicating its local body poll performance.

"I am confident that you will stand together and win a thumping majority in the Assembly elections," Rahul said while addressing around 13,000 Congress workers who contested the December local body elections, including both winners and those who lost. Rahul Gandhi said the UDF would repeat the performance with a thumping victory in the Assembly polls. He said the forthcoming Assembly and local body elections would send out a clear message that Kerala's voice is "clear and loud".

Rahul was inaugurating the KPCC's 'Mahapanchayat', organised to felicitate party representatives who contested in the recent local body elections. He said Kerala was witnessing a political contest, even as the country faced a larger political and ideological battle.

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi addresses a gathering in Kochi on Monday | A SANESH

Targeting the BJP and RSS, Rahul alleged that they stood for centralisation of power, while the Congress believed in decentralisation. "They want compliance from the people of India. They don't want to hear the voice of the people," he said, adding that their ideological attack was aimed at creating a "culture of silence" and concentrating wealth and power in the hands of a few. "I can tell you with 100 per cent certainty that nobody can silence the voice of the people of Kerala," he said. Rahul also praised Kerala's political culture and the calibre of its panchayat presidents. "I don't think there are panchayat presidents of this quality in any other state," he said, urging newly elected representatives to protect the trust placed in them by voters and to uphold the Constitution.

He also asked the party leadership to address unemployment in the state.

SABARIMALA ROW

HC: Analysis raises 'gold' switch doubts

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Kochi

THE Kerala High Court on Monday observed that the chemical analysis of the samples collected from Sabarimala prima facie reinforced its doubts that the original gold-clad dwarapalakas and door frames from the temple were replaced.

The court, citing the analysis reports from the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC), noted that the original gold-clad plates didn't have nickel and acrylic polymer layers, whereas the layers were present in the subsequently-plated copper plates. This, along with the absence of mercury and comparative thickness of the gold and nickel layers in the latter, clearly indicated a systematic and methodical process behind the execution of the alleged offence (of gold theft), the court said.

It said the reports not only disclose the manner and modus operandi of the alleged tampering and substitution, but also provide critical evidentiary pointers for correlating past transactions with subsequent activities. The report, therefore, assumes central importance in the probe as it sheds light on multiple technical and material aspects and furnishes a scientific basis for evaluating transactions undertaken during 2024 and 2025, identifying the chain of decision-making, fixing individual responsibility and criminal liability, and examining the existence of any organised or concerted action amounting to criminal conspiracy. However, the court refrained from disclosing additional technical particulars at this stage, noting the possibility of further arrests and recoveries.

The SIT informed the court that statements of approximately 202 witnesses have been recorded so far, while the recording of certain key witnesses under Section 183 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, is in progress. Bank accounts of certain accused have been frozen, and the landed assets of some of the principal accused identified to trace the proceeds of crime.

Rao: Videos are fabricated, will file case

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

THE undated 47-second video, which appears to be a compilation of three separate clips and circulated online, seems to have been filmed using a mobile phone inside the officer's chamber.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah told that the matter will be investigated and action initiated against the DGP based on the findings. He added that no officer is above law.

Rao, talking to reporters at the home minister's residence in Sadashivanagar, sought an investigation, but termed the video fabricated. "I am shocked. The videos are fabricated. I will meet an advocate and file a case against those spreading false news," he said. Asked if the video was shot in his office, Rao said he was serving in Belagavi eight years ago. However, he did not clarify on the link between his stint in Belagavi and the video that left the Home Department embarrassed.

The incident sparked outrage, as the alleged acts are said to have taken place inside a government office. A 1993-batch IPS officer, Ramachandra Rao, was in news last year after his stepdaughter, actress Ranya Rao, was arrested by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence in a case related to illegal smuggling of gold.

She is currently lodged at the Bengaluru Central Prison. Following her arrest, an investigation was launched to determine whether Ramachandra Rao was helping her smuggle gold and he was sent on compulsory leave. The probe, however, gave him a clean chit and he was later posted as DGP, DCRE.

EXPRESS READ

SIR in Tamil Nadu: ECI extends period for filing claims and objections till Jan 30

Accepting the requests made by several political parties, the Election Commission of India (ECI) has extended the period for filing claims and objections in connection with the SIR of the electoral rolls in Tamil Nadu till January 30. The deadline ended on January 18. However, the final electoral rolls will be released on February 17. The ECI had announced the conduct of SIR with reference to January 1, 2026, as the qualifying date. The draft electoral rolls were published on December 19, 2025, and it was announced that the period for filing claims and objections would end on January 18. The commission considered all factors, and in exercise of the powers conferred by the proviso to Rule 12 of the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960, decided to extend the period for filing claims and objections. **ENS**

Meet with Kavitha 'pure speculation': PK

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Hyderabad

NEW PARTY?

POLITICAL circles went into overdrive on Monday after reports emerged that Telangana Jagruthi president K Kavitha has actively discussed launching a new political party in Telangana with ace political strategist Prashant Kishor.

However, Kishor told *TNIE* that the reports of his meetings with Kavitha were "pure speculation". Meanwhile, when asked about the buzz in political corridors, a confidant of Kavitha told *TNIE* that some form of coordination between the two has at least been explored. The chatter had gained traction against the backdrop of shifting political equations in Telangana and a visible churn within the Opposition space. *TNIE* reached out to a source described as a close confidant of Kavitha to ascertain whether the speculation had any basis. According to the source, Kishor visited Hyderabad twice in the past two months and held meetings with Kavitha. Around Sankranti, the discussions reportedly stretched over nearly five days and focused on the possible structure, organisation and functioning of a proposed political party.

The associate said the conversations ranged from an assessment of the current political climate to the viability of a new platform in the state.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my client Kalpana Sampath resident of No. 39, Dakshina Road, 6th Main, 7th Cross, Malleshwaram, Bangalore, have lost the original three Sale Deeds bearing Document No. 5757/2004-05, Sale Deed No. 5754/2004-05 and Sale Deed No. 5755/2004 in respect of property bearing Mahal No. 102, First Main Road, Ganganagar Extension, Bengaluru-560032 and lodged the complaint before me and instructed me on oath. Accordingly, if any person finds the said original Sale Deed, may return the same to the undersigned Advocate. The above said original Sale Deeds are original and vital documents of the title deeds and vital documents of the title deeds of above said property. The public is requested to handover the original Sale Deed to the undersigned Advocate.

Sd/- R. Venkatesha, B.A., LL.B
Advocate & Notary, Mob: 9886379670

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public are hereby informed that my client intends to enter into transaction in respect of below mentioned Schedule Property with the owner who has represented that he acquired ownership vide Sale Deed dated 25/01/1996 registered as document No. 570/1996-97, Book I, Volume 1593, pages 165 to 181, in the office of the Sub Registrar, Kengeri, Bengaluru, executed by Smt. Fatima and others.

If any person including any bank, financial institution or any other party or person, having any kind of claim, right, title, demand or interest in respect of any sale, gift, lease, tenancy, license, exchange, partition, mortgage, charge, lien, maintenance, succession, trust, maintenance, possession, easement, agreement, lis pendens, stay order, attachment, decree, specific performance or otherwise or any other right of whatsoever nature howsoever called shall inform the undersigned, within fifteen (15) days from issuance of this notice, along with all supporting documents relating to such claim failing which it will be presumed that there are no claims, and such claims, if any, shall be deemed to have waived and abandoned in respect of the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Property bearing Old Sy. No. 59 (New Sy. No. 60/1) of Kengeri village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, duly converted for residential use vide Land Use Conversion Order No. ALN SR/SDC 186/98 dated 29/08/1997 and No. ALN S DCR 20/2007-08 dated 14/03/2008 issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner (Revenue), Bangalore District, Bangalore and 38 Guntas kharab presently bearing Site/Plot No. 1, PID No. 1-841, Kengeri town, Ward No. 187, Bengaluru and bounded by:

East: Land in Sy. No. 59 belonging to Bela Reddy and Abraham, West: Bangalore Kengeri-Mysore Road, North: Land in Sy. No. 60/2 owned by Thimmaiah and others, South: Tubaghere Village boundary and thereafter land belonging to Nagappa and others.

Deepak Bhaskar, Advocate
DS Chambers, No. 214, 2nd Floor, Richmond Towers, 12, Richmond Road, Bengaluru-560 025.
Tel. 080-41207221, Mob No. 9900400234
Place: Bengaluru, Date: 19/01/2026

Your Guide to Spice Living
INDULGE

BEFORE THE HON'BLE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II (KARNATAKA) FOURTH FLOOR, TELEPHONE HOUSE BUILDING, KALIDASA ROAD, BENGALURU-560001
O.A. No. 1576 of 2024
BETWEEN: HDFC Bank Ltd., (Formerly HDFC Ltd.,)
... Applicant
And
Mr. Ganesha Pillappa and Ors
...Defendants

To,
1. Mr. Ganesha Pillappa,
Currently Residing at No. 75/5A, Kanyangaiya, 6th Cross, 6th Main, Ramachandrapura Layout, Bengaluru-560084.
Working at - Sri Aqua Tech, No 1791, Ground Floor, 3rd Phase B Sector, Bengaluru-560084
Property Address:
Flat 211, Second Floor, Block A, Emerald Estancia, Sy. No. 31/2, 32/2, Somapura Village, Sarjapura Road, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-562125
... Defendant No. 1
2. M/s Emerald Group
No. 40, 14th Main, 2nd Floor, HSR Layout, 7th Sector, Bengaluru-560102
... Defendant No. 2

NOTICE ISSUED UNDER RULE 20 (VIA) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES, 1993

Whereas, the Applicant has instituted an Original Application under Section 19(4) of the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993 against you for recovery of debts of Rs. 45,38,317/- (Rupees Forty Five Lakh Thirty Eight Thousand Three Hundred and Seventeen Only) together with current and future interest and other reliefs. The above Defendants are instructed, hereby directed to file the written statement with a copy thereof furnished to the applicant and to appear before the Hon'ble Tribunal in person or through an advocate or through authorized agents in support of their defence to show cause within 30 days from the date of publication or on 20th January 2026 at 10:30 A.M. as to why relief is prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of the Hon'ble Tribunal on this the 25th day of November 2025

By Order of the Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal-II, Bengaluru

GOVT. TOOL ROOM & TRAINING CENTRE
Rajajinagar Industrial Estate, Bengaluru-560010.
Ph: 080-23157189, Fax: 080-23301683

ELECTRONIC TENDER NOTIFICATION (Short-term)

Tender No. GTTC/MCD/TENDER/GUBD-283R2/2025-26.

GTTC invites E-Tender for Setting up of German Language Laboratory, Training, Assessment and Certification on turnkey basis to GTTC centres located in Karnataka. The last date for uploading the offer is on 02.02.2026. For further details log on to website: https://uppp.karnataka.gov.in Helpdesk Phone No. +91 80 49010000, +91 80 69946777.

Sd/- Tender Inviting Authority

Karnataka Bank Ltd.
Corporate and Retail Banking Division, Head Office, Pandeshwar, Mangaluru-575001
Phone: 0824-2215800
Ref: KBL/HO/CRD/Tender-2025-26/2324 Dated: 19.01.2026

TENDER NOTICE

KBL invites (E-Tender) from Contractors for the following work, interested contractors may download the tender document from KBL's E-Tender portal https://karnataka.bank.in/tender and submit the tender online on or before 6.2.2026 3:00 PM, Opening date and time 6.2.2026 3:30 PM.

Sl No.	Name of Work	Work Value (Rs. in Lakhs)
1	Providing VRF airconditioning system, electrification, LED energy saving fixtures, power points, UPS points, LAN points, Online UPS system, Inverter DBs with all connected electrical works to Newly Proposed Main Computer Centre in Mezzanine floor of Food Court Building, High Court of Karnataka, Bangalore. #WD/2025-26/ELWORK_WIDER/732419	166.22

Interested bidders may visit https://uppp.karnataka.gov.in and download the tender document. Bidding Start Date: 19.01.2026 Bid Submission Start Date: 27.01.2026 Bid Submission Closing Date: 27.01.2026 Bid Opening Date: 27.01.2026 Bid Opening Time: 12.00 Noon. Interested bidders may visit Karnataka Public Procurement Portal for more details.

Sd/- Authorised Signatory

IDFC FIRST Bank Limited
(erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited)
CIN : L65110TN2014PLC097792
Registered Office: KRM Towers, 8th Floor, Harrington Road, Chetpet, Chennai-600031. TEL: +91 44 4564 4000 | FAX: +91 44 4564 4022.

APPENDIX IV [Rule 8(1)]
POSSESSION NOTICE (For immovable property)

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the **IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited)** under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated **11.11.2025** calling upon the borrower, co-borrowers and guarantors **1. M/S A M ENTERPRISES 2. JAVEED S, 3. SAMEENA BANU,** to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **INR 62,19,533.00/- (Rupees Sixty Two Lakh Nineteen Thousand Five Hundred Thirty Three Only)** as on **05.11.2025** within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Demand notice.

The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken **Possession** of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub – section (4) of section 13 of Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this **16th day of JAN 2026.**

The borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of THE **IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited)** for an amount of **INR 62,19,533.00/- (Rupees Sixty Two Lakh Nineteen Thousand Five Hundred Thirty Three Only)** and interest thereon.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub – Section (8) Of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Description of the Immovable properties

All That Piece And Parcel Of Western Portion Of Site No. 25, Formed In Converted Sy. No.108/4, Khata No. 104/1, Duly Converted From Agricultural To Non-agricultural Residential Purpose Vide Official Memorandum Dated 15/05/1990 Bearing No. B.dis.aln.sr(n)219/1989-90, Issued By The Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, Bangalore, Situated At Bagalagunte Village, Yeshwanthpura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore, Karnataka-560073, Measuring East To West (25½ +27)/2 Feet And North To South 30 Feet, Totally Measuring 787.5 Square Feet, And Bounded As: **East : Remaining Eastern Portion Of Same Site No. 25 Sold To Sri. S.m. Damodaran, West: Road, North: Site No. 24 , South: Site No. 26**

Sd/- Authorised Officer
IDFC First Bank Limited
(erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited)

Date : 16-01-2026
Place : KARNATAKA
Loan Account No : 10073715158

Canara Bank
ARM Branch-II, 2nd Floor, Circle Office, Spencer Towers, No.65, M G Road, Bangalore 560001.
Telephone numbers 080-25310161 – e-mail – cb6298@canarabank.com

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY
(Under Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002)

Exclusive Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the ARM Branch-II, Bangalore of Canara Bank, the possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of will be sold on 11.02.2026, "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis for recovery of outstanding dues from below mentioned Borrowers. The Reserve Price and the Earnest Money Deposits mentioned below.

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl No.	Borrower Name/ Description of the movable/ Immovable assets	Total Liabilities as per Sale Notice	Details and Full Description of the Property	Auction Date & Time	Reserve Price & EMD	Incremental value of the Bid
1.	(1) M/s MZ ULTRALITE AAC BLOCKS Prop: Mohammed Zabi, Gundakallu Hosur, Mandya Road, Nagamangala, Mandya-571432. (2) Sri Mohammed Zabi S/o Ahmad Hussain, 435, 6th Block, Nanjaya Road, Kaneri Mohalla, Nagamangala, Mandya-571432 (3) Smt. Shahunisa W/o Ahmad Hussain, 435, 6th Block, Nanjaya Road, Opp to Venkatesh Theatre, Nagamangala, Mandya-571432	Rs 6,87,67,166.39 (Rupees Six crores eighty seven lakhs sixty seven thousand one hundred six and thirty paise only) plus further interest from 16.01.2026 along with expenses, other charges, etc	All that part and parcel of property bearing assessment No 03-PID No. 15210051170120049 situated at Gundakallu hosur Village, Hesaru Hobli, Nagamangala taluk, Mandya district in the name of Mohammed Shafi, measuring a: East to West 105.3284 meter and North to South 78.85332 Meter Bounded on the North by Remaining Land, East by Land of Anwar Khan, West by Road, North by remaining Land and South Land of Mohammed Shafi	11.02.2026 01.00 PM to 03.00 PM	Reserve Price Rs.151.00 Lakhs EMD Rs.38.30 on or before 10.02.2026	Rs. 1,00,000/-
			All that part and parcel of the property No 8-3-69 assessment no 2552684 measuring East to West 10.41 mtr North to South 64.02 mtr situated at Mandya Road, Nagamangala Town, Nagamangala Taluk, Mandya District comprising of Ground floor of 105.69654 sqmt+183.94734 Sqmt of residential area +01.07464+44.58440 Sqmt of commercial unit and first floor 19.277+17.256 Sqmt residential, bounded on the North by Property No 8-524-122, East by Property No 8-512-4A, West by Property No 8-501-2A and 8-501-3A and South by Road and Property no 8-1-87		Reserve Price Rs.349.10 Lakhs EMD Rs.34.91 on or before 10.02.2026	
2	(1) Sri TV Basavaraja S/o Late G Venkatanna, Residing at 1st cross Vinayakanagar Tumkur Town 572101 (2) Smt. Uma W/o T S Kumar Residing at 1st Main Road, 5th A Cross, Hanumanthapura Extension Tumkur Town-572101	Rs 1,88,10,831.49 (Rupees One crore Sixty Eight Lakhs Ten Thousand Six Hundred Thirty One and Forty Nine paise only) plus further interest thereon from 17.01.2026 along with expenses, other charges, etc	Residential Site with Building in Site No. 5-4, Survey No. 2751 TCC Khata No. 24902/601, at 6th A Cross, 1st Main, Hanumanthapura Extn, Ward No. 21, Tumkur in the name of Mr. Basavaraja T V. Total Measuring 1130 Sq.ft. Plinth Area Bounded By: East: Site No. 5-3, West: House Constructed in Site NO 5-5, North: House Belongs to Sri Chikkanna, South: 30 feet wide Road	11.02.2026 01.00 PM to 03.00 PM	Reserve Price Rs. 96.63 EMD Rs 9.67 on or before 10.02.2026	Rs 1,00,000/-
			Residential Site with Building in Site No. 71, Survey No. 304/1, 304/2 & 305, TCC Khata No. 99/636, 2nd Cross, 2nd Stage, Hanumanthapura Extension, Ward No. 21, Tumkur-572101, in the name of Mr. Basavaraja T V. Total Measuring 1500 Sq.ft. Plinth area of and and built up area is GF: 358 Sq.ft, FF & SF: 808 Sq.ft each. Bounded by: East: Site No. 70, West: Site No. 78, North: Road, South: Site No. 131		Reserve Price Rs. 166.31 EMD Rs. 16.64 on or before 10.02.2026	

OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS: (a) Auction / bidding shall be only through "Online Electronic Bidding" through the website https://baanknet.com/. Bidders are advised to go through the website for detailed terms & conditions of sale, prior to participating in the sale proceedings. (b) The property can be inspected with Prior Appointment with Authorised Officer. (c) The property will be sold for the price which is more than the Reserve Price and the participating bidders may improve their offer further during auction process. (d) EMD amount of 10% of the Reserve Price is to be deposited in E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (BAANKNET) portal directly or by generating the Challan thereafter to deposit the EMD through RTGS/NEFT in the account details as mentioned in the said challan. (e) After payment of the EMD amount the intending bidders should submit a copy of the following documents/details on or before 19.02.2026 to Canara Bank, ARM Branch-II Bangalore by hand/ OR Email. (i) Demand Draft/ Pay order towards EMD amount. (ii) paid through RTGS/NEFT Acknowledgement receipt therefor with UTR No. (iii) Photocopies of PAN Card, ID Proof and Address proof. However successful bidder would have to produce these documents in original to the Bank at the time of making payment of balance amount of 25% of bid amount. (iv) Bid Form. The intending bidders should register their names at portal https://baanknet.com/ and get their User ID and password free of cost. Prospective bidder may avail online training on E-Auction from the service provider, M/s.PSB Alliance (BAANKNET) - e-mail: support.baanknet@psballiance.com. EMD deposited by the unsuccessful bidder shall be refunded to them. The EMD shall not carry any interest. (f) Auction would commence at Reserve Price as mentioned above. Bidders shall improve their offers in multiples of Rs.1,00,000/-. The bidder who submits the highest bid (not below the Reserve price) in closure of "Online" auction shall be declared as successful bidder. Sale shall be confirmed in favour of the successful bidder, subject to confirmation of the same by the secured creditor. (g) The successful bidder shall deposit 25% of the sale price inclusive of EMD already paid, immediately or the day when he is the successful bidder and the balance within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale by the secured creditor. If the successful bidder fails to pay the sale price, the deposit made by him shall be forfeited by the Authorized Officer and that any notice and property shall forthwith be put up for sale again. This amount shall be deposited by way of Demand draft in favour of Authorized Officer, Canara Bank, Arm II Branch OR shall be deposited through RTGS / NEFT / Fund Transfer to credit of account of Canara Bank, ARM II Branch, A/c. No. 209272434, IFSC Code: CNRB0006288. (h) For sale proceeds of Rs. 50.00 Lakhs (Rupees Fifty lacs) and above, the successful bidder will have to deduct TDS at a rate 1% or as applicable on the sale proceeds and submit the original receipt of TDS certificate to the bank. (i) All charges for Conveyance, Stamp Duty/GST/Registration Charges etc. As applicable shall be borne by the successful bidder only. (j) Authorised Officer reserves the right to postpone/cancel or vary the terms and conditions of the E-auction without assigning any reason thereof. (k) In case there are bidders who do not have access to the internet but interested in participating the E-auction, they can approach Canara Bank Circle office, Bangalore or Canara Bank ARM II Branch, Bangalore, who as a facilitating centre shall make necessary arrangements. (l) Bidder has to make due diligence and physical verification of property on his own and to be satisfied about the title, extent, encumbrances, etc. No claim subsequent to submission of bid shall be entertained by the bank.

For further details contact Authorised Officer, Canara Bank, ARM Branch-2, [illegible] and 080-25310161 e-mail id – cb6298@canarabank.com OR the service provider M/s.PSB Alliance (BAANKNET) - e-mail support.BAANKNET@psballiance.com

SPECIAL INSTRUCTION / CAUTION

Bidding in the last minutes/seconds should be avoided by the bidders in their own interest. Neither Canara Bank nor the Service Provider will be responsible for any lapses/ failure (Internet failure, Power failure, etc.) on the part of the bidder or vendor in such cases. In order to ward off such contingent situation, bidders are requested to make all the necessary arrangements/alternatives such as back-up power supply and whatever else required so that they are able to concurrently participate in the auction successfully.

Date : 19.01.2026
Place: Bangalore

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

ICICI Bank Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd. 4/10, Mythree Tower, Bommanahalli Hosur Main Road Bangalore- 560068

The Authorised ICICI Bank Officer under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notices to the borrower(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice.

Having failed to repay the amount, the Notice is issued to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described below, by exercising powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property. Any dealings with the property will be subject to charges of ICICI Bank Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower(s)/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs)	Name of Branch
1.	Soorej Menon-Rajeswary R/ LBBNG00006785895	As described in the Loan document / property document covering All that parts and parcels of the property in S ure 09 ugmentor in Sy No. 806/1, Re sy. 261/6, Block no:81,Thalapilly Taluk, Vadakkethara Village, Pozhayannur Grama Panchayath, Thrissur Dist, With sale deed No: 415/1/2022 SRO Bounded By: North: Panchayath Road South: Property of P.C Krishnan East: Property of Kunju kannan West: Property of P.C Krishnan/ Date of Symbolic possession 17.01.2026	October 14,2025/ Rs. 55,26,374.62/-	Bangalore

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/guarantors(s) is/are hereby issued a 30 day Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold after 30 days from the date of publishing this Notice, as per the provisions under Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Date: January 20, 2026
Place: Bangalore

Sincerely Authorised Officer
For ICICI Bank Ltd.

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A Government Of India Undertaking)
Head Office: Bangalore

ARM-1 BRANCH
2nd Floor, No.86, Spencer Tower,
M.G. Road Bangalore-560001
PH: 080-25588028/25588641
E-mail: cb2386@canarabank.com

SALE NOTICE

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 READ WITH PROVISO TO RULE 8 (6) OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged to the Secured Creditor the Physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **ARM Branch-1 Bengaluru** of the Canara Bank will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is"** on **07.02.2026 (10:00 AM to 11:00 AM)**, for recovery of **Rs.1,71,16,153.28 (Rupees One Crore Seventy One Lakhs Seventy Six Thousands One Hundred Fifty Eight And Twenty Four Paise Only)** as on 12.01.2026 with further interest and cost thereon due to the ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, of Canara Bank from (1) Mr. Vasu V, #2 1st C Main Road, Near Sattapuradamma Temple Gokyambalaga, Bangalore North Yelahankhomvaram Bangalore 560065 Also At : Mr. Vasu V, No 52, 1st Floor, 1st Main 8th Colony Nandini Layout, Bangalore 560096 Also At : Mr. Vasu V, Flat No b 205 2nd Floor, B Block, M/s Palazzo S No.10/1/5, Jakkur Road, Jakkur Village, Yelahanka Hobli Bangalore North Taluk-560064 (Co-borrower) (2) Mrs. Padma V W/o Vasu V, 59/47 Gokevambaiga 3rd Main, Maneshwara Block BK Ward Bengaluru-560095

The Canara Money shall be Deposited by way of E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://bankeauction.com) portal directly or by generating the Challan channel to deposit the EMD through RTGS/NEFT in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before 06.02.2026 - 5.00 pm.

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl No.	Description of the immovable assets:	Reserve Price	EMD	Incremental Value	Inspection date & time
1	**Schedule A Property:** All the piece and parcel immovable converted property bearing S.No 108/10, situated at Jakkur village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk - 560 064 measuring about 1 acre 8.07 guntas by residential conversion order No BDS/ALN/Sr/NA/19502/03 dated 27.01.2003 in the jurisdiction of Byatarayanapura CMC which khata no 9/210/8/9 and 162/108/18 and bounded as follows. East by: Road, West by: Private property, North by: Private property, South by: Private Property **Schedule B Property:** As per the apartment ownership this flat conveyed in this has the undivided share of 750 Sq.ft from the mentioned schedule A as per the standards & specifications as per agreement between the flat owner and developer **Schedule C Property:** Flat No.B 205 2nd floor B Block, M/S Palazzo which is constructed on the property as per schedule A with the sanctioned plan LP No 276/2006-07 dated 27.05.2006 issued by the Byatarayanapura CMC & present BBMP Khata No 820/0152/1846/51-B-205 with the super built up area of 1770 Sq ft consisting of Hall Kitchen Dining, 3 bedrooms Bathroom, Balconies etc, with vitrified tiles flooring & common area usage & other facilities as available & exclusive one covered car parking.	Rs.91.60	Rs.9.16	Rs.1.00	21.01.2026 2.00 PM to 5.00 PM with Prior Appointment with Authorised Officer

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank. For details, terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website (www.canarabank.com) or E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://bankeauction.com) portal and may contact ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, Canara Bank, Phone No 9836019346 during office hours on any working day.

Date : 19.01.2026
Place: Bengaluru

Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

Karnataka Bank Ltd.
Your Family Bank. Across India.

Asset Recovery Management Branch,
1st Floor, FKCCI Building,
Kempegowda Road,
Bengaluru-560009

Phone : 080-22885928 (Cen)/22885925 (ACM)
E-Mail : cbi.arm@ktkbank.com
Website : www.karnatakabank.com
CIN : L65110KA1924PLC000126

POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, the Authorised Officer of **KARNATAKA BANK LIMITED**, under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued the Demand Notices, details of which are mentioned hereunder, calling upon the borrowers/mortgagors/ guarantors/ co-obligants mentioned therein to repay the total amount mentioned in the demand notice along with future interest within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notices.

1. Name of Borrower/Mortgagors/Guarantors/Co-obligants:- (1) Mr. Sunil G. C. S/o Late Sri Chandrappa Addressed at M/s GNS Enterprises, Near S N R College, Jigani, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore-560105 (2) Mrs. Narayanamma, W/o Late Sri Chandrappa **Both residing at:** No.115, Gopi Building, Srirampura, Kyasanahalli Jigani, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore-560105.

Branch Name: Bengaluru - Jigani **Date of Demand Notice: 16.10.2025**

Amount Demanded: Rs.19,67,839.20 (Rupees Eighteen Lakh Eighty Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty Nine and Paise Twenty Only) Under PSTL A/c No 37570016000001801 along with future interest from 27.09.2025 Plus Cost.

Date of taking Possession: 17.01.2026

Balance outstanding as on the date of possession: Rs.17,07,556.10 (Rupees Seventeen Lakh Sixty Seven Thousand Five Hundred Fifty Six and Paise Twenty Only) Under TL A/c No.37570016000001801 along with future interest from 27.12.2025 Plus Cost.

Description of the Immovable Property: All that Part and parcel of Western Portion of Residential property bearing Site No 5/1, Old Property No.555/5, New Property No. 555/5/1 formed in Sy No. 9.10/2, Khata No 261/555/1, E Khata No 150200510700202055, site measuring 40.0 sq ft, together with residential building constructed thereon situated at Vinayaka Nagar, 5th Division, Jigani Hobli, & Village, Anekal Taluk Bangalore-560105, belonging to Mr. Sunil G.C. **Boundaries of property as per Actual:** East by: Residential Building, West by: Remaining Portion of Site No 5/1, North by: Vacant Site, South by: 15 Feet Road.

2. Name of Borrower/Mortgagors/Guarantors/Co-obligants:- (1) Mr. Kalappa S/o Mr Nagrlingappa (2) Mrs. Shashikala W/o Kalappa **Both residing at:** No 120, 2nd Main, 9th Cross, 2nd Stage, Sanjeevinnagar, Bangalore-560072

Branch Name: Bengaluru – Amarjyothinagar **Date of Demand Notice: 17.07.2025**

Amount Demanded: Rs 8,91,932.52 (Rupees Eight Lakh Ninety One Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty Two and Paise Fifty Two Only) Under TL A/c No. 1247001600041901 along with future interest from 30.06.2025 Plus Cost.

Date of taking Possession: 17.01.2026

Balance outstanding as on the date of possession: Rs.9,63,518.72 (Rupees Nine Lakh Sixty Three Thousand Five Hundred Eighteen and Paise Seventy Two Only) Under TL A/c No. 1247001600041901 along with future interest from 30.12.2025 Plus Cost

Description of the Immovable Property: All that Part and parcel of Residential property bearing New Municipal No 120, PID No.37-134-120, Also called (Postal Address) Eastern Portion of Site No 120, 2nd Main, 9th Cross, Panchasheela Nagar, Moodalapalya, Vijayanagar, Bangalore 560072 measuring 600 Sq Ft together with Building constructed thereon situated at 1st Cross, Annapurneshwarinagar, BBMP Ward No.27, Amarjyothinagar, Bangalore, belonging to Mr. Kalappa. **Boundaries of property as per Actual:** East by: No.06, 3 Floor residential Building, West by: Remaining Portion of Site No 120, 3rd Floor residential Building, North by: Road, South by: Residential Building

The borrowers/ mortgagors/ guarantors/ co-obligants having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers/ mortgagors/ guarantors/ co-obligants and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties, as described hereunder above, in exercise of the powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on 17.01.2026

The borrowers/ mortgagors/ guarantors/ co-obligants in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties mentioned herein above, and any dealings with the said properties will be subject to the charges of Karnataka Bank Ltd., for amounts as described herein above.

[The attention of the borrowers/ mortgagors/ guarantors is invited to provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.]

Place: Bengaluru
Date : 17.01.2026

Sd/- Asst. General Manager & Authorised Officer
For Karnataka Bank Ltd.,

URBAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, KALABURAGI

Beside Min. Urban Soudha, Station Main road, Kalaburagi-585102 Email:commissioneruda@gmail.com

No: KUDA/Tech/Circle/ /2025-26/2434 Date: 17-01-2026

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTIFICATION

As per KTPP Act, Kalaburagi Urban Development Authority has invited e-procurement tender for the development of 04 major circles in Kalaburagi city (Indent no. KLBUDA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT13/CALL-2 Indent no. KLBUDA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT14/CALL-2 Indent no. KLBUDA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT15/CALL-2, & Indent no. KLBUDA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT16/CALL-2), Maximum amount put to tender **Rs. 1,52,13,516/-** Minimum amount put to tender **Rs. 71,24,333/- E.M.D.** amount is applicable as per e-portal. date for submission of tender bids by eligible registered contractors in two cover system (KW-4). Dates & timings details can be obtained from the e-procurement portal **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** For further more details, contact the Assistant Executive Engineer, Urban Development Authority, Kalaburagi in during the office hours.

Sd/- Commissioner
Urban Development Authority Kalaburagi.

DPR/Kalburagi/963/KSA/CSA 2025-26

HDB Financial Services Ltd.
Registered Office: Radhika, 2nd Floor, Law Garden Road, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad-380009.
Contact Address: HDB Financial Services Limited, No.125 38, 1st Floor HDFC Building 10th Cross Road, HDFC Building Wilson Garden, Bangalore-560027, and also at: HDB Financial Services Ltd. Zenith House, Opposite Race Course, Mahalakshmi, Mumbai -400034

DEMAND NOTICE

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE U/S 13 (2) OF THE SARFAESI ACT

Notice is hereby given that the under mentioned borrowers/ guarantor(s)/mortgagor(s) who have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the Overdraft facilities obtained by them from the Bank and whose facility account has been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). The notices were issued to them under Section 13(2) of the Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI Act) on their last known addresses but they have been returned un-served and as such they are hereby informed by way of this public notice.

Sl. No.	Loan Account No.	Name of Borrowers, Co-borrowers, Mortgagors	Os. As per 13(2) Notice	NPA Date	Notice Date
1	4144398	1. M.Mohan, No.18, 1st Cross, 1st Main Vinayaka Nagar, Near EMTC Wilson Garden Bangalore-560030, Karnataka 2. Lakshmi M, No.21, 1st Cross, 1st Main Vinayaka Nagar, Near EMTC Wilson Garden, Bangalore-560030, Karnataka 3. R.Jayamma, No.21, 1st Cross, 1st Main Vinayaka Nagar, Near EMTC Wilson Garden, Bangalore-560030, Karnataka	Rs. 18,34,810/- as on 24-12-2025	03-07-2026	24-12-2025

Schedule of the Securities:- All that piece and parcel of the property bearing new Municipal No. Old Site No. 18 having PID No.70-69-31 situated at Vinayaka Nagar, Jakkasandra Road, Bangalore. Measuring East to West 49 ft 3/2 Feet and North to South 36 Feet together with Building Standing thereon and Bounded on: North: Passage and thereafter Site Nos. 10, 11, 12 & 13 South: Property No.15 East: Remaining Portion of the same Property West: 1st Main Road

The above borrowers and/or their guarantor(s)/mortgagor(s) (wherever applicable) are hereby called upon to make payment of outstanding arrears within 60 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which further steps will be taken after expiry of said 60 days under sub-Section (4) of Section 13 of SARFAESI Act.

Further, this is to bring to your attention that under Section 13(8) of the SARFAESI Act, in case our dues together with all costs, charges and expenses incurred by us are tendered at any time before the date fixed for sale or transfer, the secured asset shall not be sold or transferred by us, and no further step shall be taken towards transfer or sale of that secured asset.

Date: 20.01.2026 Place: Bangalore Sd/- Authorised Officer, HDB Financial Services Ltd

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GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

MINOR IRRIGATION & GROUND WATER DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
M.I & G.W.D.D. DIVISION, VIJAYAPUR

No.MI&GWDDO/VIP/AE-1/4702/TIME EXTENSION/TND/2025-26/3916 Date: 16.01.2026

TENDER/TIME CORRIGENDUM NOTIFICATION

Ref :- This office Short Term Tender Notification No EE/MID/VIP/ AE-1,3,4/4702/TND/2025-26/3744, Dated:05.01.2026.

With respect to above cited reference, vide this office tender notification were issued for a total of Four(4) works under 4702-Major Works from this division. Out of these, the **"Construction of BCB across Hallanear Dry halla(Sy.No.302) and Wet Halla (Sy.No. 607 and 253) at Kannolli village and BCB across Pujeri halla at Nagavi B.K Village in Sindagi Taluk, Vijayapur District"** work's dates have been automatically extended as per the KPPP rules due to not participation of any bidder in the tender

CALENDER OF EVENTS :-

1) Last Date and Time for Receipt of Tenders : 22.01.2026 at 17:30 Hours
2) Date and Time for Opening of Technical Bid 27.01.2026 at 17:30 Hours
3) Date and Time for Opening of Financial Bid : After obtaining approval to the technical bid from Competent Authority

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
MI & GWDD Division,
Vijayapur

Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited
(A Joint Venture of GoI & GoK)
3rd Floor, BMTC Complex, Kengal Hanumanthaiah Road, Shanthinagara, Bengaluru-560 027
Bid No.. BMRCL/A/PD/RETAIL OUTLET-18/2025-26 Dated: 20.01.2026

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Sub: Tender for Licensing of Retail Outlet Spaces at Namma Metro Stations

Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) has invited bids from interested agencies via e-Tender through the Karnataka Public Procurement (KPP) Portal for the licensing of retail outlet spaces available at Metro Stations. The tender is being conducted through an open competitive bidding process, all interested bidders are required to submit their bids electronically through the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal at **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

1	Tender Notification No. and date	BMRCL/A/PD/RETAIL OUTLET-18/2025-26 Dated: 20.01.2026
2	Date from which Bid document is ready to download through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal of Government of Karnataka (https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)	20.01.2026
3	Last date for seeking clarification, if any	10.02.2026 before 5:30 PM e-mail: pdretail@bmrc.co.in
4	Date of Pre-bid Meeting and venue	12.02.2026 at 3:00 PM at BMRCL Conference hall, 3rd Floor, BMTC Complex, Kengal Hanumanthaiah Road, Shanthinagara, Bengaluru-560 027.
5	Last date and time for uploading of tender in Karnataka Public Procurement Portal platform	23.02.2026 before 3:00 PM
6	Date and time of opening of tenders: Technical Bid & Technical Evaluation	24.02.2026 before 3:30 PM

Sd/- Director (Finance), BMRCL

IF YOU'RE GOING THROUGH HELL, KEEP GOING ❯ WINSTON CHURCHILL

Quote Express

AXIS BANK LTD
Legal & Support Team, 2nd Floor,
Door No.31, Old No.14, South Mada Street,
Mylapore, Chennai - 600 004.

POSSESSION NOTICE

Under Rule 8(1) (For Immovable Properties)

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE REGARDING POSSESSION OF PROPERTY U/S 13(4) OF SARFAESI ACT 2002

Notice is hereby given under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, a demand notice was issued on the dates mentioned against each account and stated hereinafter calling upon them to repay the amount within 60 days from the date of receipt of said notice.

The Borrower's/Mortgagors/Guarantors having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of power conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 9 of the said Act on the dates mentioned against each account.

The Borrower's/Mortgagors/Guarantors in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **Axis Bank Ltd.**, for an amount and interest thereon.

The Borrower's/Mortgagors/Guarantors attention is invited to provisions of Sub section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

Name of Account / Borrower / Co-Borrower and Address	Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession	Amount Outstanding
Ref No. Agri / 7865 **Mr.M.G.Prakash [Applicant]** S/o.Mr.Mallikarjun Goudappanavar, **Mrs.Rathna Prakash,[Co- Applicant]** W/o. Goudappanavar **Both residing at:** No.2/1, 1st Floor, Ponniamman Street, Injambakkam, Chennai Tamilnadu,Pin-600041. **And also at:** No.380, 65th Cross, 5th Block 17th Main, Rajaji Nagar, Bangalore -560010. **And also at: Property Address:** Flat No 08 Gf Shiva Woods Apts, New Municipal No.06, Chandra Layout, Ward No.39 N.G.E.F Layout, Nagarabhavi, Main Road, Banglore-560072.	15.10.2025	13.01.2026	As on 13.10.2025 Rs. 14,56,692/- (This amount includes interest applied till 13.10.2025)

Description of property standing in the name of Mr. Prakash M G: All that piece and parcel of land and building at Flat Bearing No. 008 Ground Floor New Municipal No.06, Chandra Layout, Ward No.39 ,N.G.E.F Layout,Nagarabhavi Main Road,Banglore, Comprised In P.LD.No.39-79-06, At Banglore, Measuring **11718 Sq.Ft and RCC with Super built up Area 1033 Sq.ft.**,bounded on, North by : Strom Water Draining. South By : Ngef Layout Main Road. East By : Padmashree Hostel Old No.1 Belonged To Shivashankar. West By : Site Old No.4. Admeasuring East To West On The Northern Side: 84 Feet 11 Inches. East To West On The Southern Side: 84 Feet 8 Inches. North To South On The Eastern Side : 134 Feet 7 Inches. North To South On The Western Side : 144 Feet 7 Inches. Situated within the registration district of Banglore and sub-registration district of Banglore.

Date: 13.01.2026
Place: Banglore

Authorized Officer
Axis Bank Limited

PUBLIC NOTICE

This Notice is issued on behalf of My client Smt. M. Vasantha, W/o S.C. Srinivas Reddy, informing the general public that the originals only dated 18.03.2011 bearing doc No. DSR-1-06370-2011, 12, Book-1, issued in Ov. No. 1009/03 and registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Talaghattapura, Bangalore, executed by Smt. M. Srinivas Reddy, Sri Ravi Mangalagiri in favour of Chengappa CH, Alleged to be lost or misplaced and neither Smt. Ravi Ravi B.A. nor any other person is in possession of the said property.

If any person / firm / institution / company has any claim or holding any other document of schedule property, they may contact the undersigned in writing within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice failing which will be proceed that they are no claims.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of immovable residential property bearing Site No.37, Assessment No.94-1, old 46.94, Situated at Lakshmipura Village, Dasanapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, measuring East to West 31 feet and North to South 34 feet, in all measuring 1116 Sqft and bounded on: East by: Other Property, West by: Road, North by: Site No.36, South by: Site No.38.

S.VENKATESH, Advocate
No. 12, 7th Cross, Abhyanagar Main Road, Attur Layout, Yelahanka New Town, Bangalore 560064 Mob. 9900319174

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the general public that our client Smt. Bhagavathi Vithal Hegde, wife of Mr. Vithal Bhaskar Hegde, have been duly authorized and empowered by Mrs. Lakshmi J Hanagavadi, to sell the right over the Schedule Property described below, having paid the entire sale consideration and received physical possession along with all original title documents, consequently, our clients have full powers to manage, sell and execute sale deeds, and any person or persons claiming to or having with their peaceful possession of said property shall be at all the risk and cost and any such claim or encumbrance.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing Site No. 48, Old No. 101, Situated at "Neha Township" under "Neha Developers", Bilekahalli Village, Dodthoguti Gramapanchayat, Kasaba Hobli, Begur South Taluk, Property comes under the limits of BBMP Ward No. 58 Hosur, Bangalore, measuring East to West 40 feet and more in South 30 feet, total measuring 2400 Sq.ft, and bounded on the Entirety: East No. 50, West by: Site No. 49, North by: Private Property, South by: 40 Feet Wide Road.

G.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES
M. VENKATESH CHANDRAN B.A., LL.B
Advocates & Legal Consultants Bangalore
M. Mobile: 9164706@gmail.com

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU (SUBSTITUTED SERVICE OF NOTICE TO THE RESPONDENT)
VIDE COURT ORDER DATED: 08/01/2026
CMP No. 161/2024
[UNDER CIVIL PROCEDURE, HYBRID MEANS]

PETITIONERS: THE LEGAL ATTORNEYS AND BANKERS (AS THROUGH SHRI A.A. UNAUTHORISED REPRESENTATIVE), NO. 3, 2ND FLOOR, THALAJAND VILLA, WALTON ROAD, BANGALORE 560001 -V/s-

RESPONDENT-1: AMBIDENT MARKETING PVT. LTD (THROUGH MANAGING DIRECTOR)

To, AMBIDENT MARKETING PVT. LTD, (THROUGH MANAGING DIRECTOR), No. 9/A, 10th MAIN ROAD, KANAKANAGAR, BT NAGAR POST BENGALURU - 560 032.
...RESPONDENTS

Whereas the above named Petitioners has filed a CMP or the Court Under Section 11(6) and 11(8) of Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 for Appointment of Sole Arbitrator. So in the copy enclosed herewith. Notice is hereby given to you to appear in the Court in person or through an Advocate duly authorized or through some one authorized by law to act for you, in this matter on 03-02-2026 at 10:30 A.M. in case provided to centre, the notice. If you fail to appear, the petition will be dealt with, heard and decided in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of this court on 13-01-2026

By order of the court, Assistant Registrar, High Court of Karnataka, Bangalore

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BEFORE THE PRINCIPAL CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE AT BENGALURU (CCH-26)
P.B. S.C. No. 574/2025

[illegible]

ADD. NO. RESPONDENTS

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, the above named petitioner has presented the petition before this Hon'ble Court under Section 372 of Indian Succession Act, praying for grant of letters of administration of the estate of the above mentioned in respect of the schedule property belonging to late Smt. Sowmyadevi S who died on 19.01.2025 & the Petitioner claiming to be the owner of the schedule property.

Interested persons are hereby warned to appear before the Additional City Civil & Sessions Judge, at Bengaluru 560026 in person or by a pleader duly authorized on the 20.02.2026 at 11:00 A.M. or thereafter show cause why the petition should not be granted.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

SCHEDULE 'A' PROPERTY

[illegible]

Given under my hand and seal of court this 17th day of 2026

By order of the court, Senior Stenographer, City Civil Court, Bengaluru

SUMMARY, Advocate
No. 452, 19th Main Road, Tilak Nagar, Jayanagar, Bengaluru-70 Mob. 9845151518

PUBLIC NOTICE

The public is hereby informed that my client, Smt. Champa Devi, is the absolute owner of Schedule Property, and she has acquired the Schedule Property from Smt. Geetha S and Sri. Deepak S, in terms of an absolute sale deed dated 30.06.2020, registered as Doc No. RJN-1-09903/2020-21 of Book-1, Stored in CD No. RJND882, in the office of Sub-registrar, Rajajinagar, Bangalore. She states that she has lost or misplaced the original of previous Deed of Relinquishment Gift Deed dated 07.05.2011 registered as Doc No. RJN-1-06737/2011-12 of Book-1, Stored in CD No. RJND177, at the office of Sub-registrar, Rajajinagar, Bangalore. Hence she declares that the Schedule Property is not encumbered in whole or part thereof in any manner either by her or her predecessor-in-title. Further, the public is hereby notified that if anyone finds the original of the above mentioned Gift Deed, he shall be required to deliver the same to the undersigned. And if persons having any right, title, interest, claim claims over the Schedule Property can approach the undersigned along with supporting documents within 15 days from the date of this publication and objections and / or claims received thereafter will not bind my client and my client can consider as if there were no objections and encumbrances on the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF Property bearing Site No. 25, old BDA Site No. 344, PID No. 21-6-39, measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 30 feet, Admeasuring 900 Square feet (together with 300 square feet of non-residential use), comprising building measuring with square feet of built up area in the ground floor and 600 square feet of built up area on the upper floor, situated at 12th Main Road, 6th Block, Rajajinagar, Bangalore, BBMP Ward No. 106, Bangalore, with all rights, appurtenances, easements, whatever and howsoever in nature and kind whatsoever and bounded on

East by : Dr. Rajkumar Main Road.
West by : Site No. 310
North by : Site No. 330
South by : Site No. 339

Sd/- JYOTHI Law & CO.
Advocates and Legal Consultants,
5814, 1st Floor, Sri Rama Arcade,
4th Cross, 16th Main Road
Industrial & Commerce Layout,
Vijaynagar, Bangalore 560 040.
Mobile No. 9008652751

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that our Client intends to purchase undermentioned Schedule Property from **Mr. Manish Singh Bagga**, aged about 42 years, son of Mr. Gangadhar Singh, residing at House No. 8-2-293/B, Road No. 14, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad - 500 034 ("Owner") and **Mr. Gaurav Singh** aged about 30 years, daughter of Mr. Anupam Reddy, residing at 2-2-1, Sajjapur Road, Ashok Nagar, Domalguda, Hyderabad - 500029 (**Mr. Bhavik Singh** aged about 25 years, son of Mr. Gaurav Singh, residing at 2-2-1, Sajjapur Road, Ashok Nagar, Domalguda, Hyderabad - 500029 (**Mr. Vikram Reddy** aged about 30 years, son of Mr. Anupam Reddy residing at 2-2-1, Sajjapur Road, Ashok Nagar, Domalguda, Hyderabad - 500029 ("Interested Parties").

The Owner claims that he is the absolute owner of the Schedule Property and has an unencumbered title over the Schedule Property, free from any kind of encumbrances, liens, prohibitions, claims and demands of any nature whatsoever or howsoever made by any person or persons asserting any right, title, interest, claim or demand whatsoever in the Schedule Property or any part thereof by way of sale, exchange, mortgage, charge, lease, gift, inheritance, bequest, possession, lis pendens, attachment, maintenance, agreement, arrangement, understanding, agreement, power of attorney, option, right of first refusal, pre-emption or otherwise whatsoever howsoever howsoever made by any person or persons claiming to the undersigned within a period of seven (7) days from the date of issuance of this notice, with all documentary proof thereof, failing which our Client will treat the title of the Schedule Property as free and marketable and will proceed to enter into the sale transaction.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of the undivided residential converted land bearing Sy. No. 38/5 measuring 2015 Guntas situated at Yamane Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District, converted vide Proceedings Order bearing No. RL/MISC/7304/05 dated 30.01.2006 from Assistant Commissioner, Bangalore South and bounded as follows:

East by: Sarjapura Village Boundary; West by: Property belonging to Mr. Gopal Reddy; North by: Remaining portion of property bearing Sy. No. 38 belonging to Mr. Rajappa Reddy and South by: Property belonging to Mr. Gopal Reddy and Sy. No. 39.

Sadananda P.M / Sowmya V Bhandari
Sadananda & Co., Legal Consultants
5411, Central Street,
Cross, Koramangala Post, Bangalore-560 020 Mob: 9380484236

PUBLIC NOTICE

This notice is hereby given to the general public that my client Mrs. BHAGAVAN VITHAL HEGADE, wife of Mr. Vithal Bhaskar Hegade of Hegadekatte Village, Sidlaghatta Hobli, Bantwal Taluk, Dakshina Kannada District, Karnataka-574234, intends to purchase the Schedule Property from Mr. [illegible] & Mr. H.B. Sathyaraj & Mrs. S. Rajini, who are the absolute owners of the schedule property.

Any person having any objection regarding the said sale transaction, may contact the undersigned advocate with relevant documents within 7 days from the date of this publication failing which it shall be deemed that there is no objection of any nature and my client will complete the sale transaction.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All the Piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing New Municipal No.48, Assessment No. 10-14-6, having E-PID No. 010185444, 100 PID No. 100-179-66, formerly Part of Property bearing Khanesshumar No. 14, Khatha No. 12, measuring East to West 60 feet, North to South 60 feet, totally measuring 3600 Sq feet situated at 2nd Stage East, Mantri Layout, Geddalahalli Village, Hesaraghatta Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, now comes under the jurisdiction of BBMP Ward No. 18, Hesaraghatta Sample Ward-Bangalore and bounded on East by: Road, West by: Remaining Portion of Property bearing Khanesshumar No. 14, North by: Road, South by: Road.

Sd/- K.N. RAJANNA, Advocate
Office at No. 95, KR Arcade, Opp. Ammathi Hotel, Sultan, Ambedkar, Bangalore-560027 Mob: +919845151518
Date: 19-01-2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

This general public is hereby informed that our client have entered into a Agreement of Sale towards purchase of immovable property described in the SCHEDULE A hereunder from its owners, (1) Mr. RAMASWAMY, aged about 46 years, son of late Krishnamurthy R, residing at No. 155, G Street, Jogupalya, HAL 2nd Stage, Bangalore - 560 008 (not joined in (2) Mrs. NAGAMMA, also NAGAMMA, aged about 38 years, wife of Mr. Ramaiah K, residing at No. 155, G Street, Jogupalya, HAL 2nd Stage, Bangalore - 560 008 and also with respect to Schedule B property mentioned hereunder with its owner, Mr. RAJAMANIKAM K, aged about 35 years, son of late Ramaiah K, residing at No. 155, G Street, Jogupalya, HAL 2nd Stage, Bangalore - 560 008 and also with respect to Schedule C property mentioned hereunder with its owner, Mrs. VANITHA, aged about 33 years, wife of Mr. Anand Gowda S.R., residing at Sivanapura Revenue Village, Mudugere Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District, Bangalore - 562125.

Any person/s, bank/s, society/ies, company/ies, institution/s or any other body, having any legally enforceable claims, rights, title, interest, ownership or the following mentioned Schedule A property, Schedule B property and Schedule C property may lodge their objections, claims in writing with the supporting documents within the undersigned within 10 (TEN) days from the date of the issuance of this Public Notice, after which period no claims shall proceed on the basis that there are no claims, of whatsoever nature with regards to the Schedule properties.

SCHEDULE A PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL of residential property bearing No.64/1, Old No. 64, New municipal no. 155, BBMP PID No. 75-2-64/1, e-Swathi Property Identity No. 201379 [illegible], measuring East to West 15 feet, or 4.57 meters, North to South 26.25 feet or 8.00 meters, in all measuring 401 square feet or 37.25 Square meters, situated at G Street, Jogupalya Main Road, Ulsoor, Bangalore, and bounded on the:

East by: Raghavendra's Property,
West by: Site Road,
North by: Jogupalya Main Road;
South by: Sulaimani Property.

SCHEDULE B PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL of residential property bearing No.64/2, Old No. 64, New municipal no. 155, BBMP PID No. 75-2-64/2, e-Swathi Property Identity No. 201379 [illegible], measuring East to West 15 feet, or 4.57 meters, North to South 26.25 feet or 8.00 meters, in all measuring 401 square feet or 37.25 Square meters, situated at G Street, Jogupalya Main Road, Ulsoor, Bangalore, and bounded on the:

East by: Manoj Property,
West by: Bhadra Property;
North by: Sadanandra Property;
South by: Jogupalya Main Road

SCHEDULE C PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL of residential property bearing No.64, Been numbered as 155, BBMP PID No. 75-2-64, e-Swathi Property Identity No. 201379 [illegible], measuring East to West 15 feet, or 4.57 meters, North to South 26.25 feet or 8.00 meters, in all measuring 401 square feet or 37.25 Square meters, situated at G Street, Jogupalya Main Road, Ulsoor, Bangalore, and bounded on the:

East by: Government School;
West by: Raghavendra Property;
North by: Shyamsundra Property;
South by: Jogupalya Main Road

G.S. Srinivas,
A

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby notified that my client Sri. N. M. BABU S/o Late Dodaiah, intend to purchase the Schedule A, B & C Property from Vendors, Sri S. VIJAYA KUMAR S/o. Sri S. Shankara, Bdt. No.25/41, Nos. Sri Ram Oil Mills, Old Mill Road, Sri Priya, St. Thomas Town, Bengaluru-560084, Sri. R.K. SURESHBABU, BA(L) S/o Late Rajashegar Chetty, Rtd. No.36, 5th Main, IIM Extn, Thyagarajanagara, Bengaluru South, Thyagarajanagar, Bengaluru-560028 and Sri A.O. GANGADHARA S/o Late A.Obaiah, Rgn Abbaiappa Extn, Ward No.20, Bidadi Town, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk, Ramanagara District-562109.

Genuine public or anyone else claiming any claim or objection based on this transaction, may present valid and tenable documents in that regard within 10 days from publication. Any objection without copies of valid documents and after the date after 10 days of publication will not be considered and my client shall go ahead with the sale transaction as if there is no objection or claim.

SCHEDULE 'A' PROPERTY

(Owned by SIVAJAYA KUMAR S/o. Sri. S Sowmya)

All the piece and parcel of the agricultural dry land bearing Sy. No. 212, measuring 1 Acre 12 Guntas and 05 Guntas of Kharab land, situated at ARUNAGIRI Village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Hobli and District and bounded on the East by: Survey No. 213, belonging to Mr. Kunta Rangappa and sons; West by: Survey No. 211, belonging to Mr. M.K. Suresh; South by: North by: Survey No. 211; South by: Survey No. 210.

SCHEDULE 'B' PROPERTY

(Owned by: SRI. SURENDRA BABU S/o. Late. G Bhadrappa Chetty)

All the piece and parcel of the Agricultural dry land bearing Sy. No. 192, measuring 1 Acre 13 Guntas, situated at ABBAIAPPA PET Village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk and District and bounded on the East by: Survey No. 192 and 193, West by: Survey No. 191; South by: Survey No. 191

SCHEDULE 'C' PROPERTY

(Owned by: Sri. A.B. DHARMARA Sa. Late A V Basappa)

All the piece and parcel of the Agricultural dry land bearing Sy. No. 105, measuring 1 Acre 8 Guntas, situated at ABBAIAPPA PET Village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk and District and bounded on the East by: Survey No. 192 and 193, West by: Survey No. 191; South by: Survey No. 191

N. M. BABU
No.83, 2nd Floor, Sankalpa, Main Road, Cottonpet, Bengaluru 02.
Mobile: 98440 48417, Date: 19-01-2026

BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II, BENGALURU

DRT, Building, 4th Floor, Telephone House, Kasturba Road, Bengaluru - 560001

O.A. No.1975/2025

BETWEEN:
The South Indian Bank Ltd.
... Applicant
and
Mr. Irwin Pereira & Ors
....Defendants

[illegible]

Whereas, the Applicant has instituted an application under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993 against the Defendants for recovery of Rs. 47,15,369.47 (Rupees Forty-seven Lakhs Fifteen Thousand three Hundred Three and Paise Forty-Seven only) due as on 25/09/2025 together with interest and future interest, cost, and other reliefs.

Take notice that you are hereby required to show cause within 30 days of the Publication of the Summons or on 21/02/2026 at 10.30 a.m. in the forenoon by person or by a Pleader / Advocate duly instructed as to why the relief prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in default of appearance on the day mentioned herein above, the proceedings will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal on this 26th day of December 2025.

Sd/- REGISTRAR
(Debts Recovery Tribunal-II Bengaluru)

1) Mr. Irwin Pereira, S/o Mr. Manuel Pereira, Age about 26 years, having address at Sumadamma Sumana Building 4-129, 6th Cross, Kempe Gowda Nagar, Byadarahalli, Bangalore - 560091. PAN No. AGXPH7923H Mob.No. 8296019083

2) Mr. Manuel Pereira, S/o Mr. Mathew, Age about 58 years, having address at Sumadamma Sumana Building, 4-129, 6th Cross, Kempe Gowda Nagar, Byadarahalli, Bangalore 560091. PAN No. BZJPP6559H Mob No. 9482395171 Email: [illegible]

KARNATAKA STATE FINANCIAL CORPORATION

(Established under the State Financial Corporations Act 1951).
Branch office, MB Road, SLN Complex, Near KSRTC Bus Stand, KOLAR 563 101
Ph Nos. 08152-224767/222061, Mobile No 9845441425
Email: kr.kolar@karnataka.gov.in

SALE OF ASSETS THROUGH E AUCTION PORTAL

The following assets taken over under section 29 of SFC's Act 1951 are available for sale on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" through e-auction. The interested persons for the purchase of the following Plant and Machinery suitable for processing and manufacturing of food grain flour with automatic packaging unit may participate in the e-auction.

Name of the Unit: M/s Lenny Foods and Agro, Shed No 8-23, KSSIDC Industrial Estate, Kuppam Road, Andersonpet, KGF Kolar District.

PLANT & MACHINERY : FULLY AUTOMATIC FLOUR MILL PLANT-CLEANING CAPACITY 1000 KG/HOUR & FLOUR 400 KG/HOUR AND OTHER ACCESSORIES DOUBLE HEAD FLOUR MILL TYPE PULVARISER WITH 10HP MOTOR SINGLE HEAD FLOUR MILL TYPE PULVERISER WITH 10HP MOTOR RAGI CLEANING MACHINE WITH DESTONER AUTOMATIC PACKAGING MACHINE WITH ACCESSORIES, AIR COMPRESSOR WEIGHING MACHINE+1No DESKTOP COMPUTER PRINTER, CAMERAS AND OTHER ACCESSORIES ALONG WITH OFFICE FURNITURES AND PARTITION.

Reserve Price : Rs.52.83 lakhs. **EMD amount** : Rs.5.28 lakhs

Property Inspection : 05.02.2026 between 11.00 a.m to 1.00 p.m

Terms and Conditions: 1) Assets are for sale on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" through e-Auction. 2) e-Auction will commence from 18.02.2026 from 11.00 A.M and closes on 20.02.2026 at 4.00 P.M. 3) The last date for payment of EMD through Online will be on 16.02.2026 up to 4.00 P.M. 4) The Purchaser has to pay 25% of the sale amount including EMD amount within 24 hours from the date of sale before the closing working hours of the office. The balance 75% of the sale amount has to be paid within 15 days from the date of sale communication. 5) Lessee / personal guarantors are hereby requested to bring prospective buyers through e-auction as per terms and conditions of e-auction. 6) For further details of e-Auction Sale and the other terms and conditions please refer to website: http://ppo.karnataka.gov.in 7) Interested bidders may contact e-procurement helpdesk no.080-46010000/22531200 OR may visit e-Procurement Cell, situated at 4th Floor, SSS Buildings, Opposite to RBI, Nrupathunga Road, Bengaluru-560001 for further clarifications and also Kolar Branch Office, Kolar as mentioned above.

Place: Kolar
Date: 19.01.2026
Sd/-
Branch Manager

SALE NOTICE

UNDER INSOLVENCY AND BANKRUPTCY CODE, 2016

SAALIM SHOES PVT. LTD.

(UNDER LIQUIDATION)
CIN : U19111TN2006PTC060267
Regd. Office: No:1-A, Regency Apartment, No:5, 1st Lane, Nungambakkam High Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai-600034, Tamil Nadu, India.
Factory Premises : 'A'- UNIT No. 143/3, M.B.T. Road, Walajah Taluk, Ranipet - 632401.
'TANNERY' No. 63/1, 63/2, Ammoor Road, Manthangal Village, Walajah Taluk, Ranipet - 632404.
'G'-UNIT, No. 28/8B, Chinna Kukkundi, Kalavai Road, Arcot, Ranipet - 632503.
(The CD is in the business of manufacturing the Leather & Footwear, The export of footwear, leather and leather products)

The properties of Corporate Debtor, M/s. Saalim Shoes Private Limited (Under Liquidation) are offered for Sale under Regulation 32 of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (Liquidation Process) Regulations, 2016 as amended from time to time, by the appointed Liquidator of the Hon'ble NCLT, Chennai, "in parcels", under "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" condition. The Sale will be conducted through E-auction platform "https://baanknet.com", (with unlimited extension of 10 minutes each).

Inspection period: From 21.01.2026 To 09.02.2026 (between 10 am & 4 pm)
DATE OF E-AUCTION: 12.02.2026 (THURSDAY)

SLOT TIMINGS	Asset Description	Manner of Sale	Reserve Price ₹	EMD Amount ₹	Incremental Bid Amt ₹
Slot No.: 1 11 AM to 1 PM	STOCK & INVENTORIES	AS IS WHERE-IS BASIS	21 Lakhs	02 Lakhs	1 Lakh
Slot No.: 2 2 PM to 4 PM	PLANT & MACHINERY	AS IS WHERE-IS BASIS	05.40 Cr.	50 Lakhs	3 Lakhs
Slot No.: 3 4:30 PM to 6 PM	LAND & BUILDING	AS IS WHERE-IS BASIS	36.00 Cr.	250 Lakhs	5 Lakhs

Terms and Conditions :
1. The E-auction will be conducted on "As is where is", "As is what is", "Whatever there is basis" and "No recourse basis" only through E-auction.
2. The EMD amount shall be required to be deposited in the https://baanknet.com portal wallet.
3. The Bid shall be submitted through online mode only in the format prescribed.
4. The Last date of submission of EMD and filled in Tender Documents is **10.02.2026**.
5. For detailed terms and conditions of E-auction sale, please refer the TENDER DOCUMENT/PROCESS MEMORANDUM available on https://baanknet.com or email to the Liquidator at saalim.liquidation@gmail.com for E-auction process contact : support.baanknet@psballiance.com.
6. The Liquidator has the right to add, modify or cancel any terms and conditions in the TENDER DOCUMENT/PROCESS MEMORANDUM and to extend or shorten anytime limit specified in the said document. He has the right to accept or reject any of the bids without giving any reason whatsoever.
7. The payments made after 30 days shall attract interest at the rate of 12% p.a. and the Sale shall be cancelled if the payment is not received within the period provided in the TENDER DOCUMENT/PROCESS MEMORANDUM.
8. THE LAND & BUILDING SHALL BE SOLD SUBJECT TO COMPLETION OF SALE OF STOCK & INVENTORIES AND PLANT & MACHINERY.
9. The Assets under Sale will be handed over UNDER AS IS WHERE IS CONDITION ONLY.
10. Bidders may opt for bidding of all slots OR any one of them.
11. The Factory premises at Ranipet can be inspected from 21.01.2026 to 09.02.2026 between 11 am and 4 pm on prior appointment and request by email to saalim.liquidation@gmail.com.

Dr. S.R. SHRIRAAM SHEKHER
Liquidator
SAALIM SHOES PVT. LTD. (Under Liquidation)
saalim.liquidation@gmail.com
IBBI/IPA-003/IP-N000144/2017-2018/11598
11, Prayag Apartments, 8-15, Gandhi Nagar
First Main Road, Adyar, Chennai-600 020

Place : Chennai-20
Date : 19.01.2026

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

ಮೋಟಾರ್ ವಾಹನಗಳು ಇಲಾಖೆ

ಜಂಟಿಸಾರಿಗೆ ಆಯುಕ್ತರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ,
ಮೈಸೂರು ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮೈಸೂರು.
www.transmys21@gmail.com
ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ/ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್ ನಂ. 0821-2420810

[illegible]

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯಸರ್ಕಾರ ಮೈಸೂರು ಮೋಟಾರ್ವಾಹನ ಇಲಾಖೆ ವಿಭಾಗದ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ ಇಲ್ಲಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ಈ ವಿಭಾಗದ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬರುವ ಹಾಸನ, ಮಂಡ್ಯ, ಕೊಡಗು ಮತ್ತು ಮೈಸೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆದ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಕೆಲಸ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳ ಸ್ವಾಧೀನ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡುವಿಕೆಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟಂತೆ ಸ್ವಾಧೀನ ಪಡಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಹೊರಡಿಸಿದ ನಂತರ ಸ್ವಾಧೀನಪಡಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ಮೊತ್ತವನ್ನು ಪಾವತಿಸಲಾಗದೆ ಕೆಲವು ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮೂಲ ಭೂಮಾಲೀಕರು ಸರ್ಕಾರ/ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳ ಸ್ವಾಧೀನಕ್ಕೆ ಒಳಪಟ್ಟಿರುತ್ತದೆ (viz https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/) ದಿನಾಂಕ 01.01.2026 ರಂದು 21.01.2026 ರಂದು 17-00 ಗಂಟೆ ಸಭೆಯನ್ನು ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.1135/00/ಹಾಗೂ ಇಂಟರೆಸ್ಟ್ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ 25947/00/- ಹಾಗೂ ಕಸ್ಟ್ ರೂ 1037649.25 ಹಾಗೂ ಇಂಟರೆಸ್ಟ್ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.46705/00/-ಬಾಕಿಯಿದೆ. ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕರಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳು ಬೇಕಾದಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ನೀಡಿರುವಂತೆ ಕಛೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೇಳಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಯಾವುದೇ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಗಳು/ವಿವರಗಳು ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ನೀಡಿರುವ ವಿಳಾಸ ಹೊಂದಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಮೊದಲ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವುದೇ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ ಅವಶ್ಯ ಬಾರ್ಕಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ ಕೆಲ. ಮೇಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾತ್ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/- ಜಂಟಿಸಾರಿಗೆ ಆಯುಕ್ತರು, ಮೋಟಾರ್ವಾಹನ ಇಲಾಖೆ,
ಮೈಸೂರು ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮೈಸೂರು.

Can Fin Homes Ltd

Kunguri Branch
#45, Ground Flr, 4th Main 5th Cross, New Shilpa Hospital Kengeri Satellite Town, Bengaluru-560060 Ph No 080-28486096/99
Mob. 7625979154
e-Mail: kengeri@canfinhomes.com
CIN No. L65110KA1987PLC008699

POSSESSION NOTICE [Rule 8 (1)]

(For Immovable Property)

The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of Can Fin Homes Ltd. under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of the powers under the said Act and Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a demand notice dated 03-03-2025 calling upon the borrowers Mr. Yeerjappa and Smt. Mahala to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs.18,99,180/- (Rupees Eighteen Lakhs Ninety Nine Thousand One Hundred and Sixty Only) with further interest at contractual rates, till date of realization within 60 days from the date of the said notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 (of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002) on this 14th day of January of the year 2026.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Can Fin Homes Ltd for an amount of Rs.18,99,180/- (Rupees Eighteen Lakhs Ninety-Nine Thousand One Hundred and Sixty Only) and interest thereon.

Description of immovable property

All that piece and parcel of immovable Residential property bearing Southern Portion of Site No.7 Old Sy. No.4, Sy No.29/1 Situated at Sreenivapura Village, Devarapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk. Measuring East to West 40 Feet (m) North to South 15 Feet, in all Measuring 600 Sq. Feet. Bounded On. East by: Road West by: Others Property. South by: Northern Portion of Site No.7. North by: Site No.6.

Sd/-
Date: 19.01.2026
Place : Bengaluru
Authorised Officer
Can Fin Homes Ltd.

बैंक ऑफ़ बड़ौदा Bank of Baroda

ROSARB - Bangalore South, 4th Floor, Vijaya Tower, Bank of Baroda, Trinity Circle, Bangalore-560001. Tel Phone: 080-25011441, Extn-128, E-mail : sarbes@bankofbaroda.co.in

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES (APPENDIX-IV-A [See proviso to Rule 6 (2) & 8 (6)])

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 [read with proviso to Rule 6 (2) & 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) Mortgagor (s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Bank of Baroda, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" for recovery of below mentioned account(s). The details of Borrowers/Guarantors/Secured Assets/Dues/Reserve Price/Auction date & Time, EMD and Bid Increase Amount are mentioned below.

Name & address of Borrowers/ Guarantors and Mortgagors	Short Description of The Immovable Property With Known Encumbrances, If Any	A. Branch Name B. Account Number C. Total Dues	Date & Time of e-Auction	A. Reserve Price B. EMD Amount C. Bid Increase Amount	Status of Possession (Constructive / Physical)	Property Inspection Date And Time (with Prior Permission From Authorised Officer)
(1) Mrs. Bharathi D K W/o Ganesh Gowda Residing At No 652 Ground Floor 1st Main Road 2nd Cross Kamalanagar Bangalore 560079	All that piece and parcel of the property bearing site no 240/13 (Northern portion) measuring 600 sft carved out of 240*3 katha site measuring 1800 sft in 1 acre 10 guntas of land present assessment no 107/1 at old assessment no 12 GKC Rajarajeshwaranagar Hobli No. 369/16 situated at Mallathahalli village Yeshwanthpur Hobli Bangalore North Taluk now comes under the limits of BBMP MEASURING East to West 40 feet and North to South 15 Feet Known Encumbrances : Nil	A. ROSARB B.A106060600001573 C.Rs.49,40,990/- as on 16.01.2026 and with further interest thereon at the contractual rate plus costs, charges and expenses till date of payment	05.02.2026 2.00 PM to 3.00 PM	A. Rs 41,65,108/- B.Rs.4,15,500/- C.Rs.10,000/-	Open Plot Symbolic Possession	AFTER 20.01.2026

For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer to the website link: https://www.bankofbaroda.in/e-auction and online auction portal Baanknet.com. Also, prospective bidders may contact the Authorised Officer on Tel No. 080-25011441 and Mobile No 9137968132

Date: 18.01.2026
Place: Bangalore
Sd/- Authorised Officer, Bank of Baroda

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punjab national bank

Asset Recovery Management Branch (ARMB): No.20-27, Raheja Towers, East Wing, 1st Floor, M.G. Road, Bangalore-560001. Tel No. 080-25095867. e-mail : cs4191@pnb.bank.in

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act(SARFAESI), 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property(ies) mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/physical/ symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of the Bank/ Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on the date mentioned in the table herein below for recovery of its dues due to the Bank/ Secured Creditor from the respective borrower (s) and guarantor (s). The reserve price and the earnest money deposits mentioned in the table below against the respective properties.

The auction will be held on 06.02.2026 from 11.00 AM to 05.00 PM

Sl. No.	Branch Name, Customer ID, A/c Name, A/c No., Dealing official, Contact No.	Description of the Immovable Properties Mortgaged/ Owner's Name(mortgagers of property(ies))	(A) Date of 13(2) (B) Date of 13(4) (C) Type of Possession (D) Outstanding amount	A)Reserve Price B) EMD C) Bid Increase Amount
1	BC: Sadashiva Nagar (108410) M/s S R Garments A/C - 1064410000245 Mob No. : 9632588100	All that piece and parcel of Residential Property Flat No. 302 and 303 in third floor, in the building name Sree Pearl Apartment with plinth area of 2420 sq.ft including common area with undivided land of 40 sq yards situated at SNo. 234, DNo.6-4-10-10 Maruthi Nagar, Anantapuramu Municipal corporation, Andhra Pradesh in the name of Smt. Sumathi Suratani bounded by East: Corridor, West: open sky, North: open to sky, South: Road & open to sky	A) 09.04.2021 B) 17.08.2021 C) Symbolic D) Rs 2,85,70,552.67 as on 31.12.2025 plus further interest and charges	A) Rs. 96,00,000/- B) Rs 9,60,000/- C) Rs. 50,000/-
2	BC: Sadashiva Nagar (108410) M/s S R Garments A/C - 1064410000245 Mob No. : 9632588100	All that piece and parcel of Residential Flat No. 401 3rd floor, R S Residency with plinth area of 1840 sq. feet including common area, 1 car parking area admeasuring 200 sq.feet along with undivided share of 40.81 sq yards of land area located at TS No. 234/1 P No.129/78, Plot No.03, D No.6-4-10, Maruthi Nagar, 3rd cross Anantapuram municipal corporation Andhra Pradesh in the name of Smt. Sumathi Suratani bounded on East by: Open to sky and West by -staircase and 6'6" corridor, North by: open to sky, South-open to sky.	A) 09.04.2021 B) 17.08.2021 C) Symbolic D) Rs 2,85,70,552.67 as on 31.12.2025 plus further interest and charges	A) Rs. 54,00,000/- B) Rs 5,40,000/- C) Rs 50,000/-

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The sale shall be subject to the Terms & Conditions prescribed in the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 and to the following further conditions:
1. The properties are being sold on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" and "WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS"
2. The particulars of Secured Assets specified in the Schedule hereinabove have been stated to the best of the information of the Authorised Officer, but the Authorised Officer shall not be answerable for any error, misstatement or omission in this proclamation
3. The Sale will be done by the undersigned through e-Auction platform provided at the Website https://baanknet.com on 06.02.2026 @ 11.00 AM to 5 PM
4. Platform (https://baanknet.com) for e-Auction will be provided by e-Auction service provider M/s PSB Alliance Pvt. Ltd. having its Registered office at Unit 1, 3rd Floor, VIDS Commercial Tower, Near Wadala Truck Terminal, Wadala East Mumbai-400037 (Helpdesk Number +91 8291220220, Email Id. support.baanknet@psballiance.com). The Intending Bidders/ Purchasers are required to participate in the e-Auction process at e-Auction Service Provider's website https://baanknet.com This Service Provider will also provide online demonstration/training on e-Auction on the portal.

STATUTORY 15 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER RULE 8(6) OF THE SARFAESI RULES, 2002

Place : Bangalore
Date : 20.01.2026
Sd/- AUTHORISED OFFICER & CHIEF MANAGER
PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK (SECURED CREDITOR)

Union Bank (India)

R T Nagar Vasanthappa Block Branch (54660)
No.2541, BMP 5/1, 5th Cross Ganganagar, Vasanthappa Block, Bangalore-560032
Phone No +91 8165654660, E-Mail: ubin0554660@unionbankofindia.bank.in

E AUCTION SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for 15 days Sale of Immovable secured assets under rule 8 & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/ charged to the Secured Creditor, the possession of which has been taken by the Authorised officer of Union Bank of India, the Secured Creditor will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is basis" on the date mentioned below, for recovery of dues as mentioned hereunder to Union bank of India from the below mentioned Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s). The Reserve Price and the Earnest Money Deposit are also mentioned hereunder

Name and address of the Secured Creditor : Union Bank of India, R T Nagar Vasanthappa Block Branch (54660), No.2541, BMP 5/1, 5th Cross Ganganagar, Vasanthappa Block, Bangalore-560032.

Name and address of the Borrower, Co-Applicant and Guarantor (1) Mr Raghavendra KN, S/o Mr. Nanjaneswamy, No 118, 20th Cross, BSK 3rd Stage, Hiranandi Main Road, Banashankari, Bangalore-560085. Alternate Address: No. 20, Khatha No. 29, 1st Cross Road, Thimmaiah Gowda Layout, Hunasadu Anekal Village, BSK 3rd Stage, Utarahalli Hobli, Bangalore-560085

Amount due: Rs 41,13,104/- (Rupees Forty One Lakh Thirteen Thousand One Hundred One Only) as on 31.12.2025 and further interest/costs/expenses thereon.

Description of immovable secured assets to be Sold

All the piece and parcel of property No 20 Khata No 29, 1st cross road, Thimmaiah Gowda Layout, Hunasadu Anekal Village, BSK 3rd stage, Utarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore, now within jurisdiction of BBMP, measuring East to West on Northern side 49-0 feet and on Southern side 40-0 feet and North to South on Eastern side 37-0 feet and on Western side 40-0 feet in all measuring 1135.75 sq. feet together with building constructed thereon and bounded on: East by: Road, West by: Road, North by: Site No 26A property, South by: Road.

Reserve Price: Rs. 43,35,[illegible] (Rupees Forty Three Lakh Thirty Five Thousand only)
Earnest Money to be Deposit: Rs. 4,33,500.00 (Rupees Four Lakh Thirty Three Thousand Five Hundred Only)
Date and time of E-Auction:
13.02.2026 Friday from 12.00 Noon to 05.00 PM
[illegible]
EMD should be deposited and upload the EMD amount with the Property ID before the time of Auction
[illegible]
property 2 days in advance to avoid any technical glitch
[illegible] website [illegible]

For E-auction Related queries Contact Union Bank of India, R T Nagar Vasanthappa Block Branch, Manager, Mr. Surendra Kumar Sameer on mobile phone No. 9674047343.

Date: 17.01.2026
Place: Bangalore
Sd/- Authorised Officer
Union Bank of India.

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punjab national bank

Asset Recovery Management Branch (ARMB): No.20-27, Raheja Towers, East Wing, 1st Floor, M.G. Road, Bangalore-560001. Tel No. 080-25095867. e-mail : cs4191@pnb.bank.in

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act(SARFAESI), 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property(ies) mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/physical/ symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of the Bank/ Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on the date mentioned in the table herein below for recovery of its dues due to the Bank/ Secured Creditor from the respective borrower (s) and guarantor (s). The reserve price and the earnest money deposits mentioned in the table below against the respective properties.

The auction will be held on 06.02.2026 from 11.00 AM to 05.00 PM

Sl. No.	Branch Name, Customer ID, A/c Name, A/c No., Dealing official, Contact No.	Description of the Immovable Properties Mortgaged/ Owner's Name(mortgagers of property(ies))	(A) Date of 13(2) (B) Date of 13(4) (C) Type of Possession (D) Outstanding amount	A)Reserve Price B) EMD C) Bid Increase Amount
1	BC: Banashankari (462300) Shyam Sundar Kanta Cust ID: 860601276 A/C - 4623400C0040598 Mob No. : 9632788274	All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Flat No- 103, 3rd Floor, Arihant MSR Needa Apartment, Puttenahalli Village, Site No- 34 & 41, BBMP Khata No- 217/219/210/34 & 217/219/21/41, New PID No- 107-W0157-0 & 107-W0157-5, Ward No- 107, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore- 560078, admeasuring an area of 1100 Sq.Ft. and bounded on East By: Entrance Corridor, West By: Open towards Road, North By: Open towards Private Property & South By: Flat No- 111	A) 01-06-2021 B) 21-09-2021 C) Physical D) Rs. 91,58,790.99 plus further interest and charges as applicable w.e.f. 01-01-2026.	A) Rs. 36,25,000/- B) Rs. 3,63,000/- C) Rs 50,000/-
2	BC: Jayanagar (120100) SSG Exports & Metallic Infrastructure Pvt Ltd Cust ID: D116294713 C00036502 A/C - 1287040790000503, 1287040840005106, 1287040L00000049 & 1287000391013502 Mob No. : 9632788274	All that piece and parcel of the property, bearing No- 306/108 (Old Site No- 308) in all measuring 3039 Sq.Ft situated at 2nd Main Road, 23rd Cross, 5th Block, Jayanagar, Yadava Ward- 157, Bangalore- 560070 and bounded on East By: Road, West By: Private Property, North By: Remaining Property of Vedalakshi & South By: Property No- 307/7 belongs to Donor.	A) 13-10-2021 B) 04-02-2022 C) Physical D) Rs. 15,61,86,454.59 plus further interest and charges as applicable w.e.f. 01-01-2026.	A) Rs. 4,01,00,000/- B) Rs. 40,10,000/- C) Rs. 1,00,000/-
3	BC: Rajajinagar (108000) Solomon & E Anand Solomon Cust ID: GA0005664 A/C - 4080400C0005467 & 4080400L0000521 Mob No. : 9632788274	All that pieces and parcel of the property bearing No- 28/1, Khata No-3, Ward No- 6, Parallel to Ring Road, Opposite to Kanva Diagnostic Centre, Peenya Poya Mangala Bengaluru, admeasuring an area of 2000 Sq.Ft and bounded on East by: Private Property, West by: 10 Ft wide Road, North by: Private Property & South by: Private Property	A) 11-05-2017 B) 23-04-2018 C) Symbolic D) Rs. 98,83,967.38 plus further interest and charges as applicable w.e.f. 01-01-2026.	A) Rs. 1,17,45,000/- B) Rs. 11,74,500/- C) Rs. 1,00,000/-
4	BC: Bangalore Fixter Town (120200) M/s. Krishna Teqport Pvt.Ltd. Cust ID: C01198267 A/C - 1202000700001779 1202000E00000129 1202000L00000169 Mob No : 9448880715 / 9538889447	All that piece and parcel of the property bearing New Sy.No 225, 4+4 Sy.No 173) of the converted land to a total extent of 2 acres vide Conversion Order No.ALN (A) (A) SR/107/2010-11 dated 17.03.2010, situated at Injibele Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District A THREE bedrooms Apartment Bearing No.A-114 of A Block now bearing Bearing type Orchpendeyeal e-Katha No 1302001002030207 12, Flat No.248/A-144 on the First Floor of the Building known as "SIGNA SERENITY" constructed in the Schedule 'A' Property, having a super built-up area of 1375 square feet (which is inclusive of the floors, ceiling and walls between the apartments and proportionate share in common areas and a share in the club house area together with one covered car parking space in the basement and bounded on East by : A-112, West by : A-116, North by : Open Space, South by : A-113 - OWNED BY M/s. Savita Jain.	A) 08.02.2024 B) 22.04.2024 C) Physical D) Rs. 2,20,43,698.09 as on 31.12.2025 plus further interest and other charges from 01.01.2026	A) Rs. 31,90,000/- B) Rs. 3,19,000/- C) Rs 50,000/-
5	BC: EGL BUSINESS PARK, DOMLUR (754700) Vishnu Dharan Reddy A/C - 7547000C0041508 Mob No. : 9632588100	Residential flat bearing No. 402 in the fourth floor of "Shreeta Sampoorny" with 1500 sq.ft of super built up area with one car parking along with 347 sq.ft of undivided share, right and interest in property bearing old Sy.no. 30/23, new Sy. No. 30/35 situated at Thirupalya village, Anekal Hobli Anekal Taluk, Bangalore, measuring 0-10 gunta and bounded on East by: Land belongs to Munisidappa, West by: Road, North by: Land belongs to Muniyappa and South by: Remaining land in the same survey no. together with building thereon.	A) 31.01.2024 B) 16.04.2024 C) Physical D) Rs. 97,67,576.00 as on 31.12.2025 plus further interest and charges	A) Rs. 36,45,000/- B) Rs. 3,64,500/- C) Rs 50,000/-
6	BC: EGL BUSINESS PARK, DOMLUR (754700) K SOMA SHEKAR REDDY A/C - 7547000C0041270 Mob No. : 9632588100	Residential flat no 407, "Sahyadri Symphony" measuring 1300 sqft of super built-up together with 250 Sq.ft of undivided share and interest in property bearing Old Sy.No. 30/23, New Sy.No 30/35 situated at Thirupalya Village, Jiganiboda, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, Bangalore and bounded on the East By: Land Belongs to Munisidappa, West By: Road, North By: Land belongs to Muniyappa and South By: Remaining land in the same survey number. Landmark: next to GT Homes, Tirupalya Road	A) 08.01.2026 B) 18.04.2026 C) Physical D) Rs. 87,23,063.60 as on 31.12.2025 plus further interest and charges	A) Rs. 31,90,000/- B) Rs. 3,19,000/- C) Rs 50,000/-

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The sale shall be subject to the Terms & Conditions prescribed in the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 and to the following further conditions:
1. The properties are being sold on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" and "WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS"
2. The particulars of Secured Assets specified in the Schedule hereinabove have been stated to the best of the information of the Authorised Officer, but the Authorised Officer shall not be answerable for any error, misstatement or omission in the proclamation
3. The Sale will be done by the undersigned through e-Auction platform provided at the Website https://baanknet.com on 06.02.2026 @ 11.00 AM to 5 PM
4. Platform (https://baanknet.com) for e-Auction will be provided by e-Auction service provider M/s PSB Alliance Pvt. Ltd. having its Registered office at Unit 1, 3rd Floor, VIDS Commercial Tower, Near Wadala Truck Terminal, Wadala East Mumbai-400037 (Helpdesk Number +91 8291220220, Email Id. support.baanknet@psballiance.com). The Intending Bidders/ Purchasers are required to participate in the e-Auction process at e-Auction Service Provider's website https://baanknet.com This Service Provider will also provide online demonstration/training on e-Auction on the portal.

**STATUTORY 15 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER RULE 8(6) O

EDITORIAL

"If the Shiv Sena hadn't existed, the Marathi people would have been scattered far and wide. Because we hold Mumbai's reins in our hands, nobody can shake Maharashtra either

Bal Thackeray

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

ECI MUST CORRECT SYSTEMIC ERRORS TN S.I.R. REVIEW FLAGS

THE Election Commission of India's hasty conduct of the special intensive revision of rolls in Tamil Nadu has unleashed chaos and threatened the foundation of fair elections. This newspaper's rigorous data-driven investigation, backed by on-ground scrutiny, has opened a Pandora's box of operational shortcomings and arbitrariness. A staggering 97.4 lakh voters in the state were purged during the SIR, while a paltry 19 lakh applications trickled in for reinstatement. This sharp imbalance raises several questions.

Our analysis of 1,500 polling booths revealed a damning pattern: voters who voted in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections plus those deleted in the SIR often added up to nearly 100 percent or more of the electorate at more than three-fourths of the centres. The figures for 179 booths exceeded 100 percent, for 441 hovered at 95-100 percent and for 541 at 90-95 percent. If we accept the ECI's claim of diligent enumeration, three possible scenarios emerge: universal turnout in 2024 (impossible in reality), rampant bogus voting (a criminal outrage), or mass exodus in just one year (unlikely at most booths). Our on-field investigation as well as interviews with officials, residents and other stakeholders demolished these possibilities. Instead, we uncovered aggressive, haphazard deletions fuelled by sub-standard processes and an inept software that failed to weed out duplicates without collateral damage. Booth level officers seem to have marked 400-plus voters 'Shifted' in urban booths without evidence of duplicates or deaths. In other areas, deletions marked 'Absent' were rampant, including residents who still live there.

Worse, concurrent booth rationalisation—meant to cap voters at 1,200 per station by adding more booths—has sown utter confusion. Voters scrubbed from draft rolls now hunt fruitlessly for their names on deletion lists. Political parties' booth level agents, ideally positioned to spot errors, are handcuffed by the reshuffle. The result? A deliberate veil over the deletions' true scale, leaving the electorate in the dark.

With similar hasty revisions currently underway in other states under absurdly tight deadlines, the questions raised in Tamil Nadu resonate wider across the country. Absent elaborate analyses and local help, crores of deleted voters remain poised for shock on polling day. Those arbitrarily relocated face needless hurdles. Voters deserve accountability, not excuses. The ECI must immediately swing to action, overhaul its archaic systems and restore transparency. Without urgent redress, it risks eroding faith in India's electoral soul.

TEAM CLARITY, NOT EXCUSE, NEEDED AFTER SERIES LOSS

A sporting bastion is under threat: India's white-ball dominance in 50-over cricket. Such has been India's supremacy over the format that, except for Australia, no nation has come close to upsetting them from their perch atop the throne at home. But over the last 14 months, a slow shift has been caused by another team from the southern hemisphere—New Zealand. First, they handed India a 0-3 drubbing in home Tests. And this time, they secured a 2-1 ODI series win on Sunday. It was disconcerting that India lost the last two games readily after setting decent targets and then chasing under the lights. Over the last 16 years, India had lost only four out of the 30 home ODI series, but none to New Zealand. To add to the chagrin, the Kiwis achieved this feat with their second-string bowling attack.

One can point out that India will not be playing ODIs for the next six months, when the build-up for the 2027 ODI World Cup begins. However, losing an ODI series months after a 0-2 Test defeat against South Africa does not augur well for the team and its management. The latest loss will add pressure on head coach Gautam Gambhir a couple of weeks before the T20 World Cup begins at home. When India lost to South Africa in Tests, Gambhir had said he was the same coach who had helped India win the Champions Trophy (50-over format) and draw a Test series under new captain Shubman Gill in England. He reiterated that the Test series loss against New Zealand in 2024 was with a different set of players.

But there is enough indication that not everything is alright in the India dressing room. Virat Kohli seems to be in the form of his life. But apart from that spark, there are several concerns. A few key players are injured and there is a lack of clarity on roles. Gill was dropped at the last minute. The effectiveness of Kuldeep Yadav and Ravindra Jadeja is under the scanner. Hardik Pandya and Jasprit Bumrah are expected to walk in when India play an ODI next. Yet, before the T20 World Cup at home, India would have loved to avoid such an embarrassment. After all, it's a win that galvanises a team.

QUICK TAKE

IGNOBLE INTENTIONS

HELL hath no fury like Trump scorned. The US president has written to Norway's prime minister that he doesn't feel obliged "to think purely of peace" because he did not get the Nobel prize. The note was in reply to Norwegian PM Jonas Gahr Stoere and Finnish President Alexander Stubb opposing his decision to impose tariffs on European allies who do not agree with his plan to control Greenland. Last week, María Corina Machado gifted her Nobel medallion to Trump. But the Norwegian Nobel Committee explained that the prize "cannot be revoked, shared or transferred". One wonders what pleasure the petulant billionaire gets with another shiny disc. Maybe it's similar to the feeling coursing through the unknown mastermind behind the 2004 theft of Rabindranath Tagore's Nobel medal.

Marketing plans that succeeded for decades are facing markedly changed customer preferences. Many food and beverage companies are already fire-fighting. Others need to adapt to the new realities

TIME FOR SELLERS TO SIT UP AND SMELL THE BURN

HARISH BIJOOR
Brand guru & founder of Harish Bijoor Consults Inc

SOURAV ROY

THERE is a quiet shiver going down the spine of every global company in the business of selling products and services. The fear that was once a distant reality is now at the doorstep of many companies selling fast-moving consumer goods, durables and, literally, any company of any kind that has been a market leader for a while now. It is the fear of being overtaken by a new generation of customers who just don't want to touch what they have been marketing nonchalantly for a while.

What am I talking about? The biggest companies across the globe seem to be showing a thriving bottomline of profit and, at times, even a thriving topline of revenue. But the niggling worry in every boardroom is about being overtaken by a notion. A notion that fast becomes a movement. And a movement that very quickly becomes a part of counter-culture. A part of commercial counter-culture even, if you may call it that. Something that defines the very existence of the categories, products and the many brands that thrive within them.

Let me exemplify. Let me pick a beverage. Alcohol, for instance. Even as India witnesses a boom in alcohol consumption with the industry hitting a market size of $60 billion in 2024-25, the world is struggling to fight a decline. All of a sudden, the young are drinking less and less, even as the old continue with their good old habits. Brands that created legacies of success for themselves in the alco-bev industry are today struggling to reinvent their relevance. Volumes are down, new launches do not meet with success and consumption seems to be threatened. Europe is in the lead in this movement, and the US follows.

Even as the first-generation world of alcohol consumption is struggling, India is on a different trajectory. Out here, growth is just about beginning. Or so it seems. I wouldn't take too hasty a call on that comment though. I would wait and watch.

The world of alcohol is globally threatened by a notion. This notion says alcohol is not good for the body or mind. The industry bites back and says anything in moderation is good. And that just might be the truth. Notions, however, know no truth. Notions are thoughts. Thoughts live and thrive in people's minds. And thoughts are viral. Most of these thoughts come to the fore in the minds of the young.

The young look at the generations that are ahead and do a critique on consumption, lifestyle, usage and habits of their fathers and forefathers. Not to speak of their mothers. The young are quick and damning in their verdict. The verdict on alcohol for now is a firm no. Gen Z began the trend of sober parties where just no alcohol was served. The parties rocked. They happened early in the mornings after a run. They happened at all times of the day. Who says you need it to be a late night to party?

The Alpha generation, which is the single largest living cohort in our midst today, took it a step further. 'Bhajan rave' is a popular format in India, taking a leaf out of gospel parties that rock the Western world. A zero-alcohol party is the new and happening party to be at.

What does it do to the alcohol industry then? It makes it worry. It makes it think. It makes it ideate. It makes it come up with strategies to insulate topline growth. It makes it want to protect brand names. Supermarkets in the US today have a five-fold presence of zero-proof options on their counters. For every popular alcoholic beer, there are five more popular options of zero-alcohol drinks.

If there are zero-alcohol parties and zero-alcohol game-days, the alco-bev industry has been quick to offer options with the same brand name, but just no alcohol in it for consumption. There is a desperate clamour to insulate topline losses of carefully-built-up volumes over the decades of the alco-bev.

Just as the industry rises to the occasion, the restaurant and bar business is reinventing itself as well. Walk into any bar in India today, and there are the cocktails, the mocktails and the cocktails that are zero-proof mimics of the original. Life has changed. And life is changing fast.

The notion is no longer a notion. It is a movement in North America and Europe, where companies have been quick to sort the problem out for themselves. If you can't beat them, join them. Go with what the notion wants. Go with the movement. Don't fight it. Be a part of it to win within.

And so begins an entire new philosophy of marketing, where product categories and the brands within them are reinventing to play the game with a new generation of completely different consumers. Companies are redefining their entire vision and mission statements and are adding purpose statements to their corporate intent. These purpose statements talk of not only their existing customers, but their potential customers from the arena of counter-culture even.

Is this about alcohol alone? I don't think so. It will happen all across. Look around our lives. There is a battle between carbohydrates and proteins. The latter seems to be winning for now. Even your humble paneer is touting the percentage of protein in it. If protein wins, carbohydrate loses. Or does it? Time will tell. Eat less biscuits and eat more fibre instead. The biscuit company of today needs to reinvent itself quick and fast. And I do believe it is trying to.

Sugar is an enemy. So is salt. Maida is a criminal. Oil is a thug. There are a whole host of food ingredients that are under the scanner of the new-age consumer. Brands that use a lot of these need to be paranoid about the movement that is about to unfold, even in India. While some brands have woken up to the opportunity and are reinventing their business models, others are taking the shortcut of buying out brands that seem more holistic in their offerings from new-age startups. If you don't have the organic muscle to make it on your own, go inorganic. Buy it out.

Every industry—from cosmetics to air conditioners, fans to luggage, and packaging to literally everything else that clutters our consumer life—will go through this tumult. Companies need to sit up and smell the burn. In the beginning, it's just smoke. And where there is smoke, there sure is fire. Companies need to get their act right before the blaze is too big to handle.

There surely will be three kinds of companies. One will watch things as they happen. The second will make things happen. The third will wonder what happened.

As I wade my way through concerned boardrooms across categories of consumer items, my one big advice to each of them: be paranoid. Andy Grove was just so right: only the paranoid shall survive.

(Views are personal)

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MUMBAI POLITICAL SKYLINE CHANGING

MRUDUL NILE
Professor, department of civics and politics, University of Mumbai

MUMBAI has always been important in national politics—even before Independence, and more so in the post-Independence period. Once, the fates of Maharashtra and Gujarat—together, as parts of Bombay State till 1960—were anchored to this port city. Later, Mumbai became central to the demand for a separate linguistic state, as leaders of the Samyukta Maharashtra Movement (1956-1960) gave the call for "Mumbai *saha* Maharashtra" (Maharashtra with Mumbai), despite facing violent police action. Before the new state was carved out on May 1, 1960, the central government even considered making Mumbai a Union Territory or giving it to Gujarat. But Mumbai remained with Maharashtra.

Given this intense formative history linked to identity, the latest Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) election can be viewed as a major blow to the Marathi identity of the country's richest municipality. The Shiv Sena's loss of the BMC after almost three decades is seen less as a loss of resources and more as the erosion of a bastion of the 'Marathi *manoos*' (Marathi person). The tussle appears to be over the city's identity, shaped since Bal Thackeray's Shiv Sena displaced the Congress in 1997.

One has to delve into the city's political economy and spatial distribution to understand how these elections may determine the future of state and national politics. Among the most notable factors is how the city's neoliberal economic model has given an upper hand to the non-Marathi-speaking population—specifically, the Gujarati-Marwari business community. While many of Mumbai's non-Marathi ghettos are swanky, they offer limited mobility for Marathi speakers because of prohibitive costs and relatively low average community incomes. Those who have not yet been forced to migrate to other municipalities within the Greater Mumbai Metropolitan Region remain confined to older buildings and chawls.

Recent infrastructural developments—such as the Coastal Road, the Bandra-Kurla Complex connector bridge and the Worli Sea Link—combined with a changing skyline, have altered perceptions of Mumbai. These could be highlighted by the new mayor and corporators to project a Gujarati-centric, if not cosmopolitan, outlook, ultimately blurring the visible markers of Marathi language and culture. In the long run, this will electorally benefit the BJP's urban cadre.

Another aspect of the political economy is 'gentrification'. The groundwork has already been laid for the new BMC to expand this phenomenon. Major projects of the city's development department—including the redevelopment of chawls and other hutments in Worli, Ramabai Ambedkar Nagar and Dharavi—would now be easier to execute. The political gains could be long-lasting, as these ghettos' collective aspirations historically produced voting patterns favouring the Congress, the erstwhile Republican Party of India and the Bharipa Bahujan Mahasangh (later called the Vanchit Bahujan Aghadi). Gentrification would disrupt this pattern and disperse these voters, giving a natural advantage to monolithic party structures like the BJP's.

X.COM

> The Shiv Sena's loss of the Mumbai municipality after decades reflects deeper shifts in the city's demographics and political economy. The BJP's hand is getting stronger as redevelopment disperses the vote banks of local parties. The phenomenon of Gujaratis edging out Marathi speakers could now be hastened

Electorally, the BJP has been in firm control of the state since the Assembly elections of 2024. The BMC results could further push the city's real estate-driven development agenda. The central government, too, may promote Mumbai along the lines of GIFT City near Ahmedabad, with a view to woo fence-sitting Marathi voters and ensure a more complete electoral consolidation of the state.

There are two Mumbais within the city. One is the Mumbai of the Marathi working class, with limited resources and smaller housing units; the other is the wealthier Mumbai of the business community. Political competition between the two is determined not only by demographic and spatial factors, but also by the resources these communities command.

The general perception is that the BJP's core constituency comprises Gujaratis combined with a growing Hindu north Indian population. Uddhav Thackeray's Shiv Sena, Raj Thackeray's Maharashtra Navnirman Sena and the Vanchit Bahujan Aghadi are nativist parties catering to Other Backward Classes, Dalits and migrants from the Konkan region. The Congress has retained sections of the Muslim vote, barring a few pockets in Mumbai. However, in both the Assembly and the BMC elections, the three regional parties were reduced to minority vote shares. The biggest blow to the Uddhav Sena was losing its bastion to the BJP, even though it succeeded in consolidating Marathi-speaking voters.

Growth under the BJP—especially projects like the high-speed rail link between Mumbai and Ahmedabad—could transform the city's housing sector and further alter its demography. This, in turn, will shape the nature of work Mumbai offers over the next five years. As the city becomes increasingly service-oriented, the expanding services and business workforce may blur the traditional party lines, giving an advantage to the BJP's evolving electoral formula.

The only major setback the BJP faced recently was its performance in the 2024 general elections, where its showing in Maharashtra was poor despite attempts at polarisation. With the BMC now under its control, the party will have time and resources to deepen its presence in Mumbai before the next general elections.

(Views are personal)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Taxation justice

Ref: *Tiger Global ruling dents India's pitch for tax certainty* (Jan 19). As a student, I think the ruling promotes tax justice by deterring the abuse of treaties and artificial structures. Genuine foreign investors, however, might be concerned because of heightened scrutiny on previous investments.

Bilal P K, Kozhikode

Online corruption

Ref: *Close watch key to Bhu Bharati trust* (Jan 19). The promise of Bhu Bharati lies in clean, secure land records. However, digitisation without constant checks only shifts the corruption online. Audits are welcome, yet they must be routine and not merely reactive. Fixing accountability at the operator level and making verification easier for farmers would restore confidence.

S M Jeeva, Chennai

Ramayana ideals

Ref: *Epics still speak* (Jan 19). Our epics have transcended time on account of their universal appeal. One of my doctoral research scholars carried out a study on the value education ideals reflected in Valmiki's Ramayana. Students should be made to read them to develop ideal conduct.

P Prema, Thanjavur

Forced peace

Ref: *Trump invites Modi to join 'Board of Peace'* (Jan 19). The US president should understand that peace emanates from the heart; not from trade impositions and stolen accolades. I hope that the Indian leadership never submits to the forced plan and the US's Big Brotherly attitude.

Rajakumar Arulanandham, Tirunelveli

Collective failure

Ref: *More questions for hosts after another historic loss* (Jan 19). Though at 1-2, India's series loss to New Zealand is more colossal than the figures suggest. With two Test white-washes, India's direction seems to be clueless. The primary reason for the defeat was not cricketing blemishes but a collective fall in attitude.

Sanath Kumar T S, Thrissur

Subverting sovereignty

Ref: *EU pushback against tariff threat* (Jan 19). Donald Trump's plans to own a sovereign piece of land against its people's will —subverting all international conventions— is deplorable. Such an act will shatter Nato's unity and the tariff wars could worsen if the US-EU free-trade pact is suspended.

DVG Sankara Rao, Srikakulam

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POSTS OF THE DAY

Sanjay Jha @JhaSanjay
America is holding the world to ransom because 49% of them wanted a sexual predator and a loony, corrupt, brainless, bigot in power.

Abhishek Banerjee @abhishekaitc
The SC has rightly ordered that the names of those arbitrarily slapped with the vague, sinister label of "Logical Discrepancy" must be publicly published.

Amit Malviya @amitmalviya
The people of West Bengal will ensure that accountability is enforced and that the final chapter of this regime is anything but uneventful.

'From vital energy anchor to constrained secondary partner'

With Iran, India is executing a sharp commercial decoupling while maintaining a calculated diplomatic presence, says Ausaf Sayeed, former envoy to Saudi, Yemen

A former Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs with 34 years of service, **Dr Ausaf Sayeed** is a leading expert on Persian Gulf and the Arab world. He has served as India's Ambassador to Saudi Arabia and Yemen and also held diplomatic postings in Egypt and Qatar, among other countries. He speaks to **Jayanth Jacob** about the protests in Iran and the evolving India-Iran relationship. **Excerpts:**

Is the current wave of protests in Iran qualitatively different from previous uprisings in terms of geographic spread, social composition and durability, or does it follow familiar patterns seen in 2009, 2017-18 and 2022?

The 2025-2026 protests mark a definitive qualitative rupture rather than a repetition of 2009, 2017-18, or 2022. Geographically, the uprising has engulfed over 180 cities across all 31 provinces, collapsing the centre-periphery divide that previously allowed the state to contain unrest.

Socially, it features an unprecedented coalition: historically conservative Bazaari merchants have joined workers, students, and marginalised border communities, transforming fragmented grievances into a unified national front. Politically, demands have shifted from reform to explicit regime change, rejecting the Islamic Republic's ideological foundations entirely.

This evolution is underscored by the deadliest repression since 1979-with confirmed deaths exceeding 3,000-signalling an irreversible, generational loss of faith in the system's legitimacy.

Do these protests signal a crisis of governance or a crisis of legitimacy, and which of the two poses a more serious long-term challenge to Iran?

While these protests stem from acute governance failures, they reveal a far more dangerous crisis of legitimacy. The economic data is stark — runaway inflation (40-50%), food prices up 70%, and a currency in freefall — yet these remain theoretically fixable policy issues. The qualitative rupture lies in the public's diagnosis: a generation under 30 now views this hardship as inseparable from the regime's ideological DNA-specifically its nuclear adventurism, IRGC entrenchment, and unaccountable "deep state". By explicitly rejecting the 1979 revolutionary project, protesters signal that the social contract is not just broken, but void. Consequently, while brutal repression may restore temporary order, it only widens the trust deficit, ensuring that this legitimacy crisis — not mere administrative breakdown — remains the regime's existential threat as the Supreme Leader's succession looms.

How cohesive is the Iranian state today, particularly the relationship between the clerical establishment, the Revolutionary Guards and elected institutions, under prolonged internal and external pressure?

The Iranian state currently embodies a paradox: operational security cohesion masking structural political fragmentation. While the IRGC remains dominant over the economy and coercive apparatus, the political system is fracturing. Elected institutions under President Pezeshkian are hollowed out by the "deep state", and intensifying elite rivalries visible in Parliament. Speaker Ghalibaf's manoeuvres against the executive signals a contested rather than integrated leadership. Even the clerical establishment is eroding, with segments of the hierarchy alienated by the regime's brutality despite their existential dependence on it. Consequently, the state's survival has shifted from an ideological consensus to a brittle, transactional reliance on IRGC, leaving it vulnerable to destabilisation during the looming post-Khamenei succession.

How has US policy toward Iran evolved under renewed pressure tactics? Are these steps more likely to weaken the regime or harden its resistance?

The US policy under Trump has evolved into a "Maximum Pressure 2.0" strategy, escalating from selective sanctions to a hybrid of economic strangulation and kinetic warfare. Key escalations include the June 2025 Operation Midnight Hammer strikes on nuclear facilities and a January 2026 ultimatum imposing 25% tariffs on Iran's trade partners to zero out revenue. While economically devastating accelerating inflation and currency collapse-the strategy has strategically backfired. Instead of forcing concessions, it has empowered security hardliners who now view nuclear and regional capabilities as non-negotiable tools of survival. By driving Tehran deeper into Chinese and Russian orbits, this approach is entrenching resistance rather than engineering the orderly regime change Washington envisions.

How are Iran's regional commitments and proxy networks affected by internal instability, and does domestic pressure constrain or encourage external adventurism?

Iran's internal instability is cannibalising its regional posture, forcing a strategic retreat from power projection to defensive survival. The fall of Assad regime has severed the critical Syrian land bridge, while financial exhaustion has degraded support for Hezbollah and Hamas. Most tellingly, Tehran has inverted the "Axis of Resistance", redeploying Iraqi and Lebanese proxies inward to suppress domestic unrest — a move that betrays distrust in its own security apparatus. While this fragility limits sustained external campaigns, it paradoxically heightens the risk of desperate, asymmetric escalations, including nuclear acceleration, as the regime tries to project strength it no longer possesses to ensure its survival.

Where does India fit into Iran's strategic calculus?

In Iran's strategic calculus, India has been demoted from a vital energy anchor to a constrained secondary partner. Bilateral trade has withered to $1.7 billion (a mere 0.15% of India's total) as New Delhi aligns with US sanctions, ending any illusion that it can counterbalance Western pressure or rival China economically. Yet, geography ensures India's continued relevance. The Chabahar port and INSTC provide Iran with a critical logistical lung — a route to Russia and Central Asia that bypasses both Pakistan and China. Consequently, while India cannot compete with Beijing's $400 billion economic umbrella, it remains a vital strategic hedge, preventing Iran's complete dependence on Chinese infrastructure and preserving a link to the non-Western world.

What is the future of the Chabahar port project, given sanctions uncertainty, regional geopolitics and Iran's internal challenges? Can it still serve as a viable connector for India to Central Asia and Afghanistan?

Chabahar's geography remains its greatest asset, but its survival now hangs on a sanctions cliff. While uniquely valuable as India's gateway to Central Asia bypassing Pakistan, the port's utility is being suffocated by Washington's "Maximum Pressure 2.0." With the current US sanctions waiver set to expire in April 2026 and a looming threat of 25% tariffs on Iran-linked trade, New Delhi has executed a "strategic retreat" in visibility: liquidating its $120 million investment liability and shifting operational logistics to Iranian manpower to shield Indian entities.

Although officials maintain that "exiting is not an option," the reality is starker: without a renewed waiver, shipping lines and insurers will flee, reducing Chabahar from the commercial hub once envisioned to a constrained, politically fragile connector kept alive only by diplomatic life support.

How should India balance its long-standing civilisational and economic ties with Iran against growing geopolitical risks?

India is executing a sharp commercial decoupling while maintaining a calculated diplomatic presence. With Indian banks freezing non-humanitarian transactions and trade shrinking to a statistical footnote, New Delhi has signaled that protecting its US market access is paramount — a shift reinforced by repeated evacuation advisories. Yet, the diplomatic door remains deliberately ajar: India continues to lobby for Chabahar waivers, citing "strategic autonomy" and regional connectivity. The emerging model is one of minimalist survival: pursuing tightly ring-fenced projects and rupee mechanisms to preserve a skeletal strategic link, while strictly avoiding high-profile exposure to US tariffs or Iranian instability.

India, UAE eye strategic defence pact, set $200 billion trade target

JAYANTH JACOB @ New Delhi

PM Modi with UAE President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan in New Delhi | PTI

INDIA and the United Arab Emirates on Monday agreed to deepen their strategic partnership, setting an ambitious target of doubling bilateral trade to $200 billion within six years and moving towards the signing of a formal Strategic Defence Partnership agreement in the near future. The decisions were announced after talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and visiting UAE President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan in New Delhi, highlighting the growing breadth of ties spanning trade, defence, energy, infrastructure and emerging technologies.

"Went to the airport to welcome my brother, His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE. His visit illustrates the importance he attaches to a strong India-UAE friendship. Looking forward to our discussions," Modi said in a post on X ahead of the meeting. Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri told reporters that the two sides had agreed to elevate defence cooperation to a new level. "India and the UAE will be signing a Strategic Defence Partnership Framework Agreement in the near future," he said, adding that discussions covered defence industrial collaboration, advanced technologies, training and interoperability.

The visit comes at a sensitive moment in West Asia, with US President Donald Trump preparing to roll out Phase II of the Gaza Peace Plan, lending added geopolitical significance to the high-level engagement between New Delhi and Abu Dhabi. A joint statement issued after the talks said the two leaders welcomed the "robust growth" in trade following the signing of the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) in 2022. Bilateral trade touched $100 billion in FY 2024–25, and both sides agreed to double this figure to $200 billion by 2032.

Several agreements and Letters of Intent were finalised during the visit. They cover petroleum sector where, Hindustan Petroleum and ADNOC Gas enter into a contract. The UAE will partner with India in building international airport, a greenfield port, railway connectivity at Dholera in Gujarat.

Row over 'cop action' to seer at mela

NAMITA BAJPAI & PREETHA NAIR
@ Lucknow/New Delhi

A political row erupted on Mo day as Jyotirpeeth Shankaracharya Swami Avimukteshwaranand Saraswati continued with his sit-in protest in Prayagraj against alleged "mistreatment" by Magh Mela police on 'Mauni Amavasya' on Sunday. While the seer sought an apology from the police, opposition parties including Samajwadi Party and Congress have condemned the incident and sought the intervention of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the issue.

On Sunday, a brief disruption occurred when police stopped Swami Avimukteshwaranand Saraswati from proceeding to the Sangam along with a large number of followers. Superintendent of Police (Magh Mela) Neeraj Pandey said Avimukteshwaranand, without prior permission, attempted to enter the bathing ghat with around 200-250 followers after breaking a barricade at Bridge Number 2 and refused to stop despite being told about the rush of devotees.

"The police administration respects all saints and seers, but the safety of devotees is our top priority," the SP said. The disciples of Shankaracharya demanded that the mela officials escort Swami for Snan under fixed protocol. Senior Samajwadi Party and Congress leaders have condemned the incident.

Swami Avimukteshwaranand Saraswati addresses the media in Prayagraj, UP | PTI

Police intervenes after crowd spirals out of control

CCTV footage shows police barricades placed along the procession route. As the chariot approached, an argument broke out between the Shankaracharya's supporters and police personnel deployed at the spot. Moments later, supporters began pushing forward after breaking through the barricades, after which police personnel intervened.

Meanwhile, CCTV footage that surfaced on Monday showed chaotic scenes during Avimukteshwaranand's chariot procession. The video shows police barricades placed along the procession route. As the chariot approached, an argument broke out between the Shankaracharya's supporters and police personnel deployed at the spot. Moments later, supporters began pushing forward after breaking through the barricades. When the situation spiralled out of control, police officers attempted to disperse the crowd and restore order. However, the supporters did not stop.

Asserting that mistreatment of saints was unpardonable, SP chief Akhilesh Yadav posted a video of the incident on social media and demanded a probe. "Is the Shahi Snan on Mauni Amavasya happening for the first time? The BJP's misgovernance and failed arrangements are solely responsible for this situation," alleged the former UP CM.

Launching a blistering attack on the BJP over the incident, Congress' media and publicity department head Pawan Khera demanded that PM Modi must intervene. "They are only after power and money, beyond that they don't care about religion and faith," Khera told the media. "We are all saddened by the mistreatment meted out to Swami. Since this incident, Shankaracharya has been on a hunger strike, but it seems no one in the government cares. The Modi government has unleashed its entire troll army against Swami, simply because he does not bow down before them," said Khera.

The seer said that he would not take a dip in the Ganga until the police administration escorted him with dignity.

SC stays HC order on liquor vends along highways

SUCHITRA KALYAN MOHANTY
@ New Delhi

THE Supreme Court on Monday stayed the Rajasthan High Court's order directing the state to remove or relocate all liquor shops within a 500-metre limit from national or state highways due to a surge in fatal road accidents.

"Issue notice. The effect and operation of the impugned order is stayed," said a bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta.

While issuing notices on multiple pleas filed by various liquor vendors and Rajasthan government, the top court, however, said that the HC's "concern was genuine" and the government may consider it while formulating its liquor policy in future.

The HC order under challenge arose from a petition filed in 2023 by two residents of Sujangarh in Churu district. They had complained about liquor shops being located close to highways.

While hearing that petition, the HC began examining road safety issues in depth. It referred to data showing a rise in drunk driving cases in Rajasthan in 2025 and recent accidents in which dozens of people had died within days.

It had rejected the state's stand and said that the discretion given by the SC had been misused and that treating highways as "municipal areas" defeated the very purpose of road safety. The HC had thereby directed that all liquor shops within 500 metres of National and State Highways be removed or relocated within two months. Following this, a batch of petitions by liquor vendors, and the state were filed before the SC.

ALSO IN TOP COURT

4 wks to trace missing Russian woman, child

The Supreme Court on Monday granted four weeks to the Centre to trace a Russian woman, who had fled to Moscow with her child amid a bitter custody battle with her estranged Indian husband. The law officer said that Interpol notices have also been issued to trace and bring the child and the mother back to India.

Make SOP for mentally challenged poor: SC

The Supreme Court on Monday described homeless people suffering from mental illnesses as "destitute to the extreme" and "most vulnerable", and asked the Centre to come up with standard operating procedures to rehabilitate them. The Centre's counsel sought some time to file a reply, and the matter will be heard on 9 February.

Will step in if air passengers get exploited: SC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

THE Supreme Court on Monday said it would interfere with the "unpredictable fluctuations" in airfares and flagged the exorbitant rise during festivals.

A bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta termed the exorbitant rise of airfares by airlines as "exploitation" and asked the Centre and the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) to file their replies to a PIL seeking binding regulatory guidelines to control the unpredictable fluctuations in airfare and ancillary charges imposed by private airlines in India.

The SC listed the matter for further hearing on February 23 after Kaushik sought time to file a reply on behalf of the Centre.

Birla concerned over less time given to functioning of state legislatures

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ Lucknow

LOK Sabha Speaker Om Birla on Monday inaugurated the 86th All India Presiding Officers' Conference at the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly and expressed serious concern over the declining time devoted to the functioning of State Legislatures.

Delivering the keynote address, Birla said legislatures are the primary forums through which the aspirations and voices of the people reach the government for resolution. "In this context, the declining time devoted to the functioning of State Legislatures is a matter of concern for all," he said.

Emphasising the need for proper debate and discussion, Birla underlined the importance of ensuring a fixed, adequate duration for legislative proceedings. "The longer the House functions, the more meaningful, serious, and outcome-oriented discussions will emerge in the larger interest of parliamentary democracy and people's interests," he remarked.

The Conference began with a welcome address by Assembly Speaker Satish Mahana, who also read out Prime Minister Narendra Modi's message to the gathering. Addressing the Conference, Birla asserted that the conduct of a Presiding Officer must rise above party politics, remain completely impartial, and also appear impartial. He reiterated, "It is essential to ensure a fixed and adequate time for the functioning of State Legislatures."

Birla said that in the age of modern information and communication technology and social media, the conduct of public representatives is under constant public scrutiny, making adherence to parliamentary decorum and discipline more vital than ever. Maintaining the credibility of the House, he added, is a collective responsibility of all stakeholders.

Highlighting the importance of the Conference, Birla said such platforms promote cooperation among democratic institutions, strengthen coordination, and make governance more effective. "It is only through the Legislature that the voice of the people reaches the government," he said, adding that dialogue and deliberation have proved parliamentary democracy to be the best democratic tradition.

CLASH IN THANE

Six persons, including two police personnel, were injured during a clash between workers of two rival parties in Bhiwandi town of Maharashtra's Thane district, officials said on Monday.

3 MEMBERS OF FAMILY IN UP'S ETAH KILLED WITH BRICKS

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	27	14	Mumbai	28	22
Bhopal	23	11	Panaji	29	18
Jaipur	23	12	Patna	21	13
Amritsar	15	07	Lucknow	22	11
Chennai	28	21	Port Blair	28	24
Kolkata	27	17	Imphal	22	09
Srinagar	07	-3	Chandigarh	19	07

Shinde volte-face, says will accept BJP formula

Denies conflict over power, placing demands before the BJP

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

AFTER asserting his position by seeking equal sharing of the Mumbai mayor's post and key Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation committees, Maharashtra Deputy CM Eknath Shinde on Monday said he was not placing any demands before the BJP and that there was no dispute over posts or power.

In the BMC elections, the BJP emerged as the single largest party with 89 seats, while the Shinde-led Shiv Sena won 29 seats. Shiv Sena (UBT) secured 65 seats, Congress 20, AIMIM eight, MNS six, NCP three and the Samajwadi Party two in the 227-member civic body. Though the BJP fell short of the simple majority mark of 114, together with Shiv Sena's 29 corporators, the ruling Mahayuti alliance crossed the majority mark with 118 seats.

Following the results, Shinde asserted his claim in the power-sharing formula and sought either the mayor's post or the chairmanship of the standing or improvement committee. He also moved his newly elected corporators to a hotel in Bandra. However, the BJP refused to concede, signalling it could explore support from other parties. After the BJP's firm stand, Shinde struck a conciliatory note, saying there were no differences within the alliance and that both parties would soon stake claim to power in the BMC. "Mumbaikar has given the mandate in favour of Mahayuti by positively responding to the development agenda of Mahayuti. We will respect the mandate of the people of Mumbai," he said.

Dismissing speculation, Shinde added, "People are spreading rumours that should not be believed. The same situation was there in 2019, and the same kind of rumours were floated. The next mayor of Mumbai will be from Mahayuti only."

He stressed that the alliance would form the civic government. Shinde said no power-sharing formula had been finalised and discussions would be held after Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis returns from Davos.

"There is no dispute between the BJP and Shiv Sena over any post. We are not people who will fight for power. We are here to serve the people," Shinde said.

Shinde blinks as BJP refuses to budge

Shinde had asserted his claim in the power-sharing formula and sought either the mayor's post or the chairmanship of the standing or improvement committee. However, the BJP refused to concede. After the BJP's firm stand, Shinde struck a conciliatory note, saying there were no differences within the alliance at all, dismissing all speculation.

POLL ROLLS

Raj Cong flags 45L 'absent' voters in SIR

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

THE Congress on Monday alleged that the BJP in Rajasthan was attempting to 'fraudulently' remove from the electoral rolls the names of voters who support the Opposition party. It also demanded a forensic probe of forms used for the removal of electors in Rajasthan.

Addressing a press conference in the Capital, Rajasthan Congress chief Govind Singh Dotasra said that the final draft list published after the SIR of rolls showed that 45 lakh people were found to be "absent, shifted, or deceased", and objections were then invited until January15.

"Until January 3, there was no chaos, and the entire system was running smoothly. However, on January 3, BJP leader B L Santosh visited Rajasthan, held a meeting, and the process of fraudulently adding and removing votes began," he said.

"The data from the EC's website shows that from December 17 to January 14, the BJP, through 937 booth-level agents, submitted applications to add 211 names and remove 5,694 votes. Meanwhile, the Congress party, through 110 BLAs, submitted applications to add 185 names and remove two names," he claimed.

The Rajasthan Congress chief said his party will not allow this "murder of democracy" in the state.

Left keen, but Cong yet to come out with response on Bengal poll alliance

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

THE CPM and the Congress are yet to formally begin discussions on a possible alliance in West Bengal for the upcoming elections, even as the Left party's central committee has indicated its willingness to explore a tie-up to consolidate the anti-BJP vote, sources said.

While the CPM has signalled openness to reviving an alliance with the Congress, the latter is yet to give a green signal, as there are contrasting views within the party over the political utility of such an arrangement. Sources said Congress leadership will take the final call in the matter, though the screening committee held a meeting on January 17 in Kolkata to review organisational preparedness and potential candidates.

Sources claim the Congress' state unit is split on the issue, with West Bengal Congress president Subhankar Sarkar understood to be opposed to an alliance with the Left, arguing that the arrangement failed to deliver results in previous elections. While one section within the party believes that a tactical understanding with the CPM could help revive the Congress' shrinking electoral space in the state, sources said there is a prevailing view that the party should go with the ruling Trinamool Congress (TMC) "There are differing views within the Congress. One section feels the alliance experiment has already been tried and failed, while another believes that without cooperation, both parties risk further marginalisation. Some senior leaders are in favour of exploring an alliance with the TMC. However, the high command will take the final call after consulting all leaders, "said a Congress leader.

The CPM central committee, which recently met in Thiruvananthapuram, discussed the West Bengal situation and broadly endorsed the idea of electoral coordination with the Congress to counter both the ruling Trinamool Congress (TMC) and the BJP. A section of leaders are also keen to include the CPI(ML) in any broader Opposition front in the state. "In Bengal, the party will work for the defeat of both the TMC and the BJP, which are trying to polarise the society," said the statement of the central committee.

PATNA DIARY

RAMASHANKAR

Our correspondent in Bihar

ramashankar@newindianexpress.com

Mumbai to soon have Bihar Bhawan

After playing a significant role in the national capital for many years, Bihar Bhawan is also set to make its appearance in the country's commercial capital, Mumbai. A plan for the project has been prepared. Building Construction Department will construct the Bihar Bhawan at Elephant Estate in the Mumbai Port Trust area. The proposed building will be around 30 storeys high, including a basement, and will be equipped with modern facilities. The state cabinet has granted administrative approval of ₹314.20 crore for the project, which will help speed up the construction process. The office will provide facilities for government work and meetings.

Nitish all charged up after Bihar victory

In the early mornings when most prefer to stay indoors tucked in bed, Bihar Chief Minister Nititsh Kumar is already out conducting his 15th yatra called Samriddhi Yatra. The march has a special significance as it has been taken out after NDA swept the last Assembly elections by mustering the absolute majority. Although industrialisation ranks high on the priority list of the new NDA government, Nitish's focus on strengthening infrastructure in the hinterland of the state is also clearly visible. He is inaugurating and laying the foundation stone for various development schemes, showing how he is taking care to improve the living condition of one and all.

Post poll defeat, INDIA bloc in disarray

After travelling together for more than a couple of weeks, the situation has completely changed. Leaders of the INDIA bloc are giving top most priority to putting their own houses in order. So, it is in complete disarray and only time will tell when they will sit together and formulate a common strategy. They will face the litmus test in the forthcoming budget session of Bihar Assembly as it is a million dollar question whether all constituents of INDIA bloc will be able to corner the mighty NDA in the house with a collective strength. This assumes greater significance as it comes it the backdrop of the INDIA bloc's Bihar poll debacle.

Defamation case: Appear or face action, Rahul told

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

CONGRESS leader and Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi did not appear before the Sultanpur MP/MLA court on Monday in connection with a defamation case against him, following which the court fixed February 20 as the next date of hearing.

Gandhi, the Raebareli MP, was scheduled to record his statement before the court. However, his counsel Kashi Prasad Shukla informed the court that the Congress leader could not be present as he was in Kerala owing to a political engagement.

Taking note of the submission, MP-MLA court judge Shubham Verma granted Gandhi a final opportunity to appear in person. The court had then made it clear that his statement must now be recorded and no further exemptions would be granted.

The defamation case was filed in October 2018 by local BJP functionary Vijay Mishra, a resident of Hanumanganj in Kotwali Dehat area of Sultanpur district. Mishra alleged that during election campaigning in Karnataka in August 2018, Gandhi had made objectionable remarks against then BJP president Amit Shah.

Ahead of Budget session, Omar discusses security of UT with Shah in Delhi

MUKESH RANJAN @ New Delhi

ON a day when a search operation continued to hunt down holed up terrorists in Jammu & Kashmir's Kishtwar, CM Omar Abdullah met Union Home Minister Amit Shah here to discuss a range of important issues concerning the UT.

Also, the meeting was held in the backdrop of the upcoming budget for the year 2026-27, which will be presented in Lok Sabha on February 1.

Even as authorities claimed the meeting as a routine affair, it assumed significance in many ways, including the security concerns and economic boost for the UT, which have been the key focus areas for both the Centre and the UT administration.

Confirming that he met the Home Minister, the Office of the Chief Minister, J&K, through its 'X' handle, said, "Chief Minister today met Hon'ble Union Home Minister @Amit Shah in New Delhi to discuss various matters concerning Jammu & Kashmir."

Sources said that the two leaders discussed issues pertaining to governance, security, development and the overall political and administrative situation in Jammu and Kashmir.

While specific details of the deliberations were not officially disclosed, the meeting is being seen as significant in the context of ongoing efforts to strengthen coordination between the Centre and the UT's elected government. The sources indicated that the discussion might have covered key areas such as law and order, security arrangements, developmental initiatives, central assistance and the smooth functioning of administrative set up in J&K.

Focus on infra projects

The meeting also comes amid renewed focus on accelerating infrastructure projects, improving public service delivery and addressing long-standing public concerns in the region.

CONTAMINATION

Plum post for babu 'shunted' out of Indore

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bhopal

OPPOSITION Congress has questioned the appointment of 2014 batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer Dilip Kumar Yadav, as the MD of Madhya Pradesh State Tourism Development Corporation. Yadav, was given the plum assignment in the state (which is counted among the top Indian states with major tourist attractions) on Sunday evening, a fortnight after being removed as the municipal commissioner of Indore, in the wake of deaths of residents due to contaminated water supply in Indore's Bhagirathpura area.

"After the deaths of innocent people in Indore's Bhagirathpura, a series of actions were initiated by the CM Dr Mohan Yadav, including the removal of municipal commissioner Dilip Kumar Yadav. The same official has now been given the plum assignment as MD of state tourism corporation. This suggests that it was not the faulty system of the Indore Municipal Corporation, which supplied contaminated water, leading to 24 deaths so far. Instead rewarding of the 2014 batch IAS officer with plum posting suggests that maybe the residents of Bhagirathpura ended lives on their own by arranging and drinking poisonous water," state Congress president Jitu Patwari said in Bhopal on Monday.

5-yr-old dies after taking cough syrup

DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA @ Ahmedabad

A five-year-old girl's sudden death after being administered a cough syrup has sent shockwaves in Gujarat, with her aunt alleging foul play, questioning the medicine's safety, and demanding justice. The police await the post-mortem report to ascertain whether it was a tragic reaction or something far more sinister.

Dhyani, who lost both her parents, was being raised by her grandparents and relatives. According to family members, Dhyani was given a cough syrup brought from a medical store by her cousin uncle. Soon, her condition allegedly began to worsen rapidly. In panic, the child was rushed from one hospital to another but before treatment could even begin, she was declared dead.

Her aunt, Rupal Patel, raised serious suspicions and halted the last rites."I received a call around 8 am saying Dhyani's health was very bad and that I should come to Vadodara," Rupal told the media. "Even before I could reach, another call came saying she had passed away. When we arrived, preparations for the last rites had already begun. That's when we became suspicious and immediately called the police. We demanded a post-mortem. Now, we are waiting for the report."

POWER OF WORDS

'It was always about balance, not good vs evil'

ADITHI REENA AJITH @ Jaipur

ON the final morning of the 19th Jaipur Literature Festival, mythological reteller Anand Neelakantan unveiled his latest book, 'Mahishasura: The Legend of Kumarikandam.' Unlike his past works that were retellings of the Puranas, this one ventures into science fiction.

Set 70,000 years ago in the lost archipelago of Kumarikandam, the book reimagines the goddess Devi as a warrior queen fighting an alien-created Mahishasura in an intergalactic war. The novel marks the first instalment of 'The Devi Series.' One of his motivations, he explained during the discussion with author Mridula Ramesh, was to bridge the gap between the Sanskrit Puranas and the lesser-discussed Tamil mythologies. "I thought—why not bring in the great legend of Kumari Kandam? It's a myth with resonance across cultures, not just India."

Mythological reteller Anand Neelakantan with author Mridula Ramesh | EXPRESS

World-building, Neelakantan emphasised, has long been central to his works that span from Ajaya, the story of Mahabharata from Duryodhana's perspective, and Queen of Mahismati from the world of Bahubali. With Mahishasura, however, he deliberately pushed himself into science fiction. "My children are fans of Marvel. They used to tell me Indian mythology isn't interesting for Gen Z." The novel's universe includes artificial intelligence, advanced warfare and alien beings, all anchored in ideas drawn from Indian philosophical traditions.

One such idea is Mayavada. "In Mayavada, the entire world is a simulation, Brahma's dream," Neelakantan explained, pointing to parallels with modern simulation theory. He also referenced time-travel motifs found in the Rig Veda, noting how ancient texts already grappled with questions modern science fiction considers radical.

Rejecting the simple division between devas and asuras as good vs evil, he argued that "asuras in the Puranas are not evil, they are materialistic, representing a world of logic, science and material desire. It was only later, with Amar Chitra Katha and similar retellings, that we started telling these stories in binaries".

Historically, he pointed out, many figures now worshipped as gods were once seen differently. "Krishna is described as an Asura in the Rig Veda. In Kerala, Mahabali—an Asura—is celebrated. It was always about balance, not good versus evil."

Mulayam's younger son announces decision to divorce wife, stokes row

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

A sudden Instagram post hinting at another turmoil brewing up in Samajwadi Party patriarch late Mulayam Singh Yadav's family on Monday left the political circles surprised. Mulayam's younger son and step brother of Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav, Prateek Yadav, announced that he would be divorcing wife Aparna Yadav, a BJP leader and the vice-president of UP Women's Commission, accusing her of having "ruined his family".

"I am going to divorce this selfish woman as soon as possible. She ruined my family ties. All ..." Prateek allegedly said in the post shared from his official Instagram account – iamprateekyadav. In the post, the Yadav scion claimed that his relationships with his family deteriorated because of his wife. After marriage, tension in family relationships continued to increase, which affected his personal and social life. According to Prateek, his wife's behaviour has been insensitive towards the family.

NOT FOR KEEPS

1. The Yadav scion claimed that his relationships with his family deteriorated because of his wife
2. He says her behaviour has been insensitive towards the family

In another post on Monday evening, Prateek elaborated on the earlier post by putting another picture of Aparna and saying: "Broke my relationship with my mother, broke my relationship with my father, broke my relationship with my brother..." However, as his post went viral, Aparna 's brother, Aman Bisht, rushed to clarify that Prateek's Instagram account was "hacked".

Notably, Prateek Yadav, son of Mulayam Singh Yadav's second wife Sadhna Gupta, and Aparna Bisht, daughter of a senior journalist and former Information Commissioner, Arvind Singh Bisht, got married in 2011 and have two daughters. Their wedding ceremony was attended by Mulayam Singh Yadav as well as Bollywood megastar Amitabh Bachchan. Prateek was also present with Aparna on her birthday on December 4, 2025.

Government of Karnataka

MINOR IRRIGATION AND GROUND WATER DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Executive Engineer & Ex-Officio Minor Irrigation & Ground Water Development Division, Department of Mines & Geology, Jayanagar, Bengaluru-560011

No EE/MI&GWD/BBMP/LKE-177/2025-26 Dated : 19.01.2026

Short term Tender Notification

On the behalf of the Hon'ble of State of Karnataka, as per KTPP with latest amendments, Item wise tenders are invited for the works mentioned under HM: 4702 MOF from the eligible contractors of suitable category registered under KPWD. (For further details, visit website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in Name of the work: Improvements to Ulsoor Tank comes under the Jurisdiction of BBMP, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore Urban District.

Amount Put to Tender (Rs in Lakhs) : Rs.749.86, EMD: Rs.11,24,200/- Period of Completion: 11 Months including Monsoon.

(1) Tender will be published through KPPP Portal on Date:: 19.01.2026 at 16.30 Hours. (2) Last date of queries: 03.02.2026 at 15.00 Hours, (3) Pre Bid Meeting Date & Time (Address. Office of the Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation and Ground and Water Development division. Bengaluru) 28.01.2026 at 11.30 Hours (4) Last date for Receipt to Tenders on Dated :03.02.2026 at 16.30 Hours (5) Technical Bid will be opened on Dated : 05.02.2026 at 11.30 Hours (6) Financial Bid will be opened on Dated . After Approval of Technical Bid.

Conditions: 1) Term and Conditions and other details may be obtained through kppp portal at the website address https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. 2) Tenders are advised to note the minimum qualification criteria specified in clause KW-3&4 of ITT in Standard Tender document 3) Bidder should quote the rates Excluding GST 4) Rights are reserved for postponement or cancellation of any or all Tenders.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, M.I. & G.W.D. Division

DPR/OF-5/1165-2/2025-2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Client has negotiated to purchase Item No 1 (Item No 2 Item No 3 and Item No 4 being Agricultural Land bearing Survey Nos 95-3, 95/4, 95/5, 95/6 all measuring 1 Acre 20 Gunta situated at Sarjapur Village Kasaba Hobli Anekal Taluk which are more fully described in the Schedule hereunder written owned & possessed by owners namely 1) Mr. Pasu Khan Bashe Khan S/o Mr. Basha Khan 2) Mr. M. Nagappa S/o Late Munivappa 3) Mr. M. Mohan S/o Late Munivappa 4) Mr. Shankarappa S/o Mr. Munivappa, who have represented my client that they are the absolute owners of their respective shares of Schedule properties and have all rights of alienation over the same.

If any person or persons, nuisance have any claim, right, title, charge, lien, and encumbrance upon the Schedule Properties or any portion thereof or claims or rights or interest by way of sale, gift, mortgage, lease, lease agreement, agreement of sale, or otherwise howsoever howsoever or any other manner whatsoever or any other claim of whatsoever nature howsoever or any other claim of whatsoever nature howsever or any other claim of whatsoever nature howsever or any other claim of whatsoever nature howsever or any other claim of whatsever nature howsever or any other claim of whatsever nature howsever or any other claim of whats

4 dead
and six missing after Chinese steel plant blast; officials detained

GLOBAL WEATHER

Beijing	29	19	SNY	Los Angeles	20	12	SNY
Colombo	29	23	TDS	Melbourne	17	5	LC
Dhaka	27	16	TDS	Moscow	4	2	SNY
Dubai	26	22	SNY	New York	2	-3	SNY
Houston	30	23	TDS	Singapore	27	25	TDS
Istanbul	33	21	SNY	Toronto	-6	-8	SNY
London	12	8	SNY	Washington	3	-2	SNY

LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • LS: Light Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

At least 39 dead and counting in high-speed rail collision in Spain

Tail end of a train jumps track, hits head of another that was speeding past, derails 2 carriages

ADAMUZ

SPANISH police said Monday that at least 39 people are confirmed dead in a high-speed rail collision the previous night in the south of the country when the tail end of a train jumped the track, causing another train speeding past in the opposite direction to derail.

The impact tossed the second train's lead carriages off the track, sending them plummeting down a 4-meter (13-foot) slope. Some bodies were found hundreds of meters (feet) from the crash site, Andalusia regional president Juanma Moreno said, describing the wreckage a "mass of twisted metal" with bodies likely still to be found inside.

Efforts to recover the bodies continued Monday, and the death toll could rise. Authorities are also focusing on attending hundreds of distraught family members and have asked for them to provide DNA samples to help in the identification of the victims.

Emergency crews work at the site of a train collision in Adamuz, southern Spain | AP

The crash occurred Sunday at 7.45 pm when the tail end of a train carrying 289 passengers on the route from Malaga to the capital, Madrid, went off the rails. It slammed into an incoming train traveling from Madrid to Huelva, another southern Spanish city, according to rail operator Adif. The head of the second train, which was carrying nearly 200 passengers, took the brunt of the impact, Spanish Transport Minister Óscar Puente said. That collision knocked its first two carriages off the track. Puente said that it appeared the largest number of the deaths occurred in those carriages. Authorities said all the survivors had been rescued in the early morning.

The accident shook a nation which leads Europe in high-speed train mileage and takes pride in a network that is considered at the cutting edge of rail transport.

Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez declared three days of national mourning for the victims of the crash.

"Today is a day of pain for all of Spain," Sánchez said on a visit to Adamuz, a village near the accident site, where many locals helped emergency services handle the influx of distraught and hurt passengers overnight. *AP*

Soldiers take up positions during an army raid in the West Bank city of Hebron | AP

EU, Russia invited to Gaza peace board; Israel criticises plan

WASHINGTON

THE European Union's executive arm, Russia, Belarus and Thailand on Monday were the latest to be asked to join U.S. President Donald Trump's new Board of Peace that will supervise the next phase of the Gaza peace plan, as a top Israeli official said the initiative is "bad for Israel" and should be scrapped.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said Russian President Vladimir Putin received the invitation and that the Kremlin is now "studying the details" and would seek clarity of "all the nuances" in contacts with the US The Thai Foreign Ministry said it was also invited and that it was reviewing the details.

Belarus President Alexander Lukashenko has been invited and is ready to take part, according to the country's Foreign Ministry. European Commission spokesperson Olof Gill confirmed that Ursula von der Leyen, the president of the commission, received an invitation and would be speaking to other EU leaders about Gaza. Gill didn't say whether the invitation had been accepted, but that the commission wants "to contribute to a comprehensive plan to end the Gaza conflict."

It's unclear how many leaders have been invited to join the board. But a Trump reference in the invitation letters that the body would "embark on a bold new approach to resolving global conflict" suggested it could act as a rival to the UN Security Council, the most powerful body of the global organization created in the wake of World War II.

According to the World Bank's Gaza and West Bank Interim Rapid Damage and Needs Assessment (IRDNA) report released last year, it'll take $53 billion to rebuild the strip. Israeli far-right Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich on Monday dismissed the Board of Peace as a raw deal for Israel and called for its dissolution. *AP*

B'desh court indicts Hindu monk in lawyer murder case

DHAKA

A court in Bangladesh on Monday indicted Hindu monk Chinmoy Krishna Das and 38 others in connection with the death of a lawyer in southeastern port city of Chattogram in November 2024. Das, a spokesperson for the Bangladesh Sammilita Sanatani Jagran Jote, was arrested from Dhaka's Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport on November 25, 2024 for alleged sedition. Das, a former ISKCON leader, was denied bail and jailed by a Chattogram court.

His arrest sparked protests, with his followers demonstrating in Dhaka and other places the next day.

The protest turned violent in Chattogram, where the lawyer was killed on November 26. On Monday, 'the court framed charges against Chinmoy under Sections 302 and 109 of the Penal Code and brought charges against 22 others under different sections,' a prosecution lawyer told reporters after the indictment by the Chattogram Divisional Speedy Trial Tribunal. Prosecutors said 39 people were accused of the murder of junior government prosecutor Saiful Islam Alif while 23, including Das, were in custody to stand the trial in person.

The remaining 16 accused are absconding. The court order came after Judge Jahidul Haque of the Chattogram Divisional Speedy Trial Tribunal heard both the prosecution and defence lawyers, 14 months after Alif's death. The prosecution objected to the application. After hearing arguments from both sides, the court framed charges against all 39 accused. Prior to this, the judge read out the charges to the accused present in court.

TV and video footage on social media showed Das being escorted to the courtroom by police's elite SWAT unit members with an umbrella over his head. *PTI*

ASIA MATTERS

Site approved for temple relocation

New land for the relocation of the 130-year-old Dewi Sri Pathrakaliamman Temple has been gazetted, just 100 metres from its original site, Federal Territories minister Hannah Yeoh said. Building plans have been approved and the site designated for non-Muslim worship. Relocation is expected to begin after Thaipusam celebrations.

23 people die in Karachi plaza blaze, search on for 46 reported missing

KARACHI

THE death toll from a massive fire at a shopping plaza in Karachi rose to 23 on Monday as rescuers recovered more bodies from the badly damaged building, police said. Dozens remain missing. Firefighters extinguished the blaze at the multistory plaza late Sunday, nearly 24 hours after it erupted, allowing rescue teams to enter the building. Authorities fear the death toll will rise as they look for 46 more people, according to city police chief Asad Raza.

Raza told The Associated Press on Monday that only six bodies have been identified so far. The rest will need DNA testing as the "bodies were beyond recognition," police surgeon, Dr Summaiya Syed, said. She said that doctors were collecting DNA samples from the relatives of the missing individuals. According to local media, at least 26 people died in the blaze. Earlier, Sindh provincial Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah told a news conference in Karachi that rescue teams were searching for survivors and the dead. He said those killed in the fire included a firefighter and that the government would provide 10 million rupees ($36,000) in compensation to the family of each person killed. As night fell, rescuers continued to struggle to reach parts of the severely damaged building where some people were believed to be trapped after losing contact with their families the previous day. City Mayor Murtaza Wahab said the rescue operation would continue until all missing persons had been accounted for. *AP*

Rescue workers and firefighters work with heavy machinery to search through the rubble of a burnt building of a multistory shopping plaza following a massive fire in Karachi, Pakistan | AP

Valentino, master of glamour, passes away at 93

ROME

VALENTINO Garavani, the jet-set Italian designer whose high-glamour gowns — often in his trademark shade of "Valentino red" — were fashion show staples for nearly half a century, has died at home in Rome, his foundation announced Monday. He was 93.

"Valentino Garavani was not only a constant guide and inspiration for all of us, but a true source of light, creativity and vision, the foundation said in a statement posted on social media. His body will repose at the foundation's headquarters in Rome on Wednesday and Thursday. The funeral will be held Friday at the Basilica Santa Maria degli Angeli e dei Martiri in Rome's Piazza della Repubblica. Universally known by his first name, Valentino was adored by generations of royals, first ladies and movie stars, from Jackie Kennedy Onassis to Julia Roberts and Queen Rania of Jordan, who swore the designer always made them look and feel their best. "I know what women want," he once remarked. "They want to be beautiful."

Valentino Garavani | AP

Never one for edginess or statement dressing, Valentino made precious few fashion faux-pas throughout his nearly half-century-long career, which stretched from his early days in Rome in the 1960s through to his retirement in 2008.

Valentino's fail-safe designs made him the go-to designer for red-carpet A-listers. His sumptuous gowns appeared at countless Academy Awards, including Julia Roberts' vintage black-and-white column dress in 2001 and Cate Blanchett's butter-yellow one-shouldered gown in 2004. *AP*

EXPRESS READ

Blast in Kabul kills seven, wounds several

KABUL: An explosion in downtown Kabul on Monday killed at least seven people and wounded about a dozen others, according to Italian medical charity EMERGENCY. The blast hit a restaurant in the Shahr-e-Naw district, though the cause was unclear. EMERGENCY said its surgical centre received 20 casualties, including seven dead on arrival. The wounded include four women and a child. Afghan officials confirmed deaths and injuries, while Chinese media reported two Chinese nationals among the injured.

Hackers air exiled prince message on Iran state TV

DUBAI: Hackers disrupted Iranian state television to broadcast footage of exiled Crown Prince Reza Pahlavi urging security forces not to turn weapons on protesters, online video showed on Monday. The hack follows nationwide demonstrations and a deadly crackdown that activists say has killed at least 3,941 people. Internet shutdowns have limited information flow. Iran's foreign minister lost an invitation to speak at Davos over the killings, while US-Iran tensions remain high.

ANDHRA PRADESH CAPITAL REGION DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Rajadhani Amaravati - 522 237 (A.P.)
E PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE
Dt. 19/01/2026
NAME OF WORK: "Providing CC drains & CC road from Ch Km 0/0 to Km 0/250, strengthening of BT road from Ch Km 0/250 to Ch Km 4/400 on the Mini Bypass Road from GBC road to Mandadam-Tenali Road at Mandadam Village, Guntur District"– Estimate Cost Rs. 1,27,40,000/-
The bid can be downloaded on AP e-procurement portal from 21.01.2026 to 05.02.2026 up to 14.00 Hrs. Due date for submission of Bid 05.02.2026 up to 14.00 Hrs. Technical bid opening 03.02.2026 @15.00 Hrs. For further details Please refer to www.apeprocurement.gov.in and www.crda.ap.gov.in
Sd/- Commissioner, APCRDA, Amaravati

YOUR GUIDE TO SPICY LIVING
INDULGE
THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

GOVT. OF ODISHA, OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER RURAL WORKS CIRCLE: KEONJHAR
Email: se_nerwkjr@rediffmail.com
eProcurement Notice for Road Works
Bid Identification No. NCB-39/RWCKJR/2025-26
0-2058 No.237 / Date: 15/01/2026
1. Name of the work :- S/R to roads in the District of Keonjhar for the year 2025-26.
2. No. of work :- 02(Two) Nos.
3. Estimated Cost :- As per Annexure in NIT.
4. Class of Contractor (Eligible) :- As per Annexure in NIT.
5. Period of Completion :- As per Annexure in NIT.
6. Other details :-

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of tender On-line for bidding		Last Date & Time of seeking Tender Clarification	Date &Time of Opening of Tender in O/o C.C.E., R.W. Circle, Keonjhar	
		From	To		Technical Bid	Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Keonjhar	NCB -39/ RWCKJR/ 2025-26	Dt.22.01.26 at 11.00 A.M	Dt.05.02.26 up to 5.00 P.M	Dt.04.02.26 up to 5.00 P.M	Dt.06.02.26 at 11.00 A.M	Will be intimated later

• Further details can be seen from the website: www.tendersorissa.gov.in
Sd/- Chief Construction Engineer, R.W. Circle, Keonjhar

CHOLAMANDALAM INVESTMENT AND FINANCE COMPANY LIMITED
POSSESSION NOTICE UNDER RULE 8 (1)
Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of M/s. Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company Limited under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 hereinafter called the Act and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rules 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued demand notice calling upon the borrowers, whose names have been indicated in Column (B) below on dates specified in Column (C) to repay the outstanding amounts mentioned in Column (D) below within sixty days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers in particular and the Public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the properties mortgaged with the Company described in Column (E) herein below on the respective dates mentioned in Column (F) in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the Act read with Rule 8 of the Rules. Hereby warn the borrowers in particular and the Public in general not to deal with the properties mentioned in Column (E) below and any such dealings will be subject to the charge of M/s. Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company Limited for an amount mentioned in Column (D) along with interest and other charges.
Under section 13 (8) of the Securitisation Act, the borrowers can redeem the secured asset by payment of the entire outstanding amount along with all costs, charges and expenses before noon of sale.
Sl No. | Name & Address of Borrower/ Loan A/c | Demand Notice Date | Outstanding Amount | Details of Property | Date of Possession
Date: 20.01.2026
Place: Bangalore
Sd/- Authorised Officer
Chola Investment and Finance Company Limited

ORIX LEASING & FINANCIAL SERVICES INDIA LIMITED
(formerly known as OAIS Auto Financial Services Limited)
(A Subsidiary of ORIX Auto Infrastructure Services Limited)
Regd. Office : Plot No. 94, Marol Co-operative Industrial Estate, Andheri-Kurla Road, Andheri (E), Mumbai - 400 059 | Tel.: +91 22 2859 5093 / 6707 0100 | Fax: + 91 22 2852 8549
Email: info@orixindia.com | www.orixindia.com | CIN: U74900MH2006PLC163937
(Notice under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002)
The following borrowers and co-borrowers availed the below mentioned secured loans from ORIX Leasing & Financial Services India Limited. The loans of the below mentioned borrowers have been secured by the mortgage of their respective properties. As they have failed to adhere to the terms and conditions of the respective loan agreements and had become irregular, their loans were classified as NPA Date 05.01.2026 as per the RBI Guidelines. Amounts due by them to ORIX Leasing & Financial Services India Limited, are mentioned as per the respective notices issued more particularly described in the following table and further interest on the said amounts shall also be applicable and the same will be charged as per contractual rate with effect from their respective dates

Sr No.	Loan Account No.	Type of Loan	Name of borrowers	Outstanding as per 13(2) Notice	Notice Date
1	LN0000000005284 LN0000000004107	SME Secured Loan	1. M/s Nischal Granites And Minerals 2. K P Nagesh 3. Anand Kumar 4. Anusuya Devi	INR 3,44,53,276/-	17.01.2026

Details of Secured asset : All That Piece And Parcel Of The Property Bearing E Swathu Katha No. 919, New Katha No. 20/4, Old No. 20/1, Assigned To Portion Of Agricultural Land Bearing Survey No. 20/1, Measuring 21,780 Sq. Ft., Situated At Kannur Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Comprising Of A Ground And Two Upper Floors Building, And Bounded On: **East :** Road, **West :** Property Belongs To Mr. Pillanjinappa, **North:** Private Road, **South :** Property Belongs To Mr. Pillanjinappa
You are hereby called upon to pay the amounts due to ORIX Leasing & Financial Services India Limited as per details shown in the above table with contracted rate of interest thereupon from their respective dates and other costs, charges etc., within 60 days from the date of this publication, failing which the undersigned shall be constrained to initiate proceedings U/s 13(4) and Sec. 14 of the SARFAESI Act, against the mortgage properties mentioned herein above to realize the amount due to ORIX Leasing & Financial Services India Limited. Further you are prohibited U/s 13(13) of the said Act from transferring the said secured asset either by way of sale / lease or otherwise.
Date : 17.01.2026 Sd/- Authorised officer
Place : Bangalore ORIX Leasing & Financial Services India Limited

RECRUITMENT NOTICE
(Advt. No-01/2026)
Uttar Pradesh State Institute of Forensic Science, Lucknow
Aurawan, Daroga Kheda, P.O. Banthra, Lucknow -226401
UPSIFS, Lucknow (Established in 2021) functioning under the aegis of the Home Department, Govt. of U.P. & affiliated with the National Forensic Science University, Gandhinagar, Gujarat. UPSIFS, Lucknow invites applications for temporary contractual posts of Associate Professor, Assistant Professor & Non-Teaching Staff. For online application & other details please visit website **www.upsifs.ac.in.**
RO No: 244225 RO Date: 19/01/2026
Website: www.upgov.nic.in
Sd/-
Assistant Registrar (Academics)
UPSIFS, Lucknow

All the news. In just a click. Log to www.newindianexpress.com | THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

Market Watch

MARKET			GOLD			SILVER			FOREX	
324.17 ↓	Sensex	83,246.18	₹2,460 ↑	24 carat (10 gm)	₹146,390	₹10,000 ↑	1 kg	₹305,000	↑ Dollar	90.97
108.85 ↓	Nifty	25,585.50	₹2,250 ↑	22 carat (10 gm)	₹134,200	₹110 ↑	10 gm	₹3,050	↑ Euro	105.77

Starlink launch likely to get delayed over security worry

Indian govt wary of Musk's company as it faces security test in Iran

RAKESH KUMAR @ New Delhi

ELON Musk-led satellite communication service provider Starlink will have to wait longer to launch its commercial services in India, as security concerns have intensified following recent incidents involving its operations in Iran, officials said.

As per an official from the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), the government is unlikely to offer any leniency during the security clearance process. This comes after Starlink was found to have operated in Iran without proper authorisation or licensing, where the use of its services is banned by the Iranian government.

The company allegedly smuggled its equipment, including user terminals, into Iran over the past two years and operated services without a licence. Reports indicate that Starlink even waived monthly subscription fees for users in Iran after the government there shut down internet services. "Incidents like these have prompted the government to scrutinise Starlink's security aspects in India. The government is taking this matter very seriously and is carefully examining all factors before giving green signal for Starlink to operate in the country," the official said.

This is not the first time Starlink equipment has raised concerns in India. In December 2024, Starlink routers and antennas were discovered in Manipur. Police in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands found that drug smugglers had used a Starlink Mini — a portable satellite communication device with an integrated Wi-Fi router—to communicate while operating in Indian waters.

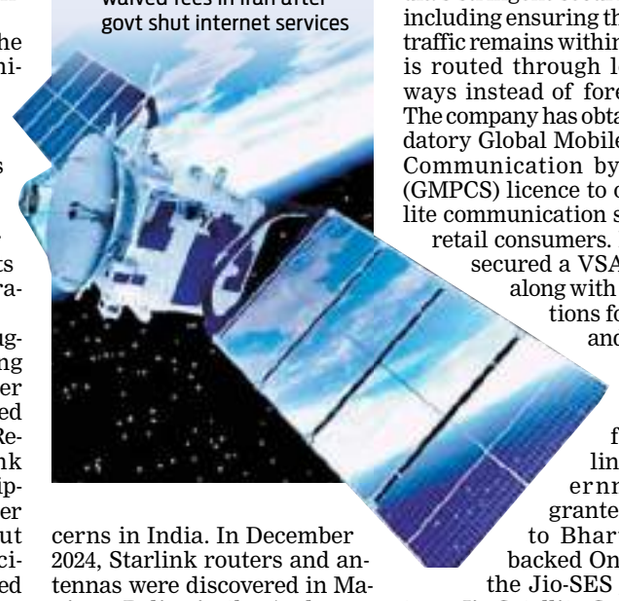
Though Musk had stated Starlink's services were "turned off" in India, reports suggested the devices continued to function in certain areas. This allegedly enabled individuals and militant groups in Manipur to access internet during government-imposed shutdowns.

Meanwhile, Starlink has claimed compliance with India's stringent security norms, including ensuring that all user traffic remains within India and is routed through local gateways instead of foreign ones. The company has obtained mandatory Global Mobile Personal Communication by Satellite (GMPCS) licence to offer satellite communication services to retail consumers. It has also secured a VSAT licence, along with authorisations for in-flight and maritime connectivity.

Apart from Starlink, the government has granted licences to Bharti Group-backed OneWeb and the Jio-SES joint venture, Jio Satellite Communications, to provide satellite communication services in India. The DoT has already allotted spectrum to these companies for demonstrating security compliance. However, so far, none of them has received final approval from security agencies.

UNDER LENS

1. Govt unlikely show leniency in security clearance process
2. Starlink was recently found to have operated in Iran without proper licensing
3. Reports say Starlink waived fees in Iran after govt shut internet services



IT cos hire freshers, attrition rate slows

PADMINI DHRUVARAJ @ Bengaluru

THE country's biggest IT services companies are still hiring thousands of fresh graduates and have reported stabilising attrition in FY26 so far. However, some firms have seen their total employee numbers fall year-on-year as automation and artificial intelligence reduce demand for mid-skill roles and drive restructuring.

Three of India's top five IT services companies reported a sequential decline in net headcount in the December quarter. Strong additions at Infosys and Wipro were offset by a sharp workforce reduction at Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), highlighting uneven hiring trends across the sector.

TCS reported a net fall of 11,151 employees in the December quarter sequentially. Tech Mahindra employees' count fell by 3,098 in Q3 sequentially and HCLTech's headcount fell marginally by 261 during the quarter. Meanwhile, Infosys added 5,043 employees during the quarter and Wipro reported net additions of 6,529 employees.

Despite these differences, all five companies reported lower or stable attrition. Infosys reported voluntary attrition of 12.3% on a trailing 12-month basis, HCLTech reported 12.4%, TCS reported 13.5% in IT services, and Wipro reported 14.2%, each down roughly 50–100 basis points compared to last year.

Restructuring

Most IT companies are unfolding their restructuring plans, which are described as a move from a scale-and-manpower model to an efficiency-and-automation model.

Several firms highlighted restructuring-related actions and costs during FY26. TCS said its workforce review led to release of 1,800 employees during the year so far and would continue into the next quarter. "We continue to hire, both from the lateral market and campuses. What we had announced as part of restructuring, we continue to look for support people with deployment in the future roles. Wherever we are not finding success, we are releasing," TCS said during the Q3 presser, adding that the exercise would continue into the next quarter.

TCS incurred restructuring costs of ₹253 crore in Q3, 77% lower than the ₹1,135 crore recorded in the previous quarter. Wipro said it incurred restructuring charges of ₹263 crore during the quarter, and confirmed that the exercise is complete. HCLTech said its operating margin included an impact from restructuring costs linked to skill realignment. Infosys said productivity gains from AI and automation are changing delivery models.

Fresher hiring

Meanwhile, fresher hiring has continued at scale. Infosys hired about 18,000 freshers so far in FY26 and expects about 20,000 for the year. TCS plans to hire about 42,000 freshers, HCLTech has added over 10,000, and Wipro has hired over 5,000 and plans to hire around 7,500 in FY26.

THE BIGGER PICTURE

HEADCOUNT TRENDS ACROSS INDIA'S TOP IT SERVICES COMPANIES

COMPANY	Q3 FY25	Q3 FY26	YOY CHANGE	NET CHANGE*
TCS	607,354	582,163	-25,191	-25,816
Infosys	323,379	337,034	13,655	13,456
HCLTech	220,755	226,379	5,624	2,595
Wipro	232,732	242,021	9,289	8,675
Tech Mahindra	80,865	76,194	-4,671	477
Total (Top 5)	**1,465,085**	**1,463,791**	**-1,294**	**-613**

*9M FY26

Complaint against Wipro over onboarding delay

LOI were issued to candidates in May 2025, confirming their selection and detailing role, pay structure

Harpreet Singh Saluja , NITES Prez

Recruits remain in confusion

Wipro either received no reply or were provided vague responses when candidates approached them to know onboarding status

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Chennai

PUNE-based IT and ITES union Nascent Information Technology Employees Senate (NITES) said on Monday that it has filed a complaint to the Union labour ministry against leading IT services company Wipro over alleged delay in onboarding fresh graduates.

The union has sought intervention from minister Mansukh Mandaviya. NITES President Adv Harpreet Singh Saluja said, "Affected candidates are fresh graduates selected through campus and off campus recruitment processes conducted by Wipro, including its Turbo and NextGen Talent hiring programmes. Letters of Intent were issued to these candidates around May 2025, confirming their selection and detailing role, compensation structure and onboarding process."

Wipro, in a recent quarterly result announcement, had said it is planning to recruit fresh graduates for specialised roles. He said, "Over a period of several months, these candidates repeatedly approached Wipro via official emails, calls and written representations seeking clarity regarding their onboarding status. In response, they either received no reply or were provided vague responses." Over 250 candidates have approached NITES from multiple states, he added.

As US, European countries head towards tariff war, India walks trade tightrope

PUSHPITA DEY @ New Delhi

INDIA is walking a diplomatic and trade tightrope as the United States and European countries edge towards a tariff war over the Greenland dispute, with trade experts urging caution to protect Indian exporters. While some analysts warn, going by past precedent under US President Donald Trump, Washington could slap fresh tariffs on major European trading partners, others believe the standoff could open opportunities for India to deepen its footprint in European markets.

"Political tussle over Greenland could spill over to other areas. It could result in a shift in the EU's position on trade and WTO issues vis-a-vis the US," said Abhijit Das, former head of the Centre for WTO Studies at the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT). India signed a free trade agreement (FTA) with the UK last year and is likely to conclude an FTA with the EU in the near future.

Trump has announced a fresh 10% tariff on countries opposing his move to acquire Greenland. The US plans to impose tariffs on Denmark, Norway, Sweden, France, Germany, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands and Finland, despite trade deals signed in 2025. "There could be pressure on countries to reduce trade with the EU, failing which the US may impose punitive tariffs on them," said Das.

India, meanwhile, is maintaining a diplomatically neutral stance. A government source confirmed that no immediate decisions are being taken and that trade negotiations with both the EU and the US will continue. "We are observing the situation," the official said.

Some trade experts argue escalating US–Europe tensions could offer a strategic opening for India, provided it manages its negotiations carefully. "Friction between the US and the EU is pushing the EU to conclude its FTA with India," said Rajan Sudesh Ratna, deputy head and senior economic affairs officer at the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia.

Krishan Arora, partner at Grant Thornton Bharat, said the tensions could prompt European consumers to seek alternatives to US suppliers. "European demand may increasingly turn to India to fill the gap. Demand for Indian goods is expected to rise further, especially as more FTAs come into effect," he said.

Silver crosses ₹3L/kg, gold near ₹1.5L mark

BENN KOCHUVEEDAN @ Mumbai

FOR the first time, silver futures crossed the ₹3 lakh/kg mark, while 24K gold traded close to ₹1.5 lakh/10 grams in the domestic market, following a massive sprint in global prices.

The white metal shoot past $94.36/ounce (up 6.8%) and the yellow peer traded at $4,696/ounce (up 2.3%) on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange at 1245 hrs IST on Monday.

The rally comes amid safe-haven demand as US President Donald Trump has been getting shriller with his Greenland takeover rhetoric over the weekend and slapped a 10% trade tariff on eight of the largest EU nations. Analysts said upbeat industrial demand and the weak dollar are also lending further support to the white metal, which has been outperforming gold in recent sessions.

The ongoing rally follows a threefold sprint in silver prices in 2025 (white metal closed the year at $83.62/oz after beginning the year at $20/ounce) and the yellow metal rallied 81% to $4,575/oz in the year. These gold rallies came after a 24% jump in 2024 and a 22% gain in 2023. Between January 1-19, silver gained 29% and gold rallied 22% On the MCX, silver futures for March delivery skyrocketed by ₹16,044 or 5.58% to hit the record of ₹3,03,806/kg. In the international market, the March silver futures contract jumped by $5.81 or 6.56% to hit a record of $94.35/ounce (28.35 grams).

On the other hand, the February futures of the yellow metal are up ₹2,606 or 1.83% up at ₹145,123/10 grams on the MCX on Monday.

Precious metals have rallied sharply this year following the dramatic gains in 2025 as the US captured Venezuelean president and then doubled down on threats to takeover Greenland.

Over the weekend, Trump has slapped 10% additional tariffs on eight European nations -Germany, France, England, Denmark (under whose control is the icy island), Norway, Sweden, the Netherlands and Finland. The tariffs would come into force on February 1 and could later rise to 25% from June 1, for opposing his plan to invade Greenland. The move supported safe-haven demand for precious metals.

As per Renisha Chainani, head of gold trading at Augmont, current price of gold and silver climbed to fresh highs today with gold touching $4,698 (₹1,45,500/10 grams) and silver reaching $94.36 (₹3,01,300/kg), as investors rushed into safe-haven assets amid a sharp escalation in geopolitical tensions.

The rally was triggered after Trump threatened to impose additional tariffs on European countries over control of Greenland, raising fears of a wider Transatlantic trade disputes

Renisha Chainani, head of gold trading at Augmont

PNB net profit increases 13% to ₹5,100 cr despite 4.5% fall in NII

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Mumbai

THIRD-largest state-run lender Punjab National Bank on Monday posted a 13.1% jump in standalone net profit at ₹5,100 crore for the December quarter, despite a 4.5% fall in net interest income.

On a sequential basis, the bank saw its bottomline swelling by 4% from ₹4,904 crore in the September quarter and 13.1% YoY from ₹4,508 crore. The numbers announced during the market hours saw the PNB counter getting hammered to the tune of 5.4%, pulling the share down from the 52-week high it reached earlier in the day. The shares came down to ₹125.25 at close from the 52-week high of ₹135.15. The bank stock has rallied sharp 58% from its March 2025 lows, indicating that the stock is currently in an overstretched zone in the short term, according to a note from Anand Rathi Share and Stock Brokers.

Net interest margin or NIM came in at 2.60%, down 49 bps from 3.09% in the same period last year. The bank reported an interest income of ₹32,231 crore, up 2.8% from ₹31,340 crore in the same quarter previous financial year and interest expended rose 7% to ₹21,698 crore from ₹20,308 crore.

Gross non-performing assets came down to 3.19% from 4.09% and the net non-performing asset improved to 0.32% from 0.41%. Provisions surged during the quarter but provision coverage ratio was high at 96.99, up 22 bps and the slippage ratio was at 0.67, up 2 bps.

EXPRESS READ

'India to be upper middle-income country by 2030'

NEW DELHI: India can transition to upper middle-income country by 2030 if nominal GDP grows at 11.5% in dollar terms from now on, says a SBI Research report. As per its projections, India's per capita gross national income (GNI) will grow to $4,276, which is closer to the current lower threshold of $4,496 for qualifying as higher medium income country if nominal GDP grows at 8.3%, which is the average growth in the past 23 years. As per World Bank definition, a country with per capita GNI of $4,496-$13,935 is categorised as a high middle-income country. *ENS*

RBI asks HDFC to set aside ₹500 cr

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Mumbai

THE Reserve Bank has asked HDFC Bank to make additional one-time provision worth ₹500 crore for misclassification of certain agri sector related loans as priority sector lending.

ICICI Bank was also asked to provide ₹1,283 crore in additional one-time provisions for the same mismatch. While HDFC chose to brush it aside as part of the overall provisions, ICICI separately disclosed that its provisions rose because of this particular one-time hit.

HDFC Bank reported an 11.5% jump in net profit, while ICICI Bank had reported a 4% fall in net income due to the one-time provision for the quarter ending December 2025.

These are supervisory charges and are not associated with defaults in loans or deterioration in asset quality. The RBI has clarified the underlying loans are still being serviced and are not NPAs. HDFC's admission and clarification came during the analysts call last Saturday, wherein it said it was asked by the regulator to identify and address the shortcomings in their loan portfolios. These adjustments are necessary to ensure compliance with priority sector lending (PSL) norms.

"In the future, we need to operate in a model that's acceptable to the regulator. As a corrective measure, the recalibration of our book is driven by the scale of our finance to clearly classify what's genuinely agricultural loan and what falls outside that remit," HDFC Bank CFO Srinivasan Vaidyanathan told the analysts.

IKEA to start delivering products from Jan 22 in Tamil Nadu

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Chennai

IKEA India, a subsidiary of global home furnishings retailer Inter Ingka Group, on Monday announced the launch of online deliveries across Tamil Nadu. The Sweden-based company will deliver products in Chennai, Madurai, Coimbatore and Salem from January 22.

As per IKEA India, it has over 25,000 customers who are part of the IKEA family community in the state. It plans to provide end-to-end home solutions to Chennai customers within three to seven days timeline.

The company's long-term warranties ranging from 5 to 25 years and a 365-day return policy, delivering products through electric vehicles and promoting sustainability in the sector.

IKEA India will ship products to Tamil Nadu from its Bengaluru facility.

"Beginning 2026 with our online launch in Tamil Nadu is especially meaningful as we continue to strengthen and grow our presence in South India. We are excited as this allows us to meet customers where they are, support everyday life at home, and build long-term relationships in a market that has already shown strong love for IKEA.

Every market and every home teach us something new, and this launch is another important step in that journey. Learnings here will influence the future shopping formats and help identify the right locations. This launch is the beginning of our long-term omnichannel journey in Chennai and insights from e-commerce and planning services will shape our future stores and offerings here," said Patrik Antoni, CEO, IKEA India.

IKEA shopping centres

IKEA India is also building two large shopping centres in Noida and Gurugram, investing nearly $400-500 crore in each of these centres. IKEA has global business operation hub in the country to provides services financial services, HR sectors, among others.

IMF raises India's FY26 GDP growth forecast to 7.3%

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

THE IMF on Monday raised India's growth projection by 0.7 percentage point to 7.3%for fiscal 2025-26, from its October forecast, due to India's better-than-expected performance of the economy.

Additionally, India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth forecast has also been revised to 6.4% for fiscal year 2026-27, beginning April 1, 2026, from its earlier estimate of 6.2%.

"In India, growth is revised upward by 0.7 percentage point to 7.3% for 2025, reflecting the better-than expected outturn in the third quarter of the year and strong momentum in the fourth quarter. Growth is projected to moderate to 6.4% in 2026 and 2027 as cyclical and temporary factors wane," the IMF said in an update to its World Economic Outlook report released on Monday. India's growth projections are 6.3% for 2026 and 6.5% for 2027.

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank

Regional Office: Floor No. 19, No. 19, South End Road, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru 560004

DEMAND NOTICE [SECTION 13(2)]

Notice issued under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation & Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

We, **Canara Bank, Jayanagar Shopping Complex Branch** had issued Demand Notice to you under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Security Interest Act 2002 by Registered Post with Acknowledge Due (RPAD) to the addresses furnished to the Bank as mentioned below. Since the notice has not been acknowledgement returned due to non-availability of addressee at the said addresses due to evading of service of the notices sent by RPAD notice could not be served. The contents of the said notices are mentioned herein below.

Name and address of the Borrower and CO-BORROWER: 1) Mrs. Ashwathamma, W/o Late Pappana, No 346 (Old No. 180), K G Nagar, 8th Cross, Lakshmipura, KG Nagar, Bengaluru-560019. 2) Mr Ashwathy, S/o Late Pappanna, No.346 (Old No. 180), K G Nagar, 8th Cross, Lakshmipura, KG Nagar, Bangalore-560019 3) Mrs. Mangala Gowri, W/o Mr. Srinivas, No 346 (Old No. 180), K G Nagar, 8th Cross, Lakshmipura, KG Nagar, Bangalore-560019

[Details of the credit Facilities availed by the Borrower]

Loan No.	Nature Of Loan/Limit	Date Of Sanction	Liability With Interest As On 10.01.2026	Rate Of Interest
4400190000426	619- Housing Loan	02.11.2018	Rs. 8,30,494.13	11.10%
		TOTAL	Rs. 8,30,494.13	

Total Liability Amount: Rs.8,30,494.13/-(Rupees Eight lakh thirty thousand four hundred ninety four Rupees and Thirteen Paise only) together with further interest and incidental expenses.

NPA Date: 04.01.2026 **Demand Notice Date: 12.01.2026**

Name Of Title holder: Smt. Ashwathamma, Sri. Ashwathy and Smt. Mangala Gowri

Details Of the Immovable Property: SCHEDULE-B: All the piece and parcel of the property bearing New Municipal No. 346, Old No. 180/3, E.D. A. Site No. 180, PID No. 52-40-346, formed out of Sy. No. 101/2 of Sampura Extension, Situated at Nitha Rani Chennamma Road, within the Jurisdiction of B.B.M.P., Bangalore, measuring East to West 10.0 feets and North to South 6.10 mts and bounded by: **East:** Site No. 172, **West:** Road, **North:** Site No 170, **South:** Site No. 181.

You are hereby called upon to pay **Canara Bank**, within a period of 60 days from the date of publication of this notice, the respective amount mentioned here above, failing which, **Canara Bank** will take necessary action under the provisions of the said Act, against the secured assets including taking possession of the secured assets of the Borrowers and the Guarantors. The powers available to Canara Bank under the Act include (i) power to take possession of the secured assets of the Borrowers / Guarantors / Mortgagors including the rights in transfer by way of lease, assignment or sale for realising secured assets and any transfer of secured assets by Canara Bank shall vest in the transferee rights in or in relation to, the secured asset transferred as if the transfer has been made by you. In terms of the provisions of section 13(13) of the said Act, you are hereby prohibited from transferring, either by way of sale, lease or otherwise (other than in the ordinary course of your business), any of the secured assets as referred to in the Demand Notice and also Hypothecated /Mortgaged to the Bank without prior written consent of the Bank. The notice is issued in terms of Section 13(2) of the said Act.

Date: 12.01.2026
Place: Bengaluru

Sd/-
Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank

Regional Office: Floor No. 19, No. 19, South End Road, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru 560004

DEMAND NOTICE [SECTION 13(2)]

Notice issued under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation & Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

We, **Canara Bank, South End Circle branch** had issued Demand Notice to you under Section 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Security Interest Act 2002 by Registered Post with Acknowledge Due (RPAD) to the addresses furnished to the Bank as mentioned below. Since the notice has not been acknowledgement returned due to non-availability of addressee at the said addresses due to evading of service of the notices sent by RPAD notice could not be served. The contents of the said notices are mentioned herein below.

Name and address of the Borrower and CO-BORROWER: 1) Mr. Suresh Ambrose Y S/o Sri Yesurathnam, No. 00, Noorulla Building, Masjid Road, R S Palyam M S Nagar Post, Bangalore-560033. 2) Mrs Beulah Kavitha Ruby W/o Sri Suresh Ambrose Y, No 106, Noorulla Building, Masjid Road, R S Palyam, M S Nagar Post, Bangalore-560033.

[Details of the credit Facilities availed by the Borrower]

Loan No.	Nature Of Loan/Limit	Date Of Sanction	Liability With Interest As On 10.01.2026	Rate Of Interest
1736CS004060	605- Mortgage Loan	04.05.2016	Rs. 1,75,847.86	14.10%
		TOTAL	Rs. 1,75,847.86	

Total Liability Amount: Rs.1,75,847.86/-(Rupees One lakh Seventy Six thousand Eight Hundred Forty Seven Rupees and Paise Eighty Six only) together with further interest and incidental expenses.

NPA Date: 03.01.2026 **Demand Notice Date: 12.01.2026**

Name Of Title holder: Sri Suresh Ambrose Y and Smt Beulah Kavitha Ruby

Details Of the Immovable Property: SCHEDULE-B: All the piece and parcel of the property site no. 46, Khatha No. 45/9/258/46, New PID No. 006-190463-6, situated at 6th Cross Appayanna Layout, Thanisandra Village, K R Puram Hobli Bangalore measuring East to West 30 feet and North to South 32 Feet, in all the measuring 1216 Sq Feet and Bounded on the **East:** Site No. 51, **West:** Road, **North:** Site No 45, **South:** Site No 47

You are hereby called upon to pay **Canara Bank**, within a period of 60 days from the date of publication of this notice, the respective amount mentioned here above, failing which, **Canara Bank** will take necessary action under the provisions of the said Act, against the secured assets including taking possession of the secured assets of the Borrowers and the Guarantors. The powers available to Canara Bank under the Act include (i) power to take possession of the secured assets of the Borrowers / Guarantors / Mortgagors including the rights in transfer by way of lease, assignment or sale for realising secured assets and any transfer of secured assets by Canara Bank shall vest in the transferee rights in or in relation to, the secured asset transferred as if the transfer has been made by you. In terms of the provisions of section 13(13) of the said Act, you are hereby prohibited from transferring, either by way of sale, lease or otherwise (other than in the ordinary course of your business), any of the secured assets as referred to in the Demand Notice and also Hypothecated /Mortgaged to the Bank without prior written consent of the Bank. The notice is issued in terms of Section 13(2) of the said Act.

Date: 12.01.2026
Place: Bengaluru

Sd/-
Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that my clients Smt Divya Prabhu Kapri and Sri. Bhagwandas Sitaramdas Panjwani, intends to purchase the property described at the schedule hereunder from Mr. Sunil Sri. Thimmappa, S/o Sri Hagadappa, Aged about 48 years, Residing at No. 184-D, "Sai Mangalya Sahay", 8th Street, Srinivasapuram, Perambur, Chennai-600 075.

This notice is hereby given for the information of Genera Public that any person/persons or Bank or Financial institutions having any right, title, interest or claim over the schedule property or any objections to the proposed purchase, may contact below mentioned address with discovery proof in support of his/her/their claim, within 15 days from the day of publication of this Public Notice, after which period any claim shall be considered the issue that there are no claims of any nature whatsoever against the property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of vacant bearing site No. 08, having EBMP PID No. 54-246-108 and EPID No. 3011342874. Same is formed in Sy. Nos. 101, 96/2, 101/B, 102/1, 100/1A/3, 100/2 and 101/2, situated at Kothanur Village, Bangalore South Taluk, Now is S. Rama Rao Layout, Gerenahalli III stage, Bangalore, now comes under New Ward No. 134 (Old Ward No. 54), with 31st Division, Bangalore, measuring East to West 12 ft Mapping and North to South 18 ft Mapping, in all measuring 272.83 Sq Mts or 2480 square feet and bounded on

East by: Private property
Sites by: Site No. 17A
North by: Road
South by: Site No. 106-1

A.N. VIJAYA BHASKARA REDDY
& ASSOCIATES, ADVOCATES
No.5, 2nd Floor, 5th Main, 3rd Cross, OPP. Bharat Office, Kumaran Park East, Bangalore 560 021

CORREGENDUM

Please refer to the public notice dated 13.12.2025, published in Indian Express and Kannada Prabha that the client Mr. Nandish Reddy of the Sale Agreement is being a mere facility from M/s. Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited, Vision Point Branch, Bangalore by creating a charge on the security of deposit of title deeds as mentioned in the Schedule Property hereinunderwritten.

But, our client considered that the schedule Property is jointly owned by Dr. Mr. Abu Hanifa, S/o Late Abdul Subhan, Smt. Uma Bano, D/o Late Abdul Hosain, and Sy. Mrs. Rehana Begum, W/o Late Abdul Hosain, Aged 70 years, Mr. Mr. Mohammed Ali and Mr. Late Jamna Begum, Aged 70 years, Mr. Mr. Mohammed Ali and Mr. Late Zahir Ahmed Late Jamna Begum. However, the above said Mrs. Uma Bano, Smt. Mrs. Rehana Begum died earlier prior to the time of execution of Sale deed dated 28th June 2001 duly registered as Document No. 1015/2000-01 at SRO Bangalore which is not Correct.

Hence, from the above persons of Late Zahir Ahmed Late Jamna Begum, any other persons who claim that they Claim right, title and interest in the Schedule Property, should make their claim, and claim in the said property by production of evidence of credit facility in the address mentioned herein below within 07 days from the date of the notice. In the event no intimation is received by us within 07 days from the date of the notice, it shall be deemed that there are no other claimants of any kind, and our client will proceed with the proposed transaction.

Schedule Property

All that piece and parcel of Bathan portion of dwelling Bearing Site No. 47, measuring East to West 20 feet and North to South 24 feet, formed in Land bearing Survey No. 95, situated at P.V. Sri Agraharam, Tavarekere, Bangalore, comprising of dwelling consisting of

Facility : Road Width by : Property facing
Site Extent North by : Road South by : Property facing (47) Rajkumar.

MANJUNATH, Advocate,
No 3, 1st Floor Gowrav Building
Hosakerehalli Main Road, Bangalore-560 085
Mobile : 98661 04256

PUBLIC NOTICE

I hereby bring to the notice of general public that my client Mrs. Jasmine Maria D'Souza, residing at No. 81, Hosur Road, Madiwala Bangalore – 560 068, is the joint owner of immovable property described in the Schedule written hereunder. My client informed to me that she has lost the previous title deed of the Schedule Property that is original sale deed dated 04.09.1971 executed by Mr. Thimmaiah Reddy in favour of my client's mother Late Helen Martina Pereira, registered as document No. 2813/1970-71, pages 55-57, volume 124 of Book 1 in the office of the Sub-Registrar Bangalore, Jaya nagar and the same could not be traced or found. Under the circumstances, my client has obtained certified copy of the above sale deed. The General Public are cautioned to take note of the above. Anyone holding the above original sale deed and claiming any interest over the Schedule Property based on the above said original sale deed, shall inform in writing within 15 days from the date of this notice to the undersigned and thereafter no claims shall be entitled.

SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Municipal No. 56, old Municipal No. 82/56, (Old No. 82) situated at 1st Main Road, Madiwala Extension, Bangalore – 560 068, measuring East by 31 feet, West by 30 feet, North by 33 ft 8 and South by 34 feet and bounded on the East by Ramesh's property, on the West by 20 ft Road, on the North by Thimmaiah Reddy's property and on the South by Babu Rao's property.

(BAPTIST D'SOUZA)ADVOCATE
No 1506, 1st Floor, 3rd Cross
Victoria Layout, Bangalore – 560047
Mobile No. 8842004374

Place: Bengaluru
Date: 17.01.2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

On January 12, 2026 at about 10.30 AM, my client Sri B. Ramesh Reddy, son of Sri B.S. Nanjunda Reddy, applicant of mine, came to my chamber in 2nd Floor, No 9, 1st Main Road, MG Lines, Chickpet, Bangalore 560 002 bearing the original copy of the deed described in the schedule hereinunderwritten, the Schedule deed Registration Deed and other documents:

(1) the original agreement for sale dated September 18, 2013 and registered as No. Bangalore-1-00910-2013-20, Book 1 and stamped CD No. BMSD 1013 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore North;

(2) the original deed of agreement dated September 18, 2013, registered as No. BANG-1-00910-2013-20, Book 1 and stamped in CD No. BMSD 1013 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore North (Electronic City), Bangalore;

(3) the original Gift deed dated April 05, 2013 and registered as No. BNG-1-00910-2013-20, Book 1 and stamped CD No. BMSD 1013 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore North, Bangalore.

all pertaining to the Schedule land, which have been lost to be in the Bangalore City Civil Court Complex, Dr. BR Ambedkar Veedhi, Bangalore, in connection with a criminal case of the Schedule Land. He has made a complaint at the RT Nagar Police Station. He enquired.

My client requests the finder of the said documents may kindly hand over the same to the nearest police station or return to my office. My client would be very grateful to the finder. It may be noted that mere possession of the said documents will not confer any right or interest on any person.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of undivided land bearing Sr 22 Thanisandra village, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, the conversion land has been converted to be used for non-agricultural purpose under section 95 of the Karnataka Land Revenue Act, 1964, vide order of conversion in Conversion No. SLN (DRR/NA/SR/CH)-17 dated August 01, 2016 from the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore, and bounded as follows:

On the East by: Land bearing Sy No. 21, **West by:** the remaining portion of the land bearing Sy No. 22, **North by:** the land bearing Sy No. 21, and **South by:** the land bearing Sy No. 23.

CO Gopinagar, Bangalore
No 141, 3rd Main, Tulsiech, RMV 2nd Stage, Dollars Colony, Bangalore-560 094
Bangalore, Date: 19.01.2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

I hereby bring to the notice of general public that my client Mr. Vishnu Murthy Balusu, residing at No. 51, Skylark Estate, Ashwaq Colony, Main Road, Hoskerehalli, Bangalore 560 043 is the owner of Property described in the Schedule written hereunder.

My client informed to me that he has lost the previous title deed pertaining to the Schedule Property that is original deed of sale dated 20.11.2008 executed by Mr. P. Venkatesan in favour of Mr. V. Jayaramaiah, registered as document No. BNS-1-03295-2008-09 of Book-I, stored in C.D. No. BNSD 913 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Banaswadi, Bangalore and the same is could not be traced or found.

Under the circumstances, my client has obtained certified copy of the above original sale deed. The General Public are required to take note of the above. Anyone holding the above document and claiming any interest over the Schedule Property based on the above said original sale deed shall inform in writing within 15 days from the date of this notice to the undersigned and thereafter no claims shall be entitled.

SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY

A167 Square Feet of undivided share in land bearing Site No's 13, 14, 23 and 24, situated at Ashwaq Colony, Horamavu Village, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore, measuring 4000 square feet AND Apartment bearing Flat No. E-4, E.P. D No. 2354/5471, measuring 896 square feet in the Fifth floor of the building known as "CLASSIC ASHIRWAD" constructed on above land.

(BAPTIST D'SOUZA)ADVOCATE
No 1506, 1st Floor, 3rd Cross
Victoria Layout, Bangalore – 560047
Mobile No. 8842004374

Place: Bengaluru
Date: 17.01.2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

The undersigned bring to the notice of the general public regarding missing of original documents i.e., original Memorandum relating to deposit of title Deeds dated 20/08/2010 executed by M/s. Sarvo Automotives Pvt. Ltd. rep. by its Directors Mr. S. Singh, Mr. Rajkumar Singhvi Mr. Sanjay Singh, in favor of State Bank of India, rep. by its Chief Manager (SME Jayanagar Branch) registered as Document No. (MV-1-00101-2016-17), of Book-I, stored in CD No. MVD102 in the Office of the Sub-Registrar Jayanagar, Bangalore, in respect of the below mentioned Schedule Property. A complaint regarding the loss of the above mentioned Document has been lodged with Bangalore City Police Unit, Jayanagar, vide Report No. 200/2026 dated 14/01/2026. The other documents lost is the Original Deed of Extension of Discharge dated 02/12/2013, executed by State Bank of India, rep. by its Chief Manager (SME Jayanagar Branch) in favor of M/s. Sarvo Automotives Pvt. Ltd. rep. by its Directors Mr. Sanjay Singh, registered as Document No. (MV-1-00111-2012-13), of Book-I, stored in CD No. MVD102 in the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Jayanagar, Bangalore, in respect of the below mentioned Schedule Property (Scanned copies of the above said loan completely if completed signed by the Bank of the above mentioned documents has been lodged with Bangalore City Police Unit, under the Case Report No. 200/01/2026 dated 13/01/2026.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL of the Residential Property bearing No. 13, New PID No. 174-00184-34, Site measuring East to West 12.19 feet and North to South 11.06 + 9.14 ft, more fully measuring 116.96 Sq. ft along with undivided proportionate share of the land, First floor with Garage Mezzanine floor, measuring 280 Sq. ft, situated at Kaydi formed by Bangalore Development Authority in Kaydi Scheme, Phase-III, Sector-1, Bangalore-560 032 and bounded as follows:

East by: House No. 12/1,
West by: Road,
North by: Site bearing No. 12/2,
South by: Road.

Notice is hereby given to all general public that I have verified the above mentioned documents and found the same to be genuine. If anyone has any claim against the above said documents, they should inform to Inspector, JP Nagar Police Station, Bangalore.

M/s. Sanjay Automotives Pvt. Ltd.,
Rep. by its Directors Raj Kumar Singh & Sanjay Singh #974, 7th Cross, 17th Main, 1st Block, 2nd Stage, BTM Layout, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560076

BANGALORE DATED: 19.01.2026

GOVT. TOOL ROOM & TRAINING CENTRE

GTTC

Rajajinagar Industrial Estate, Bangalore-560010.
Ph: 080-23157189, Fax: 080-23301683

ELECTRONIC TENDER NOTIFICATION [E-NIT-46/2026]

Tender No. GTTC/TENDER/BD-264/TSD/2025-26.

GTTC invites E-Tender for **Development of Learning Material and resource Deployment** to GTTC centres located in Karnataka. The last date for uploading the offer is on **02.02.2026**. For further details log on to website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** Helpdesk Phone No. +91 80 46010000, +91 80 68948777

Sd/- Tender Inviting Authority

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that we, Mr. Mahaveer Bafna intends to create Mortgage in respect of all the piece and parcel of property bearing No. 2 (Old No. 19/1A/1), Ward No. 8, Khata No. 1, Hoskerehalli Village, Bangalore, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore, measuring East to West 12 Feet, measuring 850 Square Feet along with approach road measuring East to West from the house in Sri Krishnaprabha Road, measuring North to South 8 Feet and Exact West 12 Feet, measuring East to West 10 Feet and North to South 8 Feet, in all measuring 432 Square Feet, 0.01 Acres, Bounded by: East by: Sri Krishnaprabha Hospital Road, Vijaya Bank Layout, Bangalore.

The said property was originally Dry Land, Kharab Land, Government Land, Kharab Land, Gomala Land, Kharab Land, Gomala Land, Kharab Land, Gomala

Gukesh plays out draw with Arjun

D Gukesh played a solid draw over Arjun Erigaisi in the third round of the Tata Steel Masters on Monday. Erigaisi, who has a good record against the Indian world champion, tried to push with the white pieces but he received next to no openings and they signed after 33 moves. In one of the day's big upsets, Matthias Bluebaum beat compatriot Vincent Keymer.

GEARING UP FOR THE BIG SHOW

The beginning of the T20 bilateral series between West Indies and Afghanistan signals the start of a furious two-week period where most of the World Cup-bound teams are in action as they finish their preparation. A look at all the series between now and the start of the bash...

WEST INDIES VS AFGHANISTAN

The Asians are locked in, they sense this is another opportunity to flex their muscles in a format tailor made in conditions they have a lot of experience in. Rashid Khan is back from SA20 duties to captain the side. West Indies have recalled Shimron Hetmyer for this series but they are still finalising their squad for the trip to India. Keep an eye out for Quentin Sampson, a batter who strikes at over 150. Shai Hope is missing but he will be back for the World Cup.

WHEN: January 19 - Jan 22
MATCHES: 3
WHERE: Dubai

INDIA VS NEW ZEALAND

After the appetiser for the hosts, here comes the main course within the context of the challenge next month. India will welcome back Jasprit Bumrah among a host of match-winners but they are also depleted thanks to a few injuries. Suryakumar Yadav's form will be one of the main subplots. The Black Caps also welcome back a raft of players, including a bowling line-up that could surprise a few people at the World Cup.

WHEN: Jan 21-Jan 31
MATCHES: 5
WHERE: India

SOUTH AFRICA VS WEST INDIES

South Africa's only home bilateral series of the summer is a bizarre one as they would want to much play in Asia where conditions are somewhat similar. But having just played in India and having just finished the SA20, this gives them a final chance to streamline their XI. For West Indies, who play the most of number of games between now and the start, this is another chance to lock in role clarity, something that has been lacking in their last few campaigns.

WHEN: Jan 27-Jan 31
MATCHES: 3
WHERE: South Africa

PAKISTAN VS AUSTRALIA

Pakistan's batting still remains a work in progress and this series will be about addressing those short-coming, especially in the six-hitting department. For Australia, who will be without a few of the pacers including Pat Cummins for at least the start of the World Cup, it's all about adjusting to the shortest format after five Tests. A lot will rest on the likes of Cooper Connolly and Adam Zampa in the spin bowling department.

WHEN: Jan 29-February 1
MATCHES: 3
WHERE: Lahore

IRELAND VS ITALY

Debutants Italy, who have dropped a couple of their big performers from the World Cup, will be hopeful of some much-needed game-time against a side that's played in a handful of ICC tournaments. For Ireland, who have received assurances from the ICC that they will remain in Group B, this is a final chance to fine tune their game. With games against Oman and Zimbabwe awaiting them, they could well be an upset away from qualifying for the next stages of the event.

WHEN: Jan 23-26
MATCHES: 3
WHERE: Dubai

SRI LANKA VS ENGLAND

After a chastening Ashes experience where the team's culture was called into question on more than one occasion, the England players have a point to prove. Under the beleaguered Harry Brook, the scanner will be on them. After a few fallow years, Sri Lanka have assembled a batting unit capable of putting up some scary scores apart from possessing a complete spin-bowling unit. Do not sleep on this team.

WHEN: Jan 30- February 3
MATCHES: 3
WHERE: Pallekele

All eyes shift to shortest format before WC begins

Back-up options and potential injury replacements will be the focus

GOMESH S @ Chennai

THE wounds of India's first-ever ODI series loss at home to New Zealand may still be raw but less than 24 hours later, head coach Gautam Gambhir was in Nagpur with the T20I team for a matchday minus two training session. The T20I stars had already assembled in the Orange city for the five-match series against the same opponents while some of the players and the support staff joined them on Monday.

There is no time to reflect or introspect with respect to the ODI series. Indian cricket have to move on to bigger things, at least for the time being. These five T20Is against New Zealand, beginning on Wednesday, are all they have to find some form, figure out combinations and gain some momentum before the World Cup begins on February 7. While there are a number of things to worry about for captain Suryakumar Yadav, the top of the list would be the fitness of Tilak Varma and Washington Sundar. Varma, who experienced abdominal pain during Vijay Hazare Trophy and underwent surgery, is still recovering and has been ruled out of the first three T20Is. Though he is still named in the last two matches and the T20 World Cup, the selectors went on to add Shreyas Iyer to the T20I series squad in the middle of the ODIs as a precautionary measure. Varma has been the pillar of India's T20I batting in 2025 with Surya struggling for form. So much so that out-of-form Surya moved to No 4, pushing Varma to No 3.

India head coach Gautam Gambhir with captain Suryakumar Yadav in Nagpur | PTI

The left-hander's injury and the void it has left meant the selectors and team management have taken the cautious approach by bringing in Shreyas. The Mumbaikar is still not a part of the WC squad but he will want to leave a mark just in case Verma's doesnt recover in time.

Similarly, Washington, another player heavily backed by this team management, suffered A Discomfort in his lower rib area while bowling during the first ODI against New Zealand. He has been out of action since and already ruled out of the T20Is against Kiwis. With his recovery taking longer than expected, Ravi Bishnoi was also added to the squad. Though Bishnoi is a wrist spinner and not an offie like Washington, the spinner from Rajasthan relies more on his googlies than other variations. He too will be keen to make an impact should he get a chance, especially with Kuldeep Yadav going through a downturn. In T20Is, however, Varun Chakravarthy is India's leading spinner and Axar Patel is a starter. So it will become a toss up between Bishnoi and Kuldeep and India may test the former early on in the series. Then there is Rinku Singh who needs some game time.

The tricky thing is that India will want to get back to winning ways as soon as possible. At the same time, there are a few players, and roles, they have to figure out as back-up options before the marquee event begins. To put it precisely, Gambhir and Surya will have to hit the ground running.

Delhi take early control in PWL

ENS/AGENCIES

IN another gripping round of wrestling at the Pro Wrestling League, Delhi Dangal Warriors produced a strong opening-half performance to move into a commanding position with 4-1 lead against UP Dominators at Noida on Monday. With both teams coming into the contest with one win each, the match held significance, as the winner would move to four points in the standings.

Delhi set the tone early in 86kg men's bout as Vafaeipour Hadi Bakhtiar used effective par terre wrestling to defeat Mykhailov Vasyl 7–4. Bakhtiar built a crucial first-period cushion through a takedown and exposure points before holding off a late comeback attempt from Vasyl in the second period. **Team Score after five bouts:** UP Dominators 1 – 4 Delhi Dangal Warriors

Gautami and Sayali shine bright as Bengaluru secure WPL play-off spot

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

RIDING on Gautami Naik 'ss half-century and some clinical bowling performance, Royal Challengers Bengaluru became the first team to secure a play-off spot after beating Gujarat Giants by 61 runs in Vadodara on Monday.

Set a target of 179, GG did not get off to a good start. Sayali Satghare struck early removing both Sophie Devine and Beth Mooney. Kanika Ahuja too fell early as GG were reduced to 5/3. Anushka Sharma tried to play a rescue act and failedand so did Kashvee Gautam and Georgia Wareham.

Ashleigh Gardner (54) put up a lone fight as she tried to take the chase as deep as possible. However, the targer was too steep for the Australian who fell to Satghare in the 17th over. That was the final nail in the coffin for the Giants.

RCB's Gautami Naik celebrates her fifty agaisnt GG on Monday | BCCI

Earlier, table-toppers RCB too lost two early wicekts in Grace Harris and Georgia Voll. Skipper Smriti Mandhana (26 off 23 balls) and Naik then joined hands to revive their innings. They added 60 runs for the third wicket before Mandhana fell to her nemesis Gardner. Naik (73 off 55 balls, 7x4s, 1x6), however, kept the innings going with Richa Ghosh (27 off 20 balls). They added 69 runs for the fourth wicket before Radha Yadav (17 off 8 balls) gave them the final push, taking the total to 178/6.

This win helped RCB become the first team to qualify for the play-offs.

Brief scores: Royal Challengers Bengaluru: 178/6 in 20 ovs (Gautami Naik 73; Kashvee Gautam 2/38) **bt** Gujarat Giants 117/8 in 20 ovs (Ashleigh Gardner 54; Sayali Satghare 3/18).

EXPRESS READ

Pramod, Sukant win two gold each in Egypt

NEW DELHI: India's Pramod Bhagat and Sukant Kadam clinched a gold medal each in the singles events of their respective categories and then combined together to stand on top of podium in doubles at the SPIRO SPATHIS Egypt Para Badminton International 2026 in Cairo. During the SL3 men's singles final, Bhagat beat Umesh Vikram Kumar in a thrilling (19-21, 21-15, 21-13) contest.

Manini, Aishwary top 50m rifle prone trials

NEW DELHI: World Championship silver medallist Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar and Manini Kaushik finished on top of the men's and women's 50m rifle 3P fields respectively on the first day of the Rifle/Pistol National Selection Trials 1&2 (Group A) on Monday. Manini topped the women's 50m rifle prone T1 with a total of 625.0.

SA20: Sunrisers secure Qualifier 1 berth, MICT out

GQEBERHA: Sunrisers Eastern Cape delivered a commanding performance that not only secured the two-time champions' place at the top of the SA20 table but also dashed MI Cape Town's playoffs aspirations, edging them out by seven wickets in a thrilling contest.

Centurion Djokovic, Swiatek & Gauff advance

AGENCIES @ Melbourne

NOVAK Djokovic began his latest bid for a record 25th Grand Slam crown with an emphatic straight-sets victory Monday as fellow Australian Open title contenders Iga Swiatek and Coco Gauff also won but with less sparkle. Three-time finalist Daniil Medvedev stayed alive, as did 40-year-old Stan Wawrinka, who rolled back the clock to reach the second round in his tournament farewell.

Serbian great Djokovic, 38, tamed Spain's 71st-ranked Pedro Martinez 6-3, 6-2, 6-2 on Rod Laver Arena, a court where he has won a record 10 Australian Open crowns.

The world number four owns 24 major titles, equal for the most ever with Australia's Margaret Court, but a 25th has remained agonisingly out of reach. His last came at the 2023 US Open with Jannik Sinner and Carlos Alcaraz sharing all eight since then.

"What can I say? I like the sound of it. Centurion is pretty nice," he said after his 100th victory at the Australian Open.

Novak Djokovic celebrates after winning in Melbourne on Monday | AFP

The 2014 champion Wawrinka lived to fight another day with a gutsy four-set victory. The three-time major winner is playing his last season before retiring and gave his all to down Serbia's Laslo Djere 5-7, 6-3, 6-4, 7-6 (7/4) in front of a crowd willing him to victory.

"The passion is still intact. But I'm not young any more, so I need to be careful also," said the Swiss warhorse. Medvedev warmed up for Melbourne with victory in Brisbane and ground to a 7-5, 6-2, 7-6 (7/2) opening round win over Dutchman Jesper de Jong.

Tuesday's matches (select): L Musetti vs R Collignon, D Sweeny vs G Monfils, H Gaston vs J Sinner

CL returns with blockbuster ties

The return of the group stages of the Champions League promises thrills and spills as teams try to secure automatic qualification to the last 16. A look at a few matches to sate the appetite...

INTER VS ARSENAL

The Italians need a positive result at home to solidify their last 16 berth but they face a side who have conceded just once in six matches and none away from home. These two sides met last year as well (it finished 1-0 to the Italians). Both sides top their respective domestic leagues and this has the makings of an intriguing tussle but this may not be a goal fest.

5 Both teams have combined to concede only five goals in Europe in six matches

REAL VS MONACO

Real Madrid had begun the season with three straight wins but are now walking the tightrope with two losses in the last three match days. Internal disputes has also led to the sacking of coach Xabi Alonso with the crowd booing the players. Monaco have had mixed fortunes but they will know this is an opportunity for them to do something special.

TUESDAY'S MATCHES

Kairat vs **Club Brugge** (9.00 PM), **Bodo/Glimt** vs **Man City** (11.15 PM), **Villarreal** vs **Ajax**, **Tottenham** vs **Dortmund**, **Olympiacos** vs **Leverkusen**, **Sporting** vs **PSG**, **Inter** vs **Arsenal**, **Real** vs **Monaco**, **Copenhagen** vs **Napoli** (all matches at 1.30 AM on Wednesday).

Min asks SAI to take corrective measures

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

A DAY when this newspaper highlighted how Sports Authority on India, the agency that should be maintaining the IG Stadium, too should be responsible for the mess in during the India Open badminton competition, the sports minister called for a meeting of Sports Authority of India officials on Monday.

It is understood that sports ministry Mansukh Mandaviya had taken cognisance of the matter and has asked SAI, that is responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the stadium, to come with a detail plan to plug such issues in the future. These measures are all the more important because India will be hosting the Commonwealth Games in 2030 and is bidding for the Olympics in 2036. The India Open was marred by controversy when players complained of unhygienic conditions inside the IG Stadium main hall. Play was stopped multiple times because of bird-droppings. The ministry has directed the administrators to fix the problems in the stadiums and come up with some reasonable Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to stop such incidents in the future.

AFCON

Senegal win chaotic, controversy-filled final versus Morocco

AGENCIES @ Rabat

SENEGAL won the Africa Cup of Nations as Pape Gueye's extra-time winner sunk hosts Morocco 1-0 after a chaotic final that saw the eventual champions storm off the pitch late in the game.

Brahim Diaz could have won the trophy for Morocco with a controversial spot-kick in the 24th minute of added time at the end of normal time as ugly scenes broke out in the stands.

But Senegal goalkeeper Edouard Mendy easily saved the weak attempted 'Panenka' chip by the Real Madrid winger, who was clearly distracted by the long delay that followed the penalty award. The game at the Prince Moulay Abdellah Stadium then went to extra time, and Gueye's brilliant 94th-minute strike handed them the title. "We had a feeling of injustice. Just before the penalty we thought we should have had a goal and the referee didn't go to VAR," said match-winner Gueye, who added that Sadio Mane had urged the team to come back onto the pitch for the penalty. "Sadio told us to come back on and we remobilised. Edouard then made the save, we stayed focused, got the goal and won the game."

The controversial penalty was awarded by Congolese referee Jean-Jacques Ndala right at the end of the allotted eight added minutes in normal time following a VAR check for a challenge on Diaz by El Hadji Malick Diouf.

Senegal and Morocco players clash during the final on Sunday | AFP

The Moroccan team vehemently protested to the referee, but the decision to eventually give the spot-kick was met with fury by Senegal and their fans. As most of their players walked off the pitch, some Senegal supporters at the opposite end of the stadium threw chairs and other objects and attempted to get onto the field. They were eventually contained, and their anger turned to delight when the penalty was saved. The Senegal team had initially been riled by the referee's decision to disallow for a foul a goal scored by Ismaila Sarr in the second added minute. Diaz's penalty miss clearly galvanised Senegal, however, and they scored in the fourth minute of extra time to stun the crowd of 66,526.

Infantino criticizes "unacceptable" conduct

FIFA chief Gianni Infantino criticised the move by Senegal coach Pape Thiaw to call his players off the field. "The ugly scenes witnessed (Sunday) must be condemned and never repeated," the FIFA leader said on social media. "I expect that the relevant disciplinary bodies at CAF (the Confederation of African Football) will take the appropriate measures," he further wrote.

Over 8.8 million Indians, aged 60 and above, are living with dementia, with Alzheimer's accounting for the majority of cases, according to experts. This number is projected to nearly double over the next decade, highlighting the growing need for early and accurate diagnostic tools that support timely intervention and care planning

TYPES OF WARTS

COMMON WARTS
Hands and fingers, usually painless

PLANTAR WARTS
Seen on the foot sole, often painful and can cause discomfort while walking

FLAT WARTS
Flat-topped, appear as clusters of small, smooth, bumps. Usually seen on the face and legs. Commonly seen in kids and teenagers

GENITAL WARTS
Soft bumps in genital and anal areas

GENITAL WARTS

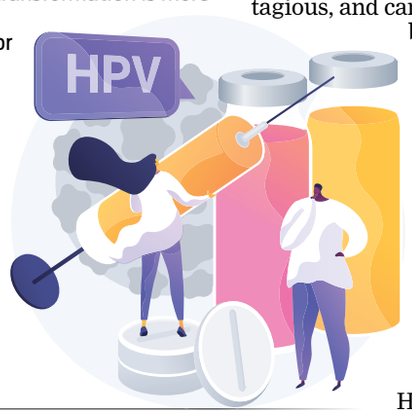
- Genital warts are a sexually transmitted infection caused mainly by HPV types 6 and 11
- Genital warts appear as soft growths in the genital or anal areas and are often painless leading to delay in seeking medical attention and treatment

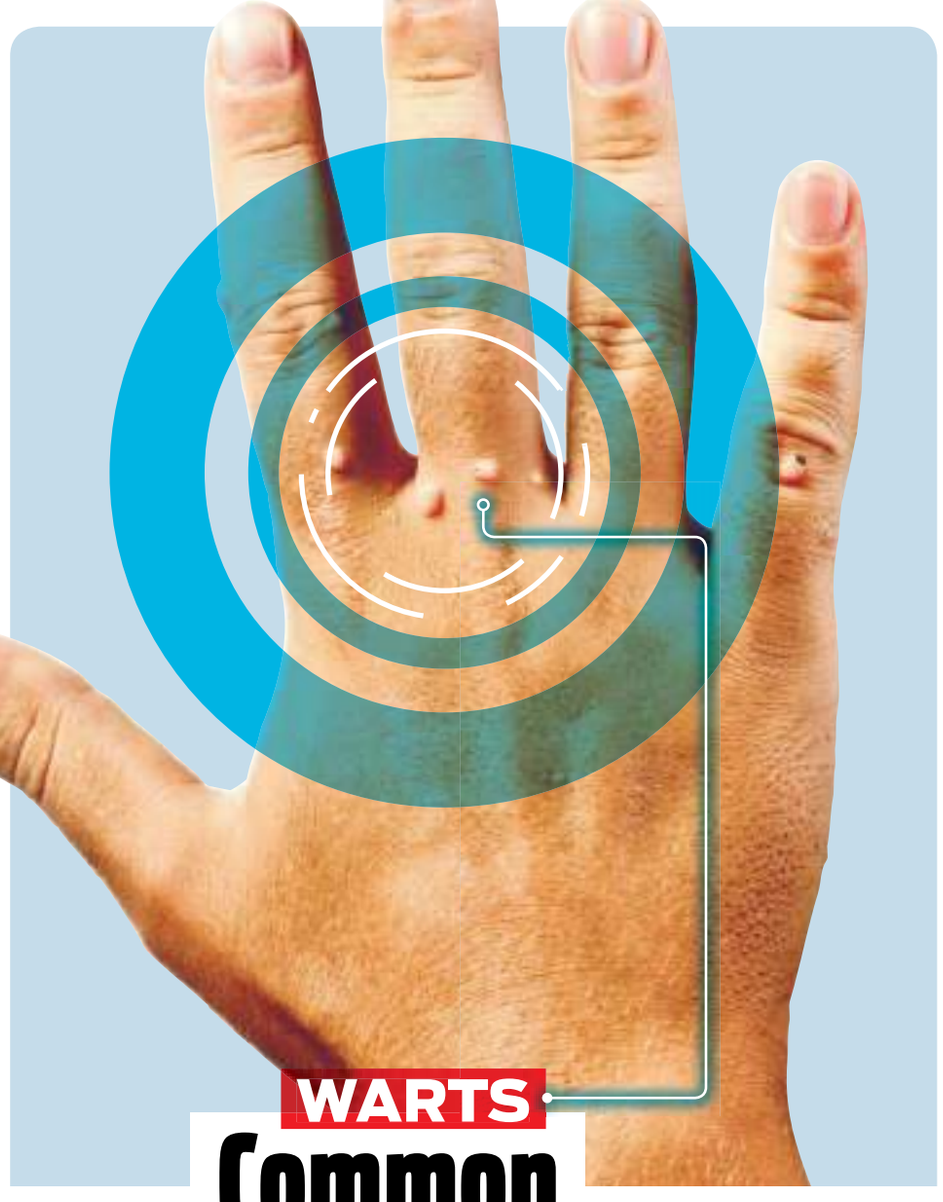
Medical evaluation is essential for genital warts. Patients are advised to undergo screening for other sexually transmitted diseases, as there are high chances of other related infections. Women with genital HPV infection are advised to have regular cervical screening, as certain HPV strains are associated with cervical cancer

Dr Faizal M M, consultant dermatologist

POTENTIAL TO CAUSE CANCER

- According to a study published in August 2023, a small number of HPV subtypes have the potential to cause cancer
- These include HPV strains 6, 11, 16, 18, 31, and 35. Malignant transformation is more likely in individuals with genital warts or those with weakened immune systems
- Certain other HPV strains, such as 5, 8, 20, and 47, have shown cancer-causing potential in people with a rare genetic condition called epidermodysplasia verruciformis





WARTS

Common skin problem that is mostly ignored

ANNA JOSE @ Kochi

WARTS are one of the most common skin problems seen across all age groups, especially in children and young adults. They are usually harmless, painless, and non-cancerous skin growths, which is why many people choose to ignore them. However, medical experts warn warts are caused by a viral infection, they are contagious, and can spread to other parts of the body or to other people if left untreated.

Warts are caused by the human papillomavirus (HPV), a common infection spread through skin-to-skin contact. While most HPV strains cause benign skin growths, some types are associated with genital infections and, in rare cases, cancer. Early identification and treatment can help prevent its spread and complications.

HPV penetrates the skin through tiny cuts or abrasions. Once inside, it infects the top layer of the skin and causes excessive cell growth, leading to the formation of a wart. "Different HPV types cause different kinds of warts. Common skin warts are usually caused by HPV types 1, 2, 3, 4, 27, and 57. Plantar warts, which appear on the soles of the feet, are most often linked to HPV types 1 and 2," said Dr Vinitha Varghese Panicker, professor and HOD of dermatology at Amrita Hospital, Kochi.

Medical experts point out that many people ignore the early signs of warts, mistaking them for calluses or minor skin changes. "Warts in early stages often appear as small, rough bumps that interrupt normal skin lines. Tiny black dots may be seen on the surface, which are actually clotted blood vessels. However, warts are contagious and spread mainly through direct skin-to-skin contact. The virus can also spread through indirect contact with contaminated objects such as towels, razors, soaps, footwear, and surfaces in communal showers or swimming pools," said Dr Anuradha Kakkanatt, senior consultant in dermatology and venereology at Aster Medcity, Kochi.

The infection can also spread from one part of the body to another in a person. "Touching or scratching a wart and then touching another area of skin can transfer the virus. Shaving over a wart or picking at it can also cause the virus to spread to nearby skin. Warts are commonly seen on the scalp and beard in men, often due to the use of shared or unclean razors in salons and barber shops. Moisture, skin maceration, and minor injuries increase the risk of infection," said Dr Vinitha.

Dr Anuradha added that people often tend to neglect the condition or depend on home remedies. "Warts are a social menace. It should be treated, and the spread should be prevented. Otherwise it will multiply and occur in others too," she emphasised.

Doctors added that many warts remain benign and may disappear on their own within months or a few years. However, untreated warts can also grow, multiply, and become painful. "In some cases, warts can cause physical issues like pain, difficulty in walking and using hands, infections from scratching, and psychological impact – distress due to visible warts. In immunocompromised individuals and in cases involving certain high-risk HPV types, there is a small but important risk of extensive disease and malignant transformation, particularly in the anogenital region," added Dr Vinitha.

The treatment depends on the type, location, the number of warts and the patient's immune status. For non-genital skin warts, first-line treatment usually includes topical salicylic acid preparations. Salicylic acid, available in concentrations ranging from 17% to 40%, helps peel away infected skin gradually. "When used regularly with proper soaking it has shown good cure rates, and is widely available over the counter. Treatment may take several weeks," Dr Vinitha said.

"Cryotherapy with liquid nitrogen is another commonly used option. This clinic-based procedure involves freezing the wart and is usually repeated every two to three weeks. Cure rates for common warts range from 50% to 70% after multiple sessions," said Dr Faizal M M, consultant dermatologist in Kochi.

Dr Anuradha stressed that warts should not be ignored simply because they are painless. "Avoiding direct contact with warts, not sharing personal items, maintaining good hygiene, and seeking early treatment can help prevent its spread."

MYTH BUSTERS

MYTH: Warts have roots
FACT: Wart is a viral infection caused by human papillomavirus. It does not have roots

MYTH: It isn't contagious
FACT: Warts are contagious and it can spread from one person to another and also to other parts of the body in the same person

MYTH: Warts will go away on their own
FACT: Not always. Most of the time, warts require treatment. Some need treatment if the skin growth is spreading, or for cosmetic reasons

MYTH: Home remedies are always effective
FACT: Home remedies need not be always effective as these methods lack strong scientific proof, and effectiveness varies. Consulting a doctor is the best option

TREATMENT OPTIONS

THE TREATMENT DEPENDS ON THE TYPE, LOCATION, THE NUMBER OF WARTS AND THE PATIENT'S IMMUNE STATUS

SALICYLIC ACID
For non-genital skin warts, the first-line of treatment usually includes topical salicylic acid preparations. Salicylic acid helps peel away the infected skin gradually

CRYOTHERAPY WITH LIQUID NITROGEN
Involves freezing the wart and is usually repeated every two to three weeks

INTRALESIONAL IMMUNOTHERAPY
Injecting antigens and vaccines

LASER THERAPY
Precise and less painful procedure which uses light to destroy wart tissue and its blood supply

ELECTROSURGERY
Uses high-frequency electrical currents to burn and destroy wart tissues

Don't fall for 'immunity booster' products, focus on lifestyle changes to stay healthy

UNNIKRISHNAN S @ T'Puram

XPLAINER

PHARMACY shelves and online marketplaces these days are crowded with products that promise to "boost" your immunity. From powders and capsules to herbal mixes, these socalled immunity boosters claim to strengthen the body's defence against illness. The idea is appealing, but the science behind it is far less convincing.

The immune system is a complex network that must remain in balance. Overstimulating it can lead to unintended consequences such as chronic inflammation or even autoimmune diseases, where the body begins attacking its own tissues. As Dr Padmanabha Shenoy, rheumatologist and medical director at CARE, Kochi, points out, "99% of the claims that an 'immunity booster' available in the market makes are hollow. There is no panacea for boosting immunity."

One of the few nutrients studied for its role in immune support is vitamin D. Some research suggests it can help regulate immune responses. But the problem lies in how people consume it. Many selfprescribe vitamin D supplements and purchase them over the counter without medical guidance. "The problem is that when you have an overdose of Vitamin D, it gets deposited in the body. At the maximum, a dose in a month will not cause much harm. Frequent or highdose intake, however, can lead to toxicity," Dr Shenoy warns.

Instead of chasing quick fixes, experts recommend focusing on lifestyle choices that support optimal immune function. A balanced diet rich in fruits, vegetables, and whole grains, regular physical activity, adequate sleep, stress management, and avoiding harmful habits like smoking are proven ways to keep immunity resilient. These measures don't "boost" immunity in the exaggerated sense, but help maintain its natural balance.

People should keep in mind that the immune system cannot be manipulated overnight with a pill or tonic. "Immunity is complex, and overstimulation can be harmful. What we need is to support its optimal function, not try to boost it indiscriminately," Dr Shenoy emphasises.

In short, immunity boosters are more about marketing than medicine.

Respecting the complexity of the immune system and nurturing it through evidencebased practices is the safest path forward.

STRENGTHEN YOUR IMMUNITY

LIFESTYLE HABITS

Sleep: Aim for 7-9 hours to let your immune system rest and repair

Stress management: Chronic stress weakens immunity; try meditation, yoga, or hobbies to cope up

Exercise: Moderate daily activity improves circulation and immune cell function

Hydration: Drink plenty of water to help flush out toxins

Hygiene: Wash hands frequently to prevent germ entry

DIET & NUTRITION

Whole foods: Eat plenty of fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and lean proteins

Limit processed foods: Reduce sugar and unhealthy fats

Support gut health: Include probiotics like curd

STUB IT OUT: Stop smoking as it significantly harms your immune system

NEWS CAPSULE

First heart bypass surgery done without opening chest

FOR the first time ever in a human, doctors have performed coronary artery bypass grafting without having to cut through the patient's chest, similar to how many aortic valve replacement procedures are now done. The CABG procedure re-routes blood around a blockage in an artery carrying blood to the heart. In this case, the surgical tools were inserted and threaded through a blood vessel in the patient's leg, according to a report published in Circulation: Cardiovascular Interventions.

The results suggest that, in the future, a less traumatic alternative to open-heart surgery could become widely available for those at risk of coronary artery obstruction, researchers said. "Achieving this required some out-of-the-box thinking but I believe we developed a highly practical solution," said team leader Dr Christopher Bruce of the US National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute and Emory School of Medicine.

The procedure is called ventriculo-coronary transcatheter outward navigation and re-entry, or VECTOR. The patient in this first case was not a candidate for traditional open-chest CABG because of heart failure and old, poorly functioning artificial heart valves.

Six months after the procedure, the patient showed no signs of coronary artery obstruction, meaning the VECTOR approach was a success. Further testing in more patients is necessary before VECTOR is used more widely, but its successful debut is a major step in that direction. "It was incredibly gratifying to see this project worked through, from concept to animal work to clinical translation," Bruce said. *Agencies*

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TUESDAY

DAY'S DIARY

The TRP game

Debuting on this day in 2006, *High School Musical* marked Disney Channel's highest-rated telecast with 7.7 million viewers in the US

SUCCESS AND AFTERMATH

The teen musical rom-com spawned two sequels, including a theatrical release for the third film, which brought in over $250 million worldwide at the box office

BEYOND CHARACTERS

It became a financial juggernaut for the channel with demands for DVDs, dolls, T-shirts, posters, sleeping bags, lunch boxes with Troy and Gabriella's faces on it

DID YOU KNOW?

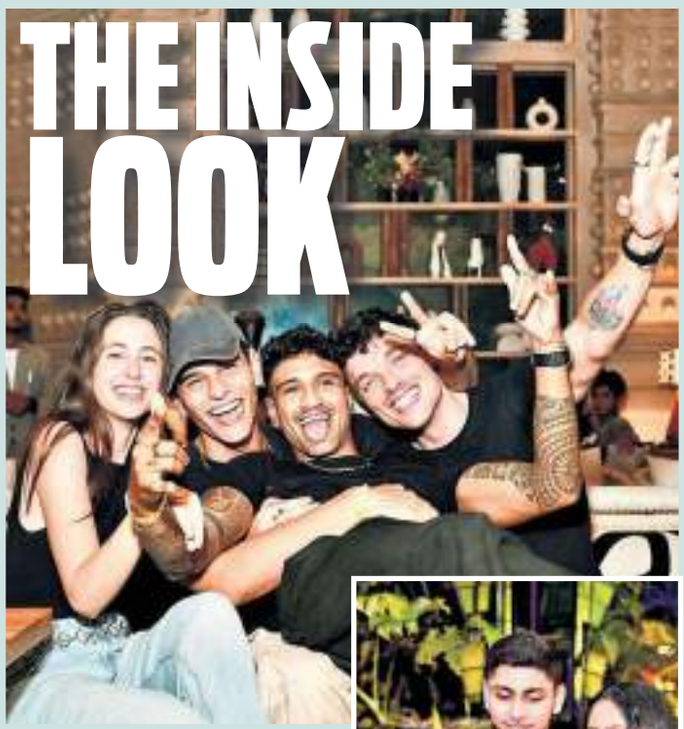
High School Musical was filmed at an actual high school in Utah, while classes were in session and it reached over 100 million global viewers in 2006

Events in and around ooru

PG 2

Bengaluru's young, affluent insiders are trading crowded nights and open invites for small, curated, invite-only social events

THE INSIDE LOOK



AKHILA PUTTAPAGA

ON a Friday night in the city, getting past the door is often harder than deciding where to go. But increasingly, the question isn't which club has space. It's whether you're meant to be there. Across the city, a growing number of young and affluent Bengalureans are moving away from open nightlife and towards smaller, invite-only spaces. From private techno nights and curated house parties to closed-run clubs and access-based dining experiences, socialising is becoming less about volume and more about control of the crowd, the pace and the people.

The appeal lies in spaces that feel deliberate. "We noticed some of our regulars didn't want big shows anymore. They didn't want exposure, crowds or weekend chaos," says Sreerag Herre, founder of Darkroom. The Darkroom Exclusives concept grew out of repeated requests from regular attendees who wanted something intimate rather than large-format gigs. Each exclusive edition hosts around 100 people, selected from a long-standing database of attendees built over years of shows. "In a smaller room, people come to socialise. They want to see who the other 99 people are," he says, adding, "People dress up, take their time, and feel like they belong there."

One platform quietly connecting many of these spaces is 8 Club. Founded by IIT Roorkee graduate Kunal Yadav, it began as a series of house parties before evolving into an invite-only social platform. "We realised that an invitation is a superior feeling. So we built a platform where you don't browse. You get invited," Yadav says. Access is filtered through applications, host invites and behavioural patterns. "We look at social, monetary and professional influence. Exclusivity is relative. Everyone has their own exclusive circle (on the platform). We just categorise it," he explains.

For members like Shreya, the appeal is ease rather than status. "It feels more intentional and less chaotic," she says, adding that she would likely stop using it if it were open to everyone. "A big part of why it works is that it's smaller and controlled. Otherwise, it would feel like any other party."

Not just Nightlife

Among these models is Putting Scene, a WhatsApp-born community that offers a paid access card to members, offering priority bookings, secret menus and off-beat experiences across the city, ranging from behind-the-scenes museum visits to experimental dining.

Founder Mannan Amroliwala says early data shaped the platform. "The events that sold out were priced at ₹4,000 to ₹5,000 a ticket. That's when we realised we had a very affluent customer base."

Unlike ticketing platforms, Putting Scene doesn't charge organisers to list events. "The moment someone can pay to be listed, you stop being a curator. Not charging gives us editorial control," he says.

The access card focuses on three areas: priority access to high-demand events, experiences that don't otherwise exist, and dining. "People complain about eating out, but they love it. So we created Secret Menus – guaranteed reservations with a different menu and service layer, so it doesn't feel like a regular night," he adds. Often, what's on offer are chefs' unique creations and experiments that people get to try before they are put on the menu.

For members, the draw remains easy. "People come for birthdays or anniversaries because we take the planning off their plate. We focus on quality and exclusivity becomes a by-product," says Amroliwala.

This preference for smaller, intentional spaces extends beyond dinner and clubbing too. Communities like 56 Run Club operate on the same principle: Fewer people, stronger connections. What began as a group of 25 friends has now grown to around 400 members, with a waitlist nearing 10,000. Founder Arvind Srikanth says the draw isn't fitness alone. "Members value the experience more than the running. They want spaces where they actually feel included. In other run clubs, you could be among a hundred people and still feel lonely," he shares. Membership isn't based on pace or performance, but consistency and cultural fit, often through referrals. "Anyone can run. What keeps people coming back is how they feel when they're there," he adds.

For Natasha Sinha, who joined after returning from New York, that sense of belonging stood out. "Running brought me in, but the warmth of the community made it feel like home. The invite-only nature feels thoughtful," Sinha opines.

In the city for a recent concert, rock band Motherjane's frontman Suraj Mani speaks to *CE* on the group's journey & new album

A NOT-SO-PLAIN JANE CONCERT

ANJALI RAM

ROCK music isn't alien to Bengaluru. In fact, the camaraderie between the genre and the city's vibe has a story of its own – built across many college gigs, underground venues and audiences that grew alongside the sound. Hence for rock band Motherjane, returning to the city felt like homecoming.

Hailing from Kerala, Motherjane's journey has been one of steady evolution, ever since 1996, amidst many sudden breaks, frontman Suraj Mani recalls. "We were a college cover band that turned original in 2000. The shift towards original music quickly shaped the band's identity. In 2002, we released our first album Insane Biography." Mani adds that Rex Vijayan (music composer) later left to join Avial, while Deepu Sashidharan joined the band in 2005, leading to their second album, Maktub, released in 2008.

On returning to Bengaluru, Mani comments on the city's enduring appeal towards rock music.

"One of the best things about Bengaluru has always been the people. It has one of the most cosmopolitan cultures in India, attracting the best audiences – working professionals, artistes, expats.

At the BLR Hubba, the band revisited older material while also introducing their new album. They played classics from albums – Insane Biography and Maktub and presented some new exciting music from their upcoming album Dobareh.

According to him, Dobareh, meaning second chances, underpins the band's current phase. "One of the underexplored concepts in life is our fundamental purpose – to know the self. Most of us play roles that leave us dissatisfied. We yearn for second chances," he adds.

Throughout their journey, the band's mixed genre with progressive rock sound – infused with Indian classical elements has never been a calculated fusion. "As any artiste or band allows themselves to be what they really are at heart, their sound and message start to sound truly genuine and honest," Mani shares.

Despite changing line-ups over the years, the core of Motherjane's music remains, which he describes as a 'surprising mix of elements that are both meditative and mosh. It could be that emotional and philosophical charge that attracts Janiacs to it.'

With decades of music behind them, one rule continues to guide the band. "The song is the hero, and all of us collaborate to serve that unstated rule," Mani concludes.

As any artiste or band allows themselves to be what they really are at heart, their sound and message start to sound truly genuine and honest

Suraj Mani, musician

A glimpse from the recently held concert of Motherjane at BLR Hubba

CITY READ

Sixth edition of health run held in city

Over 2,000 participants joined the 6th edition of the Happiest Minds Run in the city on Sunday for a morning centred on fitness, purpose and collective action. Held at St Joseph Indian High School, near UB City, the event also supported children with Type 1 Diabetes through Idhayangal Charitable Trust. CEO Joseph Anantharaju underscored the power of collective action, with the run set to continue across multiple Indian cities, including Noida, Hyderabad, Bhubaneshwar and Madurai, extending its focus on social impact nationwide.

Special thali to bring Indian flavours on plate

As the countdown to the 77th Republic Day begins, Khandani Rajdhani pays heartfelt tribute to India's tricolour from January 22 to 26. Dubbed Desh Ki Thali, the event reimagines the thali into a colourful expression of unity, culture and pride with a thoughtfully curated Tiranga menu, featuring tri-coloured delights, including dhokla, fruit lassi, pulao, khandavi and more. The Republic Day immersive celebration will be available across all outlets of Khandani in the city.

Bangalore - Cinema - City, an upcoming film festival by Bangalore Film Forum, to be held from January 22 to 25, highlights films across decades in which the city is a character in itself

City Life

MAHIMA NAGARAJU

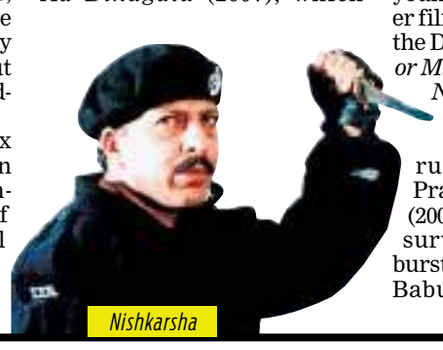
WHEN one thinks of films with stories deeply rooted in the city they are set in, perhaps what immediately comes to mind is the quintessential Mumbai story full of dreams of stardom and a better life, a Kolkata film steeped in its history and arts, or maybe a Delhi movie where old and new, power and those without it, meet and clash. But what makes a 'Bengaluru Film', and where are the movies in which the city is not just a setting but a character in itself?

"We've seen what a Bombay film is, what a Kolkata film is, or even what a Kochi film is. We don't associate Bengaluru that way, maybe because there haven't been that many films that mainstream put Bengaluru into a character which have gone mainstream. I don't know if Bangalore resists being a character, rather it is our perception," says Vinayak Bhat, founder of Bangalore Film Forum, which is set to host Bangalore - Cinema - City, from January 22 to 25, a festival seeking to highlight the films that put the spotlight on Bengaluru's identity as a city.

A still from *Mayor Muthanna*

It started when co-curator Ashish Rajadhyaksha came across an article about 'lost urban films' by film scholar Madhava Prasad. "In the early '70s Kannada cinema, when people started making independent films, a lot of them were set outside the city. But in the late '70s, you start seeing films that were set in Bengaluru. We initially wanted to show those films, but as we explored them, we decided to open it up," he says.

The festival showcases a mix of mainstream and less-known films from the late '60s onwards, painting a picture of Bengaluru through its social movements, stories of crime and gangsters, the IT wave and more. "Those late '70s films give us one kind of story, but as you start exploring, you start finding more perspectives about the city. For example, *Accident* (1984, starring Shankar Nag) looks at politics and corruption, *Nishkarsha* (1993), which is a cop thriller, and then *Aa Dinagalu* (2007), which looks at the underworld of Bengaluru in the '80s. These were the things we heard from our parents when growing up. But seeing that on screen makes the stories come alive. *Pallavi* (1976), too, gives you a different kind of look at this Bengaluru – set in a college,and about young people," says Bhat. Other films being screened include the Dr Rajkumar's classic *Mayor Muthanna* (1969) and *Kabani Nadi Chuvannappol* (1976) by PA Backer and ones that capture a Bengaluru's more recent past like Prakash Belawadi's *Stumble* (2003) about a family trying to survive the dotcom bubble burst and *Gaali Beeja* (2015) by Babu Eshwar Prasad which uses the conventions of a road movie to reflect on Bengaluru's growing sprawl.

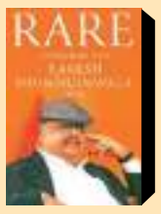


Nishkarsha

A series of short films by Neelavarana, a Bengaluru-based Ambedkarite production house and artist collective that nurtures artistes from marginalised communities, will be screened too. These include *Kuuk Aah?* (2024) by MK Abhilash, *Babasaheb In Bengaluru* (2025) by Mahishaa, *Area Boys* (2022) by Mahishaa and *Case & Bobbin* (2025) by Bharath Raj.

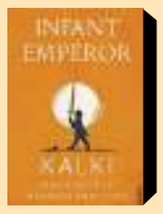
If there's one thing Bhat hopes audiences take away, it is this: "We just want people to know that in cinema, Bangalore has an identity too, but that identity is not a fixed one."

BOOK NOOK



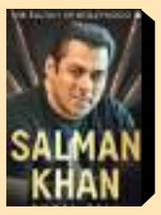
RARE: Investing the Rakesh Jhunjhunwala Way
by Nandini Vijayaraghavan

Tracing the philosophy, instincts, and thinking behind one of India's most iconic investors, with insight on conviction, patience and risk, through real decisions and market moments.



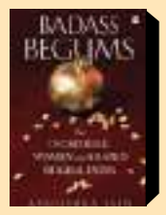
Infant Emperor: Kalki
translated by Nandini Krishnan

Through myth and imagination, this novel reworks the idea of the messiah as a child burdened with destiny. The story explores power, prophecy, and the weight of becoming what history demands.



Salman Khan: The Sultan of Bollywood
by Mohar Basu

Tracing Salman Khan's career across decades, this book looks at image, endurance, and the cultural pull of a figure who has shaped popular cinema and fandom in India.



Badass Begums: The Incredible Women Who Shaped Mughal India
by Anoushka Jain

Through history and anecdote, this book re-centres the Mughal court around the women who influenced power, politics, and succession. It brings archival detail and examines the authority, ambition and legacy.

AN EYE FOR HUMOUR

Visitors examine drawings of the Mahatma on display at the ongoing International Exhibition of Gandhi Caricatures at the Indian Institute of World Culture, Basavanagudi | **NAGARAJA GADEKAL**

NOWSTREAMING

REGIONAL

BANK OF BHAGYALAKSHMI (Kannada)

Five inexperienced friends attempt a heist during election season. Their amateur planning leads to unexpected challenges as they risk everything for one final score.

Cast: Uday Achar, Brinda Acharya, Usha Bhandary

Watch on: Amazon Prime Video

TASKAREE: THE SMUGGLER'S WEB (Hindi, series)

A dedicated customs officer and his team take on a notorious smuggler leading a powerful syndicate, but unexpected obstacles threaten their mission.

Cast: Emraan Hashmi, Sharad Kelkar, Zoya Afroz

Watch on: Netflix

FOREIGN

PONIES (English, series)

Two secretaries at the American embassy in 1970s' Moscow become CIA operatives after their husbands are killed, uncovering a Cold War conspiracy behind the tragedy.

Cast: Haley Lu Richardson, Emilia Clarke, Andrew Richardson

Watch on: JioHotstar

SUBSCRIPTION

Netflix :	₹ 199/month
Prime Video:	₹ 299/month
Jio Cinema:	₹ 999/year
Disney+ Hotstar:	₹ 899/year
Zee5 :	₹ 699/year
Viki Rakuten:	₹ 299/month
Aha:	₹ 699/year
SonyLIV:	₹ 299/month

FITBIT

HOW TO FIX MUSCLE IMBALANCE

Muscle imbalance occurs when one side of the body or one muscle group is noticeably stronger, tighter, or more developed than its counterpart. This can limit range of motion, reduce performance, and increase injury risk if left unaddressed. These stability differences can affect posture, movement patterns, and joint health. Common causes include repetitive daily activities, dominant side overuse, poor training habits, posture issues, or injury compensation patterns.

THREE CORE STEPS TO CORRECT IMBALANCE

- **Rebalance your workout movements:** Include exercises that oppose common patterns, like reaching or protraction moves to balance pressing and pulling exercises (e.g., push-ups, landmine presses).
- **Use single-limb training:** Training limbs individually forces each side to work, preventing the stronger side from compensating.
- Start with the weaker side first and let it guide weight selection. Examples include single-leg squats, Bulgarian split squats, single-arm rows, and single-leg deadlifts.
- **Prioritise mobility and warm-up:** Restriction in range of motion can promote compensation and imbalance. Include mobility drills in your warm-up targeting commonly tight areas like hips, thoracic spine, and shoulders; this improves movement quality and reduces imbalance risk.

ADDITIONAL TIPS

- **Strengthen weak muscles:** Target underdeveloped muscles with isolated or higher-volume unilateral exercises to help them catch up.
- **Stretch and release overactive muscles:** Tight muscles may pull joints out of alignment. Use stretching and foam rolling to relax and lengthen these tissues, improving balance and movement quality.
- **Improve posture and daily movement patterns:** Poor posture and habitual positions (like sitting or slouching) can reinforce imbalances. Postural awareness and ergonomic changes help prevent imbalance recurrence.

Fixing muscle imbalances isn't about striving for perfect symmetry; it's about identifying meaningful strength deficits, improving movement quality, and training each side deliberately.

By Abhishek K, fitness expert, cult— a fitness and wellness platform

QUICKFIX

DAHI SANDWICH

INGREDIENTS

- **Bread slices:** 4
- **Dahi:** 100 g
- **Butter:** 1 tbsp

METHOD

- Whisk curd in a bowl and keep it aside. Butter the bread slices and toast them on a tawa.
- Place the buttered side down on the plate and top it with the dahi mix. On it, place another toasted bread slice and press gently.
- Your crunchy and sweet sandwich is ready.

Contributed by **Joy Mukherjee,** Hyderabad

WHATWHENWHYWHERE

Yakitori & More

This season, enjoy guilt-free Japanese treats, from lightly grilled vegetable skewers to juicy yakitori cooked over charcoal. And if you share your New Year's resolution, you get a free skewer and a fun spin at a Japanese gachapon machine. Take along your friends to enjoy food with a bit of fun.

WHEN: January 20, 12pm onwards

WHERE: Kuuraku, Whitefield Main Rd

CALL: 93117 34476

Ghazal Evening

Settle into an intimate evening of unplugged music and soulful conversations. Enjoy ghazals and Hindi melodies by vocalist **Nimisha Salim**. The evening promises a relaxed atmosphere to unwind and connect.

WHEN: January 20, 7pm

WHERE: Zubaan – Middle Eastern Kitchen, Koramangala

DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Warli Wonder

Discover the beauty of Warli art through simple forms and timeless designs. Learn traditional techniques in a relaxed, beginner-friendly setting. Create a meaningful artwork to take home and be proud of.

WHEN: January 20, 5pm | **WHERE:** Hobby Ghar, Chamarajpet | **CALL:** 95355 55644

Power Play

Catch *Seize Her! The Clown*, a theatre performance by Alienstar Collective that tells the story of a young clown named Marco who is tasked with staging Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*, but her satirical performance soon becomes a mirror to real-world politics.

WHEN: January 20, 7.30pm, **WHERE:** Sabha, Kamaraj Road

DETAILS: www.sabhablr.in

Let it Snow!

Create your own pocket-sized winter wonderland in this fun, hands-on workshop. Build it, shake it and watch the snow swirl as your mini snow globe comes to life. All materials are provided so relax and enjoy the magic from start to finish.

WHEN: January 20, 12pm onwards

WHERE: Know How, Jayanagar

DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Thrill Zone

Enjoy high-speed action and immersive games, from go-karts and laser tag to rock climbing and trampolines. Step into VR, a 7D theatre, stimulators, or gather to play football, cricket, and more with friends. Activities are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

WHEN: January 20, 10am

WHERE: Play Arena, Sarjapur

DETAILS: district.in

EXPRESS CONNECT

HAVE A RECIPE OR ART WORK TO SHARE, OR A QUESTION TO ASK?

@XpressBengaluru/@tniefeatures

bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com

@xpress_bengaluru

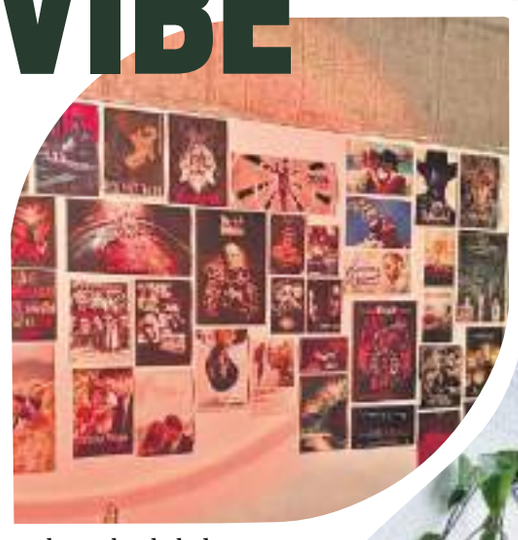
ARTCORNER

STILLS OF MY LIFE

Artist Dipali Bhattacharya's mixed media artwork is rooted in the life around people, the environment, and being in Kolkata

With students returning to college after winter break, here are some ways to breathe life into dorm rooms for a fresh start to 2026

NEW YEAR, NEW VIBE



MAHIMA NAGARAJU

THE holiday season is behind us and students across the country are reluctantly leaving the comfort of home to head back to college for a new semester. In the midst of settling back into daily routines, taking a moment to spruce up one's dorm, PG, or hostel may just help bring along a hint of that comfort and a fresh start to the new year. From ways to bring personality to the drab walls, to being whimsical with light and making your dorm the place everyone wants to hang out – students and interior designers share their go-to tips to elevate student accommodations.

Big plans for small spaces

A major hurdle of living in the student accommodations is a small space, likely shared with others. Despite having two roommates, Kiya KB, an interior design intern, managed to carve out a space that was distinctly hers, with careful colour choices. "Three people in a room is quite crowded so I preferred to go with a light colour palette to reduce the clutter," she says, adding, "Using light colour bedsheets, pillows with some art behind the bed made my space look more spacious. As a focal point, I have a soft, maroon coloured foot rug. I also added some plushies for a cute touch."

Along with a light, monochromatic colour choices, to make the best of a small space, Akshita Mehra, the creative director and founder of Studio Goya, suggests making careful furniture choices, "Multi-functional furniture that can double up as something else can be a good way to keep clutter away and keep the room breezy and open. Some things you can try doing are placing drawers under the bed, and moving any racks or bookshelves to one corner so they are less heavy on the eye," she says, adding that a large free-standing mirror can also create the illusion of more space.

Wall of memories

With any major alterations or even drilling or hammering walls for photo frames being prohibited in many accommodations, students are coming up with alternative ways to display photographs, posters, and other personal memorabilia. Varshith Vattikuti, a student and film enthusiast, has a wall of carefully-curated film posters in his solo room. He has planned it out to avoid a haphazard look. "When I was sharing, we had a very unorganised room with posters on all the walls, which grew as the year went on. When I got my own room, I planned the layout and sizes of posters ahead on Figma so I could replicate it exactly on my wall, leaving space for more pictures that would get added as the year went on," he explains.

Madhu Sarangi, Foyer2Attic Design Studio's co-founder agrees, suggesting picking a single accent wall for photos, or displaying them on a cork board or pinboard. She adds, "With restrictions, tack-it packets are a good way to put up light posters, while stick-on hooks are good for a few photo frames."

Let there be light

Keeping and using the harsh fluorescent lights that come with rooms is an unpopular choice among students, who are opting for a variety of affordable and quirky alternatives apart from the standard fairy lights that populate Pinterest moodboards. Vattikuti went for a classic focus light for warmth, but his astronaut light and sunset lamp are what brought the moody ambience to match his music, turning his room into the group hangout spot. "The aim was to give the room a softer, gentler look, and also have lights that add a vibe when people are socialising. The astronaut blasts out stars and patterns that move around and the sunset lamp has a slight curvature, which creates that circular light that's in many aesthetic Instagram posts. It also helped to hide the unpainted ceiling." For Kiya, an easy way to add light was through candles and bedside lamp. 'Kawaii' or cute lamps are a popular choice too. Vattikuti adds that affordable projectors are also popular and used to project pictures and films on room walls.

Green touch

While fake vines are as cliché a choice as fairy lights, some students with a green thumb are opting for real plants too, Vattikuti observes, "The guy who lives in the room next to me has a good 30 plants, and that's the decor. There are flowers but you can also play around with the pots, each has a different design." Sarangi shares a word of caution, saying, "Choosing the right plant is key – snake plants or zz plants, which require very minimal maintenance and can grow in a small pot, would be a good option."

THE GREEN MANUAL

A PROFESSIONAL'S PICKS FOR MODERN

INDIAN INTERIORS

Ekta Chaudhary
An author, and founder of Garden Up, a company dedicated to greenifying spaces

INDOOR plants have become more than decorative accessories – they're essential parts of interior design. Architects and landscape professionals today curate plant palettes just like they do materials and colours. The goal is clear: bring nature inside in a way that feels intentional, sculptural, and long-lasting. While home gardeners often pick popular choices like pothos or areca palms, professionals prefer plants that offer distinct forms, stable indoor performance and year-round aesthetics.

Here are some of the unique indoor plants widely used by designers across India for homes, hotel lobbies, offices, and modern apartments.

Philodendron Selloum

With its deeply cut, lush green leaves, Selloum instantly adds a bold, sculptural presence. It thrives in bright indoor light and handles the fluctuating humidity of Indian apartments well. Designers love it because a single plant can anchor a corner or elevate a minimalist living room.

Parlour Palm

One of the oldest cultivated indoor palms, the Parlour Palm remains a favourite for its soft, feathery foliage and its ability to survive in low-light conditions. It's elegant, compact, and non-demanding: suitable for reception desks, study rooms or narrow apartments.

Snake Plant

A modern classic, the Snake Plant's strong vertical lines allow architects to introduce clean geometry into indoor spaces. Extremely low maintenance, it tolerates both low light and irregular watering. Designers use it in corridors, bedrooms and minimalist offices.

Poinsettia (Seasonal Accent)

Although not a year-round indoor plant, Poinsettia is widely used as a seasonal highlight, especially from November to January. Its vibrant red, pink or white bracts brighten lobbies, dining areas, and storefront displays. Professionals treat it as a temporary colour accent, replacing it once the season ends.

Raphis Palm

A premium favourite, the Raphis Palm brings a refined, structured look to indoor spaces. Its clustered stems and fan-like leaves make it ideal for hotel lobbies, upscale residences and corporate offices. It performs well in bright, indirect light and adds a sense of luxury.

Chinese Evergreen

Loved for its ability to thrive in low to moderate light, the Chinese Evergreen comes in shades of silver, green, red, and pink. Designers favour it because it adds gentle colour without relying on flowers. It's ideal for hallways, bedrooms or office corners.

China Doll Plant

With its delicate, glossy foliage, the China Doll brings an airy softness to interiors. It prefers bright indirect light and regular watering. Professionals use it to enhance seating areas and living rooms, where its bushy form pairs beautifully with modern planters.

Dracaena Dara

Dracaena Dara stands out for its tall, upright leaves with elegant variegation. It is adaptable to indoor spaces and tolerates low-maintenance routines. Designers place it in corners, beside sofas or along long corridors to introduce height and structure.

Why these plants?

All these species share the same strengths: consistent indoor performance, distinctive visual identity, and compatibility with modern decor. Together, they create interiors that feel fresh, contemporary, and naturally elegant – bringing the designer's touch into everyday spaces.

CHANGE OF NAME
SMART ADS
WE BUY Old Watches Rolex, Omega, Hublot, Patek Philippe, AP, Breguet, VC, Jaeger, IWC, Cartier. Vipul: 9619303232
HOUSE FOR SALE
KORAMANGALA
8th Block Plot with Old House for Sale
3000 sqft.
35k per sqft
WhatsApp message only 9663766492. No Calls. Brokers Excuse.
PREDICTION & SOLUTION
For all your problems business, love, health, family dispute, marriage enemy, children's, husband & wife relationship, property & all your personal problems
BABA SHRI DEVRAJ
98450 05009
Metro Pillar No. 355. Attiguppe, Bangalore
WANTED MANAGER
CAREER Offer, Retired Govt/ Bank, NRI's/, Teachers & Housewives Good Earnings
Venue
Hotel "Sri Udupi Food Hub" East End Main Road 4th T Block Jayanagar-41 20th Jan Tue 10.30 AM:
9916104392
Commercial Space Available for Rent/ Sale/Lease
Ground Floor: 10,000 sqft
First Floor: 10,000 sqft
Second Floor: 18,000 sqft
This property is ideally suited for: Banks | Showrooms | Offices | Retail Establishments
Located at: # 272, Profound Township, Symphony Apartment, Jigani-Anekal Main Road, Near APC Circle, Bangalore – 560105.
For more details contact: 9739795308 9346154999
Luxury Villas also Available

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICE

CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Mrs. RAJNI DHILLON W/o. Sunil Dhillon, Aged about 37 Years, residing at No. 7282, Tower 7, 8th Floor, Prestige Royal Garden, Doddathoguru Main Road, Avalahalli, Yelahanka, Bangaluru - 560064, have changed my name from RAJNI MAHLAWAT to RAJNI DHILLON, vide affidavit dated 16/1/2026 sworn to before D Sarala Kumari Advocate and Notary Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Nidhi Jain, W/o Vivek Jain and D/o Rajesh Mehta, aged about 28 years, R/at #12, Aasha, 2nd Cross Malleshwaram, Bengaluru-560003 I have changed my name from "Nidhi Mehta" to "Nidhi Jain" after my Marriage, vide affidavit dated 17/01/2026 sworn before Advocate and Notary K P Ramesh, at Bangaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, FASEEHA TAJ (Old Name), DOB: 20/08/1974 W/o AYUB KHAN, Residing at No. 9th Cross VV Nagar Opp Church Maddur Mandya - 571429, have changed my name to FASHIYA TAJ, (New Name) vide affidavit dated: 19/1/2026 Before Notary R.Basavaraja Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I SATISH S/o Ramachandra Rao Kulkarni, Resident of No.6511, Anjaneya nagar, Sector No 8, Belagavi, Karnataka State. Hereby solemnly declare that I have changed my name from SATTSH to SATISH and now is spelled as Satish, vide affidavit dated 07 01 2026 sworn to before Notary, H Sridhar Rao, Bangaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, CHETANA B BIDARAHALLI, W/o Sandesh K P, age 35 years, R/o Hal NO. G-201, G R Laverne, Kalkere JP Nagar 7th Phase, near MS Ramaiya City, Bangalore-560 076 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from CHETANA BIDARAHALLI to CHETANA B BIDARAHALLI, henceforth I shall be known and called as CHETANA B BIDARAHALLI for all purposes, vide affidavit dated: 17th Jan. 2026, sworn before Advocate and Notary T.C. TIRUMARAJA at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, (OLD NAME) AMANULLA, age 56 years, S/o of Noor Khan, Residing at No 21 Baba lane Opposite Veterinary Hospital Mysore Road Bangalore-560002. Requesting to Change my name to (NEW NAME) AMANULLA KHAN as per my Aadhar Card. Vide Affidavit dated 19.01.2026 Sworn Before Advocate and Notary MAMATHA.N. K at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Afreena D/o No. 1425 1569P Ex-Wait Name. Fakira Sab, residing at Ring Road, K S Fuel Bunk, Meralooru, Pragathi Badavane, Tumkur Post, Tahsil and Dist-Tumkur, Karnataka have changed my name from AFREENA to AFREEN F BENNALL, vide Affidavit dated 19/01/2/26 before S.L Balaguru, Advocate & Notary, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, (OLD NAME) YOGARAJU H R, residing at No. 94, Halebeedu (V & P), Malakote (H), Pandavapura (Tq), District: Mandya, State: Karnataka, -571454, have changed my name from (OLD NAME) YOGARAJU H R to (NEW NAME) YOGARAJU H RANGGOWDA vide affidavit dated 19.01.2026 sworn before Notary C Santhosh, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Sri PARAMESHA H P, aged about 47 years, and SMT. SUMITHRA H S, aged about 42 years, W/o. Paramesha K P residing at No-60, 5th Cross, TNCS Layout, Near Indiragandhi Circle, JP Nagar 1 Phase, Bangalore-560078
We have changed my daughter's name from "Sharanya" to "Sharanya Parametha" vide affidavit dated 17/01/2026 sworn before Advocate and Notary Sumithra M, at Bangaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, PREMA KUMARI DEVARAJ (Old Name) W/o DEVARAJ ARANI RAJAVELU and Holder Passport No: 7590R305 Residing at No. 43, 5th Cross, Cambridge Layout, Ulsoor, Bengaluru - 560008 have changed my name to PREMA DEVARAJ (New Name) vide affidavit dated: 19/1/2026 Before Notary Mahabba bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, THASEENA BEGUM, Residing at No.30, 8 Street, Slaughter House Road, Shivajinagar, Bengaluru-560051, have changed my name to TASEENA BEGUM Vide Affidavit Dated 29.10.2025 before notary CHANDRAKALA, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, MASREEN TAJ alias SANIYA, D/o Syed Yasin Ahmed, W/o Mohammed Ameen, age 41 years, R/at # 425, Bada Colony, Sengeri Upanagara, Bengaluru-560 060 do hereby declare that both the names i.e. MASREEN TAJ and SANIYA are one and the same and refers to me only, henceforth shall be known and called as SANIYA for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 19th January 2026, sworn before Advocate and Notary MANJUNATHA MURTY at Chamarajpet.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Smt. Nasreen Taj W/o Mohammed Ameen, age 41 years, R/at # 425, Bada Colony, Sengeri Upanagara, Bengaluru-560 060 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from NASREEN TAJ to SANIYA, henceforth I shall be known and called as SANIYA for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 19.01.2026 sworn before Advocate and Notary MANJUNATHA MURTY at Chamarajpet.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Army No. 3050267F Ex-Hav/Clk Basappa PA residing at # 25, Bhagavathi Nilaya, 4th Main, Sowrabha Layout, Bharat Nagar, MS Palya, Vidyaranyapura Post, Bangalore-560097, have changed my daughter's name from RUHA GANGAMMA PB to RIYA GANGAMMA PB, vide Affidavit dated 12/01/2026 before XXIX Add. Chief Judicial Magistrate, Bengaluru City.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, PAVITHRA G., D/o Sri Gurupraseda, aged about 18 years, residing at No 93, Parishkarna Nilaya, Sowrabha Orchids, Gandappa Circle, Thigalarapalya, Ambedkar Main Road, Bengaluru 560059, hereby declare that I have changed my name from PAVITHRA G to PUNARVI SHRI, vide affidavit dated 19.01.2026 sworn to before Notary Smt. Sakina Begum, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Dilip Kumar, S/o. Manoharlal, aged about 44 years, Residing at No. 14, 3rd Cross, 3rd Main Road, Ganganagar, Bengaluru North, Bengaluru-560032 have changed my Son's name from Harshil Jain Dilip Kumar to Harshil Jain, vide affidavit dated. 17.01.2026 Sworn before Notary S. Nagaraja, Bengaluru

CHANGE OF NAME
I, BHARGAV B G, aged 35 years, S/o Gururaja L, residing at No.150, F1, Brundavan Apartment 1st Floor, New BEL Road RMV Extn 2nd Stage, Bengaluru-560094, have changed my name from BHARGAVA BENGALURU GURURAJA to BHARGAV B G vide affidavit dated 22-01-2026 sworn before Notary DEEPA M BENGALURU.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Mr. ANKITA MURESH, D/o Mr Amalendu Narayan Munshi, Residing at Prestige Kingfisher Villa 124 Channasandra Main Rd Hoodi Whitefield, Bangaluru, Karnataka-560 066 Hereby declare that I have changed my name from ANKITA MURESH MUNSHI to ANKITA MUNSHI Vide Affidavit dated 19.01.2026. Sworn before Advocate and Notary A.M. Rajasekar, Bangaluru

CHANGE OF NAME
I, SHIVASUBRAMANYA MALLIKARJUNA SETTY S/o S Mallikarjuna Setty, Residing at No 08, 1st Floor Sai Sai Giri Enclave, Agrahara Village Hesaraghatta Hobli Yelahanka Hereby solemnly declare that as per my Aadhar card Pan card and my school records my correct name is SHIVASUBRAMANYA MALLIKARJUNA SETTY or in my passport my name is written Shivasubramanya Setty. Request the concerned authorities to do the necessary changes to SHIVASUBRAMANYA MALLIKARJUNA SETTY vide affidavit dated 08-01-2026 sworn to before Notary, MK Gopalagowda, Doddaballapura.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, VENKAT RAMANA ARPANA, S/o Bahram, age 45 years, R/at Site No. 100/1, Khata No 79/B, Sri Sainya Sai Green Field Layout, Sengehalli Dasna Kanakapura, Bengaluru-562 062 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from VENKAT RAMANA to VENKAT RAMANA ARPANA, henceforth I shall be known and called as VENKAT RAMANA ARPANA for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 19-01-2026, sworn before Advocate and Notary GANGARAJU B A at Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Aman Kumar Kothari S/o. Ashok Kumar Kothari, aged 30, r/s Flat no 206A, 2nd Floor, A Block, Grand Ganadharva Apartment Kathalahalli, Rajarajeshwaranagar, Bangalore-560098 have changed my name to Aman Kothari for all Purposes including Passport vide affidavit dated 17-01-2025 before Notary VK Devaki, Bangalore-66

LOST DOCUMENT
I, Md Mansoor Rahman, S/o. Md Snyder Rahman Village Ramchandapur, P.O-Hadagali, P.S-Pulampur, Dist-Malda, (WB)-PIN-732102, hereby declared that I have missing documents date 16/01/2026, at 7:30am to 7:45am, I am was travelling from Malda Railway Station to SMVT railway station in Guru Jeti Express train 12510, I went to toilet then between that my bag and all documents. And my documents including Passbook railway station at 7:30 am to 7:35 am in between 1) MADHYAMIK ALL DOCUMENTS 2) HIGHER SECONDARY ALL DOCUMENTS 3) GNM NURSING ALL DOCUMENTS 4) RNC CERTIFICATE, RNC No-700236, 5) WBNC CERTIFICATE, WBNC No-6689-IP. I have lodge complaint before the Police Station, if found please handover the documents at nearest police station or contact 7029670505, 7407345942.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, (OLD NAME) YOGARAJU H R, residing at No. 94, Halebeedu (V & P), Malakote (H), Pandavapura (Tq), District: Mandya, State: Karnataka, -571454, have changed my name from (OLD NAME) YOGARAJU H R to (NEW NAME) YOGARAJU H RANGGOWDA vide affidavit dated 19.01.2026 sworn before Notary C Santhosh, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, SURESH.S, S/o Shivapurappa B, aged about 44 years, R/at No.8, 1st Main, 3rd Cross, Bannerghatta Nagar, Laggere, Bangalore-560 058, have changed my son's name from PREETHAM.S to PREETHAM S ONKAR, vide affidavit dated 09-01-2026, sworn before Notary Onkarappa, N.R, Bangaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, AMIT SOMANATH NISHTI residing at B/22, MIDOUNDA GULBARGA, KARNATAKA 585320 have changed my name from AMIT NISHTI to AMIT SOMANATH NISHTI vide Affidavit, dated 19/01/2026, sworn to before Advocate and Notary public Devaraja E. Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Mr. UTTAM SINGH RAWAT, S/o Late Sanju Singh Rawat age 55 years, R/at No 71 Bhima River 2nd Floor, 4th Cross, Vinayaka Nagar, Near Royal Residency Hotel, T.C. Palya Post, Mahadevapura, Bengaluru North, Bangalore 560 049 do hereby declare that both the names i.e. UTTAM SINGH and UTTAM SINGH RAWAT are one and the same and refers to me only, but my correct name is UTTAM SINGH RAWAT, vide affidavit dated 08-01-2026, sworn before Advocate and Notary C SASIKALA at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, AISHWARYA SHETTY, D/o Ramesh Shetty, W/o Ashok Shetty, R/at No.7, Shivappa Nilaya, 3rd Main, Tumkur Road, Prabhuja Layout, Anchepalya, Nagasandra Post, Bengaluru-560 073 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from SHETTY AISHWARYA RAMESH to AISHWARYA SHETTY, henceforth I shall be known and called as AISHWARYA SHETTY for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 16-01-2026, sworn before Advocate and Notary M. RAMKUMAR at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Smt Lakshmi W/o No. 2564993 Ex-Sepoy Late Siddappa Venkappa residing at # 2/38, Gandhi Nagar, Bangarpet, Post & Tehsil- Bangarpet, Dist - Kolar, Karnataka have changed my name from LAKSHMI to LAKSHAMMA, vide Affidavit dated 13/01/2025 before M Krishna Gowda, Advocate & Notary, Kolar, Karnataka.

'YOU CAN'T GIVE ROUTINE ROLES TO ACTORS LIKE VIJAY KUMAR OR RAJ B SHETTY' - JADESHAA K HAMPI

A SHARADHAA

Vijay Kumar

Rachita Ram

With *Landlord*, director Jadeshaa K Hampi flips familiar equations in a village-set survival drama starring Vijay Kumar, Raj B Shetty, and Rachita Ram. He also opens up about the importance of literature in cinema and his take on comparisons

EVEN though he made his debut with Raja Hamsa featuring a team of freshers, Jadeshaa K Hampi found recognition with *Gentleman,* the Prajwal Devaraj-starrer that explored sleeping disorders, a rare subject in mainstream Kannada cinema. He followed it up with the sports drama *Guru Shishyaru,* featuring Sharan, and now returns with *Landlord*, a survival drama that brings Vijay Kumar and Raj B Shetty together on screen for the first time. The film also stars Rachita Ram, and marks the debut of Vijay Kumar's daughter Rithnya. The film is slated for a January 23 release.

The idea for *Landlord*, says Jadeshaa, had been brewing for years. "I had planned this subject around the time *Guru Shishyaru* was taking shape, but I couldn't work on it then. Later, while working as a writer on Kaatera, the idea of survival stayed with me. In *Guru Shishyaru*, there is an underlying thought of 'Uluvavane-Odeya', and that stayed with me. Between these films, I kept developing *Landlord*. It is about survival and power, but with emotional conflicts and slightly matured characters."

Working with Vijay Kumar for the first time, Jadeshaa says shaping the antagonist was a key creative decision. "In Kaatera, the situation itself becomes the antagonist, so I couldn't explore a negative character much. But here, I was very particular that the antagonist should be someone the audience already trusts, but in a darker shade. That contrast adds weight to the conflict. I wanted the hero to survive, not dominate."

Convincing actors for such a narrative, he admits, is harder than pitching a conventional commercial film. "For regular films, you can talk about hero build-ups and mass moments. But for films like this, actors must believe in the writing. Vijay Kumar is also a director, so he immediately understood the space the story needed. He knows that giving space to other characters strengthens the film. The same was the case with Raj B Shetty. He saw the writing and the layers in the character."

Jadeshaa K Hampi

Raj B Shetty

Working with experienced actors, however, brings its own pressures. "There is definitely more responsibility. They come with their own discipline and vision. But once you build rapport, the atmosphere becomes positive. Very early in the shoot, you get a sense of how the film is shaping up, and that confidence has to be carried till the last day."

On casting Raj B Shetty in a face-off with Vijay Kumar, Jadeshaa says it was about offering something new. "There was never any doubt about his versatility. Though he played a negative role in Malayalam in Turbo, this is new for him in Kannada. But this is not a routine antagonist. His emotional depth suited the character, and once he understood the layers, he was fully convinced."

Rachita Ram, too, was cast against type. "I wasn't looking for a typical heroine role. I wanted someone who could convincingly play a mother. Not many female actors are comfortable with that. When I met Rachita, she was keen on breaking her pattern and doing something different."

The film also features Bhavana, Rakesh Adiga, Shishir and Abhishek, many of whom have earlier played lead roles. "They were convinced by the story and the impact of their characters. Screen time may be limited, but the roles are memorable. Some of them also came because they trusted me as a writer and director," he says.

A strong reader, Jadeshaa says literature shapes his cinematic world. "To be a writer, it is important to be a reader first. For *Landlord*, I referred to Malegalalli Madumagalu and Karanth's Chomana Dudi. I don't lift scenes, but the atmosphere helps in visualising characters. The story is set in the 1980s, and that backdrop helped structure the social conflicts and emotional tone."

Produced by Sarathi Films' Maasthi Upparahalli, the film has dialogues by MM Shrikantha, music by Ajaneesh Loknath and cinematography by Swamy J Gowda. While comparisons with *Kaatera* are inevitable due to the rural setting, Jadeshaa says the emotional core is different. "Any village-based film may give a similar atmosphere, like *Janumada Jodi, Dorai* or *Bhootayyana Maga Ayyu*. But what matters is what is different within those worlds," he signs off.

Ravichandran spent nearly 400 days shooting for his AI-driven film *I Am God – The Crazy*

CE FEATURES

CRAZY Star Ravichandran has once again proved that he prefers letting his work speak louder than announcements. While the industry was busy speculating about his next move, the actor-filmmaker quietly completed one of the most unusual projects of his career — an AI-driven experimental film titled *I Am God – The Crazy.*

Songs have always been the soul of Ravichandran's cinema, and this film takes that signature to an unprecedented scale. The film reportedly features over 35 songs, making it one of the most music-heavy projects in recent Kannada cinema. True to his hands-on style, it is largely a one-man show, with Ravichandran handling almost every creative responsibility himself — from writing and direction to music composition. Except for cinematography, he is said to have managed nearly all departments on his own.

Revealing details during the recent Bigg Boss reality show finale, Ravichandran said the film took nearly two and a half years and around 400 days of shooting to complete. The extended timeline, he explained, was due to the film's heavy use of Artificial Intelligence technology and the sheer volume of creative work he chose to handle personally. Rather than rushing the process, he preferred to quietly perfect the film before speaking about it publicly.

Adding to the buzz, promotions for the film are expected to begin from Shivaratri, marking a symbolic and high-profile start to the campaign. The move has already sparked curiosity among fans, hinting at a grand promotional rollout.

Touted as one of the rare Kannada films to be extensively shaped using AI tools, *I Am God – The Crazy* is being seen as both a technical experiment and a deeply personal project for Ravichandran. With music, technology, and ambition coming together, the film is shaping up to be a bold cinematic gamble.

If all goes as planned, Ravichandran is aiming for a release around his birthday on May 30, turning the film into both a personal milestone and a major talking point for Kannada cinema in 2026.

I wanted to bring back the emotional warmth of films with *Cult*: Anil Kumar

CE FEATURES

IF destiny had taken a different turn, director Anil Kumar might have been working on *Kirataka 2* with Yash. However, that missed collaboration eventually led him to Cult, a youthful romantic drama starring Zaid Khan, which the filmmaker says reflects his conscious shift towards more contemporary, emotionally driven storytelling. Coming after the success of *Upadhyaksha*, Anil admits he was eager to step away from formula-heavy narratives and return to stories rooted in everyday emotions, ahead of the film's release on January 23.

Anil traces his association with Zaid Khan to when the latter was introduced by Yash, following multiple interactions about potential collaboration. "Zaid was clear that he wanted a strong script. I had watched Banaras and felt he had the potential to grow as a performer. His screen presence and personality could be moulded to suit today's audience," says Anil, adding, "After *KGF,* many films followed that hangover with a similar template. It became predictable and monotonous. I wanted to bring back the emotional warmth of films like *Mungaru Male* and *Mr and Mrs Ramachari,* but told in today's emotional language."

For Anil, writing *Cult* meant closely observing the behaviour and emotional patterns of young people around him. From friendships and social gatherings to evolving ideas of love and identity, these details shaped the narrative. "Love remains constant, but its expression changes with time. Every generation needs a different emotional treatment. *Cult* is about that transition," he explains, describing the film as a blend of romance, friendship and conflict, with the idea of 'cultism' serving as a metaphor for intense emotional attachment and personal identity.

He is quick to clarify that *Cult* is not structured as a conventional love triangle. "Each character has multiple shades. The hero goes through distinct emotional phases, and both female leads have strong individual journeys. Their decisions are driven by personal circumstances, not just romantic competition," he notes. His choice of Malaika Vasupal stemmed from her ability to handle a demanding role. "Having worked with her in *Upadhyaksha*, I knew she could pull off a tough character. Rachita Ram, meanwhile, brings emotional depth and experience to the narrative. She is already a proven actor," he says.

Produced by Loki Cinemas and presented by KVN Productions, Cult also marks a strong technical collaboration. Music by Arjun Janya forms the emotional backbone of the film, with songs like Aiyyo Shivane and Hrudayavu Kelade, and with high-energy background score amplifying both romance and drama, while cinematographer Jagadish Wali's lighting and visual texture lend the film a contemporary sheen. Working with a young lead also brought renewed creative energy, says Anil, adding, "Zaid has an intense hunger to perform. We worked closely on his body language, emotional rhythm and technical aspects like costume and framing. Nothing was compromised."

Anil Kumar

Shogun DOP joins *Superman* sequel

JAMES Gunn has officially confirmed that Sam McCurdy is all set to handle the cinematography of the *Superman* sequel, titled *Man of Tomorrow.* He replaces Henry Braham from the original film. The sequel is currently scheduled for a worldwide theatrical release on July 9, 2027.

McCurdy is best known for working on *Shogun, Game of Thrones, Monarchy: Legacy of Monsters*, and *Pennyworth*. He also recently worked alongside James Gunn in the DC series, *Peacemaker*. It was recently revealed that German actor Lars Eidinger will be stepping into the DC Universe as the iconic supervillain Brainiac.

Ajay Devgn announces *Tanhaji* prequel

ON Monday, Ajay Devgn took to his social media to announce the official prequel to *Tanhaji*, titled *Bal Tanhaji*. The actor-producer also released a brief teaser of the film that promises to be an action-driven film. Billed as an AI spectacle film, *Bal Tanhaji* promises to capture the early years of *Tanhaji* before he came to known as a Maratha warrior. "Legends aren't born in glory. They're forged in silence. The untold years that shaped a warrior, Bal Tanhaji," The caption read.

The film will be produced under Lens Vault Studios, the entertainment studio co-founded by Ajay and Danish Devgn in September 2025 to push tech-driven storytelling in Indian cinema. Meanwhile, Ajay has a major release coming up this year with *Drishyam 3*, which is scheduled for a theatrical release on October 2. The actor's *Dhamaal 4* is set to hit theatres on June 12.